



OHIO UNITED

Presbyterian Church

January 28 through February 3, 2024



Dear Friends in Faith,

Sunday afternoons ChrisAnn and I ordinarily take naps and then go for a walk. Often just around Zelie, but last Sunday the snow cover was so pretty we decided to take a drive up to Moraine State Park and walk through the woods around Lake Arthur. We pulled into a parking area near what is, in the summer time, a boat launch. The dock was up on the shore, back along the woods. There were half a dozen cars there but no one close by. Looking out on the lake we could see a couple of ice-fisher folk. One who was trudging our way with a sled full of gear behind.



Now there have been times when we have walked on that portion of the lake in the winter. Sunday just didn't seem to be a day for that. We didn't feel that the weather had been cold enough for long enough. The only empirical evidence was right there in front of us. A rather large guy coming in from a day on the ice. A few others were pretty far out there. No signs of rescue squads, or the need there-of. Still, we were a bit risk averse and kept our feet on solid ground.

Congregations, it seems, can sometimes be quite cautious in venturing out into something they 'feel' uncomfortable with. Perhaps it is a new program or a new mission point or a new relationship. Sometimes we just don't want to change because we 'feel' where we are is good enough. Congregations, just like individuals, have growing edges. Have I mentioned that along the way? Probably. I'll let you ruminate on this. And yes, I'd be happy to hear what you think are good and intriguing edges for this church family.

Back to Sunday afternoon. It was sunny and about 20° when we headed out on our walk. Now some would say we were a little nuts going for a tramp in that. But we are fans of spending time outside. We love a little snow...if there's lots we'll strap on our snowshoes. We had a delightful trek along a quiet roadway and then along a lakeside path. We were in a happy place. The ice fisher folk were comfortable where they were. After all, the temperature hadn't been above freezing for eight days. They've been there before, are used to it and probably delighted to be sitting over a hole in the ice. As we passed by a couple of them one remarked, "I'll be back tomorrow!" Had I been curious I might have asked if he wanted company.

We might wonder, who can be a guide for us? Who has experience in the places we sense God is calling us towards? Who among us might go along, might venture out? The beauty of congregational life is that we don't all have to go. In healthy congregations some go exploring and others will support in the ways they can. Let's just not venture onto thin ice.

with joy in our journey, pastor bob



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28, following worship. We'll distribute the 2023 reports, review the 2024 budget and elect a deacon.

Worship
94 in worship on January 21
Congregational Care
- Adult Sunday School is at 9am - Children's Sunday School has resumed for children 3 yrs. old – 6th grade - Story Time is back at 10am on Wednesdays. - Shrove Tuesday is on February 13. There will be a dinner from 5 to 7pm. The dinner will include pancakes, sausage, coffee, tea and milk.
Missions
Start saving those coins, it's almost time for the 'Water Project'
Operations
Property Meeting is on February 12 @6:30pm





JANUARY

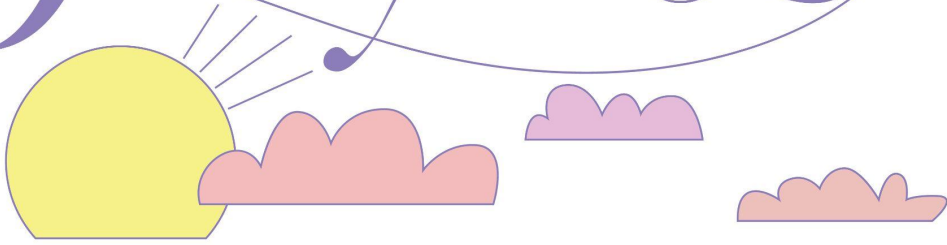
Birthdays

<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>
Jerri Lech 1/06	Camden Hoth 1/17	Simon Hunsberger 1/22	Everitt Laird Jr. 1/25
Paul Hurni 1/10	Michelle Sebastian 1/18	Rich Kerlin 1/22	Jonathan Lech 1/31
Bob Keller 1/12	Brian Archer 1/19	David Kocher 1/22	Robert Nan 1/31
Eric Nan 1/12	Belinda Nolte 1/20	Jacob Cagnon 1/23	
Sara Allen 1/16	Kevin Smith 1/21	Megan Hunsberger 1/25	

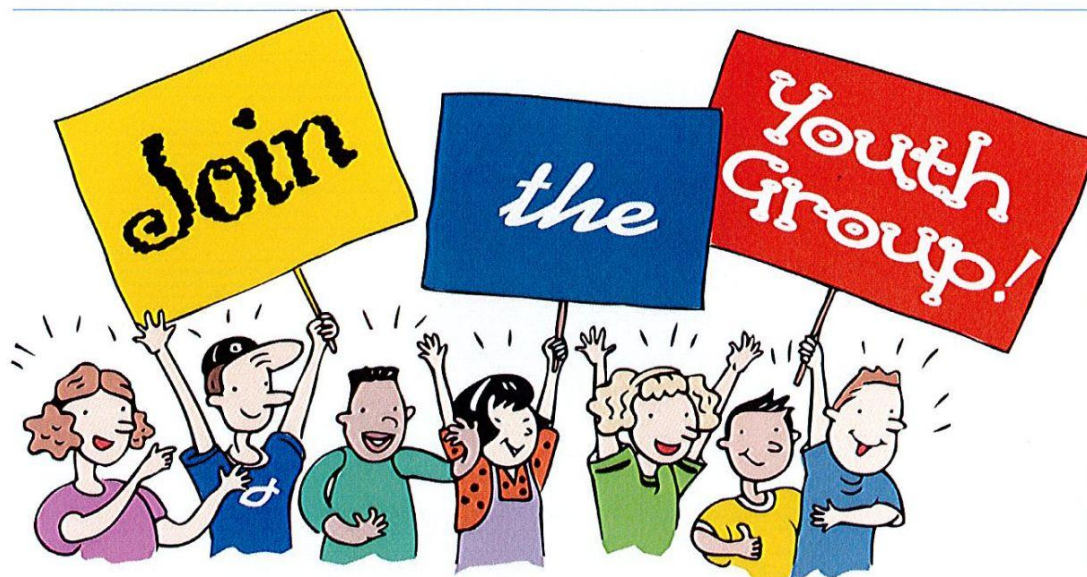
The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

Prayer List



- Marsha Douglass-Shirley is going to the Doctor on February 1. She sends her love to all
- Chris Hurni-Thank you for all the prayers for her dad. 3 stents and he is doing well.
- Lynn Smith-She is having carpal tunnel surgery on Wednesday. Brunton's is selling milk on Friday and Saturday. Their barns are being rebuilt.
- Dave Kocher-His mom's hospice care is going well. She is off her meds.
- Alli Feszko-Isaac's ear tubes came out. They will be replaced soon.
- Dawn Psik-She will follow up with her doctor to see if she needs surgery.
- Jen Davis-Mrs. Lawson sends her thanks for prayers. Ed was moved to a facility specializing in dementia care in Columbiana, OH, St. Mary's Windsor House. She is very happy and grateful.
- Wendy Dameron-One of her employee's daughters, McKenna Davies, had heart valve replacement surgery on Monday. She is 24 years old. She has three blood disorders and other issues that made this surgery especially difficult.
- Please keep Donna Olexick in prayer as she is in the hospital with a kidney infection. She may be in for a week.



January 21 – 6-7:30 Football and pizza

January 28 – 6-7:30 Meeting at the Manse

February 4 – No YG Peggy will be away

February 11 – 6-7:30 Meeting at the Manse

February 18 – 6-7:30 Meeting at the Manse (Boyce Park?)

February 25 - 6-7:30 Meeting at the Manse (Boyce Park?)

**Need at least 1 helper at Youth Group please
volunteer!!**



Garden of Knowledge Library

As we expand our library, we have created an Amazon wish list that you may purchase books for our library. The books range in age from newborn to young adult. Here is a link to our wish list:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/11KT1O8IDN6AG/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2



January 2024



Picture Caption

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Story time 10am	4	5	6
7 Dedecorating The church	8	9 Deacons 6:30 Session 7	10 Story Time 10am	11	12	13
14 Ordination & Installation Communion Trinity Choir 1:30-5	15 Property Meeting 6:30 Deborah Circle 6:30	16	17 Story Time 10am	18	19	20
21 Worship committee meeting Trinity Choir 1:30-5	22	23	24 Story Time 10am	25	26	27 Presbytery Meeting @10am
28 Annual Meeting Trinity Choir 1:30 - 5	29	30	31 Story Time 10am			