



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) Plain City, Ohio

January 2025

PPC PRESSing News

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(614) 873-5011 ◦

seccg@plaincitypresby.org



Dear Church Family,

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

[Phil. 1:3-6](#)

I look back over the past 9 ½ years, and I have lots of memories. I love this church family so much. This church family has always been special to me.

I still can remember the very first Sunday when I entered the doors of this church on a World Communion Sunday back in 1986. I taught school in Delaware, so I drove 25 miles to get here. What brought me back each Sunday and led me to become a member the following year? God's Word was preached and the sacraments celebrated; and there was joy, hospitality, fellowship, music, Bible Study, and a mission mindedness!

That was the key then, it was key for me in coming back as your pastor, and it still is the key to the future of this church – God's Word being preached and sacraments celebrated, joy, hospitality, Bible Study, fellowship, music and mission mindedness. I would encourage you to treasure those precious gifts and make others aware that is what happens at PCPC.

On my last Sunday here, I will preach God's Word and celebrate both the sacrament of Holy Communion and Baptism together with you...what joy!! Thank you for the honor and privilege of being your pastor these past 9 ½ years. I am grateful!

After January 31, 2025, I will no longer be your pastor, but will continue to be your friend. Back in the '80's Michael W. Smith wrote that wonderful Christian song, "Friends are Friends Forever." The one line that is so significant is "And friends are friends forever if the Lord's the Lord of them." There is so much truth in that statement. When we know Jesus, we are friends forever...it is a tie that binds us together here on this earth and into eternity. As we say good-bye to one another... the wonderful blessing is that our friendship doesn't end. If we don't see one another again this side of heaven...we will one day!

Love and Blessings in Jesus!

Alice

P.S. Some have asked what will happen to Carol Burkhart. As you know, Carol and her husband Jack were like parents to me in the first church I served. I told Jack that I would make sure she was taken care of at the time of his passing. Carol moved to Pleasant Valley Garden Apartments six years ago. She has been actively involved in PCPC. She will eventually move to the area where I will be. She is on a waiting list for a senior apartment. She will stay with me during the winter months and will be back and forth between Plain City and the new area until she is settled in an apartment.

Many of you have asked what happens now? I have written a guideline for the transition as well as some DO'S as you prepare for a new pastor. — Alice

WHAT WILL HAPPEN DURING THIS TIME OF TRANSITION??

The Session has met with the Executive Presbyter for next steps.

The Executive Presbyter will preach on January 19th and Rosemary will preach on January 26th.

The Session hires the Interim. Currently, the Session is looking at the possibility of an interim pastor. They are watching livestream preaching and will interview individuals who they think will be a good match for the church. Prior to hiring an interim, there will be pulpit supply. Should there not be an interim right away (as there is not an overabundance of potential interims), a Moderator will be assigned by Presbytery to moderate monthly Session meetings.

Session is also evaluating whether the church can continue financially with a full-time call or possibly may have to go in the direction of a part-time pastoral call. A commissioned lay pastor may also be a possibility (the process is a bit different).

A mission study will be completed involving input from the entire church.

A PNC will be nominated and will be elected by the congregation.

The PNC will write the MDP which states information about the church and what the church is looking for in a pastor, and it will be placed online through the denomination's call process for potential candidates to view.

The search for a new pastor by the PNC will continue until a new pastor is called.

A congregational meeting is held after the pastor preaches and is voted on.

A new pastor begins serving the church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SESSION – There is a lot to do in the time of transition!!

Preaching schedule for the remainder of January. As Rev Alice will be departing on January 12, we have the following providing the services.

Sunday, January 19th– Rev. Kathleen A. Nice from the Presbytery of Scioto Valley where she serves as the Transitional General Presbyter

Sunday, January 26th– Rosemary Anderson

SOME DO'S AS YOU PREPARE FOR A NEW PASTOR

DO PRAY FERVENTLY – ASK THE LORD FOR CONTINUAL GUIDANCE AND STRENGTH. THIS IS THE LORD'S CHURCH...SO BE IN CONSTANT PRAYER FOR WHAT HE IS CALLING YOU TO BE AND DO! THE ONE WHO IS IN CHARGE IS THE LORD!!! PRAY FERVENTLY FOR THE SESSION AND THE NEXT PULPIT NOMINATING COMMITTEE!

DO CONTINUE TO GIVE GENEROUSLY – OFTEN PEOPLE'S GIVING SLACKS WHEN THERE IS A TRANSITION. YOU WANT THE CHURCH TO BE IN A GOOD FINANCIAL STATE WHEN YOU CALL THE NEXT PASTOR. DON'T SAY...WELL, WE DON'T HAVE TO PAY A PASTOR'S PACKAGE NOW SO I DON'T HAVE TO GIVE AS MUCH. THAT IS LIKE SAYING DON'T PAY THE GAS BILL IN THE SUMMER BECAUSE WE AREN'T USING THE FURNACE...OF COURSE YOU PAY THE GAS BILL YEAR-ROUND. THE SAME IS TRUE IN THE CHURCH...YOU WILL EVENTUALLY NEED TO PAY A PASTOR'S PACKAGE, SO CONTINUE TO GIVE AND GIVE GENEROUSLY.

DO INVITE PEOPLE TO WORSHIP – THIS IS A TIME WHEN YOU SHOULD BE EXCITED TO INVITE PEOPLE TO WORSHIP...YOU CAN SAY...WE ARE STARTING A NEW CHAPTER IN OUR CHURCH'S LIFE, AND WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US!

DO FAITHFULLY ATTEND WORSHIP – THE TENDENCY WHEN A PASTOR LEAVES IS TO NOT MAKE WORSHIP A PRIORITY. IF YOU WANT THE CHURCH TO CONTINUE ON, EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE IN WORSHIP AS HE/SHE IS ABLE. IF YOU ARE PHYSICALLY ABLE, DON'T RELY ON THE LIVESTREAM. THINK OF THE LIVESTREAM FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-IN.

DO ACCEPT CHANGE – CHANGE IS GOOD...LOOK AT YOUR OWN INDIVIDUAL LIVES. CHANGE ALWAYS HAPPENS...GRADUATION, MARRIAGE, PARENTHOOD, NEW JOB, NEW LOCATION. SO CHANGE IS NOT BAD BUT CAN BE THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENS TO YOU AND THIS CHURCH FAMILY.

DO WORK TOGETHER – IT IS EASY NOT TO BE AS EXCITED TO CONTINUE TO DO THINGS THAT NEED TO BE DONE IN THE CHURCH. WHEN EVERYONE WORKS TOGETHER, IT BUILDS UNITY AND BONDING WITH ONE ANOTHER.

DO ENCOURAGE AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER – MORALE IS OFTEN NOT HIGH WHEN THERE IS A TRANSITION TIME...SO ENCOURAGE AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER EVEN IF YOU DON'T AGREE ON EVERYTHING.

DO LOVE YOUR NEW PASTOR – EVEN WITH HIS/HER FLAWS. NO TWO PASTORS ARE THE SAME. HE/SHE WILL NOT BE LIKE ANY PREVIOUS PASTOR. ALLOW THE NEW PASTOR TO BE WHO HE/SHE IS...AND SUPPORT HIM/HER IN THEIR IDEAS AND LEADERSHIP. PRAY FOR HIM/HER AND HIS/HER FAMILY.

DO TAKE CARE OF THE SHUT-INS/SICK – IT IS NOT ONLY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PASTOR TO TAKE CARE OF THE SHUT-INS OR SICK INDIVIDUALS. IT IS THE ENTIRE CHURCH'S RESPONSIBILITY. SO VISIT...VISIT...VISIT NURSING HOMES, ASSISTED LIVING PLACES, AND HOSPITALS.

DO LOOK FORWARD TO THE FUTURE POSITIVELY – DON'T GRUMBLE ABOUT WHAT WAS OR WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN...BUT LOOK FORWARD TO WHAT CAN BE

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

Marion Stenner
Morgyn Craney
Vicky Pettibone
Phylliss Calle



Board Meetings after worship:

Trustees— No Meeting

Deacons— January 19

Session—January 9 and 19



January
Lay Liturgist

1/5 Sharon Newell

1/12 Leanne Manring

1/19 Barb Holliday

1/26 Michele Kopiec

January Coffee Hour

Nancy McKelvey

And

Barbara Berry

Thank You!

To the Deacons who organized and served the Wilson Funeral dinner and all those who donated food for the event. Thank you to everyone who donated toys or items to DNA Christmas. Thank you to all who purchased a poinsettia and Gary and Carolyn Gibeaut for pick up and set up. LIGHT and Women's Circle thanks you for the support from the flower purchase. Thank you to all the Women's Circle members who donated baby items for DNA at their holiday brunch. **Thanks to Matt Holliday, Bill Pettibone, and Bill Bowen - our Wise Men!!** **Thanks to Judy Brady, Donna Rihl, Jim Kaufman, Junior and Kim Moody for helping to set up/clean up and be at the booth. Thanks to Deacons providing crafts and to soooo many who donated chocolate gold coins!** **Thanks to Valerie Meredith, Nancy Patterson, Nancy McKelvey, Jim Kaufman, Judy Brady, Kim Moody, Donna Rihl, John Rihl, and Karon Kaufman for packaging over 1500 gold-coins!!!** Thank you to all the Advent Candlelighters-Nancy Sponseller, Sandra Hinkle, Matt and Barb Holliday, Jim and Karon Kaufman, Janell and Elaine Wilcox, and The Rihl Family.

Thank you for your generous donation to the Hat, Mitton and Sock Tree.

The following was delivered to DNA.

33 pairs of socks

9 hats

2 headwraps

4 hat/glove combo sets

24 pairs of gloves/mittens

25 packs of children or adult diapers.

Thank you to Nancy McKelvey for coordinating and delivering for the needy in PC.

The church shares its deepest condolences with:

The Wilson family for the passing of their daughter, Cindy Hoover, on December 9th.

The Bodenbender family for the passing of Judy's sister, Johanna Diehl, on December 6th. The service was on December 29th.



Church Treasurer Report for November 30, 2024

The general fund balance for the end of November decreased due to donations being lower than the expenses for the month.

General Expenses Fund

Beginning Balance 11/01/2024	\$ 300.51
Income	10,490.00
Expenses	<u>(11,792.20)</u>
Ending Balance 11/30/2024	\$ (1,001.69)

If there are any questions about the financial information of the church, please let me know.

Best Regards,
Gary Gibeaut, Treasurer



Annual Report time- If you have a report to be included in the Annual Report, please provide it to the office by January 19. That will give the office time to compile and get printed. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!!

UPDATE: Betty Ferguson has moved to Heritage Senior Living of Plain City (formerly Edgewater), 11351 Lafayette Plain City Road, Room A105 Plain City, OH 43064.

Elmer Collier has moved to Pleasant Valley Senior Apt—393B Allgyer Dr, Plain City, OH 43064

Please update your directory.

REMEMBERING OUR SHUT-INS



Being shut-in during the pandemic should have given us a better appreciation for **Our Shut-ins** 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 and Suzanne Merkle— Dublin Retirement Village

Chuck Stoker—Home

Bryan Becker—Home

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

Charlotte Lambka , Betty Ferguson- Heritage PC

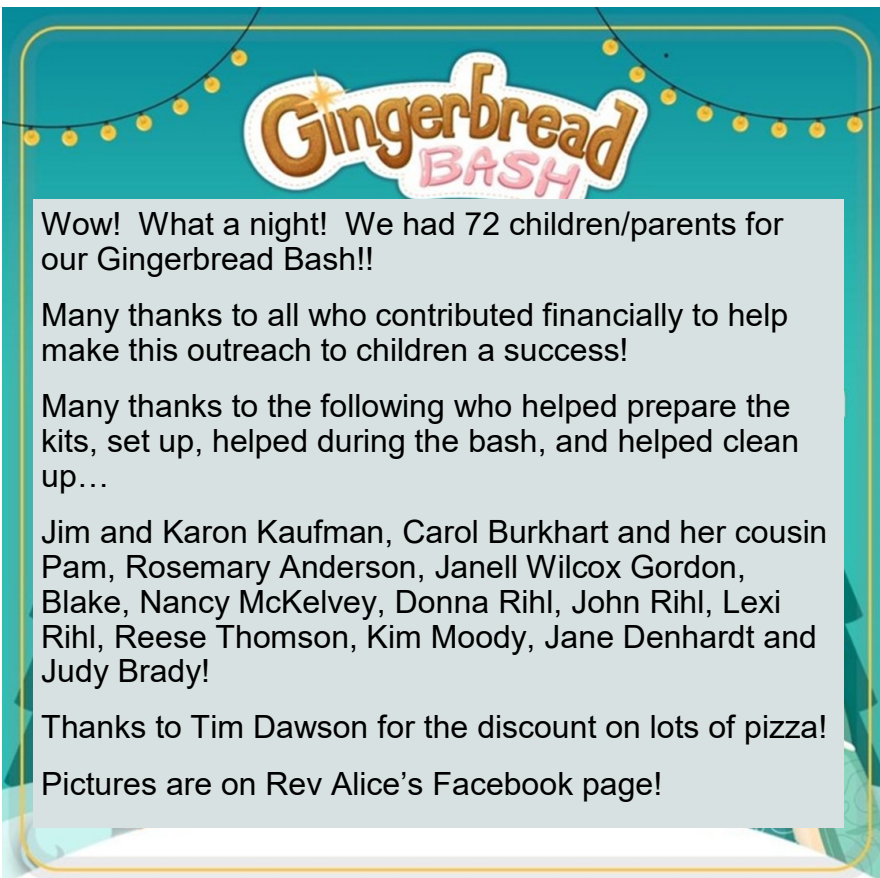
Jack Mercer and Dick and Kathy Wilson— Bluebird Marysville



Fill Up Sunday is

January 5 Thank you for filling up our tubs last month.

Please pick up some food for the Little Food Pantry this week.



Wow! What a night! We had 72 children/parents for our Gingerbread Bash!!

Many thanks to all who contributed financially to help make this outreach to children a success!

Many thanks to the following who helped prepare the kits, set up, helped during the bash, and helped clean up...

Jim and Karon Kaufman, Carol Burkhart and her cousin Pam, Rosemary Anderson, Janell Wilcox Gordon, Blake, Nancy McKelvey, Donna Rihl, John Rihl, Lexi Rihl, Reese Thomson, Kim Moody, Jane Denhardt and Judy Brady!

Thanks to Tim Dawson for the discount on lots of pizza!

Pictures are on Rev Alice's Facebook page!

Sunday, February 2– Grub and Games Potluck after worship with game time following lunch. Mark your new 2025 calendar now or add to your phone calendar for 2025!



The Women's Circle heard that many of you may be missing having potlucks and we found it hard to get people to come back out for Game Night activities. So we are trying something NEW. We will be having a potluck after worship on Sunday, February 2 and then afterwards, offering the opportunity for games including BINGO. It is a great chance to invite someone to church and you can eat and have fun at the same time.



The Women's Circle is also looking for **PRIZES** so if Santa brought you a gift out of love but not one you love, feel free to regift it to our bargain bingo prize collection. Or if you are looking to do some downsizing in the new year, useable items can be donated.



01/02	Jeff	Denhardt
01/08	John	Bowen
01/14	Karon	Kaufman
01/14	Sharon	Newell
01/15	Barbara	George
01/15	Bob	Beach
01/19	Travis	Manring
01/20	Judy	Brady
01/26	Eric	Manring
01/28	Pat	Myers
01/28	Beth	Rihl
01/29	Avery	Salyer

01/21 Whitney & Chris Reed

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY celebrated their Christmas Holiday Party on December 30 and will be taking a Winter Break.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY— will be Saturdays 9 am at the church. The next meeting date is January 11, 2025. See Bill Pettibone with any questions.

PRAYER TEAM Looking for individuals to serve in the essential ministry!! Please see Judy Brady for more information! You can join in any Wednesday at 7 pm.
Call 605-313-5657 access # 49430004# Hear a bell Announce yourself.



From your friends at Daily Needs Assistance (DNA of Plain City).

Thanks your for generously donating toys. Many families will be blessed

and had a wonderful Christmas.

Church Directories are updated and available.

On side table in sanctuary and in box outside. If you don't see one and want one, please let the church secretary know.

Upper Rooms for January and February are available in the usual spots.

(Sanctuary side table, parlor and outside box)

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS -If you are in the hospital or a loved one is and want a visit... please call the church 614-873-5011.