



## All Saints Sunday Blue Jean Sunday Sunday, November 2, 2008

Yes, it's that time of year again to do the outdoor yard work at church. Following the 11 o'clock service, we will rake leaves, clean the gutters, put the gardens to bed and otherwise prepare for Thanksgiving and the winter season. The Deacons have graciously agreed to serve beverages and hot dogs so don't worry about missing lunch. We're looking forward to good fellowship, a lot of fun, and a little work. See you in church and afterward, outdoors.

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## Alternative Holiday Market

Sunday, November 23, 2008

Don't forget to attend this special event from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm in Hart Hall. *Read more on pg. 9*

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## Potluck and Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 23, 2008

5:00 – 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to come and help the church get ready for Christmas and also to have some good food and fellowship with other church members. *Read more on pg. 3*

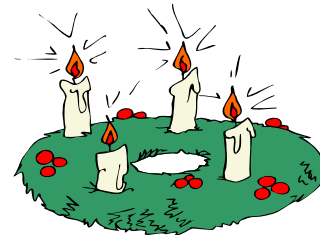
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## Advent

### 1st Sunday in Advent is November 30

It is a tradition during Advent for families to light the Advent candles at the beginning of the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services, as well as the Christmas Eve services. Each family is given a short script to read as they light the candles. The parts can be divided up any way the individual families want to divide them. We also would like to include unique family groupings such as Circles, Sunday school classes, a group of friends, or any combination of people who would like to share this experience together. If you are interested, please call Carolyn Dzuro at 933-6240 (at church) or e-mail her at [cjdzuro@peoplepc.com](mailto:cjdzuro@peoplepc.com).

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## Message from Pastor Tom

We are all blessed with wonderful moments in life, moments which give us an assurance that we are valued for who we are, forgiven for who we are not and appreciated for the work we have been able to do, often in spite of ourselves.

Several such moments came for me this past month as many of you celebrated Clergy Appreciation Month. I didn't even know that there was such a thing. Words cannot completely express my appreciation for all of you for such moving remembrances of me through gifts and cards and calls and wishes of blessing. And yet words are all I have – so Thank You.

It's appropriate that I do this, because this is November, the month for Thanksgiving in our culture. Thanksgiving is often viewed as a mere pit stop on the race track between Halloween and Christmas, and yet it is a very important holiday.

One reason is that it is the time for families to come together. We know that the Wednesday before Thanksgiving is the highest volume traffic day of the year. People go over the river and through the woods and over the clouds and through the airport to get to their loved ones on this day. It is a time to reconnect with our college-bound children, and hopefully our loved ones who are serving in the armed forces as well. It is a time to be together, because we say thanks best when we say thanks together.

What do we say thanks for? Do we say thanks for being together, for the turkey on

the table, for the good things of life? Yes, probably. But we could also say thanks for many other reasons; maybe getting past another presidential election and our family members are still talking to each other; maybe that the year is almost over, and this year has been tougher than most for a variety of reasons. We could also say thanks that we have loving families to come home to; that we have the intellect and gift of education by which we may provide for our loved ones; that we live in a country which, while it does have its flaws is still a nation where people have many freedoms not enjoyed by people in other places.

I hope that one part of our thanks-giving that will not be neglected will be our thanks to God for guiding us and correcting in our lives. We sometimes forget to thank God for Holy Love and Companionship on the journey of life because, maybe, we start to take it for granted.

But at our deepest core, we are thankful for God's Presence and Love; for the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, by which we know how to live with others; for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who continues to surprise us with daily evidences of grace.

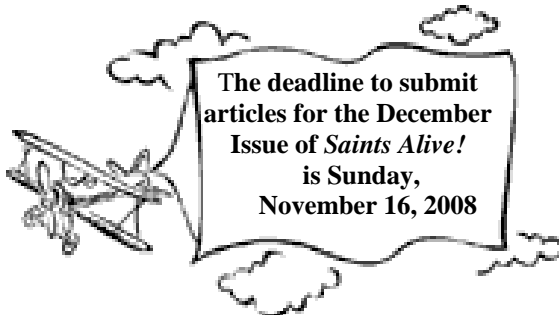
And sometimes that daily evidence of grace really hits us, when we sit down at a Thanksgiving Dinner, and behold the love around it. That's something to be thankful for.

Grace and peace,  
Tom



**ANNUAL  
HANGING OF THE  
GREENS EVENT  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>  
5:00 – 7:00**

Everyone is invited to come and help the church get ready for Christmas and also to have some good food and fellowship with other church members. This is a busy time of year, but we want our church to be ready for Advent. Our evening will start off with a potluck at 5:00 followed by decorating the sanctuary and foyer for the holidays. There will be plenty of jobs for all ages. Plan on coming and spending a fun evening with your church family. Sign-ups will start on Sunday,



## Grade XIII

The Grade XIII Committee is looking for donations to help fill care packages to our college students. Some items we would like to include are drink mix packets, cocoa or hot cider dry mixes, Slim Jims, popcorn, gum, candy, or anything that can fit in a 10x13 padded envelope. We are also looking for items to fill boxes to go to our young adults in the military services. Some suggestions include: travel shampoo, disposable razors, new magazines, AXE body wash, playing cards, puzzle books, recently released DVD's, Ziploc bags. We will be sending care packages to over 60 young adults. Please leave your donations in the box in the foyer. The collection will continue through Thursday, November 6th.



## 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.



## Showers of Blessings for Stewardship

Stewardship is not just about financial giving. It is about being in a right relationship with God, receiving His blessings and passing those blessings on to others. One of the ways God blesses us is by giving us creative work to do. Many of you are already participating in the exciting ministries taking place at ALPC, but others of you have not found that ministry yet that fits your passion. We would like to help! Listed below are the steps you can take if you would like to know

more about the ministries already available OR if you would like to start up a **new** ministry:

1. Contact your Elder representative. Every member of ALPC has an Elder assigned to them to help with any and all concerns. If you do not know who your Elder representative is, you can look it up on the list located on the table in the foyer.
2. Call or email the moderator of a specific ministry. They can help you get involved in their ministry or help you get something new started that would fall under their umbrella.

Christian Education Ministry – Michele Cold – 933-0970 – [cold.michele@gmail.com](mailto:cold.michele@gmail.com)

Finance and Endowment – Bob Ralston – 933-5669 – [rivratz99@oh.rr.com](mailto:rivratz99@oh.rr.com)

Human Resources – Dina Doughtry – 933-3953 – [ddoughtry@gmail.com](mailto:ddoughtry@gmail.com)

Membership Leadership Team – Mark Bennett - 933-9298 – [sbmb@oh.rr.com](mailto:sbmb@oh.rr.com)

Mission Committee – Bill Hamilton – 933-2511 – [bkhami@oh.rr.com](mailto:bkhami@oh.rr.com)

Property Committee – Dick Francis – 930-9150 – [rfrancis1@oh.rr.com](mailto:rfrancis1@oh.rr.com)

Stewardship Ministry– Lee Lohr – 934-6757 – [leela@centurytel.net](mailto:leela@centurytel.net)

Worship and Spiritual Life – Craig Young – 934-5235 – [cyoung@bottomline.com](mailto:cyoung@bottomline.com)

Deacons – Jay Knox – 930-7287 – [jknox@magnif.com](mailto:jknox@magnif.com)

Presbyterian Women – Cindi Dansizen – 933-6240 – [cdansizen@oh.rr.com](mailto:cdansizen@oh.rr.com)

3. Call or email a staff member. Many times a new ministry directly affects a staff member. Everyone on staff at ALPC is open to new and exciting ways of doing God's work. Please do not hesitate to share your ideas and passion with someone on the staff.

(continued on next page)

Pastor - Tom Robinson – 522-9500 – [robin216@oh.rr.com](mailto:robin216@oh.rr.com)  
Office Administrator – Cindi Dansizen – 933-6240 – [alpresby@centurytel.net](mailto:alpresby@centurytel.net)  
Director of Music – Muriel Homer – 933-6240 – [ehomer@oh.rr.com](mailto:ehomer@oh.rr.com)  
Director of Christian Education – Carolyn Dzuro -933-6240 – [cjdzuro@peoplepc.com](mailto:cjdzuro@peoplepc.com)  
Youth Director – Beau Dansizen – 933-6240 – [AvianMan@aol.com](mailto:AvianMan@aol.com)  
Stewardship Ministry – Lee Lohr moderator, Chris Chase, Dale Griffen, Penny Helbig,  
Carolyn Rudd, Arlene Strauch

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**Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge for 2009.  
If you haven't yet turned in your pledge, there is still time.  
Extra pledge cards may be found in the pews.**

## **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 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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

## **Children's Sermon**

Would you like to make an eternal investment in the lives of the children of ALPC? We have a crew of people who enjoy sharing their faith with the children at the 9:30 worship service, but we're looking for more of you to volunteer. 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, contact Carolyn Dzuro at 933-6240.

## Library Update

Living More with Less – This challenging, yet interesting, book introduces us to ways to simplify our lifestyles, to identify what complications of our current materialism we can dispense with, and how to live more without them.

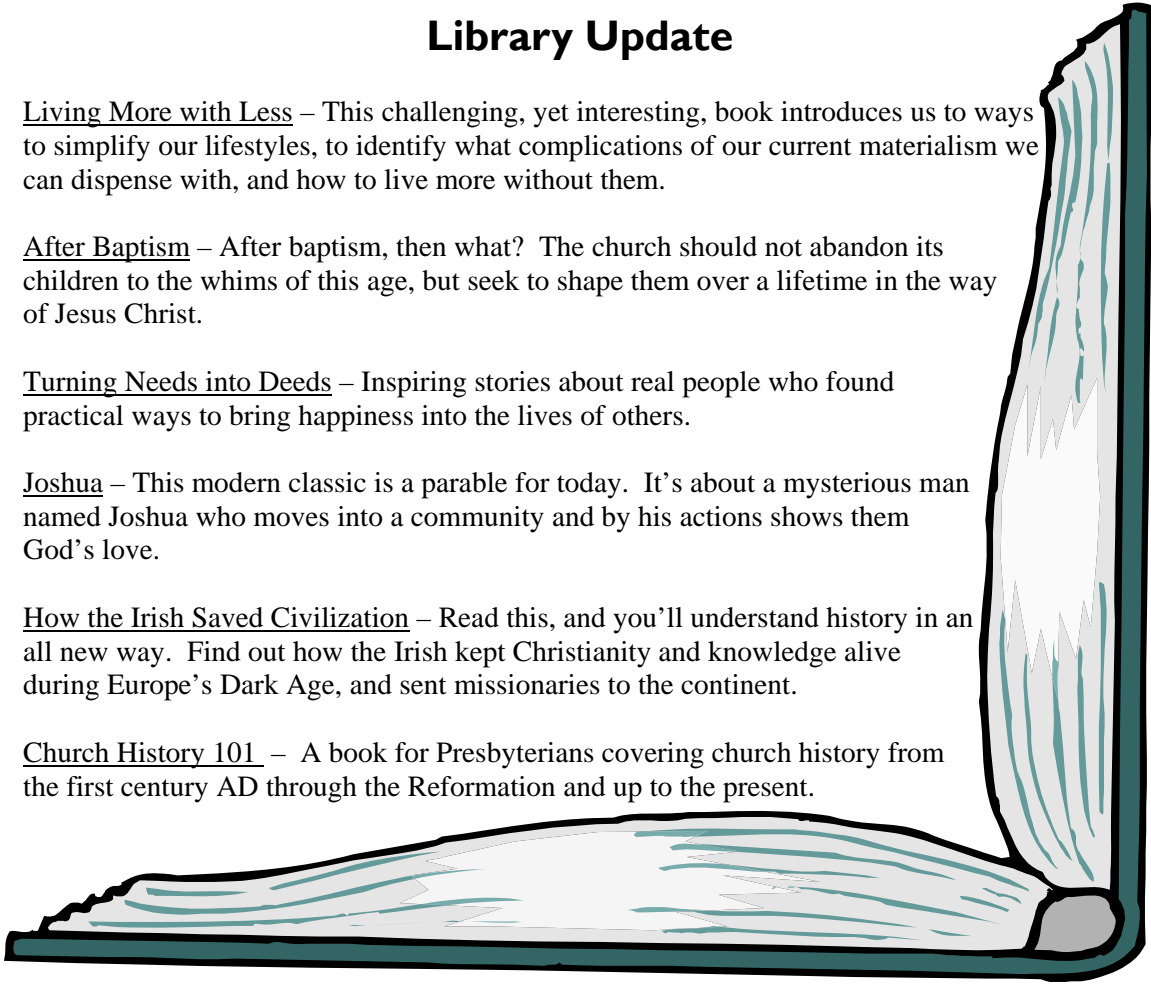
After Baptism – After baptism, then what? The church should not abandon its children to the whims of this age, but seek to shape them over a lifetime in the way of Jesus Christ.

Turning Needs into Deeds – Inspiring stories about real people who found practical ways to bring happiness into the lives of others.

Joshua – This modern classic is a parable for today. It's about a mysterious man named Joshua who moves into a community and by his actions shows them God's love.

How the Irish Saved Civilization – Read this, and you'll understand history in an all new way. Find out how the Irish kept Christianity and knowledge alive during Europe's Dark Age, and sent missionaries to the continent.

Church History 101 – A book for Presbyterians covering church history from the first century AD through the Reformation and up to the present.



## Mission Matters

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, we will be passing out bags to collect paper products for the Lorain County Co-op Paper Products. We need not only paper products, but personnel care items, and cleaning supplies. A list of suggested items will be placed on the bags.

The bags are to be returned by Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Big Brothers Big Sisters Children's Mission Project

This year the children are bringing in their own mission giving to their Sunday school classes to raise funds for the awesome organization, Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS). It is the largest youth mentoring organization in the United States, serving 255,000 children in 2007. Research has shown that its model of professionally supported one-to-one relationships between young people and their Big Brothers and Big Sisters has had a measurable, positive impact.

BBBS receives 75% of its funding from private donations, so support from individuals like you is vital to provide mentors for children in our community. In fact, 92.2% of every dollar the children give goes directly to making and supporting matches. The remainder covers overall program administration.

Please encourage your children to bring in their mission giving each week when they come to Sunday school.

If anyone is or has been a Big Brother or Big Sister and would like to share their story with a Sunday school class, please let me know and I would be more than happy to talk with you about it –

Carolyn @ 933-6240.



## Greetings from the Heart... Living Christmas Cards

This year's Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary. This program will feature children, teens and adults participating in a variety of stop action Christmas card scenes featuring holiday celebrations and the special Bethlehem night when Jesus was born.

While viewing "snap shots" of Christmas with holiday cards that come to life, the audience can also get involved as they sing a variety of Christmas carols. Please mark the date on your calendar and plan to attend this special event as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



## Financial Report

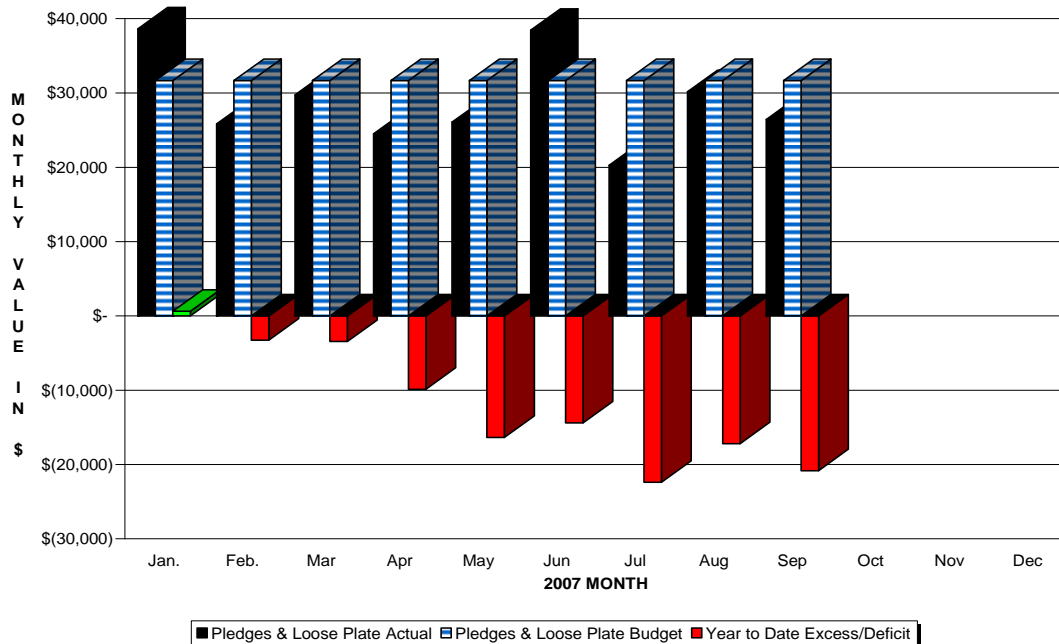
Our up and down financial performance continues. August giving was almost to budget levels and with good spending controls we took a nice piece out of our deficit. September giving started very strong at first but then tailed off significantly to the point where our deficit is almost as big as it was the end of July. Our first few weeks of giving in October are also behind the level needed to meet the budget.

The financial news for our country and the world in the past month has been particularly shocking. If we focused on the negatives, we would be paralyzed with fear and unable to cope. The difference with a church is that we put our faith in a Higher power. With God's help, we will continue and prosper. We've heard many wonderful stories from our members of how God has blessed them. All of our financial situations are different at this time. That is no different than it is in any other time. I ask only that you prayerfully consider your situation and give what you can joyously and trust in the Lord.

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

Bob Ralston, Finance Committee

2008 ALPC FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE





## 2009 Budget

Copies of the Avon Lake Presbyterian Church proposed 2009 budget are on the table in the foyer if you would like to take one. If you have questions, ask Bob Ralston.



## Catalogue Shopping

As the holiday season approaches, more and more mail-order catalogues will start to appear in our mailboxes. Many of us will never have to wrap or deliver the things we order. That will be handled by others.

You should have received an important holiday catalogue that provides the same opportunities: to shop at home and have others wrap and deliver the gifts. This catalogue will come from our Alternative Holiday Market Steering Team. It lists many items and services you can order.

These items and services will be provided to folks, near and far, whom you probably don't know. The delivery will be made by people involved in ministries and not-for-profit institutions in our community and around the world.

You can place your gift order by going to the market where representatives will be present to explain their services. If you prefer to order by mail, simply call 937-4020 or send an e-mail request to [alpcahm@aol.com](mailto:alpcahm@aol.com) and ask for an absentee shopper's kit and it will be delivered to you.

You are invited to participate in this important mission project of our church.

The Eighth Annual Alternative Holiday Market will be in Hart Hall, on Sunday, November 23, from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm.

## Faith House Mitten Tree Collection October 14 – November 11

It's time again to turn our thoughts to the cold weather of Northeast Ohio! We all know how important it is for children to have hats, gloves, mittens and scarves to protect them against the elements. Yet, for many families in need, even these items can be a luxury.

For the past few years, the Presbyterian Women Mission Committee has collected mittens for the families that reside at Faith House in Lorain. We'd like to continue our tradition of generosity to these families. Therefore, the Mitten Tree will be placed in the church foyer from Sunday, October 12 through Sunday, November 16.

As you prepare yourselves or your own family for winter, we invite you to pick up an extra pair of mittens or gloves to donate to Faith House. All you need to do is purchase a pair of mittens, bring them in on any day of the week or on Sundays during our collection period, and hang them on the tree. Any items that you can donate would be GREATLY appreciated by the families at Faith House.

Thank you so much for your generosity over the past few years. Let's work together to provide these families with a whole treasure trove of warm items! Hats and scarves would also be appreciated!

Carolyn Rose  
PW Mission Coordinator

## Pedaling for a Purpose

On Saturday, November 22, 2008, Dan and Carolyn Rose will be participating in a "Century Ride" to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society— it will help raise funds for research to find a cure for blood cancer.

A "Century Ride" is a bike ride of 100+ miles. On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will ride 109 miles around the city of Tucson, Arizona...all in one day!

This year, we will wear the names of **Louis Pena, Amanda Davis** and **Jeremy George** on our jerseys. We will also be wearing the name of Dan's brother, **David**, who was diagnosed with leukemia two years ago. Our ride will be in honor of these individuals and their courageous fight against this disease. As we struggle to climb the steep hills of Tucson on our bikes, we will remember the greater struggle that these young people are facing every day of their lives.

If you would like to support this effort with a contribution to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, please visit my website at <http://pages.teamintraining.org/noh/tucson08/crose>. Your support would be greatly appreciated!!

Thank you!  
Carolyn Rose  
933-0606



## **Session Highlights October 20, 2008**

### **Learned that:**

- 214 persons received communion in September
- improvements have been made to our sanctuary's sound system
- new Christian Education goals have been set for our Sunday School children and youth
- the children will be sending letters with Kathy Leopold when she goes on the mission trip to Estelí, Nicaragua at the end of October
- each Elder will be making contact with the members on his/her Congregational Care List

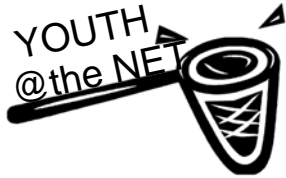
### **Approved:**

- a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 2, 2008, to hear a Nominating Committee Report
- a Special Session Meeting on November 9, 2008, to examine and receive new members who will become members on November 16
- the Human Resources Committee is putting together and giving guidance to a group that will begin a process of discernment regarding the "what next?" questions of staffing
- sending Nick Yoda the money that was left over from his farewell luncheon as a gift from the congregation
- ALPC's hosting of the March 23, 2009, Presbytery of the Western Reserve Meeting

### **Heard:**

- reflections on an inspiring, fun Beulah Beach Family Retreat
- that 12 of our members learned much when they attended the Graham Standish 2-day Presbytery Event (Rev. Standish is the author of "Becoming a Blessed Church," one of the texts being used for the journey of the Transformative Leadership Coalition (TLC))

Shirley Hook, Clerk of Session



## Youth!

Wow, did we have a blast at the Shoemaker's place, or what?!

A special thanks goes out to the Shoemakers for making their place accessible to the youth, and for hosting the great event.

I know I had a great time bonding with the youth!

Last week was the Halloween party and scarecrow contest, sponsored by Youth Net and organized by the Deacons and Sandi Ciarrone. Another thanks goes out to Sandi! Those of you who attended helped make one of the six scarecrows entered into the contest. The congregation and church attendees voted on the one they liked the best. You can see our scarecrow in the garden near the main entry doors of the church. His name is Larry and the little one is Curly. Great job youth!

There will be no Youth Net meeting on November 2nd, and the Youth Advisors will be meeting in the upcoming weeks to discuss changes in the upcoming youth calendar. I have some good ideas, and I hope you'll share your ideas with me when you get a chance.

Remember, any of the youth are welcome to contact me via email or phone if you need anything, if you want to discuss Youth Net, or if you just want to chat. I am currently collecting cell phone numbers of the youth so that I can communicate with those who seldom look up from the little devices. I may not speak fluent TXT, but I am learning!

I look forward to the upcoming months as we share fellowship though Christ! Amen!

Beau Dansizen  
Interim Youth Director

The results are in for the winners of the scarecrow contest!

All of the scarecrows were wonderful winners, but

1st place goes to Youth Net,

2nd place to Kyle Ciarrone and

3rd place to the Bell Choir.

Pictures of all the scarecrows are on the PowerPoint presentation in the church foyer.

## Presbyterian Women

### PW Coordinating Team Meeting

November 20 — 7:00 pm in the church Session Room



### Calendar of Events for November

*Oct. 12 - Nov. 16* Mitten Tree  
*November 2 & 9* Gobbling Goblins  
*November 23* Potluck & Hanging of the Greens – 5:00 pm  
*Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14* Giving Tree

### Rummage Sale

This year's fall rummage sale was successful once again, raising \$2,174 for charities and missions. The committee is grateful to all of those who donated time to this important event. Starting with the set up on Sunday to the sale and cleanup on Thursday, members were there to help with this huge task. Thank you to all those who worked throughout the week helping to organize the many donations. The sale went smoothly due to volunteers who spent the day helping as cashiers and baggers.

A special thanks to Shirley Hook for handling the bake sale all day and to our generous bakers who raised \$116.50.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Sandi Ciarrone who helped us in numerous ways especially with the ever time-consuming job of pricing items.

Finally, we appreciate all who donated and shopped.

We look forward to our Spring rummage sale on April 23<sup>rd</sup> so please mark your calendars now and start putting aside unneeded items. We feel blessed to have the opportunity to raise funds for needy organizations and thank all of you who helped make it a reality.

The Rummage Sale Committee,  
Susan Bernard  
Donna Bradley  
Jackie Day

## Coffee Servers

<b>Nov. 2</b>	Bill & Kathy Hamilton
<b>9</b>	Arlene & Tim Strauch
<b>16</b>	The Vasu Family
<b>23</b>	No coffee—AHM
<b>30</b>	Carol Nussle

**Kathy Hamilton schedules our coffee servers. Please call her to volunteer (933-2511).**

## Cindi's Trivia

- A) Which democratic country has the lowest percent of voter turnout?  
 B) Which democratic country is the only one to have a mandatory voting law?  
 C) Which democratic country is the only country **not** to make voting day a national holiday?



Answers to Cindi's Trivia  
 A) USA, B) Australia, C) USA



## Worship Assistants

<b>Nov 2</b>	9:30	Jay Ruoff
	11:00	Dan Rose
<b>9</b>	9:30	Kathy Leopold
	11:00	Nancy Spencer
<b>16</b>	9:30	Ruth Weeks
	11:00	Carolyn Rose
<b>23</b>	9:30	Tim Strauch
	11:00	Gary Matthews
<b>30</b>	9:30	Anna Allen Ruoff
	11:00	JoAnn Wainscott



## Sound Room Technicians

<b>Nov 2</b>	9:30	Mike Richardson
	11:00	John Earley
<b>9</b>	9:30	Craig Young
	11:00	Tony George
<b>16</b>	9:30	Gary Alshouse
	11:00	Todd Galloway
<b>23</b>	9:30	Paul Selvage
	11:00	Dave Taylor
<b>30</b>	9:30	Craig Young
	11:00	Todd Galloway

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

## Prayer Concerns

### Serving in our Armed Forces:

Derek Fabry, Jennifer Homer,  
Matt Homer, Jeff Leopold,  
Jamie Waddell, Derek  
Weeden, Wes Wiblin, 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), Robert Glover  
(Carol Egna's brother), Patrick Harris  
(Betty Harris' grandson), Richard Hebert  
(father of Waverly, Grace and Mallory),  
Ian Houston (a friend of Scott Simmons),  
Todd and Brett Kirwan (friends of the  
Wiblin's), Scott Mahnke (Kristen Haynal  
Mahnke's husband), Mike Medvic (friend  
of Becky Betts), 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),  
Brad Wagner, Ryan Randal (friends of  
Sara Jungermann) and Stephen Yoda (Nick  
Yoda's brother).



Avon Lake Presbyterian Church  
32340 Electric Blvd.  
Avon Lake, OH 44012  
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Non Profit Organization  
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Permit No. 29

**Sunday Worship**  
**9:30 & 11:00 am**  
**(440) 933-6240**  
**[www.AvonLakePC.org](http://www.AvonLakePC.org)**

Pastor	Tom Robinson
Pastor Emeritus	Alfred A. Hart
Dir. of Music	Muriel Homer
Dir. of CE	Carolyn Dzurro
Financial Secy	Sharon Pervo
Int. Youth Dir.	Beau Dansizen