



The Beacon

Monthly Newsletter of Christ Presbyterian Church

February 2012

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Our Mission:

United through Christ's love we are called to: graciously invite people to Jesus Christ; encourage spiritual growth; promote enriching worship; foster community; and equip members for faithful service in our church, community and world.



Tom Schwartz, Pastor
www.cpctoledo.org

The Power of Prayer A Three Week Sermon Series

Sunday, February 5

Sermon: Prayer: Does it Make a Difference?

Scripture: Psalm 34 & Matthew 21: 18-22

The reason and way that we prayer is shaped by our image of God. Do you view God as an awesome God filled with majesty and power? Do you believe God is wise, just and loving? The writer Martha Graybeal Rowlett has said, "Without a clear conception of what God is like, where God is found, and how God relates to the world, we are likely to be hesitant and limited in prayer."

Sunday, February 12

Sermon: The Obstacles and Joys of Personal Prayers

Scripture: Psalm 91 & Matthew 6: 5-13

Our prayers should bring us closer to God, but there are times when our prayers do not come easy. Our prayer life can at times be a challenge and a struggle. Jesus taught us how to pray and we need to remember that our prayers must remain a response to God's compassionate concern for us.


Sunday, February 19

Sermon: Encountering God in Community

Scripture: Psalm 130 & Matthew 18: 19-20

There is great power and energy to be found in joining with others in prayer - not as a spectator but as a partner in Christian ministry. Are you willing to experience God's presence?

Ash Wednesday



Join with us for an evening of worship and reflection on Ash Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will observe the imposition of ashes.

Ash Wednesday is an opportunity to reflect on how we have turned away from God, to acknowledge God's faithfulness, and to choose to repent.

Pastor's Desk



Dear Friends,

At our Elder/Deacon Retreat this year I shared the insights of Albert Winseman who has served as a pastor and is now a leader in the Gallup Organization's work with faith-based organizations.

In his book, *Growing an Engaged Church*, he explains that the difference between failing and flourishing churches is that the latter have a higher percentage of engaged members. Engaged members know what is expected of them, regularly have an opportunity to do what they do best, have a strong bond with other members, as well as other factors that draw them into the church's ministry. The Gallup organization divides church membership into three categories – the engaged, the not-engaged, and the actively disengaged. He describes these three groups of members in the following way:

The **engaged members** in a church make up about 29% of the congregation. Engaged members are loyal and have strong psychological and emotional connections to their church. They are more spiritually committed and are more likely to invite friends, family members, and coworkers to congregational events. They give more, both financially and in commitment of time. They organize their lives around their church and are those members who drive the church.

The **not-engaged members** make up about 54% of the congregation. These are the members who may attend regularly, but they do not have strong psychological or emotional connections to their congregation. Their connections are more social than spiritual. They give moderately but not sacrificially, and they may do a minimal amount of volunteering in the community. They are less likely to invite others and more likely to leave. Two important characteristics are true of the not-engaged. First, they are just as likely as the engaged to be completely "satisfied" with their congregation. Yet the not-engaged give less, serve less, and invite less than the engaged do. The second characteristic is that these not-engaged members are not negative – they like their church!

And finally there are two types of **actively disengaged members**. The first type usually show up only once or twice a year, if at all. They are on the membership rolls, and can usually tell you what congregation they belong to, but they know very little about their church. The other type of actively disengaged member may be quite regular in his or her attendance. These individuals are physically present but psychologically hostile. We call these folks "C.A.V.E. Dwellers": **C**onsistently **A**gainst **V**irtually **E**verything. They

are unhappy with their congregation and insist on sharing their misery with just about everyone. They are the first to say, "We've never done it that way before," and they are critical of any ministry that does not personally benefit them.

Albert Winseman reminds us that even the healthiest churches have all three types of members. He also believes that if a church desires to become or remain healthy then it must focus its time and attention on those who want to grow in their faith and become more engaged in sharing their lives and the Gospel with others.

I believe that every member is important and there are times in a person's journey of faith that he or she may need to pull back from being actively engaged in our faith community. But, my hope is that each member will eventually discover the joy, meaning and hope to be found in becoming an **engaged member**. May we support each other as we seek to discern and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

Tom

Lenten Series: Companions in Christ

Do you want to grow deeper in your personal walk with God? Do you ever wonder what God's will is for your life? Have you ever wanted help listening for God's voice in your life?

This year during the season of Lent as we journey together toward Easter, plan to join us for our 2012 Lenten Series, "Companions in Christ".

In this five week series during the season of Lent we will focus on growing in our personal faith and practice spiritual discernment. This series is sure to help you grow closer to God.

Groups will be offered at the church on Sunday evening, Thursday morning, and Thursday evening. A group will also be offered on Wednesday evening in Pastor Kris' home.

More info. will be coming out soon.

Led by the Spirit....

Meet Elder Kim Long



Kim Long is beginning her third year serving on the Session here at Christ Presbyterian Church. Kim's responsibility as an Elder has been working with the Children and Family Ministry Team.

Kim is a native of Toledo, living here all of her life except for the college years. She attended the University of Cincinnati and the University of Texas in Dallas majoring in Speech and Language Pathology. At present, Kim works part-time in her field at Rehab Dynamics.

Kim met her husband Jeff while attending the U of C. They live in Sylvania with their three children Ryan, Cameron, and Kaitlin. The family is very involved in sports activities, and when Kim isn't driving the children to their various areas of interest, she enjoys reading, scrapbooking, and traveling to warmer areas of the country.

Kim has enjoyed her role serving on the Children and Family Ministry Team because of the impact she can have on the faith journey of her own and other families. Each lesson she prepares for the Tweens Class or Vacation Bible School programs, creates an opportunity for her to grow spiritually.

Deborah Circle

The next Deborah Circle meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 8 at 12:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome to join us. We will be meeting at Christ Presbyterian Church.

Sermon Talks

A new small group opportunity for those seeking a supplemental Bible study to find deeper meaning in the Sunday morning sermon. You don't have to be a Bible guru; you simply have to want a deeper understanding of God's Word. Participants will read through and discuss the scripture passage that will be used for the upcoming sermon.

The group will meet every other Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. starting on January 24. Through the season of Lent the group will meet every Tuesday as a part of the church-wide Lenten Series: Companions in Christ.

Please contact Pastor Kris for more information.

Prime Time Luncheon

A monthly educational ministry opportunity for all vibrant older adults. Participants enjoy lunch together, share in the joy of fellowship, and engage in creative and intriguing educational programs.

Tales of Toledo

Wednesday, February 1
12:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, February 1, Clint Mauk will be speaking on the *Tales of Toledo*. Mr. Mauk calls himself a storyteller as "stories are more fun than history, which can be very dull!" Come to this program to enjoy his humorous approach while also learning more about the history of Toledo.

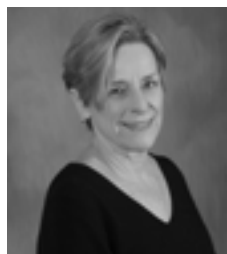
To reserve a seat, please contact Kay Korthuis by Sunday, January 29 at 734-854-7415 or email her at kay.korthuis@gmail.com.

Wednesday, March 7
12:00 p.m.

Tom Clapsaddle from the Toledo Gospel Mission will be the speaker for March 7. Please look for more information in the bulletin and next month's issue of *The Beacon*.

Session Notes

From December 27, 2011

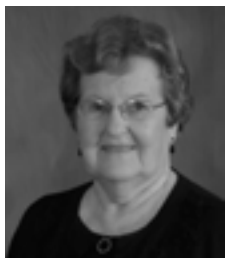


- The ecumenical projects CPC participates in was reviewed by Session.
- A financial audit is underway under the direction of David Bartley, Eastminister Presbyterian, Jack Rogers and Ann Myles
- Randy Rubley updated the roofing project.
- Elder/Deacon Retreat is scheduled for January 21, 2012
- Annual meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, January 29 in Hansen Hall.

~Linda Smith, Clerk

Heard and "Overheard"

(Congregation news compiled by Barb Ball)



News was a little scarce this month, either everyone is relaxing after the holidays or they are on the way to their winter retreats in the warmer areas of the country. We wish them safe journeys and look forward to their return.

Connie and Joe Haberkamp spent a week this month in just such a region – Costa Rica!

Connie's brother Dave and his friend, Anne joined them in the adventure. The trip started out at the historic landmark Gran Hotel Costa Equinas Rica. From there the foursome flew to Piedras Blanca National Park, where they stayed at the Rainforest Lodge near La Gamba.

They enjoyed a relaxing, peaceful few days in this tranquil location away from everything, enjoying hiking, swimming, reading, and exploring the park. Highlights of their trip included a four hour boat trip into the mangrove swamps along the Golfo Dulce coast, observing crocodiles, monkeys, parrots, and other tropical creatures, and before returning home, they visited The Museo de Oro Precolumbino viewing the pre-Columbian gold exhibit.

The group returned home just in time to host family members at a celebration of Connie Haberkamp's mother's 90th birthday.

Roger and Hattie Kate Howell made a trip away from the warm climes to Anchorage, Alaska. The occasion was a visit to see their first great-grand child. Audrey Rom came into their lives on December 30, 2011, weighing 7# 2oz. Her mother is Lauren Rom, her grandmother is Marcia Howell. Congratulations to all of them.

News within Our Walls

Much goes on within the walls of Christ Presbyterian Church that we don't see or know much about. One such activity is the Sew and Serve Group that meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month in Memorial Lounge. The group makes quilts, sews school uniforms, crochets and knits hats and scarves for people in need. Last year the women made sixty-three quilts and fleece blankets for Project Linus to distribute to Lucas County Children Services and area Children's Hospitals. They put together 125 kits for making school uniforms for girls attending Toledo City Schools, and donated scarves and mittens to the Children and Family drive. Those taking part in these endeavors and enjoying the fellowship of the group include Hattie Kate Howell, Karen Start, Dale Burnett, Mildred Harrison, Margaret Meitinger, Sandy Myles, Peg Locker, Lisa Hadley and others who donate materials. Thanks for your dedication to helping others.

Youth News

Youth Group Ski Trip

Mark your calendars. The Youth Group is planning a ski weekend for February 10 – 11, at Boyne Mountain Ski Resort. We must have at least 5 students to go. Please contact Pastor Kris if you are interested in attending. We hope you will choose to join us for this weekend of fun, fellowship, and devotion.



30 Hour Famine



Friday, March 23 - Saturday, March 24 youth from Christ Presbyterian Church will join together with other local churches to participate in the annual 30 Hour Famine to raise awareness for hunger and poverty. During the event, the youth and adults will go without eating for

30 hours to experience just briefly what it is like to be hungry. They will also participate in group activities, mission projects, and worship that all focus on issues of poverty. Please contact Rev. Kris if you would like more information about this youth event.

Upcoming Youth Group Calendar

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
Sunday, February 5	
<i>1st Sunday Fun Day: Super Bowl Party</i>	
Friday, February 10 – Saturday, February 11	
<i>Possible Ski Trip (We need at least 5 students to go)</i>	
Sunday, February 12	6:00 p.m.
<i>No Youth Group due to Ski Trip</i>	
Sunday, February 19	6:00 p.m.
<i>Recreation = Re-Creation</i>	
Sunday, February 26	6:00 p.m.
<i>Diversity</i>	

Children and Family News

Warm Hearts from Head to Toe



Thanks for all the mittens, gloves, hats, scarves and socks that were collected during December and January.

Lots of children will be a little warmer this winter with your generosity. The items were delivered to a nearby mission center.

Kids Fun Day

Everyone had a wonderful afternoon of fellowship on January 14. We started with lunch at Shorty's and continued on to Timbers Bowling; which was a blast! The kids had so much fun that they would like to do it again, look for a date coming soon.



Bake-a-thon Sunday, February 12

All children and their families are invited to make baked goods, trail mix treats, crafts, and greeting cards to give out to our homebound members and others in need of some Valentine's Day cheer. You can be part of the fun on Sunday, February 12 beginning at 12:00 p.m. The Bake-a-thon will be followed by a potluck lunch. We are asking each family to please sign up to bring a dish to share. Sign up sheets will be located on the classroom wing information table or you may call or e-mail Monica Mancy (monica@cpctoledo.org) with your interest in attending or helping out.

Sunday Morning Tween Program

Chris Gaynor and Kim Long will be teaching "We Believe" for children in grades 4th and 5th. The children will meet during the 11:00 a.m. service in the Tween room.

"Splash!" Newsletter

Parents of infants, toddlers and twos are now mailed a monthly parenting newsletter specific to the age of their child. Parents of little ones receive their first newsletter when their child is one month old, and they continue to receive it until their little one reaches 36 months. The newsletter contains an abundance of fun and whimsical ideas, including a music CD, to help parents with their little one's faith formation. We hope parents enjoy this resource as they watch their child grow and change during these important years.

Sunday Morning Godly Play Schedule

Children age 3 through 5th grades may accompany their parents to the worship service. Children will then be dismissed from worship about 15 minutes later with Monica Mancy for Godly Play or We Believe. Children can be picked up after the service in their designated classrooms in the children's wing.

Godly Play at 9:30 a.m. service is scheduled from 9:45 - 10:45:
Preschool (Age 3) -1st grade Room 7
Grades 2-5 Room 8

Godly Play at 11:00 a.m. service is scheduled from 11:15 - 12:15
Preschool - 1st grade Room 7
Grades 2-3 Room 8

Take-home Scripture Verse: When you pick up your child after worship, they will be bringing home a scripture verse to learn. The verse will be related to the story told that day. We appreciate your support of this activity at home.

Offering: We will be asking children to bring in a weekly offering. It will be collected each week and each room will decide on what project they will use the offering.

Scrapbooking Event



Our next Scrapbooking Day will be on Saturday, March 17, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m..

For a registration form, please call Jennifer Juhasz at 419-304-1127 or go to www.cpctoledo.org.

All proceeds will go toward Children and Family and Youth Ministries. See you there!

THERE ARE A VARIETY OF WAYS TO SERVE OTHERS



Disaster Recovery Trip: Joplin, Missouri April 29 to May 5

Over the last few years we have sent out Disaster Recovery Mission Teams to help people cope with the effects of tornados, hurricanes and floods. The work has primarily consisted of demolition, framing, drywalling and carpentry. We are sending another Mission Team out to Joplin, Missouri to help in their recovery from a tornado. We will leave on Sunday, April 29 and return on Saturday, May 5. For further information, please contact Bob Burnett or Rev. Tom Schwartz.

Mexico Mission August 2 to August 7

We have sent two mission teams to Mexico to work with Dios es Amor Presbyterian Church in Mexico City. We join with them as they caravan to a village community in the mountains of Mexico. They provide health care, clothing, construction support, and children's programs. We have had a wonderful time serving with our brothers and sisters in Mexico and you are invited to join us on this year's trip. Tentative dates: Thursday, August 2 to Tuesday, August 7. For further information, please contact Rachel Novakovic or Rev. Tom Schwartz.



The Corner and Corner Lite

We provide a warm meal for our neighbors in need on the last Monday of each month (The Corner) and a lighter meal on the Monday before The Corner. This mission endeavor provides a time for fellowship and a free healthy meal. A group of women, men and youth help in the preparation and serving of this meal. Everyone is invited to join in this mission to feed the hungry. Call Deb Johnson or the church office for more information.



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Friday

Sat

February

5 8:30 a.m. Chapel Service
 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Time
 12:00 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
 Youth 1st Fun Day - Super Bowl Party
 6:00 p.m. Parent's Small Group

12 8:30 a.m. Chapel Service
 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Time
 12:00 p.m. Children and Family
 Bake-A-Thon
 6:00 p.m. No Youth Night

19 8:30 a.m. Chapel Service
 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
 12:00 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. Youth Night
 6:00 p.m. Parent's Small Group

26 8:30 a.m. Chapel Service
 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
 11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
 12:00 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. Youth Night

6 5:30 p.m. Personnel Team Meeting

13 9:30 a.m. Sewing and Service Group
 12:30 p.m. Christian Involvement Team Meeting
 4:00 p.m. Mission Team Meeting

20 Church and Offices Closed

27 9:30 a.m. Sewing and Service Group
 5:30 p.m. The Corner
 7:00 p.m. Community Outreach Small Group

7 9:00 a.m. Sermon Talks Bible Study
 10:00 a.m. New Membership Outreach Meeting
 6:00 p.m. Special Events Team Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting

14 7:00 p.m. Buildings and Ground Team Meeting

21 10:00 a.m. Sermon Talks Bible Study

28 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
 8:30 p.m. Adult Education/Small Group Team Meeting

1 9:30 a.m. Staff Mtg.
 12:00 p.m. Prime Time Luncheon
 2:00 p.m. Joys and Challenges Small Group
 5:00 p.m. Worship, Music, and the Arts Team Meeting

8 9:30 a.m. Staff Mtg.
 12:30 p.m. Deborah Circle Meeting

15 9:30 a.m. Staff Mtg.
 2:00 p.m. Joys and Challenges Small Group

22 9:30 a.m. Staff Mtg
 2:00 p.m. Joys and Challenges Small Group
 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

2 6:45 a.m. Men's Small Group
 5:30 p.m. Celebrate Singers
 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry Team Meeting
 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

9 6:45 a.m. Men's Small Group
 5:30 p.m. Celebrate Singers
 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

16 6:45 a.m. Men's Small Group
 5:30 p.m. Celebrate Singers
 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

23 6:45 a.m. Men's Small Group
 5:30 p.m. Celebrate Singers
 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

3 7:00 p.m. 20:30 Small Group

10 Youth Ski Trip

17

24

4 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Meeting

11 Youth Ski Trip

18 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Meeting

25