



COURIER

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Volume I Issue 4

December 2013

Parson's Perspective

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Adventures happen. Some people seek adventure, but other people seem to be found by adventure. I still love adventure. There is a quirky excitement in the not quite known, the expected unexpected. The risk elevates the adrenaline flow. Don't get me wrong, I'm not looking for adventure a la Indiana Jones or Harry Potter. Still there is an excitement in wandering through a mall and finding a new store, in walking down a city block and entering a hitherto unexplored neighborhood.

I like the fact that "advent" is part of the word *advent-ure*. Advent is the start of an adventure of faith, and adventure of life. Adventures are filled with risks. The risk of Advent is that we will discover new depth to our relationship with Christ. We risk learning more concretely what it means to live in grace, to be forgiven of things we thought were unforgiveable, dream dreams of peade that have seemed unimaginable. There is the ultimate risk that we will be changed.

Advent is the nearly four week period that leads up to the celebration of Christ's birth. We do it every year, but we are never the same. Each passing year makes us different. Our perspective has been slightly altered, our expectations modified, our needs prioritized in a different order. But the host of the *Advent-ure* doesn't change. The enfleshing of God's presence in our midst is a never-ending source of awe, wonderment, and mystery.

Every time we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we are reminded that we are the body of Christ in and for our world. We are brought as active participants into the adventure of God-life which Christ came to renew in human beings. And so, every December we embark on a new *Advent-ure* into the heart of God, into the new life that sprout from the stump called Jesse, the heritage of David, the promise of Abraham and Sarah, the joy of Mary and Zechariah.

Let the *Advent-ure* begin!

Pastor Rick

Advent and Christmas Greetings from Pastor Rick, Pastor Bob, Barbara Patterson, Karen Henderson, Pat Penrose, the Session Ruling Elders and the Deacons.



THIS MONTH IN THE CHURCH

Sunday, December 1 - First Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Adult Class—Advent Lessons led by Richard Hays

Following the Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. there will be the "Alternative Christmas Gift Market" (See Special Article in this newsletter)

Wednesday, December 4 - 6:00 p.m.

Advent Potluck Dinner and Program: "Prepare The Way" sponsored by the Presbyterian Women. **ALL ARE WELCOME** Come and enjoy a rich time of food, fellowship, inspiring program, readings and music. We will begin eating promptly at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 7 - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Saturday Night Praise Service

Sunday, December 8 - Second Sunday Of Advent

9:30 a.m. Adult Class - Advent Lessons Led by Richard Hays

10:45 a.m. Worship followed by a Special Congregational Meeting to elect new Church Officers for Class of 2016

(New members to be received)

Alternative Christmas Gift Market

Saturday, December 14 - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Saturday Night Praise Service

Sunday, December 15 - 9:30 a.m.

Adult Class - Advent Lessons led by Richard Hays

10:45 a.m. Worship—Pastor Robert Getty will be preaching "Mary's Musical Message"

Monday, December 16 - 7:00 p.m.

Session Meeting

Wednesday, December 18 - 1:30 p.m.

P.W.C.T. Meeting at the Glenn Center

Thursday, December 19 - 10:30 a.m.

Communion at Bristol Health Care

Saturday, December 20 - 10:00 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal for the Cantata

5:00 - 7:00 P.M. SATURDAY Night Praise Service

Sunday, December 22 - 9:30 a.m.

Final Class for Advent Lessons led by Richard Hays



10:45 a.m. Worship—The Choir will perform the Cantata "Ceremony of Candles" by Joseph M. Martin with Narrator Juliet Getty

3:30 p.m. Waverly Tuba Christmas followed by refreshments served by the Pike Heritage Museum

Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Church Office Closed in the afternoon

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Special Music By a Brass Quintet

7:30 p.m. Candelighting Service



Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas

Saturday, December 28 - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Saturday Night Praise Service

Sunday, December 29 - 9:30 a.m.

A new eight week Adult Class begins "Fresh Air: The Holy Spirit for an Inspired Life" by Jack Levison (See Special Article)

Tuesday, December 31 - New Year's Eve

Church Office Closed in afternoon



VISITORS FOR WORSHIP

October 27

Ned Hannah, Phoenix, AZ
Glenn Peterson, Waverly

November 3

Ned Hannah, Phoenix, AZ
Glenn Peterson, Waverly

November 10

Rev. Phillip and Judy Hazelton, New
Albany, OH

Ned Hannah, Phoenix, AZ
Glenn Peterson, Waverly

Nov. 17

Ned Hannah, Phoenix, AZ
Glenn Peterson, Waverly

Rev. Tim Hamilton, Moderator of the
Presbytery of Scioto Valley
Natalie, Xavier and Alex Fox., Columbus.
Guests of Sharon Weaver

THANK YOU

Thanks to Barbara and Tom Patterson and Tammy and William Neibling for representing our church in the Jingle Bell parade. Tammy drove the 1965 red Mustang convertible car with the church name on the side. Alexandra Getty and others walked along the route giving out candy and information about the church.

Thanks to Barbara and Tom Patterson and Rev. Hays and Rev. Getty for designing a new pamphlet for our church. Take one of these to tell someone about our congregation and invite them to come. There is a supply on the kiosk.



In Memory

Dorothy Rucker - October 27, 2013
Betty Benefiel - November 12, 2013
(Memorial Service for Betty will be
March 15, 2014)

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY December 8

If you would like to unite with this congregation please see one of the pastors

If this date is not convenient for you another time can be arranged,

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS

Plan your gift list now. On December 1 and December 8, there will be a table set up with information about alternative ways to give Christmas gifts. You can support worthwhile organizations-local and global-and send cards to your loved ones telling about the gifts you gave to these groups in their names.

Opportunities include: Presbyterian Hunger Program and Disaster Assistance; Pike County Outreach Council, Welfare House and Bridgehaven; Living Water for the World.

MITTENS, HATS, SCARVES, SOCKS

will be collected during the Christmas Season to help the needy of Pike County. You may place these items under the Christmas tree in the sanctuary after December 1. After Christmas we will take these items to Pike County Welfare House for distribution for the needy in Pike County.

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 1 - Ruth Karner
Chiara Twells
9 - Joyce Alderson
12 - Ed Dodge
14 - Wanda Stratton
18 - Max Russell
20 - Zerelda Young
25 - Rosann Severding
Hilda Koppe
27 - Glenna Thomas

Progress Report from Stewardship

On November 10th we observed Celebration Sunday as the official end of our annual stewardship campaign. As of the middle of November we have received 41 pledges totaling \$133,176, an increase of almost \$27,000 over last year. This is very good news. We thank all those who were able to increase their pledge amount.

If you still wish to make a pledge, it's not too late. Pick up a pledge card at church and return it any Sunday. We also thank those who choose not to make a pledge, but contribute regularly. We are thankful for all who support the ongoing mission of the church financially. The money that we contribute supports such mundane things as keeping the lights and the heating on, as well as our pastoral leadership, music programs, and outreach mission, like the Saturday praise service. Once again, thanks to everyone who contributes.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

It's funny how many of us think of the Presbytery as "them" when it is actually "us." It's not quite the same as the Pogo moment when he says "We have met the enemy and it's US." However, we, as a church, are connected to other Presbyterian churches in many ways. Since we need each other, here is a new way to share with one another, and support each other. This time it's not by going to a lot of meetings – it's available on the internet. There is a new Facebook page for the Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) called "PSV Congregational Life." And our church has a link on this site. Karen Henderson is on the "Congregational Life Commission" of this new group that is encouraging all of us to share with one another.

NEW HYMNALS

The following dedication for the new hymnals was printed in the bulletin on November 17th:

▼ Dedication of the New Hymnal

Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

I will sing to the LORD, for an overflowing victory! Horse and rider he threw into the sea!

The LORD is my strength and my power; he has become my salvation. Exodus 15:1-2

This is my God, whom I will praise.

Thank the LORD; call on God's name; proclaim God's deeds among the peoples; declare that God's name is exalted.

We will sing to the LORD, who has done glorious things; proclaim this throughout all the earth.

Isaiah 12:4-5

John of Patmos saw a throne in heaven and someone seated on the throne. Surrounding the throne was a rainbow that looked like an emerald. By the throne, were four living creatures encircling the throne. They never rest day or night, but keep on singing,

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is coming."

Revelation 4:2-8

Paul urges us to be filled with the Spirit.

Let us speak to each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs; let us sing and make music to the Lord in our hearts; let us always give thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Eph. 5:18-20

May these new hymnals fulfill that ministry.

We bless them to the glory of God for our public and private worship, and for the nurture of our faith. Alleluia! Amen.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>December 2013</h1> 						
 <p>1 9:30 adult class 10:45 a.m. Worship Alternative Christmas Gift Market 1st Sunday of Advent</p>	2	3	<p>4 8:00 a.m. Sl. Tugg. 6 p.m. Advent Pot Luck Dinner Choir following the dinner</p>	5	6	<p>7 Sat. Night Praise Service. 5:00-7:00 p.m.</p> 
 <p>8 9:30 a.m. Ad. Class 10:45 a.m. Worship (Special Cong. Mtg.) Alternative Christmas Gift Market</p>	9	10	<p>11 Sleeve Tuggers 8:00 a.m. Choir 7 p.m.</p>	12	13	<p>14 Saturday Night Praise Service 5:00-7:00 p.m.</p>
 <p>15 9:30 a.m. Adult Class 10:45 Worship Bob Getty Preaching</p>	16 Session Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	17	<p>18 8:00 a.m. Sleeve Tuggers P.W.C.T. 1:30 p.m. Choir 7 p.m.</p>	19 10:30 a.m. Communion Bristol Health Care	20	<p>21 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 5:00-7:00 p.m. Sat. Night Praise Ser.</p>
 <p>22 9:30 a.m. Ad. Class 10:45 Worship Cantata 3:30 p.m. Tuba Christ.</p>	23	<p>24 Office Closed in P.M. 7 p.m. Special Brass Quintet followed by Christ. Eve Service</p>	<p>25 MERRY CHRISTMAS! </p>	26	27	<p>28 Saturday Night Praise Service 5:00-7:00 p.m.</p>
<p>29 9:30 a.m. Adult Class 10:45 a.m. Worship</p>	30	<p>31 New Year's Eve Office Closed in Afternoon</p>				

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING will be received December 22, 2013

**CHRISTMAS JOY
OFFERING**



The Christmas Joy Offering: Helping Those Who Serve the Church

Each year on the Sunday before Christmas, Presbyterian congregations express profound appreciation for our clergy and other servants of the Church by receiving the Christmas Joy Offering. We honor our church leaders both for their faithfulness in tending to our spiritual needs and in recognition of their decision, in many cases, to answer the call to ministry rather than pursue a life of material comfort.

The Christmas Joy Offering provides a way to give thanks, and much-needed support, to active and retired church workers and their families who are struggling with urgent financial needs. It's a wonderful opportunity for those who have been blessed with the means to express their generosity and, at the same time, support important needs in the PC(USA) community.

A Long Tradition of Caring

A Presbyterian tradition for nearly 70 years, the Christmas Joy Offering gives vital funding to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions as well as to Presbyterian-related racial-ethnic schools and colleges. It is one of the four special offerings designated by the PC(USA) General Assembly to provide congregations direct ways to support those in need. The Christmas Joy Offering is usually offered the Sunday before Christmas.

Last year, the Christmas Joy Offering provided a generous \$1.9 million to the Assistance Program. As a result, the Assistance Program helped to provide 1,250 grants to Presbyterian church servants and their families. The Assistance Program depends on the Christmas Joy Offering and other gifts from caring Presbyterians like you to fund its programs.

THANK YOU FROM FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Our committee is very pleased to see so many folks stepping up to the kiosk to fill in blank spaces on the COFFEE HOUR HOST chart. It's a great way to welcome friends personally into our church home without having to clean house or make the beds. Almost everybody looks forward to spending a few minutes after worship catching up with the latest news while sipping a cup of coffee and snacking on a forbidden treat! Thank you, all.

Our hosts in November and December include the Zinggs, Sharon Weaver, Betsy Hall, Marian Odell, the Nobles, Nancy Seward, and the Vonderohe's.

Hosts are needed for January and February. **Remember, some helpful hints for coffee hour hosts are available** in the Fellowship mail box (across from Pastor Rick's office). Look for the orange/yellow flyers.

WELCOMING VISITORS

Mixed in with those yellow flyers are some funny-colored greenish ones. These are Guidelines for Greeters. Everybody knows how to "greet," but do you know how to prepare the red welcome bags (with a mini loaf of bread inside) that we present to our visitors? And do you know that if the bag is not used on a given Sunday, the bread should be returned to the freezer **BEFORE YOU TAKE YOUR SEAT** that day? If you've been asked to be a greeter, those extra few minutes to prepare a gift bag or two makes your job much more interesting...and pleasing to our visitors.

CHILDREN IN CHURCH

We look forward to seeing more children on Sunday mornings. The Fellowship Committee prepares "busy bags" for youngsters. In November the bags contained autumn activity books with crayons, plus a sticker fun sheet of Pilgrims and Indians sharing a bountiful Thanksgiving harvest.

If you bring young guests, ask the greeter for a "busy bag" for kids. These are gifts to take home.

LOOKING AHEAD

Some coming events to get on your busy December-January calendars:

-Dec. 4 – Advent Dinner (sponsored by Presbyterian Women)

-Dec. 22 – Choir Cantata and Tuba

Christmas—both on the same day.

Not enough time in between to enjoy our customary Finger Food Luncheon. But, not to worry...your resourceful Fellowship Committee has come up with a very nice solution.

-Jan. 5 – Epiphany Celebration, with Finger Food Luncheon following. Think...wise men and camels, follow-the Star. Bring your special holiday buffet table hors d'oeuvre (looked it up) aka appetizer! This meal is always a happy event...and this year, no stress. Holidays behind us, and a brand new year begins.

-Feb. 17 – The annual congregational dinner meeting. How does KFC and accompaniments sound? Watch for details in January Courier.

Fellowship Committee: Betsy Hall, Louise Netzley, Nancy Seward, Wanda Stratton, Jean Sydow

Begin the New Year With Fresh Air !

Fresh Air will be a good way to begin the new year. It will be provided by the Sunday morning Adult Class.

Beginning on Sunday, December 29th, the Adult Class will be discussing the book entitled Fresh Air: The Holy

Spirit for an Inspired Life by Jack Levison.

If you think that the Holy Spirit played a minor role in Scripture until the New Testament times, think again.

The Hebrew word for "spirit" occurs nearly 400 times in the Old Testament alone. What was that member of

the Trinity doing?

The class will meet to discuss this subject for eight weeks. The leadership team will be Elaine Zingg, Walter

Vonderohe, Nel Huck, and Bob Getty. Those who want a copy of Fresh Air can get it from the church office for

\$6.40. The Adult Class meets each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

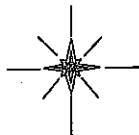
Make it a New Year's resolution to get some fresh air this coming year!! ----your Discipleship Committee

Presbyterian Women present

Prepare the Way

Wednesday December 4, 2013

6:00 PM



DECEMBER WEDDING
ANNIVERSARIES

- December 18 - Patty and Earl Todt
25 - Jean and Mack Earnhardt
27 - Patty and Ralph
Strickland
Paula and Richard Hays
28 - Angie and Andrew Hays



MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

NOVEMBER 21, 2013

Ministers for Community: Every Member

Co-Pastors: Richard Hays and Robert Getty

Secretary Barbara Patterson

Clerk of Session: Audrey Tysen

Choir Director: Karen Henderson

Organist: Patricia Penrose

Treasurer: Ralph Strickland

Ministers for Vision and Mission: Session

Class of 2013

Evelyn Baker

Oscar Marsh

Ralph Strickland

Elaine Zingg

Class of 2014

Karen Henderson

Paula Hays

Audrey Tysen

Kay Weir

Class of 2015

Juliet Getty

Betsy Hall

Marian Odell

Dick Roberts

Ministers for Member Care: Deacons

Irene Noble

Robert Neely

Gerald Barnes

Ministers Serving In Other Places

Pike County Outreach Council of Churches

Pike County Welfare House

Mark, Jenny, Keila Rosa & Anika Estela Hare — Papay, Haiti

Dendamrongsaat Church — Chiangrai, Thailand

Ministers Serving from Home

At Bristol Health Care

444 Cherry St., Waverly OH 45690

Maryanna Cassady-304-A

Patricia Dixon-28

Anna Dodge-111

Ed Dodge-103

Virginia Hartwell-102

Dorothy Headley-5-A

Agnes Nash-5-B

Ben Lane-118

Jay Yetter-1

Zerelda Young-7-A

The Gardens

Betty and David Jenkins-202

At Home

Lois Hardy, 412 Robin Road

In the Waverly Area

In Other Places

DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

December 1 -

8 - Kay Weir

15 - Bruce Henderson

22 - Choir Cantata-Juliet
Getty, Narrator

29 -

DECEMBER GREETERS

December 1 - Juliet Getty and
Marian Odell

8 - Irene Noble and
Betsy Hall

15 - Jean Sydow and
Anne Young

22 - Evelyn and Gary
Baker

29 - Barbara and Jay Early

DECEMBER USHERS

December 1 - Bob & Kitty Neely,
David Bell, Barratt Banta

8 - Ann Oyer, Marian Odell,
Wanda Stratton

15 - Barbara & Jay Early,
Earl Todt, Bud Hobday

22 - Ralph Strickland, Tom
Frank, Dimitry Sergay,
Gerald Barnes

29 - Ralph Strickland, Tom
Frank, Dimitry Sergay,
Gerald Barnes

DECEMBER FLOWERS

December 1 - Barbara and Jay Early

8 - Dimitry Sergay

15 - Patty and Ralph
Strickland

22 - Poinsettias

29 - Patty and Ralph
Strickland

DECEMBER COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

December 1 - Irene and Glenn Noble

8 - Betsy Hall and Nancy
Hall

15 - Florence and Walter
Vonderohe

22 -

29 -



Address Service Requested

WAVERLY, OHIO 45690

211 SCHMITT DR.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Amen Corner

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR CHURCHES

Early Exit Alarms: Tired of all those people leaving church before the end of the service? A simple laser projector at each door emits a piercing alarm when the beam is broken. This splendid device will encourage church members to remain dutifully seated until dismissed. [\$2,555]

Stay-Lit Candles: Provide hours of fun as you watch the ushers try to extinguish these candles in vain. [\$74 per pair]

Vacuum-Tube Offering Collection System: Designed to operate like the ones at bank drive-ins. Pew mounted with central receiving station in basement or secured room. [\$103,099]

Inflatable Congregation: The invention of the century! This device is absolutely perfect for the small church. Make those pew look FULL! One quick twist of the air valve on the patented "Pneuma Tank," and presto, you have a pew full of excited looking people. And for preaching practice, what a marvelous way to finely hone that scintillating sermon by pretending you have a church full of eager parishioners. [\$3,495; air extra]

Robo-Pastor: Designed for use as a temporary replacement for a vacationing or ill pastor. Pre-programmed to deliver any of 487 15-minute sermons. Added feature of mild electric shock parishioners who nod off or who think a dollar bill is a generous offering. [\$49,345; annual sermon updates, \$799]