



November 30 through December 6, 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14).

Happy New Year! This coming Sunday, November 30, is the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is the first season in the church calendar – it comes from the Latin Adventus, which means “coming.”

Advent is a time of preparation in the life of the church, when all Christians anticipate with gladness and hope the coming of Christ. The Christian Church has been celebrating Advent since the middle of the sixth century.

As you make your preparations this year, I encourage you to refer to the Scripture passages that are listed elsewhere in this issue. As you read each day, pray that God will reveal a message of anticipation and hope. Perhaps as you have a morning cup of coffee, or before you turn off your light each evening. In any case, this is a great time of the year to come closer to God in Christ.

I am planning my sermons for Advent – this season, we will consider the anticipation of the Messiah:

November 30: “Which Messiah?”

December 7: “Getting Ready”

December 14: Children’s Musical Program

December 21: Choir Cantata

Each week will be a special time of listening and reflecting on the Christ Child’s arrival, and the hope it brings.

This is an exciting time in the life of our church. These past two months have been especially exciting for me! There is renewed enthusiasm as we conclude 2025 and look forward to 2026. We are in the process of forming the Transition Team, who will lead the process. I am trying to learn more names each week.

As we move forward, I would love to speak with any of you about where we are, and where we are headed.

Most important in the life of this great church, we are anticipating the arrival of our Savior and Lord –

I certainly am not comparing the arrival of Christ with the arrival of a pastor, but God is at work in both cases!

Continue to be in prayer as we all prepare – for the coming of Christ, and for a bright future at Ohio

Church. I continue to hold this great church, and all of you, in my prayers. May God shower you with abundant blessings this Christmas, and in the New Year.

In Christ,

Pastor Jim

Highlights from the November 11th Session Meeting

- The Membership committee met in late October to examine the rolls. Any suspensions will be a business item at the December Session meeting and after an attempt is made to restore active participation in the church.
- Christina Palmer reported on the upcoming lease negotiation with Cares of Western PA and provided a summary for the process.
- Discussed Presbytery meeting preparations.
- The Church Nominating committee reported obtaining two candidates for the deacons election slate so far.
- A Transition Team is to be formed to assist the pastor in the transition process. Members of the congregation will be called upon.
- Session granted the request (by written letter) of Daniel Palmer to be removed from the membership roll.

Joe Glatz, Clerk of Session



Worship
• Sunday School for children 3yr.-6th grade is during worship after the children’s chat • Adult Sunday School is at 9am • 89 were in church on Sunday, November 23 • Communion is on Sunday, November 30
Congregational Care
• Story Time continues on Wednesdays at 9:30 or 10:30am • Currently taking orders for College Care Packages. Last day to order is November 30. See bulletin insert for more information and to sign up • December 2 @6pm Women’s Holiday Dinner at Vesivio’s Restaurant • December 13–Cookie Bazaar (If you missed signing up to bake contact Patti Strominger.) (Remember to drop off baked goods on the 12th between 5 and 7) • December 11–Big Band Concert @7pm • December 14–Children’s Musical Program • December 21–Cantata • December 24–Christmas Eve Service @7pm with communion
Mission
Operations
Property meeting on December 1 at 6:30pm Finance Committee meeting on December 1

On December 1 Women’s Association will visit Beaver Healthcare and Rehabilitation for Christmas Carols and Bingo

The Women’s Association will be holding their year-end holiday dinner at Vesusio’s Restaurant in Monaca on December 2 at 6pm. Please RSVP to Corinna Petrella at 724-622-5312 by November 30.

The Wish Tree is up at the front of the Sanctuary. Please consider taking a tag to help a local child have a blessed Christmas. Please return unwrapped gifts with the tag attached by December 7.

Poinsettia order forms are in your bulletins. Last day to order is December 7.



NOVEMBER

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Anniversaries	Birthdays	Birthdays
Rich & Christina Palmer 11/14	Dorothy Elko 11/11	Amy Muslin 11/23
Eric & Kristen Nan 11/20	Casey Atwell 11/14	Sarah Jane Shaffer 11/24
Marcy & Edward Zombeck 11/24	Beverly Abate 11/19	Morgan Lewis 11/26
	Trudy Boggs 11/21	Cherryl Lachowicz 11/30
	Barbara Corsi 11/22	



DECEMBER

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Anniversaries	Birthdays	Birthdays	Birthdays
Joe & Dana Gavita 12/04	MacKenzie Petrella 12/01	Joe Glatz 12/13	Richard Young 12/20
Holly & William Diccico 12/18	Shane McLynden 12/05	Betty Martin 12/17	Kathy Fouse 12/21
Mark & Marsha Douglass 12/21	Lynn Smith 12/06	Joel Mitchell 12/18	Kathy Lee Tolfa 12/25
Cherryl & Zbig Lachowicz 12/30	Sherri Murdoch 12/09	Mark Muslin 12/18	Mark Douglass 12/27
	Dale Fouse 12/13	Ken Strominger 12/20	

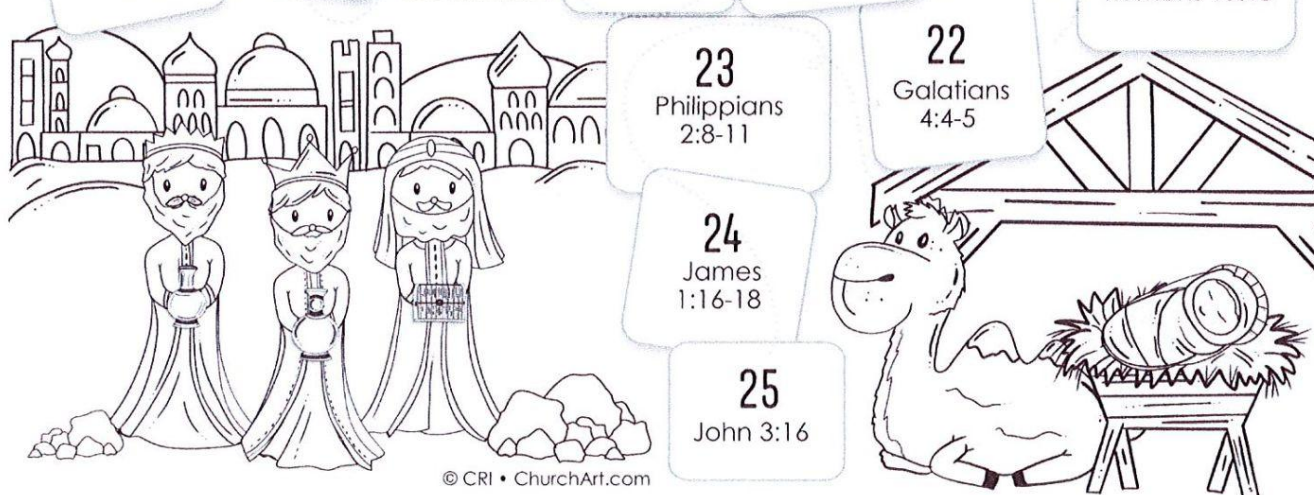


- Christina Palmer—Prayers for nephew Austin who was diagnosed with MS
- Paul Kulha—Pray for nieces; Jennifer has liver cancer
- Pastor Jim—There will be no more heroic measures for Donald Biddle. Prays of peace and comfort for his wife Audrey
- John Martin—Bonnie is home!
- Taffy Kaptan—The results of brother Joe's surgery were that most of the cancer was removed. Continued prayers
- Shirley Fluharty—She had surgery on her throat in September. She has been on a liquid diet ever since. She is allowed to have solid food on Thanksgiving!
- Prayers for Chris Mathias' stepmom, Peggy, who had a stroke and is being evaluated at this time
- Missy Sardo—Thank you for prayers on the passing of her mom. Funeral is December 6.
- Dawn Psik—Sister, Sue's last round of chemo on December 8
- Andrew Honess—Jr. High musical was last weekend; great job of support from the community
- Jen D—Sister Chris will have pacemaker reinserted in January. Prayers for patience.
- Mark Douglass was diagnosed with lymphoma. Please pray for him as doctors decide course of action.

A CHRIST-CENTERED CHRISTMAS ADVENT READING PLAN

Explore the true meaning of Christmas as you travel through God's Word. Discover God's promises he fulfilled through the birth of His only Son, the **KING OF KINGS.**





1 Isaiah 7:14

2 Isaiah 9:6-7

3 Malachi 3:1

4 Micah 5:2-4

5 Luke 1:5-7

6 Luke 1:10-15

7 Luke 1:18-22

8 Luke 1:24-25

9 Luke 1:26-29

10 Luke 1:30-33

11 Luke 2:1-5

12 Luke 2:6-7

13 Luke 2:8-14

14 Luke 2:15-20

15 Matthew 1:18-21

16 Matthew 1:22-25

17 Matthew 2:1-3

18 Matthew 2:4-6

19 Matthew 2:7-9

20 Matthew 2:10-12

21 Romans 15:13

22 Galatians 4:4-5

23 Philippians 2:8-11

24 James 1:16-18

25 John 3:16

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