



Saints Alive!

www.AvonLakePC.org

Avon Lake
Presbyterian Church
Volume 6, Issue 10
December 2007

Advent Festival

with a new twist

Saturday, December 1st, 2007

- 5:00 – 6:00** Hanging of the greens with crafts for the children to make in Hart Hall. You do NOT have to sign up to make them. Just come and ENJOY!
- 6:00 – 6:30** Pizza dinner in Hart Hall
- 6:30 – 7:00** Christmas carol sing in the sanctuary
- 7:00 –** the last one to leave turns out the lights and puts out the fire. We will roast marshmallows for s'mores over the fire on the patio outside the kitchen door. There will also be hot chocolate and hot cider. If the weather doesn't cooperate we'll have donut holes with our hot chocolate and cider in Hart Hall.

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CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Join us for Christmas Caroling December 9! *Read more on pg. 9*

Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 23:

Lessons and Carols 11:00 am
Please note just one morning service.

Christmas Eve —December 24:

Family Service 6:00 pm
Dr. Yoda will bring the message of Christmas to the children.

Traditional

Candlelight Service 8:00 & 11:00 pm
Rev. Robinson will lead the services.

Sunday, December 30:

11:00 am

Music of Christmas

Sunday Evening December 16th
6:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir
Instrumental Ensembles, Bell Choir
Vocal Ensembles, Sacred Movement
Solos, Piano Music
This concert is for all ages.

Please join us for a time of
joyous and reflective music.



Message from Pastor Tom

I love this time of year. It comes with all kinds of sights, smells and memories. But sometimes those sights, smells and memories can get in the way. What we see, what we smell, what we remember can all too often be wrapped around ourselves and our own selected memories. Sometimes if we are too concerned about our past, we may not be able to sense and feel and follow where God is leading us right now.

Over the past few months, a small group of members of this church have gathered in the Session Room to try to discern who we are and where God is calling us to go. This Planning Committee, as it has been called, has made some interesting discoveries, but just when it seemed like we were getting somewhere, things bogged down. People were called in different directions, and some found they didn't have time to spend on the process as they had hoped.

At our last meeting there were just three people. So, obviously, there was a need to do some re-evaluating. When I brought it back to the Session, they felt that it would be a mistake to restart the process too quickly. What we need, they felt, was to regenerate some energy and invite other people to join those who have given so much of their time to do some important work.

What got this whole process started was the Congregational Survey you all did two years ago. One of the goals that came out of

the survey was for "...a long range planning committee to discern where God is leading us relative to spiritual growth and facilities planning." The concern was about our building, but as we looked at this whole issue it became clear that this also meant that we needed to re-examine our Mission Statement.

This was carefully put together by a group of members in 1999 in preparation for the calling of a new pastor. Part of that process was a series of small group meetings that allowed people to talk about their concerns and hopes for the future.

One of the items the new planning committee did work on was establishing the Holy Conversations model of planning. This entails getting people together to have conversations about:

Who are we?

What has God called us to do or be?

Who is our neighbor?

Before we can have these conversations, we need people who will lead them. In the months ahead you may be asked to be a part of this process. I am well aware of how precious our time is these days. But I also am aware that our church is in need of people to identify who we are, and where we need to go. In the midst of all of this, we have faith that, led and directed by God's presence, we will be able to discern what changes we need to make to our building so that it will reflect our sense of mission in the name of Jesus Christ.

(continued on next page)

**What has
God
called us
to do or be?**

I hope and pray that this Advent and Christmas season will be a time, not only to look backward with fond memories, but to look ahead with expectant hope.

Grace and peace, Tom

Advent Materials for the Whole Family

We have two family activities to choose from this year. They will both be on the table in the foyer beginning November 18th.

Feel free to take as many copies as you can put to use and have a very blessed Advent!

[Preparing for Jesus](#) – an advent calendar
[In thy Dark Streets Shinneth](#) – a book of sticker fun

We Still Have Openings to Light the Advent Candles!

It's not too late to sign-up to light the advent candles before worship during this Advent season. We have both services on the 16th open, the 11:00 service on the 23rd and both services (8:00 pm. and 11:00 pm.) on the 24th open. It's a wonderful opportunity to teach your children more about worship and the Christmas story, and to create a memory that will last forever. If you are interested, please call Arlene Strauch at 933-6240 (church) or 933-5521 (home).

Christmas Joy Offering

Please join us on December 9th in a Presbyterian tradition that started over 70 years ago. The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those in need.

The receipts from the Offering are distributed equally between two funds. Half of your gift is given to the Board of Pensions for its assistance programs that help retired church workers and their surviving spouses during difficult times. The board offers income supplements to help raise incomes to a level where retirees can live modestly and continue to maintain their independence.

The remaining half is given to the National Ministries of the General Assembly Council to support Presbyterian racial ethnic education. These institutions develop leaders in the church and in society and they enable students to discover and pursue their professional goals.

Please open your heart and share the joy of this Christmas season by offering a special gift on this day. Special envelopes are available in the pews.

David Littell, for the Mission Committee

Christmas Offering

Christmas is a time of traditions. Consider the many traditions associated with Christmas. Some of these have come to this country with immigrant ancestors; others have developed here over the years.

For Christians, the traditions associated with Christmas go back to the first century. Our Heavenly Father gave us the gift of His Son, Jesus, and Jesus gave us the gift of Himself. By this example, all Christians are prompted to give to others, especially in the Christmas Season.

The Magi brought gold, frankincense and myrrh. But what gifts can we bring, regular people that we are, that are fit for the King of Kings?

Whatever we bring, one thing is certain: if the gift comes from our hearts, with homage and praise, it will be graciously accepted by our loving Savior.

We all have treasures to share, no matter how humble. And the newborn Christ Child is waiting right in front of us to receive them: there in a hungry child. There in that broken man trying to rebuild his life. There in that homeless family trying to get its life back on track.

Yes, Jesus has blessed us with so many opportunities to offer Him the gold, frankincense, and myrrh of our love. And when we do it, the real joy of Christmas ignites our hearts and souls. The Christmas offering this year will be going to the Lorain County Interfaith Hospitality Network to help them in their start up efforts. The Lorain Co. IHN has

received the donation of a house for use as the day center, but more funds are needed for the first year of operation. From now on, the ALPC will be a host church of the Lorain Co. IHN.

As we are blessed with this opportunity, may our generosity and prayers bring us closer to our Lord Jesus, and may He fill our lives with peace and joy during this Christmas Season.

Felice Maiorca for the Mission Committee

ADULT STUDY Sundays at 11 A.M.

Advent is a wonderful time of year to dig a little deeper and grow your spiritual understanding. At 11:00 on Sunday mornings, a group of adults meet in Room 3 to discuss “The Wired Word” curriculum. Every Thursday or Friday, this curriculum e-mails a Bible study based on a headline story from that week’s newspaper to every student listed with the subscription. The person who will be leading the study then has a couple of days to prepare the lesson and everyone else in the class has a chance to think about the lesson. And if you’re not signed up – no problem – just come and enjoy the discussion. If you enjoy the program and decide to join in, your e-mail address can be added to the subscription at no extra cost. Every week there will be a new headline with a new subject to discuss. Feel free to check it out at www.thewiredword.com.

FINANCIAL REPORT

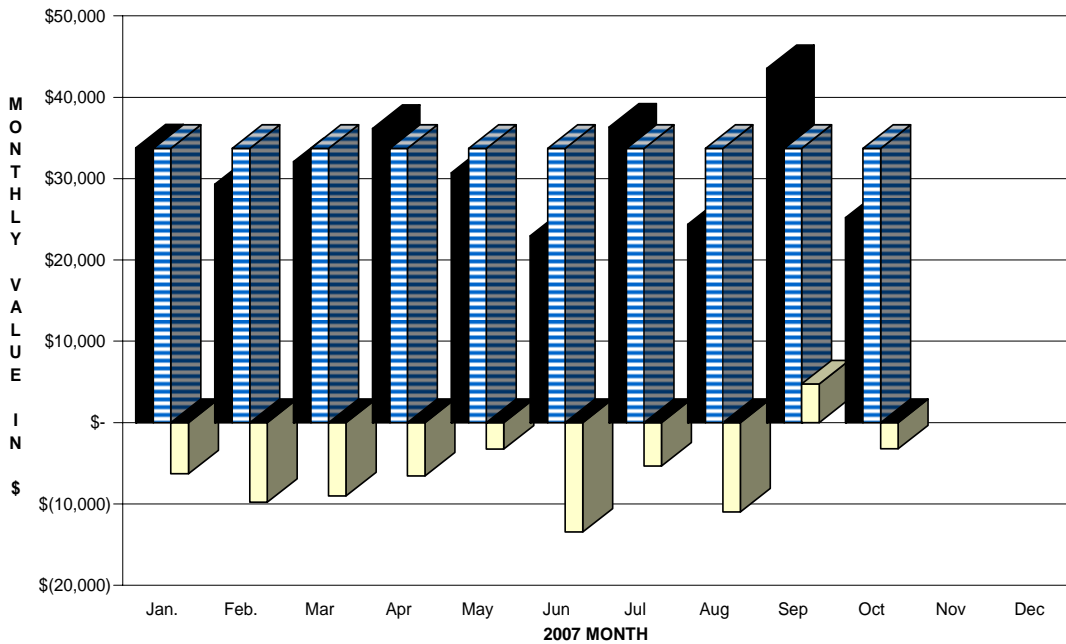
Well, we slipped back in October. We once again have a deficit. As of the end of October, we are in the red by a little over \$3,200. As you can see from the chart below, the reason for the slide was a drop in our giving. The amount of the deficit is manageable and preliminary giving in November appears to be better. Please prayerfully consider your giving and let's get back in the black in November and finish the year on a strong financial footing.

Please also turn in your Pledge Cards if you have not already done so. We need an accurate forecast of our income to help us formulate the 2008 budget.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions please see me at church or give me a call.

Bob Ralston
Finance Committee

2007 ALPC FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



Pledges & Loose Plate Actual
 Pledges & Loose Plate Budget
 Year to Date Excess/Deficit

ALPC Giving Tree

'T is the season for holiday magic and cheer! 'Tis also the season for the Avon Lake Presbyterian congregation to reach out to the families of Faith House to make their holiday brighter. Faith House is currently housing 7 families who are not able to afford exciting surprises for under their tree.

Let us as a congregation open our hearts to these families. This year, the ALPC Giving Tree will be from December 2 – 16th. The Giving Tree will be set up in the foyer with one card for each person at Faith House. On the back of each card will be the first name of the child or adult, gender, age and the items on their Christmas Wish List. The items on each person's Wish List should not exceed a total of \$35. All you need to do is pick a card from the tree, and sign your name, phone number and Giving Tree card number on the Tracking Sheet next to the tree. (This year, I ask for this information so that if any packages are missing on the delivery date, I will know who to call.)

Then, anytime between Dec. 2 -16th, purchase and wrap the item(s) on the list. Attach the original card that you picked from the tree to the gift (front side up). If there is more than one gift, please bundle them together.

You may bring the gifts to the church and place them under the Giving Tree any time between the 2nd and 16th. Please make sure that all gifts are at the church no later than Dec. 16th. The gifts will be delivered to Faith House on the 18th.

Thank you for helping to give a little bit of Christmas magic to these families in need!

Any questions, please contact Carolyn Rose at 933-0606.

Carolyn Rose

PW Mission Coordinator



Stewardship Corner

Mission Statement of the Stewardship Committee of Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

In support of Avon Lake Presbyterian Church's long-term vision, provide opportunities for greater understanding of and greater responsiveness to the many ways and reasons to give of ourselves in God's name for all of God's children.

While financial stewardship is not an unimportant part by any means, there is so much more to stewardship and so many more ways to respond to God's calling. The committee has been using all manner of communication tools, from sermons by the pastors, to newsletters, the bulletin board, mailings and moments for mission as we work to fulfill the mission. We encourage everyone to participate in the life of the church by giving of themselves through worshipping, volunteering, and Bible study as well as financial support.

Lee Lohr
For the Stewardship Committee

Thank you to everyone who has pledged for 2008. As of November 21, 2007, general pledges for the 2008 operating budget are \$280,142 and an additional \$3,165 has been pledged toward per capita. If you have not yet turned in your pledge, there is still time. Extra pledge cards may be found in the pew racks. The per capita for 2008 is expected to be \$20.00 per member. This amount goes to support the administrative costs of the greater church (presbytery, synod and General Assembly).



The Nominating Committee welcomes your nominations for Elders and Deacons. Please use the form provided in the bulletin on Sunday, December 2 and place it in the offering plate.

Dear Church family,

I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for giving me such a very special day. It was truly overwhelming! I only hope you were as blessed in the giving as I was in the receiving. I have already put my very large and very beautiful red bag to good use. Not only is it perfect for carting my books around Ashland, it has also provided me with a visual reminder of all your support and encouragement during those difficult "exam" days. I also appreciate all the gifts inside the bag and the most elegant and special of gifts, the gorgeous cross necklace. However, I would have to say that the gifts which have blessed me the most are all the notes and cards and letters you have written to share memories and good wishes. Leslie Stephens created a beautiful scrapbook to hold all of your special messages and I will treasure it forever. I can't thank you enough!

But I can't stop there. In addition to thanking you for that special day, I also feel the need to thank you for the last 18 years. Avon Lake Presbyterian Church has been a wonderful place to work for so many reasons and you are responsible for most of them. You have always been open to try new things and willing to help make them happen. You have understood that a solid Christian education program needs lots of hands and you have been willing to lend those hands. You have appreciated the importance of the extra programs and encouraged your children to participate. So many of you have loved me unconditionally, forgiving all my shortcomings and frailties. There aren't too many workplaces in this world where unconditional love is expected and encouraged. It has been a wonderful 18 years and I now look forward to the opportunity to work with you as we love and bless the next Director of Christian Education.

But, I'm still not finished. I also want to take this opportunity to thank the staff at ALPC. When Tom came to town, he made it clear by example that all members of the staff would be respected and appreciated. I can't tell you what a blessing it is to work in such an environment. We all have our different ministries and often times we get in each other's way, but because of our love for each other, we find a solution with humor and grace. When you're all on the same side working for the same Lord, there is no problem that can't be solved and there is no mistake that can't be forgiven. I won't miss my church family because I still plan on being an active member of ALPC but I will miss terribly being a member of the church staff. Working with everyone on staff has given me a little taste of heaven. Tom has helped us experience the Kingdom of God here on earth and for that I will be forever grateful. May God continue to bless the staff and all of Avon Lake Presbyterian Church now and forever. AMEN!

Arlene Strauch

Presbyterian Women Emergency Meals Program

Presbyterian Women's emergency meal program makes it possible to offer meals to members of our church family in times of crisis (surgery, new baby, disability, etc.)

We are looking for volunteer cooks to be "on call" for a week in case a need arises. We may or may not need a meal that week, but at least you can plan ahead a little. You would only be asked to send one meal during the week, and it doesn't even have to be homemade. Friends can even pair up to share the task.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Susan Reighard (933-4148 or reighard4@centurytel.net)



For Heavens Sake!

Thanksgiving! What a special time it was to reflect on our many blessings: family, friends, jobs, homes, schools, community, church and country. Surely at some time during these last few weeks, we expressed to God and those around us the deep gratitude we feel for our

bountiful, overflowing cups. You showed that gratitude also through your generous sharing of holiday foods with the families that *Community Resource Services* serves. Thank you for caring so much for those in need around us.

December brings a celebration of God's greatest gift to us, Jesus, our Lord and Savior. When we contemplate His birthday, His loving forgiveness, and His call to discipleship, we are returned over and over again to that grateful state of being that makes us want to care for others and share our bounty with them.

We can do that this December by continuing to fill the CRS foyer box with **Holiday Non-perishable Food**. Or, we can expand our giving to include some **Non-Food Stamp Necessities**. It could be Cranberries or Cleaners, Stuffing or Shampoo, Nuts or Napkins, Tea Bags or Toothpaste.

Let your imaginations and your generosity run wild! It's Christmas, For Heaven's Sake!

Shirley Hook for the Mission Committee

An invitation to all who want to sing Christmas carols:

Join your Avon Lake Presbyterian Church family **Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 9, from 5:00—7:30 pm**. The Deacons will have hot chocolate, hot cider and cookies when you get back to the church.

Salvation Army

The work of our local Salvation Army is proof that the people of Avon and Avon Lake are a concerned, caring group. The support the Salvation Army receives from the community is overwhelming. This holiday season, we need your help ringing the bell at the collection kettle set up at Giant Eagle in Avon Lake. Help is needed from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

Please consider signing up with friends or family. Help those in need by giving of your time for this worthy cause. All money collected stays in our community and is distributed through our own CRS. Children must be at least 16 years old, or be accompanied by an adult. Youth groups, service groups, boy scouts, girl scouts or fellowship clubs looking for a way to make a holiday contribution are all welcome. Please call Susan Vasu at (440) 781-4324 with any questions and to schedule a time for you or your group.

THANK YOU and have a Blessed Holiday Season!
Susan

Change of Plans

In case you haven't heard yet, the Christian Education Committee decided to revisit the possibility of putting on another Christmas play next year. There wasn't enough interest this year when we held try-outs in September. We are hoping that for this year all the families can participate in:

Advent Festival on Saturday, December 1st

(see other article in the Newsletter),

go caroling on December 9th

(see other article),

or attend the Christmas concert on

Sunday, December 16th

(see other article).

We also encourage families to make good use of the Advent material in the foyer and help light the Advent candles during our worship services.

We pray that all of you have a blessed Advent season with lots of time to focus on the reason for the season.

Arlene Strauch
for the Christian Education Committee.



Mission Statement

In awe, we Receive God's Grace and Gospel. In gratitude, we Respond with Worship and Servanthood. In love, we Represent Jesus Christ as we minister to transform lives in family, community, and the world.

Gracias! From the Mission Team

The members of the Nicaragua Mission Team would like to thank you so much for all your support for our trip to Estelí, Nicaragua. We left the church parking lot 4:30 am on October 18th and returned to Avon Lake about midnight on October 26th. It was an awesome learning experience for all of us.

Your prayers upheld us as we traversed the mud and rain for the first four days. Your financial support allowed us to meet the needs of a beautiful, welcoming, God loving people.

The medical clinic served more clients than ever before! A record number of prescriptions were filled and needed medical tests were purchased. Construction of rooms on a home for a local family and work on the Youth Center continued in spite of the weather. We distributed personal care kits to over 400 people, including some of the inmates at the prison! Vacation Bible School served over 200 children! We started a library for the children of the Shalom Presbyterian Church with a book about the Story of Noah in English and Spanish. We visited the very poor children in the barrios, played games with them, gave them care kits and sports equipment. Some of the Team were able to meet with the poorest of the poor who live at the entrance to the dump areas. Food and other supplies were distributed. We went to a prison and held a worship service. And the list goes on....

On Sunday, December 16, during both worship services, some members of the Team will be sharing a glimpse of some of their experiences with the people in Estelí. We invite you to come and hear more about what we learned as we shared our faith and resources with the people in Estelí, Nicaragua.

Carol Nussle, for The Mission Team: Kathy Leopold, David Littell, Janet Maurer,
Kris and Felice Maiorca, Nicholas Yoda.




YOUTH NET

Join us
Every Wednesday Night



Middle School 6:00—7:00 pm
Dinner for all youth—7:00—7:30 pm
High School 7:30—8:30 pm

December Youth Net:

December 5 — Fellowship
December 12 — Christmas Party at the Shoemaker's
(meet at the church at 5:30—back at 8:30 pm)
December 19— Bible study
December 26 — No Youth Net—Merry Christmas
January 2— No Youth Net—Happy New Year!



Children's Sermons

Have you ever thought it might be fun to give a children's sermon? Well, now's your chance!! We have a crew of nine people who enjoy sharing their faith with the children at the 9:30 worship service, but we're looking for more of you to join in the fun. There's no scheduled commitment. You can give a sermon once a month or once a year - it's entirely up to you! So, if you think you might be interested or have any questions, give Arlene Strauch (933-6240) a call.

Presbyterian Women



Circles continue to meet monthly. Their schedule is listed below.

If you are someone who might be interested in joining a Circle, please call Lee Lohr (934-6757) or the church office (933-6240).

- Thursday, December 4, at 5:30 pm, Green Island Restaurant.....Circle of Love
- Tuesday, December 11, (Christmas dinner out).....Serendipity Circle
- Tuesday, December 11, at 12:30 pm (Christmas lunch out). Care & Share
- Tuesday, December 11, at 7:00 pm Circle of Smiles
- Wednesday, December 12, at 9:30 amCircle of Hope
- Wednesday, December 12 (Christmas dinner out)Sarah Circle
- Tuesday, December 18, (Christmas dinner out)Ruth Circle
- Thursday, December 20, E-mail meetingPresbyterian Women Board**
- Tuesday, December ?, (Christmas dinner out). Circle of Friends

Presbyterian Women will be selling Honey Baked Hams again this year for Christmas.
 Orders will be taken December 2nd, 9th and 16th in the foyer.
 Delivery will be the morning of Saturday, December 22nd.
 Please see Kathy Navarro or call (440) 233-6214 if you have any questions.

The following is a list of those women in our church who have been Presbyterian Women Moderators over the last 20 years. We are celebrating 20 years of Presbyterian Women.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1986 and 1987 | Linda Potts | 2000 and 2001 | Susan Reighard |
| 1988 and 1989 | JoAnn Wainscott | 2002 | Sharon Veverka |
| 1990 and 1991 | Jill Ralston | 2003 | Sue Mabe and |
| 1992 and 1993 | Jan Hart | | Laura Simmons |
| 1994 and 1995 | Lee Lohr | 2004 | Laura Simmons |
| 1996 | Jan Hart | 2005 | Deanna Bridgett |
| 1997 | Lee Lohr | 2006 and 2007 | Kathy Leopold |
| 1998 and 1999 | Shirley Hook | | |



Grade XIII Sophomores Think Warmly of Christmas

Whether they are in the workplace or on a college campus, ALPC young adults are appreciative of the opportunity to learn something new every day, and of course they also appreciate holidays when they can relax with family and friends. Three members of the Grade XIII sophomore class responded to recent contact via e-mail with their thoughts and plans.

Pete Robinson, son of Sue and Tom Robinson, is studying Aerospace Engineering at the Florida Institute of Technology. Pete is especially interested in his coursework on aerodynamic structures, exploring the air properties of various moving objects, with a view to working in Formula I. Pete notes that his fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha, has been a real blessing to him, “not only because it has advanced me as a person, but has helped me a great deal with academics and provided me a home away from home.” Pete is looking forward to spending his Christmas holidays relaxing with his family, and maybe even starting a construction project with the Legos that he has received from his mom at Christmases past.

Jenni Janis, daughter of Beth and Jim Janis, is a student at the Ohio State University where her major is Early Childhood Education. Jenni plans to earn her Master’s degree and become a second grade teacher. One of the courses Jenni has been taking this semester is Comparative Religion. Jenni observes that she finds it interesting to see how similar or different the religions are to Christianity, and how religion relates to every day life and current events. Excited about spending the Christmas holidays with her family in Avon Lake and Michigan, Jenni is especially “looking forward to relaxing, not going to class and having good food to eat.” Jenni recalls that “last year I got a lot of sweat shirts and warm clothes. That was nice because Columbus was really cold last year. We even had a snow day, which was a lot of fun!”

Matt Magyar, son of Lori and Gary Magyar, is also studying at the Ohio State University, majoring in Biomedical Science with the goal of attending medical school. Matt remarks that it has been a very hectic fall, “I’ve been busy with class, several student organizations and of course, cheering on the Buckeyes. Campus is amazing; there is nothing more exciting than walking around on game day, when thousands of people descend on campus creating wall-to-wall scarlet and gray. I don’t think there can be anyone as passionate as a Buckeye fan!” As the season begins to wind down, Matt has begun preparing for finals and winter break. Matt will be home for Christmas, and he says, “I already know that my joy at seeing my family will only be matched by my love for delicious Christmas food.”

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the members of Grade XIII, young adults and their parents, a warm and blessed Christmas season.

Sue Scott for Grade XIII



Fall Clean Up Day A Success!

Thanks very much to all the volunteers who stayed after the 11 am service on Blue Jean Sunday (Nov. 11) to help clean inside and outside our church.

Some first time volunteers made up part of the work crew to accompany the regular faithful volunteers for the work day. The rain delayed just long enough, so we could clean the windows inside and out, spruce up the landscaping by raking leaves, pulling weeds and pruning shrubs. Other tasks include a general cleaning inside the church and clearing out debris in the gutters.

Thank you to the Deacons too, who took care of feeding all the volunteers with hot dogs, chips and bottled water. They cooked on the barbecue grill and did a great job keeping everyone fed. The Property Committee wants to thank the following volunteers who worked on the Fall Work Day!

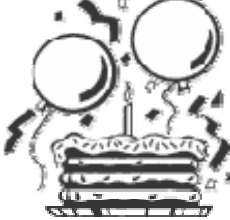
Glenda Allen, Lani, Aaron and Maya Assaf, Mark Bennett, Chris and Katy Chase, Michele Cold, Steve, Michelle and Jessica Dawe, Dick Francis, Paul Haggerty, Carol Hay, Pam Hoffmann, Jim and Beth Janis, Mary Lou and Anthony Klier, Terry and Abby Linick, David and Virginia Lockmeyer, Carol and Larry Madson, Jeff Mell, Carol Nussle, Allyson Prince, Susan and Tommy Reighard, Paul Selvage, Craig, Beth and Hannah Shoemaker, Bill, Cris and Ryan Till, Gary and Marcy Uhl, Cami, Brian, Doug and Lee Winter.

Jeff Mell, for the Property Committee

Grade XIII Parents:

Michelle Crist and Jan Stuckey put together thirty exam-surviving packages for the students whose names and addresses were turned in for Grade XIII. If you haven't turned your child's address in to either the church office or Arlene Strauch to receive the newsletter and gift packages, please do so to be included on our list. Grade XIII small group greatly appreciates your monetary donations in helping with this reminder to the students we are thinking of them. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please memo your check for Grade XIII and drop it off in the church office or in the offering plate. If you would like to help with this small group, please contact either the church office or Arlene Strauch.

Birthdays



Shirley Hook	December 1
Kathy Navarro	December 1
Michael Morway	December 2
Rob Schwark	December 3
John Barley	December 4
Matthew Richardson	December 4
Brian Stephens	December 6
Lynne Folz	December 9
Karen Francy	December 9
Marcy Uhl	December 9
Elinor Dimick	December 10
John Stuckey	December 10
Austin Hahlen	December 11
Thomas Pierce	December 11
KyleCiarrone	December 12
Jenni Janis	December 12
John Mills	December 12
Hunter Stephens	December 12
Adam Mills	December 13
Keith Rankin	December 14
Grace Knox	December 15
Brian Winter	December 15
Grace Hebert	December 16
Holly Spitz	December 16
Cheryl Monjot	December 17
Corey Galloway	December 18
Marc Jungermann	December 18
Aidan Dean Yoda	December 19

Art Hook	December 20
T. J. Thompson	December 20
Rae Matthews	December 21
Gerhard Schwarz	December 21
Corey Alshouse	December 23
Gary Uhl	December 23
Daniel Francy	December 25
Nick Mabe	December 26
Georgia Weeden	December 26
Sheryl Dickey	December 28
Katy Chase	December 29
John Robertson	December 29

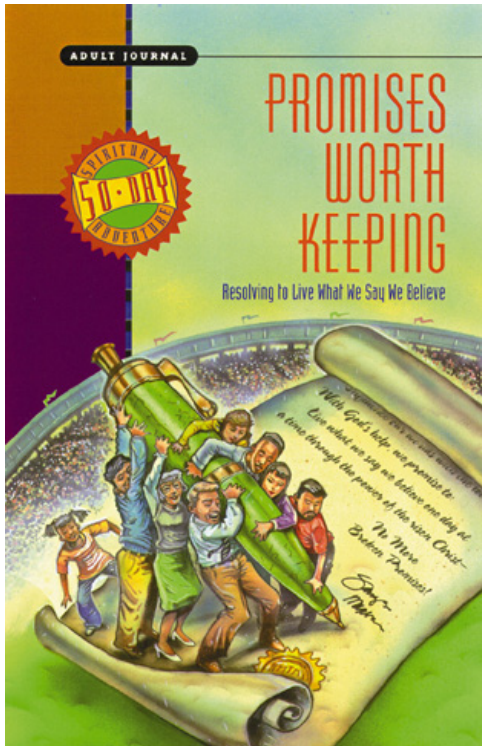


Faith House Mitten Tree THANK YOU!!

A very warm “THANK YOU” to all of those in the congregation who donated hats, gloves and scarves to the Faith House Mitten Tree! When I delivered the items to Faith House, they were overwhelmed with the generosity of our congregation.

Thank you so much for helping the families at Faith House to stay warm this winter!

Carolyn Rose
PW Mission Coordinator



Adventure-Seekers Unite!

The 50-Day Adventure is coming!

Imagine going on an exciting adventure without leaving the local community. We'll be doing just that during the short Lenten season. *Small groups* will meet weekly to study the popular series, **Promises Worth Keeping**; *how to keep our promises to God and to others by resolving to live what we say we believe.*

Daily journaling during this time will assist us in “jump-starting” exactly who we claim to be. Weekly sermons will cover these same exciting topics.

Who needs a “*refresher course*” in the following areas?

- 1. Nurture a growing intimacy with the Lord Jesus Christ*
- 2. Cultivate vital friendships that encourage you to keep your promises*
- 3. Practice purity in thought and action*
- 4. Make family relationships a priority*
- 5. Support the ministry of your church and pastor*
- 6. Identify and address the hidden prejudices of your heart*
- 7. Influence your world with the love of Christ*
- 8. Live one day at a time through the power of the risen Christ*

Let's seek God's will together in small, home-based groups to discover how we can change promise makers into promise **keepers**! More detailed information will be coming in the January newsletter.

Questions? Call Charlie Rudd at 933-9493.

Charlie Rudd For the Christian Education Committee

Sound Room Technicians



Dec 2	9:30	Paul Selvage
	11:00	Scott Seipel
Dec 9	9:30	Craig Young
	11:00	Todd Galloway
Dec 16	9:30	Mike Richardson
	11:00	Tony George
Dec 23	11:00	Gary Uhl
Dec 30	11:00	Dave Taylor

Gary Alshouse (933-5337)
schedules for the sound room.



Lorain County Food Co-op—When you leave church this Sunday, December 2, be sure to get a “brown grocery bag” from a Mission Committee member. Fill the brown bag with paper products, cleaning supplies and personal products. The filled bag is to be returned to the church entry foyer no later than Sunday, December 9. Thank you for your support of this mission product. Let us work together to help our neighbors in need.

Building and Grounds Custodian

The Human Resource Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of **Bryan Crow** to the position of Building and Grounds Custodian of Avon Lake Presbyterian Church. Bryan’s first day was Tuesday, November 13. If you see Bryan in the halls anytime you may be at the church, please make it a point to introduce yourself. Welcome, Bryan!



If you are not receiving the **Monday Morning E-mails** with Sunday school information and would like to, please send your e-mail address to alpresby@centurytel.net.

New Members at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

The following new members joined our church family on November 18:

Becky Betts, Anita, Luke, Maya and Monica Cheriyan, Amy Dansizen, Mary Belle Luton, Carol and Larry Madson, Dottie Philbrick, Dawn and Ken Prince and Beverly Walbom.

Please be sure to welcome them!

Prayer Concerns

Serving in our Armed Forces:



Eric Hansen, Jennifer Homer, Matt Homer, Jeff Leopold, Jamie Waddell, Derek Fabry, Derek Weeden, Aaron Angel (Scott Hay's niece's husband), Brandon Abrams (son of a co-worker of Marian Conn), Bill Brown III (Sue Tompos' nephew), Ben Donberg (a nephew of the Monjots), Todd Funkhouser (Theda McGrew's grandson), Robert Glover (Carol Egna's brother), Andrew Hansen, Patrick Harris (Betty Harris' grandson), Ian Houston (a friend of Scott Simmons), Mark and Cheryl Monjot's nephew, Brenda Reynolds (Sue Mabe's daughter), Kyle Reynolds (Lois Bayley's great nephew), Ryan and Kevin Tinsley (Nancy McBride's grandsons), Adam Usher (Kay Usher's grandson) and Stephen Yoda (Nick Yoda's brother).



Avon Lake Presbyterian Church
32340 Electric Blvd.
Avon Lake, OH 44012
Return Service Requested

Non Profit Organization
BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
Avon Lake, OH 44012
Permit No. 29

Sunday Worship
9:30 and 11:00 am
Sunday School for all ages 11:00 am
(440) 933-6240
www.AvonLakePC.org

Pastor	Tom Robinson
Assoc. Pastor	Nicholas Yoda
Pastor Emeritus	Alfred A. Hart
Dir. of Music	Muriel Homer
Dir. of CE	Arlene Strauch
Treasurer	Marcy Uhl
Financial Secty	Sharon Pervo
Office Admin	Cindi Dansizen
Housekeeping	Jill Ralston
Wedding Coord	Susan Vasu
Building/grounds	Bryan Crow