



Reedurban Presbyterian Church

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

Reedurban DECEMBER 2015 Newsletter



Dear Friends,

Get ready – get set – WAIT! The beginning of the church year is pretty much expressed in those words. Advent is a season of preparation. It's not so much about decorating and shopping and baking and wrapping as it is about praying and listening for God's voice, rereading the prophecies and looking for signs of the Lord in our midst, and practicing trust in our Savior.

A wonderful Advent resource is "Advent Conspiracy: Can Christmas Really Change the World?" The three young pastors who put the resource together suggest some Advent practices to help us prepare for Christmas in a way that changes us and impacts the world around us.

1st: **WORSHIP FULLY**. It starts with Jesus. It ends with Jesus. It's a season where we are called to put down our burdens and lift a song up to our God. It's a season where love wins, peace reigns and a king is celebrated with each breath. Entering the story of Advent means entering this season with an overwhelming passion to worship Jesus to the fullest.

2nd: **SPEND LESS**. It's not about becoming Scrooge. Gifts are good. But consider this: America spends an average of \$450 billion every Christmas. How often have you spent money on presents for no other reason than obligation? How many times have you received a gift out of the same obligation? Consider instead buying ONE LESS GIFT this Advent season. Believe it or not, people who have taken this small challenge have experienced a miracle: *They've been more available to celebrate Christ during the Advent season.* Need some ideas for more meaningful giving? Check out the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall.

3rd: **GIVE MORE**. God's gift to us was a *relationship built on love*. It's no wonder we're drawn to the idea that Christmas should be a time to love family and friends in memorable ways. *Time* is the real gift Advent offers us, and no matter how hard we look, it can't be found at the mall. Take time to be with family and friends, to listen and share, to make love visible through relational giving.

4th: **LOVE ALL**. When Jesus loved, he loved in ways never imagined. Though rich, he became poor to love the poor, the forgotten, the overlooked, and the sick. He played to the margins. By spending less at Christmas we have the opportunity to join him in giving resources to those who need help the most. In the first four churches challenged by this simple Advent Conspiracy concept, \$4 million dollars was raised for people in need! The dollar amount doesn't matter. What matters is our response to the *blessed gift of our Savior* in "the least of these."

Worship fully, Spend less, Give more, Love All. God bless you this Advent season.

Lynn

P.S. Yes, through the Spirit of God working in us, Christmas CAN change the world.

Advent Worship

10:30 am

*Lighting the Advent Candles
Reading the prophecies and
promises of scripture
Singing songs of hope
Praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”*

Advent – Opening Bell

by J. Barrie Shepherd

stepping out
into a season crammed
with every kind of expectation
except for the kind we pray about in church –
almost four weeks of sales charts,
balance sheets, consumer confidence reports,
and paychecks spent before they hit the bank –
I fear that any word
of a messiah’s birth might bring
only a momentary dip in the Dow-Jones,
the merest trace of jitters along Wall Street.



Stewardship through the end of October of \$103,536 is \$18,272 less than expenses of \$121,808. Total income for the same period of \$109,295 is \$12,513 less than expenses. The high expense in October is partly due to our annual insurance premiums which are a \$5,042 one-time payment.

Submitted by: *Rick Lichtenwalter*

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

On **Sunday, November 22nd** (Consecration Sunday) there will be a soup and sandwiches luncheon after worship sponsored by the Worship Committee. There will be delicious homemade varieties (like chicken, wedding, chili, vegetable) plus sandwiches, fruit and dessert. Please be sure to turn in your pledges then.

CHURCH DECORATING

On **Saturday, November 28th**, please plan to come to the church at 10:00 a.m. and help to decorate the church. Advent starts on Sunday, November 29th. Please mark your calendars and join us. All help is appreciated.



PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY UPDATE

The holiday season is the most stressful time of the year. Here are 10 tips for coping with stress, depression and the holidays suggested by the *Mayo Clinic Healthy Lifestyle*.

1. Acknowledge your feelings of sadness if recent loss of loved one or not being able to be with any loved ones.
2. Reach out to others by volunteering your time to those in need.
3. Be realistic and realize families grow and change so traditions and rituals also change.
4. Set aside differences and try to accept family members and friends just as they are.
5. Stick to a budget when gift and food shopping; don't try to buy happiness with extra gifts.
6. Plan ahead and plan specific times for shopping, baking and visiting friends and family.
7. Learn to say NO. Saying yes when you mean no leaves you feeling resentful and overwhelmed.
8. Keep healthy habits by including regular physical activity, get enough sleep and avoid excessive intake of sweets, cheese and alcohol at parties.
9. Have time for yourself. Find something to reduce stress and slow your breathing, and feel inner calmness.
10. Seek professional help if feeling persistently sad, anxious, have physical symptoms, insomnia or unable to face routine daily chores.

Get your blood pressure checked to be sure your stress level is not raising your blood pressure. We will have blood pressure screening during the Community Dinner, Tuesday December 29, 2015 from 4PM – 6:30 PM.

Submitted by: Gwen Weston



It is getting increasingly more expensive to send our monthly newsletter through the mail. We are moving toward sending the newsletter by email as many churches have already done. We hope to have this accomplished within the next couple of months. We are asking for your help. Please provide us with your current email as soon as possible. You can 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 save the church money when it has been converted.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Email: _____

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



DEACONS' MINISTRY

For the month of December 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.

The **Food Cupboard** is in need of the following items: jello, spaghetti or any pasta, jelly, applesauce and cereal. We do not need fruits or vegetables. With Thanksgiving coming up we will be doing many food baskets. Thank you for your continued support.

The **Upper Room Devotionals** for November/December are available in the Welcome Center. Please feel free to take one.

Submitted by: *Mary Kay Cutlip*

"RINGING OF THE BELLS" - SALVATION ARMY



Once again, Reedurban Presbyterian Church members will assist in monetary collections for the Salvation Army at Fisher's on W. Tuscarawas. The dates have been set for four Saturdays – November 28th, December 5th, December 12th and December 19th. We will man the kettle from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. A sign-up sheet for the times will be posted in the Welcome Center. Please sign up for several times if possible.

Submitted by: *Jack Robinson*

POT LUCK DINNER & CELEBRATION TREE SERVICE

Pot Luck Dinner & Celebration Tree Service will be held on Sunday, December 6th beginning with the Pot Luck at 5:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m., everyone will proceed into the Sanctuary for the singing of Carols and the reading of names for those "in memory of" or "in honor of". After the singing of Silent Night, we will go outside for the lighting of the Celebration Tree. The LAST DAY to have loved ones included in the Service will be NOVEMBER 29th.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - DECEMBER 6th

A meeting of the congregation has been called for Sunday, December 6, 2015 at the end of the worship service for the purpose of electing Elders and Deacons to serve in the class of 2018.

LADIES' CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Ladies' Christmas Luncheon will be held on Saturday, December 12th from noon to 2 p.m. at Grinder's Restaurant on Whipple NW. Everyone will order off the menu and get a separate check. The sign-up sheet will be in the Welcome Center beginning November 8th. As in the past we will have a \$5 Christmas ornament exchange. You may invite a friend.

Worship on Christmas Eve

December 24, 7:30 pm

"*O Come, Let Us Adore Him!*"

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

BETTY'S SHOEBOX MINISTRY

This year, Outreach has decided to keep this vital Christmas ministry alive, but within PERRY TOWNSHP. Using their application and verification process, the Salvation Army will be distributing these boxes to children in our own community.

Christmas wrap each box (lid & base separately), rubber band the top to the bottom and attach an appropriate label (boy/girl, age group). In order to "not forget" the older children, an equal number of labels for each category will be available. We will insert a Merry Christmas and God Loves You from Reedurban Presbyterian Church in each box.

Suggested items to include in each shoebox are: pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, markers, stamps/ink pad, writing pads, coloring or picture books, small cars, stuffed animals, yo-yo's, jump ropes, toothbrush, toothpaste, combs, brushes, candy, gum, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, Bible story books, etc. **DO NOT INCLUDE** used items, war related items such as guns or knives or anything in a glass containers.

A sample shoebox and labels will be available in the Narthex. Bring your shoeboxes to the church through December 6th.



The Sunday children's education program resumed on September 13th.

Teachers:	November 22 nd	Pam Baxter
	November 29 th	Paula Bracken
	December 6th	Katie Hinson
	December 13th	Debbie Anderson
	December 20th	Pam Baxter
	December 24 th	OPEN
	December 27th	Paula Bracken

Submitted by: *Darlene Mock*

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

All adults are encouraged to join each Sunday morning for Adult Sunday School in the conference room starting at 9:15 a.m. New faces are always welcome!

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.

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

The Worship Ministry Team meeting will now be held on the 3rd Sunday of each month following worship.

THE PRESCHOOL AROUND THE CORNER

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.

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 DECEMBER 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*



The men from the Community Dinner are looking for some helpers. If you can spare some time from 4 – 6:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month, please sign up on the sheet located on the shelf in the Narthex. It would be greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact either Dave Weston 330-879-2504 or Don Peel 330-877-8745.

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 *Wendy Lichtenwalter* to share her faith story this month.

Wendy Lichtenwalter Faith Journey

When I was just a little girl, I went with my three sisters to church each week. My first memory is singing "Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam" while waving yellow crepe paper during adult worship. We wore our little white gloves with our offering money tucked inside and walked to our grandparents' house right after Sunday School. In the 4th grade we were required to memorize poems about the Ten Commandments and the names of the apostles as well as several passages of scripture before moving up to the Junior Department. In that group each Sunday we had a bible class and a short worship service led by a church Elder. I remember that the teachers were endlessly patient and taught about Jesus and the many figures in the bible with love. Camp Lambe, a Presbyterian camp on Lake Erie, was the highlight of my junior high years, impressing me with the wide faith of a community in the beautiful vespers each evening.

As a senior high student we had a new Christian Education director who really fired us up! I still enjoy friendships with two of those friends with whom I attended church weekly. A turning point in my relationship with the Lord came when I was scheduled to go on a retreat. The day we were leaving, I got a rejection letter from the college I expected to attend. I was devastated and tried to cancel the trip, but my friends persuaded me to go. Everyone on the retreat made a circle around me and prayed with and for me – a truly life-changing experience. The next Monday, my guidance counselor answered my prayers by encouraging me to go to a little college she knew – I was accepted within a week! The college introduced us to professors who would provide transportation to churches, so I had the opportunity to worship in a Presbyterian church during that time.

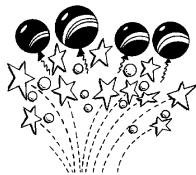
My adult life has been one of trusting God to guide me and show me the path to faith, stewardship of the Earth's resources, and service to others. I was blessed to be out of the workforce for many years during which time I volunteered with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and community boards which provide services to the poor and marginalized folks in our community. Teaching in Canton City Schools brought me face-to-face with people who need those services and once again, God brought me friends in faith to help children overcome barriers.

Reedurban is the closest church to our house, so when we were looking for a new church family, this little Presbyterian church was a first step. The warmth, welcome, and genuine concern for us, as well as invitations to take leadership roles in service to God made this a perfect fit. The most personally rewarding part of being in this faith community is being part of our small group. I have seen God's love, felt God's guidance, and have learned how to be more faithful to his voice in my life as a result of this close, trusting relationship. Although my life hasn't been one of "lightning bolt" moments, my faith has been an upward journey which has many chapters yet to be read.



Congratulations to Rick & Annette Schreffler on the birth of their new granddaughter, Hannah Schreffler on November 5, 2015 at 2:21 p.m. She weighed 8 lb. 4 oz.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



1 st	Mark Wise
2 nd	Karen Fox
3 rd	Debbie Anderson
4 th	Janice Dean
7 th	Dax Catlett
8 th	Kathy Robinson
11 th	Janice Mays
12 th	Richard Larson
	Dorothy Bowen
	Marian Evans
14 th	Renate White
17 th	Mary Kay Cutlip
18 th	Nancy Leeser
19 th	Cody Radsick
20 th	Paul Waibel
	Howard Marshall
	Robin Regula
21 st	Jan Dean
22 nd	Gerald Givens
23 rd	Ron Merrin
25 th	Tim Shetzer
26 th	Pat Smith
	Cindy Catlett
27 th	Jackie Peel
28 th	Robert Senften
29 th	Dylan Crawford
30 th	Rick Schreffler
	Matthew Sutton

NewsLetter DEADLine

The deadline for the **JANUARY** newsletter is **DECEMBER 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 DECEMBER

6 th	Lois Pinhard
13 th	OPEN
20 th	Dave & Barb Wright
24 th	CHRISTMAS EVE Rod & Debbie Anderson
27 th	Ron & Marge Merrin

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 Narthex.

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

FLOWERS FOR DECEMBER

6 th	Darlene Mock in memory of her brother Darrell Hines
13 th	Edna Harper in memory of Ray's birthday
20 th	Don & Jackie Peel in memory of Jackie's siblings Lee, Tom, Larry & Pat
27 th	Darlene Mock in memory of Jack



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family and friends of Virginia Blankenship who passed away on October 23rd. Our prayers are with you and may the Lord extend his comfort to all.



November 22 nd	Pat Smith
November 29 th	Pat Smith
December 6 th	Pam Baxter
December 13 th	Pat Smith
December 20 th	Lois Pinhard
December 24 th	OPEN
December 27 th	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.

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
Jim Trimmer
Paul Waibel

LITURGIST SIGN-UP

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



Don't forget to return your completed pledge cards. There is a box on the Narthex shelf or you can place them in the offering plate.

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Moderator: Rev. Lynn Shetzer
Class of 2015:

Class of 2016:

Class of 2017:

2015 SESSION

Clerk: Rob Townsend
Dwight Newsom
Jack Robinson
Carol Mossor
Rob Townsend
Carol Kaufmann
Rick Lichtenwalter

Don Peel
Paul Waibel
Gary Steinbach
Jim VanEtten
Chuck Leeser
Gwen Weston

Moderator: Linda Radsick
Class of 2015:

Class of 2016

Class of 2017:

2015 DEACONS

Vice-Moderator: Lori Waibel
Thomas Thornburg
Lori Waibel
Katie Hinson
Lois Pinhard
Pam Baxter
Linda Radsick

Heike Townsend
Renate White
Sue Larke
Margaret Whitacre
Mary Kay Cutlip
John Whitacre

*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.***