



Reedurban Presbyterian Church

*Our dwelling place has been with the Lord for 89 Years of
Ministry*

Reedurban JANUARY 2016 Newsletter



Dear Friends,

I don't know who said it, I just know it is true: *"Today is a gift; that's why it's called the present."* For most people the tendency is to dwell on the past or focus on the future. Our minds cannot seem to turn off long enough to allow us to pay attention to what is going on right here and now. So we miss insights and blessings, God's own self in the people and situations that present themselves. God is from everlasting to everlasting, but scripture points out over and over again that God is always in the present moment. We've just celebrated the birth of the Savior called, *"Emmanuel,"* which means *God with us*.

Look at your ordinary day, the people and events that fill them – family, friends, colleagues, neighbors, sharing lunch with a spouse, speaking with a clerk at the store, doctor's appointments, parent/teacher meetings, housework, getting some exercise, listening to the north wind blow, etc. No activity or interaction is so ordinary to exclude God. But God rarely makes a big show of his presence. God offers instead room for us to recognize him - or not - and waits for us to respond to the *"still small voice"* of his Spirit.

I like the way Frederick Buechner, the spiritual writer, puts it: *"Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it, because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace."*

Like today, the *new year* is a gift, and we have the awesome invitation to meet our Lord in every day of it! May God bless you and us together as we journey into 2016.

Happy New Year!

Lynn

We Have A LOT to be Grateful For

So many members and friends of the congregation have generously given of their time, talent, elbow grease, and resources over the holidays it is inspiring!

Thank you: *Ministry Teams* and *Small Groups* for sharing in worship

Worship Team for the wonderful Thanksgiving fellowship luncheon and Advent preparations

Deacons for all the work of the community Thanksgiving Baskets and Mary Volpe Giving Tree ministry and keeping in touch with home-bound church members (extra kudos to Margaret Whitacre)

Building and Grounds Team for the sparkling windows and cleaned up yard (extra kudos to Jack Robinson)

Men's Breakfast Group, Parish Health Team and Christian Educators for work and witness at the Community Dinners

Everyone who came to decorate the church for Advent/Christmas

Outreach Team for the meaningful Remembrance Tree Lighting program and fellowship dinner and for organizing the Women's Christmas luncheon

Our wonderful organist, choir director and choir for the beautiful music in worship

Don Peel and Paul Waibel who are finishing their faithful term on Session

Lori Waibel and Tom Thornburg who are finishing their faithful term on the Board of Deacons

Everyone who has filled shoeboxes, purchased Giving Tree gifts, rung bells for the Salvation Army, brought covered dishes, and in many other ways given of yourselves in Jesus' name through the church.

God Bless You!



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Worship on Christmas Eve

December 24, 7:30 pm

"O Come, Let Us Adore Him!"

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting will be held in the fellowship hall on Sunday, January 24th following worship. We will review the reports from the various committees as well as update everyone on the status of our finances. Please plan to attend. A light lunch will be provided.



It is getting increasingly more expensive to send our monthly newsletter through the mail. Next month we will begin emailing the newsletter to those we have email addresses. We are asking for your help. Please provide us with your current email as soon as possible. There are several ways you can notify us. You can send your email address to the church office at:

reedurbanpc@gmail.com

fill in the attached form and drop it in the offering plate, leave it at the church office or mail the form to the church. This will result in a savings to the church. For those who don't have access to email, you can pick up the newsletter at the church or we can mail it to you.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Email: _____

I do not have email. Please mail my newsletter to me.



Stewardship through the end of November of \$114,573 is \$18,610 less than expenses of \$133,183. Total income for the same period of \$125,048 is \$8,135 less than expenses.

Submitted by: *Rick Lichtenwalter*



DEACONS' MINISTRY

For the month of January we will be collecting winter items (scarves, mittens, gloves, hats, etc.) for the **Giving Tree**. They may be placed in the basket in the Narthex.

Deacons' ministry for the months of September, October and November:

- 16 food assists and gave 23 turkey dinners to families in the Perry schools
- Had 7 families for the Mary Volpe family Christmas tree
- Donated sweat suits & underwear to the Rape Crisis Center
- Took magazines and several bags of good clean clothes to the Domestic Violence Home
- Made our monthly donations to the Refuge of Hope and Make Away Center
- Delivered a fruit basket to the family of Virginia Blankenship
- Discussed plans for a spaghetti dinner for February
- Will pick up the poinsettias on December 22nd to adorn the steps to the alter



PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Did you know 45% of Americans make New Year Resolutions, and only 8% achieve goals?

SO...don't make resolutions ... create habits!

Why not develop the habit of **“a power thought”** that creates in you a positive, hopeful feeling in your heart that is useful for coping with life during this time of increased violence and political distrust in our country. And you can use this thought anytime you are facing sadness or hurt. The thought may be a Bible verse, or favorite hymn and it becomes an automatic source of comfort.

Personally my favorite power thought is the song, Let There Be Peace. You can sing the words and melody in your head while visualizing the image of the children and people in New York City singing this beautiful song.

Try this suggestion; or create **your own phrase and visual image** in your mind. It works!! It makes you immediately feel the hope, faith and love of God in your heart. This inner calmness provides **wellness of body, mind and spirit**.

Best wishes for a healthy and Happy New Year.

Submitted by: *Gwen Weston*

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

Annual reports are due by December 31st. Please prepare your committee's report and submit them to the office. You can also email them to the church at reedurbanpc@gmail.com.



“RINGING OF THE BELLS” - SALVATION ARMY

Reedurban Presbyterian Church members have assisted in monetary collections for the Salvation Army at Fisher's on W. Tuscarawas. The final date that we will man the kettles is December 19th. All time slots have been filled. Thanks to all who helped with this worthy cause.

Submitted by: *Jack Robinson*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

On Sunday, December 6, 2015 the following were elected to serve in the class of 2018 for Elders and Deacons.

Elders: Paula Bracken, Dwight Newsom, Jack Robinson

Deacons: Marge Merrin, Darlene Mock, Heike Townsend, Renate White



BETTY'S SHOEBOX MINISTRY

Our congregation made up 48 shoeboxes which were delivered to the Salvation Army in Massillon for distribution to Perry Township children. Thank you for your help.



Teachers:

December 20th
 December 24th
 December 27th
 January 3rd
 January 10th
 January 17th
 January 24th
 January 31st

Pam Baxter
 OPEN
 Paula Bracken
 Children worship w/parents
 Wendy Lichtenwalter
 Paula Bracken
 Pam Baxter
 Debbie Anderson

Submitted by: *Darlene Mock*

PER CAPITA

The 2016 annual per capita is \$28.73 per person. It would be appreciated if everyone contributed their share. This would mean that the money would not have to be expended out of the general fund.



Please save the front of used Christmas cards. Please no backs with names. We are asking for cards no larger than 5" x 7". The fronts will be sent out West for a children's group to use as a fundraising craft. We will collect them during the month of January. If you have any questions, please contact Juanita Luoni at 330-477-2580.



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Elaine and Gary Steinbach on the recent passing of Elaine's sister.

Condolences are with Chuck Blackstone, Norma Jean Marshall and family on the passing of Richard Blackstone on December 11th. Services were conducted by Rev. Shetzer at the church on December 17th.

May the Lord extend his comfort to all.

REEDURBAN'S SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

is open to anyone who would like to grow in their faith in the company of loving Christians.

Belayers – meet on Sunday evenings at 5:30 p.m. in the conference room (*Check the calendar for meeting dates.*) Any questions, please contact Chuck Blackstone at 330-936-3534.

Friends Bible Study – This group of women meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at the Blue Fig restaurant. They have breakfast and study the Bible. For more information, contact Mary Kay Cutlip at 740-275-6962.

Seekers – meet every other Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. at Woodlawn Village Club House. If you would like more information, please call Carol Kaufmann at 330-546-7316.

Pathfinders – meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the church Conference Room. For more information, please contact Wendy Lichtenwalter at 330-833-3564.

Sowers – meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the church. For more information, please contact Don and Jackie Peel at 330-877-8745.

Men's Breakfast Group – meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the Main Street Grill located inside Buehler's. Any questions, please call Jack Robinson at 330-837-8217.

Merry Knitters & Chatty Crafters – meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at the church. Everyone is welcome. Chatty Crafters have now joined the Knitters. If you have a project for the crafters, please call Carol Mossor at 330-433-0701. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet, please come and someone will teach you. Any questions, please call Mary Kay Cutlip at 740-275-6962.

OPPORTUNITIES IN JANUARY FOR GROWTH, FELLOWSHIP & DISCIPLESHIP

Community Dinner

The Men's Breakfast Group holds their free monthly "Community Dinner" on the last Tuesday of every month from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. Our next dinner will be on **Tuesday, December 29th**. We offer the blood pressure screenings during that time as well. If you know of anyone that is in need of a hot meal, please invite them to come. All are welcome. Contact Jack Robinson at 330-837-8217 or Dave Weston at 330-879-2504 if you have any questions.

Submitted by: *Jack Robinson*

Sharing Ministry and Mission

A feature of our Sunday worship during the fall has been the sharing of Ministry Teams and mission-related groups. We are learning and re-learning the faithful, caring things that the congregation undertakes in order to “Glorify God, Make Disciples, and Meet Human Needs.” The presenters have done a wonderful job, and each week’s sharing has been inspirational!

The church is filled with inspiring stories of faith. Each of us has a story to tell of our individual faith journeys and how the Lord has blessed us along our way through caring people and the church community. You are invited to offer your story for publication through our monthly newsletter. It is an opportunity to glorify God and inspire the church. We are blessed by *Paula Bracken* to share her faith story this month.

How can anyone describe a faith journey? Do we choose it or is it chosen for us? For some it’s a cocoon that we care for and nurture until it opens. Will you be a moth or a butterfly always following that inborn path that leads you in the correct direction? For others it’s a mosquito in our room that we chase and try to kill until we fall exhausted only to awaken with a large itchy bite that reminds you that it’s still alive, waiting for you to turn your back.

I was a mosquito chaser, always looking for faith and never able to grab it. I went to different churches but never felt comfortable. Out of the blue I was given a cocoon to care for, no time to chase my mosquito. My cocoon opened at an early age and needed protection and the special attention that it required to fly.

I soon found out that Patrick was the butterfly that helped me to chase my mosquito and to know what to do with it. He followed his inborn navigation and took me along. He has led me through the maze of questions and fear that goes with the journey.

He brought me to Reedurban and then just pushed me off the couch of complacency and flew away. He knew that someone would take up the chase with me and help me to care for all of the cocoons and other mosquito chasers that God puts in our way.

I still don’t know where the chase will take me, but that pesky mosquito continues to bite me if I don’t pay attention to where it’s leading me.

My butterfly continues to travel its own path but still checks in to make sure that I don’t give up the chase. He knows that I have found fellow chasers at Reedurban and I still enjoy the journey and all those who come with me for the run.

God makes sure that we go together and still bites me when He wants me to get off of the couch and look in another room. Lately it’s more of a buzz in the ear. Maybe I don’t require that itchy bite anymore.

Thanks to all who have let me drag them along on my sometimes itchy faith journey.

Paula Bracken

THE PRESCHOOL AROUND THE CORNER

During the month of December we studied Hanukkah and Christmas. We had a special guest who made latkes for the children and shared some Hanukkah stories. We discussed the birth of Jesus and that it is just as important to give of yourself as it is to receive gifts from Santa.

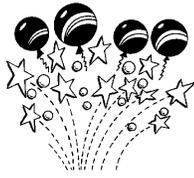
Preschool will end classes on December 17, resuming on January 4.

We hope everyone has a joyous Christmas and a happy new year!

Reta Hale and Tricia Conner

Reminder: For safety reasons no one will be permitted to use the back entrance or go beyond the partition from 8:30 to noon while the Preschool Around the Corner is in operation. Thanks for your cooperation.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



1 st	David McRoberts
3 rd	Norma Jean Marshall
6 th	Brenda (Buck) Craley Jennifer Ramsey
7 th	Zavier Doubrava
9 th	Robin Hinkle Bonnie Larke Julie (Bragg) Oney Christian Pierce Barry Shetzer
10 th	Thomas Crawford, Jr.
12 th	Lois Pinhard
13 th	Pat Bracken Steve Mays Sydne Rosendale
14 th	T.J. Crawford, Sr.
15 th	Brenda Daniluk Scott Phillips Laura Wise
16 th	Trudy Hart
22 nd	Debra Crotsley
23 rd	Lori Waibel Jim Whitacre
24 th	Caroline Nist
26 th	Marjorie Merrin
27 th	Julia Parker
31 st	Frank Altier

Newsletter
DEADLINE

The deadline for the **FEBRUARY** newsletter is **JANUARY 15th**. Please have your articles to Cheryl Robinson (330-837-8217) (e-mail: car929@aol.com) or to the church office by then. The mailbox is located outside the office door.

GREETERS FOR JANUARY

3 rd	Don & Jackie Peel
10 th	Sue Larke
17 th	Dick Hambleton
24 th	OPEN
31 st	OPEN

We are looking for volunteers to be greeters. Please sign up for a Sunday or two. Greeters will be provided with a name badge to wear while greeting. Before you go home, please be sure to leave that badge on the counter in the Welcome Center.

For more information on being a Greeter, please contact Pam Baxter at 330-477-3389.

FLOWERS FOR JANUARY

3 rd	OPEN
10 th	OPEN
17 th	Lois Pinhard in memory of Richard
24 th	Carol Kaufmann in memory of Jack
31 st	OPEN

2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2016 Offering Envelopes are available for pickup. They are on a table in the Welcome Center.



December 20 th	Lois Pinhard
December 24 th	OPEN
December 27 th	Pat Smith
January 3 rd	Pam Baxter
January 10 th	Pat Smith
January 17 th	Lois Pinhard
January 24 th	Pat Smith
January 31 st	Pat Smith

The Crib Room is for children under age 4. Helpers, subs or even a regular are always needed in the Crib Room. If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please trade with someone on the list or call Darlene Mock at 330-809-0133.

Anyone that could volunteer in the crib room during the church service would be greatly appreciated. Please call the church office or Darlene Mock.

OFFICE HOURS

Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you call the office and we are not in, please leave a message on the machine and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

Widows and Widowers meet here on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Anyone who is a widow or widower is invited to join the group. You are asked to please bring a covered dish to share. They would love to have you join them.

Phyllis Greene (Laurels of Massillon)
Marge Showers (Hanover House)
Bill Bowen
Patrick Bracken
Dorothy Carpenter
Edna Harper
Jackson Kiger II
Gloria Perrin
Nadine Regula
Stephen Steiner
Jim Trimmer
Paul Waibel

Continue recovery for Elaine Steinbach and Henry White.

LITURGIST SIGN-UP

The liturgist sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the office for the months of January and February. If you are interested, please sign your name. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Kaufmann at 330-546-7316.

2016 FLOWER CHART

The 2016 Flower Chart has been posted on the bulletin board outside the office. If you would like to give flowers for a special occasion or a special person, please fill in your name next to the date. You will be billed from Flowers By Pat.

REEDURBAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1145 Perry Drive N.W.
Canton, OH 44708-3354
(330-477-2838)
Rev. Lynn Bozich Shetzer, Pastor

Non Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Canton, OH 44711
Permit No. 1767

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2016 SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Lynn Shetzer

Class of 2016:

Class of 2017:

Class of 2018:

Clerk: Rob Townsend

Carol Mossor

Rob Townsend

Carol Kaufmann

Rick Lichtenwalter

Paula Bracken

Jack Robinson

Gary Steinbach

Jim VanEtten

Chuck Leeser

Gwen Weston

Dwight Newsom

2016 DEACONS

Moderator: Linda Radsick

Class of 2016

Class of 2017:

Class of 2018:

Vice-Moderator: Darlene Mock

Katie Hinson

Lois Pinhard

Pam Baxter

Linda Radsick

Marge Merrin

Heike Townsend

Sue Larke

Margaret Whitacre

Mary Kay Cutlip

John Whitacre

Darlene Mock

Renate White

Our Vision Statement Is:

"To Glorify God, Make Disciples and Meet Human Needs."

Our Mission Statement is:

*The Reedurban Presbyterian Church is a **caring family** of Christians who **invite Jesus Christ** our Lord and Savior **to come in and control** our lives **through the Holy Spirit**. We **receive directions from and follow the teachings of God** in the scriptures. We worship and teach in a way that **nurtures, inspires, and encourages** members and friends through the Word of God. We **commit ourselves to grow** together in Christ by **serving one another, our church, our community and our world**.*