

The Messenger February 2017

Souper Bowl Sunday



“Souper” Bowl Sunday

February 5

Bring canned soup for One Way Farm and enjoy soups and desserts compliments of the Spiritual Growth Committee.



Soles 4 Souls

“Those Old Shoes Can Take a Hike”

The Boy Scouts of America through the Dan Beard Council is sponsoring “Soles 4 Souls” 2017. The Scouts will be collecting your shoes and share them with needy people around the world.

You may donate your used shoes—any used shoes. Just bring your shoes to Scout Sunday, **February 5**. They will be delivered to our local Cub Scout Pack who will make sure they get to those in need.

Boxes for the collection are on the pew in the hallway. Thank you to those who have already given. God bless you all.



Deacons – February 1 – 2 pm

Administration – February 19 – after worship

Spiritual Growth/Outreach – Feb 20 – 6 pm

Session – February 20 – 7 pm



The Friday Bible Study will meet on Friday at 10:00 am. Everyone is invited to attend.



**Newsletter Deadline
for March is
February 15th.**



- 1 Jeanne Riechers**
- 4 Treva Boardman**
- 8 Bill Mountsier**
- 24 Marlene Sloneker**
- 25 Doug Gambrell**

Westwood Financial Report - 2016

December:	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Current Funds	6,720.00	10,548.61	-3,828.61
Per Capita	0.00	1,827.16	-1,827.16
Benevolence	180.00	185.00	-5.00
Total	6,900.00	12,560.77	-5,660.77

Year-To-Date:			
Current Funds	87,322.02	95,090.44	-7,768.42
Per Capita	810.00	1,827.16	-1,017.16
Benevolence	1,326.48	1,446.48	-120.00
Total	89,458.50	98,364.08	-8,905.58

Attendance for December:

4th	--39	<i>More detailed financial reports are available upon request from Steve Anglin or the church office.</i>
11th	--48	
18th	--33	
25th	--15	
Total	135	



Celebrate the Temporary

Celebrate the temporary, don't wait until tomorrow.
 Celebrate the simple things,
 Enjoy the butterfly, embrace the snow, run with the ocean,
 delight in the trees, or a single lonely flower.
 Go barefoot in the wet grass.
 Don't wait until all the problems are solved, or all the bills
 are paid.
 You will wait forever.
 Eternity will come and go and you will still be waiting.
 Live in the now with all its problems and its agonies with
 its joy and its pain.
 Celebrate your pain, your despair, your anger.
 It means you're alive.
 Look closer, breathe deeper, stand taller, stop grieving the
 past.
 There is joy and beauty today.
 It is temporary here now and gone.
 So celebrate it while you can
 Celebrate the temporary.

--Clyde Reid



“Building Up Life's Reserves”

1 Corinthians 9:19-27

When I was in high school I had a friend, Jimmy Hess. He was my only redheaded friend. He drove a Volkswagon Beetle. It was a great little car. Once as we were driving around, the car ran out of gas. All he had to do to get it started again was turn a lever on the floorboard, which tilted the tank so the car could run on the reserves. It was fascinating.

This helped me realize how important it is to have reserves, especially in life when we are running out of energy. Rarely is our cup filled to overflowing (which the Psalmist speaks of), but we do not have to drain it to the bottom.

Winston Churchill in his memoirs, “Their Finest Hours”, told of his confrontation with the leaders of the French army. They were being beaten badly. Churchill asked them, “Where are your reserves.” They replied, “They have none.”

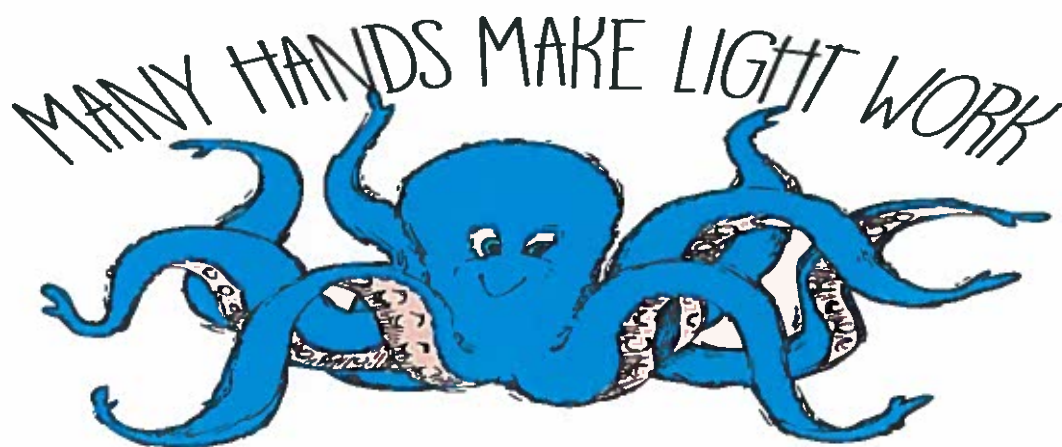
Life is somewhat like a savings account. If we keep taking out without putting back, sooner or later we will get the notice, “No Funds Available”. It is the same with life. We cannot fully function in life unless we balance our life. If we run out of reserves, everyone will suffer. We need to develop and utilize resources that help us keep our cups filled up.

What are some of the ways that we can build up life's reserves? Some that others have used are:

- ◆ Reading God's Word on a regular basis.
- ◆ Studying God's Word, alone, as well as with others.
- ◆ Being faithful to the Christian Community to which you belong, by attending worship and planned activities.
- ◆ Having and executing a plan of regular exercise: Walk, run, do yoga, play with children, etc.
- ◆ Having a “do nothing” policy where you take a break from all the activities that rob you of your energy and focus. Maybe just sit and be quiet.
- ◆ Reading literature you enjoy.
- ◆ Spending time with friends, communicating, playing, going to the movies, eating out or in, etc.
- ◆ Listening to music, singing, dancing, whatever strikes your fancy.
- ◆ Laughing, “A merry heart does good, like a medicine.”

How do you build up your life reserves? My hope is that the above ideas will inspire you to be conscious of how you get filled up. May you also remember anew to do what you can positively for yourself so that you will not become “weary in well doing”. May God bless us all as we live our lives for Him.

Bless You,
Norman



Thank you to our Coffee Hour hosts and hostesses. Special thanks to the
January volunteers:
Marion & Dick Flynn, Spiritual Growth, Bonnie Santel & Lela Wilson, Cathy Sutton

Thank you to the following who were Ushers for the month of January:
Doug Platt, Steve Anglin, Bob Estridge, Jack Mainous

Thank you to the following Sunday School volunteers for the month of January:
Sandra Warren, Andrea Estridge, Catherine Gibson, Marlene Sloneker

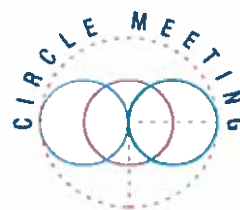
Thank you to all of our Kitchen Clean-up people. Special thanks to Catherine Gibson
for the month of January.

Thank you to Doug Platt and Reva Johnson for preparing communion for January and to
Doug Platt, Dale Alvey and Andrea Estridge for serving communion.

Thank you to the following volunteers who worked at the
Community Meal Center on Friday, January 20th: Bob Estridge, Loretta Otto,
Marlene Sloneker, Traci Stevison.
Donations: Helen Belcher, Andrea & Bob Estridge, Loretta Otto, Marlene Sloneker,
Traci Stevison, Sandra Warren.

A special thank you to Mrs. Catherine Gibson for the beautiful arrangements of flowers she
prepares for worship. Thank you Catherine for sharing your special gift.

Ruth Esther Circle
meets Tuesday,
February 21 at 10 am. Your hostess is Loretta Otto and
Marilyn Compton is study leader.



Prayer Concerns

Shut-Ins:

Ruth Mollett
Martha Humphrey

Cancer/Radiation Treatment:

Bob Wadleigh (Marlene's cousin)
Doug Platt
Kasey Hacker (Doug Platt) – stomach/IN
Charles (Martha H) - stage 4
Randy Hollenbaugh - stomach

Miscellaneous concerns:

Faith Long (Bob Long's mother) - comfort
Don Pottenger – dialysis
Summer Estridge – pain in back
Phyllis West (Doug Platt) – brain tumor
Tucker Gambrell – spina bifida
Bob Long – healing from hand surgery
Family of Emery Ross (Reva's brother)
Lark Anspach – health
Jack Mainous – leukemia
Helen Belcher - vertigo

In Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

The Woodlands: George Michaels
The Knolls: Ellen Lowery
Maple Knolls: Mae Shane (Loretta)
Berkeley Square: Betty Sloneker

National & International Concerns:

Our country, Natural disasters, violence
Our armed forces worldwide
Persecuted Christians
Missionaries across the world
Peace in our world

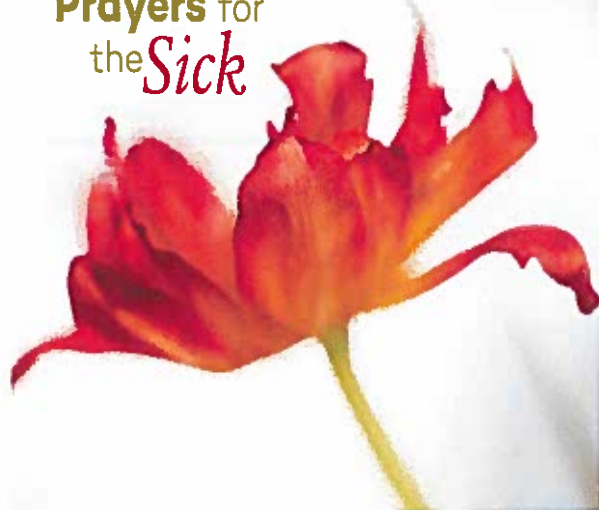
Local Concerns:

Our church
Cities of Hamilton & Fairfield
Serve City/One Way Farm
Haven House
Churches in community
Community Meal Center

Congregational Prayer:

We are continuing a series of prayers for our sister churches in the Maimi Presbytery. This month we are remembering the First Presbyterian Church in Middletown, OH and their pastor Rev. Michael Isaacs.

Prayers for
the *Sick*





Deacon's Corner

The Deacons would like to thank everyone for their help and generous donations for 2016. We are small but with God's help we are mighty. We were able to assist nine families for Christmas. Praise God! We also helped the needy at Serve City and One Way Farm during the year with our monthly donations. Without you none of this would be possible. We are looking forward to another successful year in 2017.

This month we will resume collecting items for the Christmas project and One Way Farm. We are collecting personal items for the Christmas project and Chili seasoning and onion soup mixes for the month of February. As always, we accept non-perishable items for Serve City. Please place your items in the baskets in the hall. The Deacons thank you for your generous contributions.

SERVING THIS MONTH



Ushers: Reva Johnson, Doug Gambrell,
Betty Gambrell

Worship Leaders:

5 Steve Anglin
12 Bill Mountsier
19 Dick Flynn
26 Doug Gambrell

Sunday School:

5 Andrea Estridge
12 Catherine Gibson
19 Marlene Sloneker
26 Sandra Warren

Coffee Hour:

5 Catherine Gibson
12 Cindy & Steve Anglin
19 Doug Platt
26 Session

Kitchen Duty: Andrea Estridge

Communion Preparation:
Reva Johnson

Communion Servers:
Steve Anglin, Bob Estridge,
Loretta Otto, Marion Flynn



The Church Directory

Let the secretary know if you have any changes for the church directory by February 15.



Thank You's

We have received two thank you notes this past week. The first came from the Alcohol Anonymous group which meets at the church on Friday nights:

Dear All,

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to meet on Friday nights to help obtain and retain sobriety and maintain contact with a higher power.

Friday Night AA Group

A second note of appreciation came from Highland Elementary School:

Dear Westwood Presbyterian Santas, We wanted to take a moment to THANK YOU!! The Christmas you have provided for our two families at Highland Elementary is greatly appreciated. The parents could not believe how kind a church would be in providing such a wonderful Christmas for their children. There is no doubt that their faces will light up for this Christmas. Thank you again for your support and kindness!! It made a positive impact for these two families. Thanks, too, for Helen Belcher coordinating this event and reaching out to Highland Elementary. It really meant a lot!!

*Sincerely,
Teresa Woodin
Student and Family Support Specialist*

*To all members,
I just want you to know that I really appreciate everyone pulling together in my time of need. You all are such wonderful people and I love each and every one of you. Thank you and God bless you.*

Karen Woods

*To Westwood,
Your gift card and the groceries were a true blessing. It means a lot to our family that you care for us. God bless you all!*

Angela, Wes & Tom

Thank you also to those who donated blankets to Serve City and coats to the Butler County Educational Service Center. Your kindness and care is truly appreciated.





An Irish Blessing

I wish you not a path devoid of clouds,
Nor a life on a bed of roses,
Nor that you might never need regret,
Nor that you should never feel pain.

No, that is not my wish for you.

My wish for you is:

That you might be brave in times of trial,
When others lay crosses upon your shoulders.
When mountains must be climbed and chasms
are to be crossed;
When hope scarce can shine through.

That every gift God gave you might grow along
with you
And let you give the gift of joy to all who care
for you.
That you may always have a friend who is worth
that name,
Whom you can trust, and who helps you in times
of sadness,
Who will defy the storms of daily life at your side.

One more wish I have for you:
That in every hour of joy and pain
You may feel God close to you.

This is my wish for you, and all who care for you.

This is my hope for you, now and forever.

Celtic Author, Unknown



PER CAPITA

Per Capita for 2017

Several of you have asked about the amount of Per Capita that is paid for 2017. The total is \$35 per member. The **General Assembly**, the **Synod of the Covenant**, and **The Presbytery of the Miami Valley** will each receive a portion. If you would like to pay your portion for 2017, just make a check to the church and mark it Per Capita. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk with any member of the Session.



January 2017
 S M T W T F S
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
 8 9 10 11 12 13 14
 15 16 17 18 19 20 21
 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
 29 30 31

March 2017
 S M T W T F S
 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
 19 20 21 22 23 24 25
 26 27 28 29 30 31

February 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1 10:30 am Prayer Grp 2 pm Deacons	2 7 pm Choir 7 pm Sorority	3 10 am Bible Study 7 pm AA meeting	4
10:45 am Worship Communion	6 10:45 am Worship	7 10:45 am Prayer Grp	8 10:30 am Prayer Grp	9 7 pm Choir	10 10 am Bible Study 7 pm AA meeting	11
12 10:45 am Worship	13 10:45 am Prayer Grp	14 Valentine's Day 10 am Ruth Esther Circle	15 10:30 am Prayer Grp Newsletter Deadline	16 7 pm Choir	17 10 am Bible Study 3 pm Com Meal Ctr 7 pm AA meeting	18
19 10:45 am Worship Administration Com after worship	20 6 pm Sp Grth/Outreach 7 pm Session	21 10 am Ruth Esther Circle	22 10:30 am Prayer Grp	23 7 pm Choir	24 10 am Bible Study 7 pm AA meeting	25
26 10:45 am Worship	27	28	1 10:30 am Prayer Grp	2 7 pm Choir	3 10 am Bible Study 7 pm AA meeting	4

Contact Angela Scenters at 513-868-6011 to make changes to calendar.

www.calendarlabs.com

**Westwood Presbyterian Church
1068 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, OH 45013**

Address Service Requested

<Label>

CALL ON HIS NAME



FEBRUARY 2017