



A Word from Rev. Alice

*Dear Church Family,*

*As we enter into this Season of Thanksgiving this month, I want to share with you the following by Robert J. Morgan in his book, *Then Sings My Soul*, about the hymn "Count Your Blessings."*



It's impossible to be thankful and, at the same time, grumpy, cantankerous, critical, or ill-tempered. That's a lesson Johnson Oatman wanted to teach young people in his song, "Count Your Blessings."

Johnson was born in New Jersey just before the Civil War. His father had a powerful voice which some people claimed was the best singing voice in the East. That's why, as a boy, Johnson, Jr., always wanted to stand beside his father in church.

When Johnson was a young man, he stood alongside his father in another way. He became a partner in Johnson Oatman & Son, his dad's mercantile business. At age 19, Johnson joined the Methodist Episcopal Church and was ordained into ministry. He often preached, but Johnson never entered the full-time pastorate, for he enjoyed the business world and found it paid his bills, giving him freedom to minister without cost.

In 1892, with his father's voice undoubtedly ringing in his memory, Johnson began writing hymns. He averaged 200 hymns and gospel songs a year---5,000 during the course of his life-time, among them: "Higher Ground," "No, Not One," "The Last Mile of the Way," and this one, "Count Your Blessings," which was published in a song book for young people in 1897. It reflected Johnson's optimistic faith, and has been a lesson to many ever since.

Martin Luther wrote in his book, *Table Talk*: "The greater God's gifts and works, the less they are regarded." We tend to exhibit a degree of thanksgiving in reverse proportion to the amount of blessings we've received. A hungry man is more thankful for his morsel than a rich man for his heavily-laden table. A lonely woman in a nursing home will appreciate a visit more than a popular woman with a party thrown in her honor.

If the birds only burst into song once a year, we'd all pay close attention. But because they are singing every morning, we scarcely bother to listen.

*Robert Morgan encourages us in his book to deliberately thank God for something you've never before mentioned in thanksgiving. If you are feeling grumpy, cantankerous, critical or ill-tempered this day...try being thankful for something...it just may change your attitude!*

**Count your many blessings**

**Name them one by one,**

**And it will surprise you**

**What the Lord hath done**

*Love being your pastor!*

*Love and Blessings in Jesus!*

*Alice*



Keep these folks and their care-givers in your prayers for healing and recovery from hospitalization or recent illness including Covid.

Sherline Lear  
Arlene Perkins

### Upcoming Meetings

Trustees—Sunday Nov 13

Deacons— Sunday Nov 20

Session Wednesday Nov 9

Women's Circle Monday Nov 21 at 1:30 pm

J Walkers Sunday Nov 20 6 pm



### Thank You Thank You



- Thank you to Jane Denhardt and Rev Alice for assembling the scrapbook and all those who sent cards to honor Rosemary Anderson. Thanks to Deacons for providing special coffee hour for Rosemary's celebration.

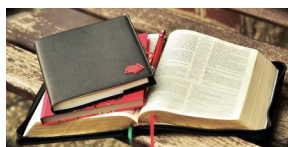
- Fall Fest thank yous! Drew and Sherline Lear for the game! Helpers at the church table- Donna Rihl and Reese, Carol Burkhart, Judy Brady, and Matt and Barb Holliday, and Rev Alice for helping. Thanks to all for donations and candy!

### **THANK YOU**

I would like to extend a HUGE thank-you to everyone who contributed to my surprise on the 23rd. I had no idea such a thing was being planned - as I said, I am apparently surrounded by extremely sneaky people! Special thanks to Rev. Alice, Jane Denhardt, Carol Burkhart, Mayor Carney and my family. The cards and letters are wonderful - I'm only reading a feat a time so as not to get a swelled head and become impossible to live with! Only one problem - Gladly is complaining that he deserves a special day, too (I think he just wants his own cake). THANK YOU ALL - I will never forget this! God bless you, everyone!  
Rosemary

**THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT IS NOVEMBER 27.....SO THE ANNUAL CHURCH DECORATING WILL BE AFTER CHURCH ON **November 20**.** Many hands make light

work so please plan on staying a little bit after church and getting the church decorated for the Season!



### Fall Monday Night Bible Study resumed in October.

We are studying John's Gospel. All are welcome to join us. We meet on Zoom! See Rev Alice for info.

### SYMPATHY-



**We send our love and sympathy to families experiencing the loss of a loved one.**



**Welcome to the World!** We celebrate the birth of Dale Stapp on September 6, 2022 ( 7 lbs. 1 oz, 20 in.

long) Congratulations to his proud parents, Tom and Jessica Stapp and grandparents, Kathy and Nick Stapp.

- **Elaine and Bill Wilcox and family in the passing of sister-in-law, Lorina Wilcox on October 19**
- **Tom and Kathy Verne for the loss of Tom's brother, Dave on September 19.**
- **John and Pat Jordan and family for the loss of son, John Jordan, Jr. on October 8.**



## Community Christmas Basket Program – 2022

We are having the program this year but in a modified format. There will be no food collection/distribution. Our church will NOT be the home base for operations this year – there is no home base this year.

If you want to adopt a family you will be responsible for providing \$30 for a family gift card, buying any gifts for the children, and wrapping them. This year you have the option of arranging to deliver the gifts to the family, arranging to have them picked up by the family or bringing the gifts to our church and we will make sure they get to the family.

**You can bring the \$30/family to the Plain City Presbyterian Church on Monday, 11/21/2022 between 6 and 7pm** and you will be given the family gift card and an index card that will contain the family information: Name, address, phone number, children’s ages and gender (so you can purchase age-appropriate gifts). We also have families that do not have any children so you would just give us the \$30 for the family gift card and then you have the option to contact the family to arrange for pick up or delivery of this gift card or you can leave it with us and we will make sure the family gets the gift card. **If you**

**choose to contact the family yourself to arrange for pickup or delivery of the gifts, we ask that you contact the family by Wednesday, December 14, 2022.** If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to “**Christmas Basket Fund**” and send them to the church. Please contact Dave McCray at 614-408-1617 if you have any questions or are interested in adopting a family. Thank you!

## **GETTING MUSIC READY FOR CHRISTMAS!**



Music and Worship met and Ailene has chosen music for **a Christmas Musical for Dec. 18, 2022, during morning worship.** If you like to sing, why not join us? A recording of the music will be provided for each individual so you can become familiar/practice with the music at home. Several practices will take place in the fall in the evening (to be announced) with the final practice on Dec. 17th at 9:00 am. So if you like to sing and may be thinking you don’t have time for a weekly commitment of choir practice, this is ideal!

Why not join us and sing to the Lord! If you are interested, please let Rev. Alice know.

## **LIFEWISE ACADEMY UPDATE PRAISE JESUS!!!**

**LIFEWISE ACADEMY - began October 4!**

**Tuesday– Friday 9 am until 3:20 pm 7 classes daily.**

**Thank you card received from the Team**

Dear Plain City Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your support of LifeWise Academy Jonathan Alder! From providing space for our classrooms & storage to financially supporting the program & prayer & beyond , your encouragement has been invaluable! As of today, we are serving 105 students form Plain City Elementary, and that number continues to climb!

For His Glory, LifeWise JA Team



**HOW CAN YOU HELP?? PRAY...GIVE...VOLUNTEER...**Link to volunteer and contribute:<https://www.lifewiseacademy.org/nearlaunch/3904826/jonathan-alder-local>



## Presbyterian Women's Coat Drive



Have you or are you planning on cleaning out your closets before winter? Do you have some gently used coats that you would like to find a new home? Would you buy a new coat to donate? Well, bring them to the church as the Women's Circle are gathering coats again to donate to DNA for local folks in need. **We will gather them from now until mid December. Leave them on the marked box outside the office.** Thank you!!



**Presbyterian Women's Circle Monday, November 21 at 1:30 pm** Pat Myers is covering refreshments and Nancy Patterson is doing our devotions. Come join us. New prayer buddies will be passed out.

## MAJOR CHURCH IMPROVEMENT FUND



Our major church improvement fund is depleted largely due to the stucco replacement on the outside of our building. There are various projects throughout the church that need attention. If you are willing and able to contribute to this fund, it would be greatly appreciated! Please mark your check or envelope designating MCIF.

**30 DAY PRAYER PILGRIMAGE**  
**Begins Oct. 23rd**  
We will meet once a week to share how the pilgrimage is going for each of us on **Sunday at 9:15 AM**

Want to draw closer to the Lord?  
Want to learn how to pray more effectively?  
Want to learn to pray for healing in your life?

### Per Capita Giving Time

**Presbytery has advised the 2022 Per Capita is \$40 per member.** Per Capita is collected by Presbytery and is distributed as shown below. This is how we fund the denomination and has been a part of denomination history for over 275 years.

Presbytery of Scioto Valley :	\$ 27.80
Synod of the Covenant :	\$ 3.25
General Assembly	<u>\$ 8.95</u>
Total:	\$ 40.00.

The Church is responsible to pay the Per Capita for our membership reported in 2020. Session's request to the Congregation is for every member to pay their portion of Per Capita. This will relieve pressure on our General Fund. We would like to request it be paid as soon as you can. You can put it in the offering plate or mail to the Church.

### HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

Things are opening up for clergy. So if you are in the hospital or a loved one is and want a visit... please call or text **Rev. Alice 740-391-2531**

# NURSERY



Calling all individuals who would enjoy volunteering in the nursery on Sunday's during worship service. As a volunteer, we ask that you arrive in the nursery no later than 9:45AM on your Sunday. If there are no "little ones" to care for, you may join worship service at 10:10AM. If you are willing to volunteer, try to secure a buddy, as we need 2 adults for every service. If you are unable to find a partner, I will pair you with another volunteer. Let me know if you would like to serve in this way and what Sunday that would be convenient for you. The Christian Education Committee thanks you for considering this request!

Rita McCray text: 614-634-8197  
email: teawithrita@yahoo.com

## REMEMBERING OUR SHUT-INS

Being shut-in during the pandemic should have given us a better appreciation for those on our shut-in list. Please take a moment to remember our shut-ins. Drop them a card or give them a call!

Bob Schlitz—At his daughter Erin's home

Connie Zimmerman—Arizona home

Dick Harper—Home

Marian Thomas & Pat Stenner & Bruce Keiser—

Dublin Retire Village Assisted Living

Chuck Stoker—Home Pat Stoker-  
Bluebird Retirement, Marysville

Bryan Becker—Home

Arlene Perkins, Paul and Donna Gibson— Walnut Crossing Assisted Living, Marysville

Charlotte Lambka, - Edgewater Assisted Living

Mary Lou Rihl- Glenwood



**Our Shut-ins**

## Church Treasurer Report for September 2022

The general fund balance for the end of September decreased to a negative amount due to a low amount of donations being made during the month. The month's expenses included the quarterly church insurance premium, continuing pastor education expenses, and guest minister fees. There was a special donation received to cover the cost of the new coat of blacktop for the parking lot.

### General Expenses Fund

Beginning Balance	9/01/2022	\$ 6,045.04
Income		7,390.00
Expenses		<u>(14,021.42)</u>
Ending Balance	9/30/2022	\$ (586.38)

If there are any questions, please let me know.

Best Regards, Gary Gibeaut, Treasurer



**Sunday, November 6 is donation Sunday. Drop off in boxes on the way to the sanctuary.**

What is needed? All packaged food in boxes, cans, or pouches. NOTHING that needs refrigeration! Also remember this is a small area to fill so small boxes are good. If you bring the food/items, we will get it in the pantry.

### LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SERVE THE CHURCH ? CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THE AV TEAM.

The AV Team needs **MORE** volunteers. Dave McCray, Jim Kaufman Don McKelvey, Ian Reed and John Rihl have been our ever faithful camera men . They are need of some more volunteers to train. Please consider helping with this important service to the church family. Contact Dave or Jim if you are willing to learn and help.

## Operation Christmas Child Deadline is coming up! NOVEMBER 14

**BOXES ARE HERE!!!** We have some children's crafts and other items from Barbara Berry's daughter Jill that you can also add to your box. You can pick them up at church!

**PLEASE NOTE: FILLED Boxes need to be turned back in by NOVEMBER 14!**

LISTS OF GIFT SUGGESTIONS BY AGE AND GENDER ARE POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE PARLOR AND ARE AVAILABLE AT <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>



Happy  
Birthday

Happy Anniversary



11/01	Joey	Walker					
11/09	Lisa	Nelson-	11/04	Nick	&	Kathy	Stapp
11/17	Chris	Johnston	11/10	Norman	&	Renee	Troyer
11/20	Kyle	Moody	11/11	Shane	&	Leanne	Manring
11/25	Rachel	Ferguson	11/29	Chad	&	Molly	Sperling
11/29	Chad	Craney					

### *Christmas Poinsettia Order Form*

Proceeds collected will be used to support The Presbyterian Women and our L.I.G.H.T. Youth Program. **Cost is \$10.00 per plant. Due by Sunday, November 13, 2022**

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

*Payment can be cash or check payable to the church and marked for "poinsettias" on the memo line. . Place your order form and payment in offering plate by **Nov 13** or you may call the church office at 614-873-5011 to place your order. Just leave on answering machine if no one answers. You may also mail your order, with payment, to the church, 231 E. Main St., Plain City OH 43064. **Mailed orders must be received at the church by Nov 13.** You will be able to take home your flowers following the Christmas Eve Service.. Thank you!!!!*

Total No. of plants: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Paid: \_\_\_\_\_