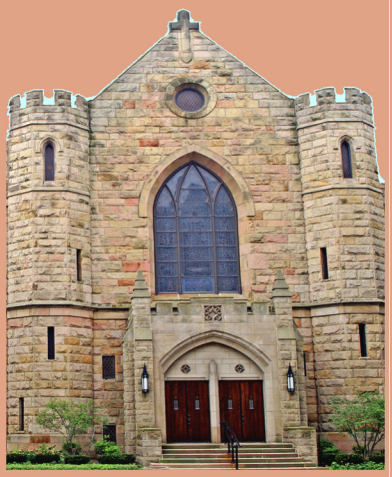
Christ Presbyterian Church

530 Tuscarawas Street, West · Canton, Ohio 44702
Phone (330) 456-8113; Fax (330) 456-8115
Website: www.cantoncpc.org
General Office Email: cpcoffice@cantoncpc.org

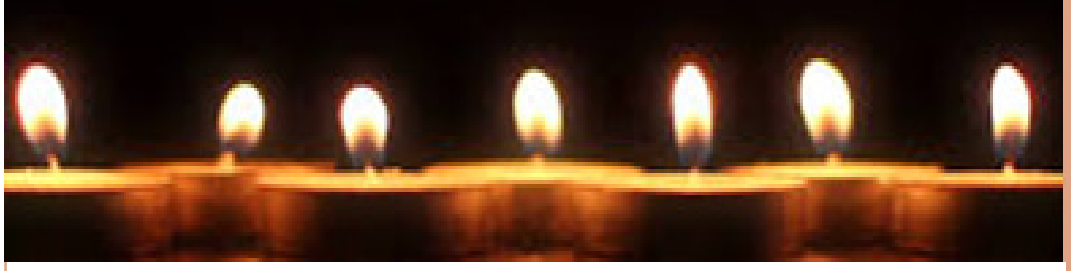
December TYDINGS 2021

Volume 31, Issue 12



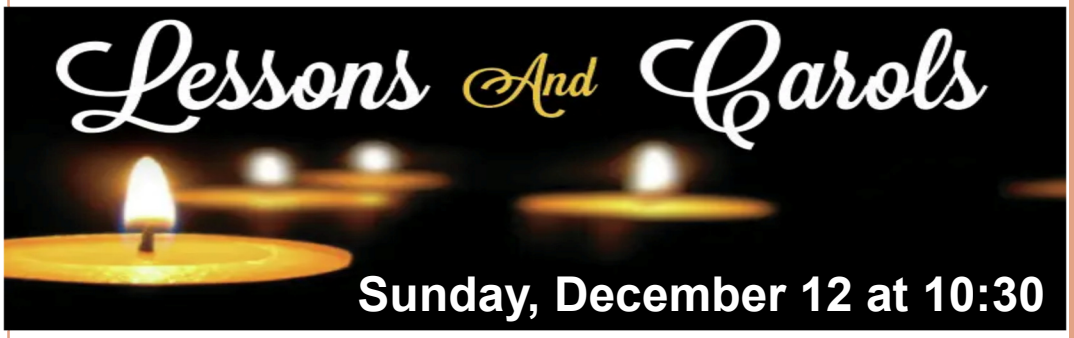
Christmas Eve Services:

Family Worship - Sanctuary-**4pm**
*(please note **early** start time)*
Choral and Organ Music –Sanctuary-**9:30pm**
Candle light Communion Service-Sanctuary -**10:00pm**



The Hat and Mitten Tree is up through December 19.

We accept all sizes of hats and mittens. All hands, both big and small, male and female get cold. Let's have a "warm hands winter." All of the donations go to Pine Ridge and our own Food, Clothing and Prayer Ministry.



A Service of Advent Lessons & Carols
led by Chancel Choir and Nancy Paterson, harp

TAG—Tuesday Afternoon Group
Tuesday, December 14, 11:30 am
Ham Balls and Handbells, with a side of Pipes!
See page 7 for details

PRAYER CHAIN:
Whenever there's a need for prayer, please call one of our Prayer Chain co-chairs:
Judy Smith ~ 330-771-0598
judithllsmith@gmail.com
Carol Orin ~ 330-327-6543
jloca04638@gmail.com

FRIENDS HELPING FRENDS:
If you are in need of temporary assistance or medical equipment, we want you to know that we care. God has His hand in this ministry, sees your need, and wants you to receive this assistance through Friends Helping Friends. Please do not hesitate to call coordinator:
Sue Nelson—330-832-2999

WORSHIP
Sundays—in Person
8:30 & 10:30 am

And Broadcast LIVE
Sunday mornings at 10:30 am via:

News-Talk 1480 WHBC

YouTube
www.youtube.com/ChristPresbyterianChurchCanton

www.facebook.com/CantonCPC/live

PASTOR'S NOTE

She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1: 21

Okay, it's Christmas. I get it! So why am I talking about sin in my December Pastoral Note? For some, it's obvious enough; Jesus comes to save his people from their sins. But sin is a funny little critter and we easily confuse the fact that, though we are saved from the consequences of our sin, still, we remain sinners.

Even so noble of one as Paul acknowledges the problem that exists between our desire and our reality.

> *"…when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. I love God's law with all my heart. But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me.* (Romans 7:21-25)

So, why is this the case?

Part of the answer is this; we are not nearly as free as we think, nor are we as aware of our sin as we would want to be. Theologian Shirley Guthrie puts these truths into focus for us:

> "…none of us is really free. What we will and how we live is determined to a large extent by where and when we were born. We think and act with the limited point of view and biases of our particular race, cultural environment, and national heritage; with the fears and prejudices of rural, suburban, or city people; with the narrow self-interest of people who are poor, middle-class, or rich; with he advantages or disadvantages of a healthy or crippling family background. Moreover, what we want and strive for is motivated to a large extent by anxiety, pride, envy, greed, and lust….we are driven and controlled by all kinds of social and psychological forces that determine our attitudes, decisions and actions.

We are all constrained by powers and forces both seen and unseen, and such forces often lead us into actions and behaviors that harm ourselves and others. This is our sinful reality.

As many of you know by now, I have been paying particular attention to the cultural dialogue concerning critical race theory. I find attempts to deny the institutional nature of racism, and the fact that we all participate (sometimes knowingly, more often unknowingly), to be rather self-serving. Conversations are revealing! They usually begin with self-affirmation; "I'm not a racist." This morphs into victimization: "Why do they want me to feel bad about myself?" This then leads to a search for those really to blame (often the victims themselves!).

Considerable thought and prayer have lead me to acknowledge and confess to myself that I am racist. I don't want to be. I never set out to be. I don't find the fact appealing, admirable, or Christlike. But the fact remains as Paul has stated. I "love God's law with all my heart. But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me." There are powers, known and unknow, of which I remain unaware. They saturate my being.

But I am not left hopeless! "…*you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."* There is one who has freed me from blame, but for a purpose; that I might continuously be open to the way of the Holy Spirit. When I allow for it, the Spirit can open me up to myself, enlighten me as to what drives and motivates me, and allows me to grow in purity and righteousness. Confession, repentance, renewal…it is the way of the Christian disciple. Yes, even in Advent/Christmas.

There is a text and tune that serves as my never-ending prayer. It's not a Christmas Carol, but perhaps it should be.

Take, O take me as I am,

Summon out what I shall be.

Set your seal upon my heart

And live in me.

Lord, make me a new creation, through Him who came to save!

Merry Christmas, Pastor Dave

Holiday Office/Building Hours

In observance of the

Christmas and New Year Holiday,

the Church office and Building will be closed as follows:

Friday, December 24—Closed All Day

(open for services)

Monday, December 26—Closed All Day

Friday, December 31—Closed All Day

Monday, January 3—Closed All Day

2022 Offering Envelopes

If you requested envelopes, you will find them beginning December 12 in alphabetical order on the table in Cloister Hall. If you do not find envelopes with your name, and would like to receive them, please call the church office or print your name on the pad found on the table. If you are not able to pick up your envelopes, please call the church office, and we will gladly mail them out to you.

Thank You

Thank-you for selecting me for the scholarship, this will go a long way in furthering my education. It is greatly appreciated. Thank-you, Jack McCain

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30-9:15 am	Gathered Worship Service—Chapel
9:00-9:30 am	Children's Choir – Choir Room
9:00-9:15 am	Kids' Chapel Time—via ZOOM
10:30 am	Gathered Worship Service—Sanctuary Also on Facebook, YouTube, and WHBC
11:45am-1:30pm	Confirmation Class
11:45am-1:30pm	Youth

Monday - 10:00 am - Staff Meeting—Parlor

Tuesday

9:30-11am Dave's Bible Study – Zoom
11:30am-12:30pm Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday
8:00-9:00am Men's Bible Study – Zoom
7:30-9:00pm Dave's Bible Study – Zoom

Thursday
9:30-11:00am Women's Bible Study – Zoom
7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, 12/1
6:00-8:00 pm Liturgical Art Meeting - Sanctuary
7:00pm Deacon's - Parlor
Thursday, 12/2
1:30-3:30pm Alzheimer's Support Group – Parlor
Wednesday, 12/8
7:45-11:00am Food Ministry -Christmas Party
1:00-3:00pm Small Group - Parlor
4:00 pm Worship Ministry – Parlor
Saturday, 12/11
8:00-10:00 am Food Ministry breakfast – Westminster Hall
Monday, 12/13
1:00pm Property Meeting - Parlor
Tuesday, 12/14
11:15am-2:15pm TAG – Westminster Hall
12:00-2:00pm Personnel Meeting - Parlor
Wednesday, 12/15 – TYDINGS DEADLINE
Monday, 12/20
1:00-3:00pm Small Group - Parlor
Tuesday, 12/21
6:30pm Session Meeting – Parlor
Wednesday, 12/22
7:45-11:00am Food Ministry
Friday, 12/24 – Christmas Eve
Church Office Closed
4:00pm Family Worship—Sanctuary
9:30pm Choral and Organ Music—Sanctuary
10:00pm Candlelight Communion Service—Sanctuary
Monday, 12/27
Church Office Closed
Friday, 12/31 – New Year's Eve
Church Office Closed

1 James Broad, Julie Sproul
2 Jace Anderson, Bob Clark, Gary Motts
3 Dorothy Kandel, Doris Sterling
5 Diana Loree, Joe Orin
6 Ron Dougherty
7 Kris Alecusan
8 Danielle Chance, Clara Snavely, Courtney Wallace
10 Collette Everhart
12 Jen Anderson, Fred Bohse,
13 Judy Gaetje
14 Melinda Graham
18 Jennifer Johnson, Christopher Moore
19 Terry Stoffer
21 Adam George
22 Rhoda Hart, Michael Krew, Judith Putnam
24 Jonathan Dillon, Joni Factor, Charles Roberts
26 Gabe Dallas
27 Zane Parker, Brice Simon
28 Anne Crowl, Ezekiel George, Max Halter, Carol Orin, Cynthia Repasky
29 Susan Grady, Dorothy Killian, Sarah Pozderac-Chenevey, Millie Snyder
30 Bill Blair, Nancy Dean, Lydia Halkides, Matt Halter
31 Roger Barrett

Christ Church celebrates birthdays of members who are 95 years or more:

Dorothy Kandel (96) - December 3

TIQVAH
Hands of HOPE

100 Days/100 Donors Campaign: We are about a halfway through our campaign and VERY excited about our progress! As more and more monthly donors are added to our team, our vision for Tiqvah's future gets more exciting and within reach. We are thankful for all that Christ Presbyterian does for our organization. You allow us to create a home for so many students in Canton, while simultaneously supporting our mission to reach all the kids of the City with the love of Jesus Christ. Your Hospitality does not go unnoticed.
We are still asking and encouraging our community to join in our mission to spread the word of God and enhance the lives of these kids. Below is the information on how to get started as a Champion of Hope. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Miss Abby, personally, at her email: abigail.komar@tiqvah.org
We look forward to partnering with you!

HOW IT WORKS: on the tree there are 100 leaves. Each leaf represents a dollar amount, ranging from $1-$100. As you prayerfully consider donating, head to our website http://www.tiqvah.org/championofhope to create a Champion of Hope profile where you will specify which dollar amount you would like to represent on a monthly basis. At the end of each week, we will update our Tiqvah family on the progress of our tree. In hopes that we can color in each leaf to create a beautiful representation of the growth we will have!

Camp Wakonda WISHLIST
Want to support Wakonda in a different way?

Check out our Amazon wish list! We are looking ahead to the program and facility needs for 2022. You can help us get ready for a great summer by going to: https://bit.ly/WakondaWishList

Some things we're looking for: craft supplies, tool replacements, various sports balls, and more. Check out the list and see how you can help camp!

"Stars, keep the watch.
When night is dim, one more bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together. "

How many times have we sung the hymn, "People, Look East"? The choir has offered many musical interpretations of this text during Advent over the years and the congregation has been invited to sing this hymn many times. The hymn notes in the Glory to God Hymnal (#105) explain that the "author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation."

As you worship with us during Advent, be sure to take note of how we are expressing our anticipation of Christ's coming through Liturgical Art. In particular, notice the textiles that are hanging within the Communion Table and the Pulpit until that blessed evening. Come take a closer look of course. Some will see colors that point us to the star, what do you see?

SESSION NOTES - NOVEMBER 16, 2021

Session met on Tuesday, 11/16, at 6:30 beginning with Worship being led by Lori Sproul. Lori shared a moving combination of hymnal stanzas and Bible verses to remind us of God's love, that He is always present in our lives and keeps us loved.

The minutes from our September meeting and the Clerk's Report were reviewed and approved. TJ reviewed the financials with the budget looking good for the year. It was decided that the family service on Christmas Eve will be moved up to 4:00.

Pastor Ben reported a successful Camp Wakonda closing in October and the preparations for winterizing/repairing things at the camp. A brochure is being created and he is working on guest leaders and chaplains for next summer. Staffing looks to be in good shape for '22, including many international staff members returning. He was very busy with fund raising efforts, preaching and the Presbytery.

Pastor Michael continues to teach the Westminster Sunday School on Saints and Sinners. The church has 9 confirmands this year. Last Sunday he drove the youth to Camp Wakonda for a day retreat, they had a great time. He continues to take 2 graduate courses, did many funerals, preaching and planning Christmas Eve with Jennie and Heather.

Miss Jennie reported that the family Putt-Putt event went great and she hopes they can schedule another one in the winter. Sunday School continues to go well with the new format. She also commented that the parents have been meeting during the hour. "Family Conversation Cards" were mailed to families to help them find time at home to share. Advent material will be sent out and plans are in place for this year's Family Christmas Eve Service.

Pastor Dave commented that attendance continues to improve. The TAG meeting with Todd Blackledge was a success. The preaching schedule has been established through January. The December 12th service will be the choir service, the church has 4 new Stephen Ministers and Bible Study continues to go well.

Jerry Norton reviewed that Spirit and Space is almost complete. As a special note, the Sanctuary renovation received the Interior Architecture Jury Citation Award from the Cleveland AIA! Down payment has been placed for the roof repairs.

Personnel Ministry met to review the Job Description for the Communication Director's position. They have a candidate in mind and will hopefully hear shortly. In addition, the ministry has added 2 new members, Jen Anderson and Martha Ash.

Please keep our families, friends and community in your prayers.

Merry Christmas!

Chuck Ash

Please Note:

December 26 & January 2

Combined Worship at 10:30 am

No 8:30 am Worship

& No Sunday School for Children or Adults

Thank you for your generous support of the Youth/ Confirmation meals and the Care Package Project! The boxes will be mailed out this month, and are filled to the brim with goodies for our recent graduates.

The Chapel is open Monday—Friday, 9:00am—3:00 pm daily for quiet prayer and meditation.

What's new with Youth/ Confirmation?

Sunday, Dec. 5th- Food, Clothing, and Prayer Ministry Service Project
Sunday, Dec. 12th- Gingerbread Man Decorating Contest
Sunday, Dec. 19th-Among Us In Real Life (Alumni Reunion)
Sunday, Dec. 26th-No Youth, Merry Christmas!

Youth Group and Confirmation meet directly after church until 1:30. All 6th-12th graders are welcome. Lunch is provided.

Please contact Bonnie at bwiggins@cantoncpc.org or @cantoncpcyouth on Instagram for any questions.

On Sunday, January 2, we will be taking down the Christmas decorations. We need several people to help take down the trees, wreaths, garland, and bows. This will take place after the 10:30 am worship service. The more helpers we have, the faster the task is completed. A simple meal will be provided. Please sign up in Cloister Hall or online if you can help.

2021 Charitable Contribution Deduction:

Please remember that all cash donations and/or stock transfers must be delivered to the Church Financial Office by December 31, 2021, in order to claim them as a charitable contribution deduction on your 2021 tax returns. Checks placed in the Church offering on the first Sunday in 2022 *will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2021*, even if the check is predated to 2021 or was actually written in 2021.

When contributing stock, please send a letter of direction and intent to Merrill Lynch and also a copy to myself in the church office.

Thank you,

Diane Nave

The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance for those who have dedicated their lives to the service of the church and supports leadership development and education at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

The Christmas Joy Offering will be received on Sunday, December 12.

FINANCIAL NOTES

		YTD 10/31/21	YTD 10/31/20
Beginning Balance Operating Funds as of 7/1		$ 190,018	$ 125,138
Revenue	Pledges	207,996	176,917
	Other	233,805	26,891
	Trusts & Endowments	22,325	20,391
	Total Income	$ 464,126	$224,199
Expenses	Operating Expenses	(352,258)	(266,045)
Ending Balance Operating Funds as of 6/30/22		$301,887	$83,292

This reporting reflects the General and Camp Funds from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022.
PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR PLEDGE CURRENT. THANK YOU!

Gifts can be given online at www.cantoncpc.org or mailed to the Church office.

STEWARDSHIP—October		
Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV		
Average Monthly	**Oct—21**	**Oct—20**
Attendance	147	0*
General Fund Income	$67,629	$36,237
G/F Budget Needed	$60,657	$61,033
Monthly Net + / -	6,972	(24,796)

*ONLINE STREAMING OF SERVICES DUE TO COVID-19
**Limited Capacity Due to Covid Restrictions

TAG – Tuesday Afternoon Group

Tuesday, December 14

Ham Balls and Handbells, with a side of Pipes!

The TAG program for this month features a return engagement from our talented organist Heather Cooper along with our wonderful handbell choir. It will feature familiar Advent and Christmas carols, along with one or two new ones.

Those of you who have never tried Judy Douglass' ham balls are in for a treat! A special meal for a special season.

We will gather at 11:30 a.m. for a time of fellowship and greeting friends, followed by carol singing at 11:45 a.m., and lunch at noon. The program begins at approximately 12:45 p.m. and concludes by about 1:30 p.m. Despite the special meal and program, the cost is still only $7.00. Please sign up no later than Sunday, December 12 to help make sure we make enough food for this very popular event.

So you can plan ahead for TAG, here are the upcoming dates.
Plan to join us!
Stay tuned as we will begin having programs in the spring.

Tuesday, 1/18/22 – Group lunch at a restaurant - TBD
Tuesday, 2/15/22 – Group lunch at a restaurant - TBD

Thank you for supporting Camp Wakonda on Giving Tuesday! It is only with your support that we can provide children, youth, and adults experiences of God's peace and joy in the setting of God's amazing creation.

Forgot to give? You still can! Scan the QR Code and give online, or send a check, payable to:
Camp Wakonda / Christ Presbyterian
530 Tuscarawas St. West
Canton, OH 44702

Scan me

Have you checked out the 2022 Camp Wakonda schedule yet?

Go to http://wakondacamp.org/2022-camp-events.html

CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
530 Tuscarawas Street, West
Canton, Ohio 44702

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Church is charged for every returned Newsletter.

If you have moved, or changed a seasonal address, please notify the church office. Thank you.

To be added to the Tydings email list or to submit an article for *Tydings*, please email tschmolt@cantoncpc.org no later than **Wednesday, December 15.**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Canton, Ohio
Permit No. 1065

December TYDINGS

Kris Ineller

Ronald Reber

Merry Christmas! Tracie Schmelz

Merry Christmas! Diane Nave

Pekke, Brian

Merry Christmas! Pastor Michael

Merry Christmas! Jennie Guest

Blessed Holidays Pastor Dave

Merry Christmas! Heather

Shalom! - Pastor Ben

Have a blessed Christmas! Britt