



OHIO UNITED

Presbyterian Church

December 24 through December 30, 2023



"The days are surely coming when I will fulfill my promises, says the Lord...a righteous branch will spring up..." Jeremiah 33:14

Dear Friends in Faith,

On my calendar one year at this season was a quote from Francis of Assisi—"Start by doing what's necessary, then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible." Oh how quickly we've moved through our Advent season...the impossible possibility of Christmas on our doorstep...in God's chosen time.



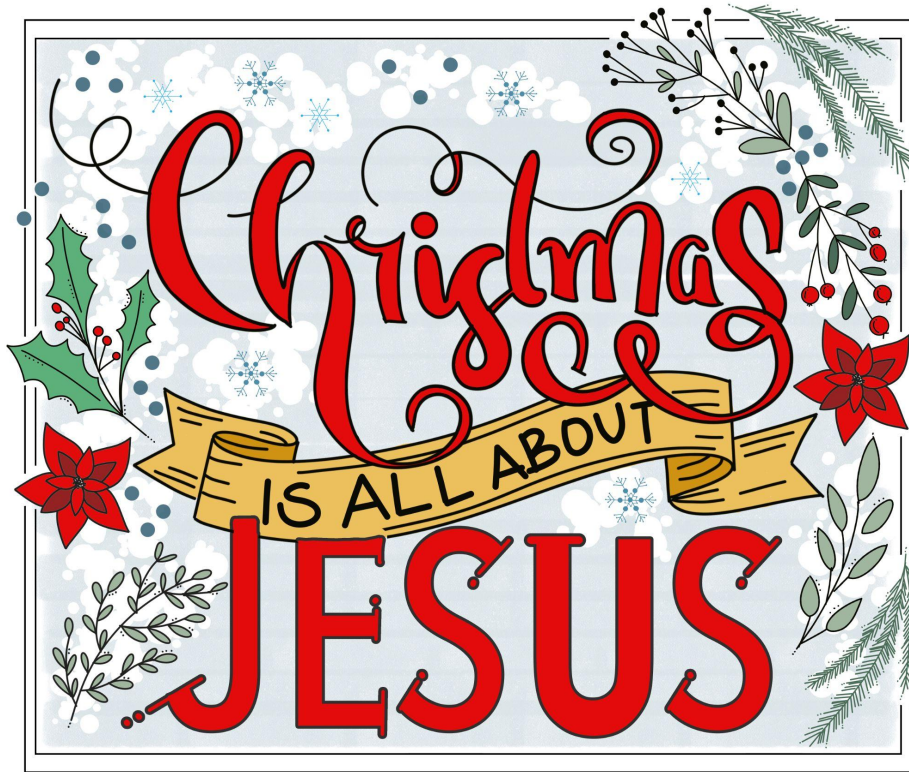
The children gave us a joy filled blessing on the Second Sunday of Advent. The choir raised songs to the rafters this Sunday just passed. In our homes the final touches are taking place...cookies and treats being baked...presents chosen and wrapped...social commitments fulfilled. Some days run long on drama and some nights may be short on rest. The promised day will come...a day when we rejoice in our Savior's birth.

This Sunday we are preparing to light the 4th Advent Candle at 10AM and the Christ Candle at 6PM. We'll welcome those who arrive on our doorstep for Christmas. God's own promises have been and will continue to be fulfilled. The righteous branch that sprang up for David was a Holy Covenant. God's promise to always be with God's people.

"For unto us is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord." Come, let us kneel together at the manger, once more recognizing that all things are possible with God.

with Christ's love, pastor bob

(Art courtesy the Vanderbilt Library)



Sunday, December 24 will feature two worship opportunities. At 10:00AM we will light the fourth Advent Candle and worship with eyes peering toward Jesus' arrival, just around the corner. Everyone is encouraged to wear a favorite Christmas sweater or, perhaps, your Christmas pj's. At our 6:00PM service we will light the Christ Candle as we worship with Carols & Candlelight. Both worship services will be 'child friendly.' Come to one or both as your hearts and life schedules lead.

On **December 31, the Seventh Day of Christmas**, we will enjoy scripture, stories and Christmas carols in a light and joy filled worship time.

Sunday School will not meet through December 31. Children's classes will resume on January 7, 2024!

Spread some Christmas cheer using our **Christmas Card Mailbox** in the Narthex! Please "mail" your cards according to the recipient's last name. Also, please try to limit your cards to people who regularly attend church services.

The church office will be closed December 25, 26 & January 1; we'll be here the 27th and the 28th. No newsletter next week. Regular hours will resume on January 2, 2024. A big thank you to Nancy Connell for her administrative support throughout the year.

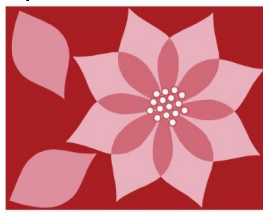


Worship
• Choir rehearsal on December 21 at 7pm
Congregational Care
• No Adult Sunday School • There will not be Children's Sunday School from December 10 to December 31. Classes will resume January 7, 2024! • There is no Story Time on December 27. It will resume on Wednesday, January 3 at 10am
Missions
•
Operations
• Year to date (end of November) Expenditures \$199,559 Received \$167,239 Per Capita expense \$10,023 Received YTD \$2,280 • 96 in worship on December 17

We thank those who are concluding their service in leadership as elders and deacons. Nancy Lucas and Charles Hendrick on session and Bev Abate, Peggy Franzese and Terri Owczarzak on the Board of Deacons. Well done good and faithful servants.

Thanks to Peggy Franzese for her leadership with our youth group this year. No youth group meetings on December 24 or 31.





DECEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

<u>Anniversaries</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>
Holly & William Diccico 12/18	MacKenzie Petrella 12/01	Sherri Murdoch 12/09	Kenneth Strominger 12/20
Marsha & Mark Douglass 12/21	Whitney Shaffer 12/03	Roberta Smith 12/10	Kathy Fouse 12/21
Cherryl & Zbig Lachowicz 12/27	Shane McLinden 12/05	Dale Fouse 12/13	Kathy Lee Tolfa 12/25
Russell & Wendy Dameron 12/28	Lynn Smith 12/06	Joe Glatz 12/13	Mark Douglass 12/27
Jason & Gina Arzberger 12/30	Chandler Dameron 12/07	Betty Martin 12/17	Daniel Palmer 12/29
	Russell Dameron 12/07	Joel Mitchell 12/18	Andrew Arzberger 12/30
	Wendy Dameron 12/07	Mark Muslin 12/18	
	Nancy Connell 12/09	Kristine Dameron 12/20	

Dear Friend, I pray that you enjoy good health and that all will go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.

3 John 2



- Corinna–Prayers for Ella Mae Spieker who is in Sewickley Hospital due to a fall. She is going into rehab.
- Nancy Hribar–Prayers for peace for her neighbor’s family as there was a death in the family
- Diane Gennaro–Joy for the choir; Jack had a good appointment with oncologist; Diane had a shot in her back and she is feeling better.
- Linda Duganich–Prayers of comfort for the family of Lee Masterson who passed.
- Jeff Barth–Home from Kentucky
- Jeff Davis–Prayers of healing for a friend, Darlene, who had a stroke.
- Prayers for family of Roberta Smith
- Monica Ward–Levinger family had a death in the family. Their son was a Hopewell athlete.
- Prayers for Dawn Psik whose lumpectomy is scheduled for January 5.
- Please be in prayer for Mark & Donna Olexick. He’s in the hospital with pneumonia and a UTI. Donna has another kidney stone.
- Janice Gennaro needs prayers as she has COVID.
- Be in prayer for Ginny Adams. She has been admitted to UPMC McCandles for gallbladder pain.