



United Presbyterian Church  
2819 Hudson Dr.  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221



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Cuyahoga Falls, OH  
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# The Monthly Voice

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH December 2019



*For God so loved the world that he  
gave his only begotten son, that  
whosoever believeth in Him should  
not perish, but have everlasting life.  
John 3:16*

Phone: 330. 923. 9735 Web: [www.cfupc.org](http://www.cfupc.org) Facebook: MyUPC

Office Hours:

Monday - Tuesday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Wednesday - Thursday - Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm



Dear Friends,

Waiting is difficult. We live in an instant world, everything from mashed potatoes to on line purchases happens in an instant. When we have to wait we have a variety of choices. We can be prepared; take a good book to the doctor's office, then hope they don't call you until the end of a chapter! We can be frustrated, which, if shared with others could turn a waiting event into something more volatile; road rage in a traffic jam or shopping cart wars at the grocery store. We could find something different to do in our waiting. At the writing of this article I'm sitting on hold...it has been 10 minutes and I don't want to lose my place in the queue. It would mean that I would have to begin again and maybe wait another 10 minutes on another day. Waiting is difficult.

The Season of Advent begins December 1. It is a time of waiting. We wait for God's reign to be revealed not only to us but to the fullness of creation. We wait for the author of Justice and Righteousness to establish the world order that is a mirror of God's intended creation. We wait for the Peaceable Kingdom, where Lamb and Lion lie down together. We wait for the time when there will be no more pain, no more tears. We wait. The question comes: what are we doing with our waiting? Are we living out our frustration because the kingdom has not yet come? Have we found a distraction to fill up our time and energy? Or perhaps we are prepared and preparing for that unknown and unknowable moment when heaven comes down to earth.

The joy of the advent season is we are gifted with an opportunity to prepare; to be intentional in our waiting. Our worship theme this Advent Season is Joy to the World. Wonder if this year we will wait with Joy? Hopeful Joy, Loving Joy, Peaceful Joy. Unabashed joy. Perhaps hearts are heavy with grief this season, come and worship on December 21 at a Blue Christmas Service designed for those who have a heavy sadness mixed in with all the holiday preparations as we explore Elusive Joy . There are many opportunities to wait for the coming of the Christ.

May God Bless you this Holy Season,

Pastor Karen

### [Acme Community Cashback](#)

It's time to start saving your Acme receipts . Please put them in the box labeled RECEIPTS in the church office. We thank you for your support!

### [Ring Doorbells](#)

We now have ring doorbells at the back door and on the office door of the church. Building and Property installed these for security and to let Tawnya, Amy, and Karen know if someone is coming in the building. You should also be advised; that the Ring Doorbell will record conversations if you are standing near it in the parking lot. If you would like a conversation to be private please be aware. - Leslie Edwards-Holbert Fellowship/Membership Chair.

### [Attention All Singers](#)

Music is such a big part of worship, and a very big part of the season of Christmas. Our dedicated choir members would love to have you join us. We sing, we laugh (a lot) and we worship. Please consider joining us this Christmas season-we have just begun our advent music so not too late! Rehearsals are Thursdays from 7:30-9:00. Marie Taylor and the Cathedral Choir

## December Birthday's



- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 1st  | Jeanette Earle<br>Christy Ure                                      |
| 2nd  | Mike Shaw<br>Susie Souders<br>Alexandria Agosta                    |
| 3rd  | Asher Helsel<br>Kazuko Holtzapple                                  |
| 4th  | Melissa Cain<br>Bryce Sisak  |
| 7th  | Marianne Burris  |
| 10th | Rachel Holtzapple  |
| 11th | Anna Belle Barker<br>Laura Evans<br>Josiah Atanga                  |
| 13th | Karen Stunkel<br>Fran Drosenos<br>Ellanor Perkins<br>Terry Harsney |
| 15th | Andrew Slota   |
| 16th | Nancy Laria  |
| 18th | Jennifer Ott   |
| 19th | Chris McCleary<br>Lucas Stroble                                    |
| 21st | Cathie Lojkovic<br>Liam Miles                                      |
| 22nd | Ann Kelly<br>Ashley Lawrence                                       |
| 26th | Donna Janoso<br>John Johnson                                       |
| 27th | Joshua Stunkel<br>Allie Schneider                                  |
| 28th | Connie Styer<br>Dan Holtzapple<br>Margie Loesch                    |
| 30th | Michael Piascik  |
| 29th | Michelle Walters   |
| 30th | Janice Kurtz   |

## [Please Welcome Our New Treasurer](#)

The Session at its meeting on October 21, hired Kellie Rossini to serve as our new congregational treasurer. Kellie has had extensive experience in the accounting field beginning in the year 2000. With two degrees from Kent State University, one in theatre and the other in accounting, Kellie pursues her passions by working at EJ Thomas and the Civic Theaters as well as serving in a similar capacity to our treasurer's position at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Tallmadge. She is a resident of Kent. Her work with us will begin on November 1, 2019. Kellie is stepping into the role previously performed by Wayne Chapman who is stepping down after serving the congregation for over 39 years. We are indebted to Wayne for his consistency, integrity and commitment over that time. Please welcome Kellie, and please thank Wayne for his long-time service to this congregation.

## [Grief Share 13 Week Group Support](#)

*Sunday January 12 - April 5, 2020*

*1:30pm - 3:30pm in Fellowship Hall Registration at 1:00pm*

Grief share is a 13 week Christ centered, biblically based support group seminar; offered to our church and the community.

Grief share is for people who are grieving a spouse, child, family member, or friend through death. We ask if you know someone that needs help with their journey through grief, that you share this information with them with compassion.

We have been blessed to have five deacons train for their leadership of this ministry. Amy Snyder, Criss Chapman, Steve Blazer, Barb Chapman and Eileen Moore as staff support by Pastor Karen Stunkel.

Please keep this ministry and leaders as well as those who are hurting and are led to come in your prayers. If you have questions, please contact anyone on the leadership team.

## [December Community Meal](#)



Spread some holiday cheer by volunteering to help at the Community Meal on **Saturday, December 14**. This month the Meal will be hosted by UPC Volunteers - we're in need of 8 - 10 people to cook, serve and clean up. The commitment is from 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM. If you are able to help for some or all of that time, your helping hand will be much appreciated! The menu is Lasagna Soup with salad, bread and dessert. Dessert donations are also appreciated! The Community Meal outreach ministry touches about 65 people every month with a good meal and time for fellowship. Sign up on the sheet outside the church office or see Kathy Craddock, Sue Davis or Bea Holbert. We hope you join us!

## [A Note from Pastor Karen](#)

On Sunday November 17<sup>th</sup> I began my sermon with: I love you church! It was what made it possible to say yes to being with you for this bridge time, this time between pastors. There is so much to love about you. I love your commitment to community. I love your resiliency and cleverness. I love how you care for one another. I love how you will try new things. I love the diversity of your worship and your education ministries. And I wonder where is your new pastor?

It is with great sadness that I tendered my resignation to the Session this past Monday, effective December 31. I have found that the journey has taken a toll on my health. It is right for me to go home. Please understand that the necessity of my departure in no way reflects anything but my great love for you. I trust that your ministry will continue and that in time, God's time, a new pastor will accept a call to love and serve in ministry with you.

Pastor Karen



# DECEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Not Meeting this month:	<i>January Newsletter article submission deadline is Dec. 12</i>					
<b>1</b> <b>1st Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Communion</b> 8:30 am Traditional Worship 9:45 am Education Hour 10:30am Congregational Mtg. 11:00 am New Creation Worship	<b>2</b> 6:30 pm Worship Cmte Mtg.	<b>3</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi-Café Connection 6:00 pm Heart 2 Heart Prayer	<b>4</b> 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 pm Praise Team practice	<b>5</b> 9:00 am TOPS Meeting 6:30 pm Cathedral Ringers 7:30 pm Cathedral Singers	<b>6</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi-Café Connection	<b>7</b> 9:00 am Community Stitches in library
<b>8</b> <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> 8:30 am Traditional 9:45 am Education Hour 10:15 am Kid's choir practice 11:00 am New Creation Worship	<b>9</b> warriors journey home 7-8pm 6:00 pm Christian Ed Cmte Mtg. 7:00 pm Bldg & Prop Cmte Mtg.	<b>10</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi-Café Connection 6:00 pm Heart 2 Heart Prayer	<b>11</b> 6:30 pm Finance Cmte Mtg. 7:00 pm Praise Team practice	<b>12</b> 9:00 am TOPS Meeting 6:30 pm Cathedral Ringers 7:30 pm Cathedral Singers	<b>13</b> 8:15 am Warrior's Journey home Mtg. 10:00 am Tai Chi-Café Connection	<b>14</b> 11:30 am Community Meal
<b>15</b> <b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> 8:30 am Traditional Worship 9:45 am Education Hour 11:00 am New Creation Worship	<b>16</b> 6:30 pm Session Meeting	<b>17</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi-Café Connection 6:00 pm Heart 2 Heart Prayer	<b>18</b> 7:00 pm Praise Team practice	<b>19</b> 9:00 am TOPS Meeting 6:30 pm Cathedral Ringers 7:30 pm Cathedral Singers	<b>20</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi-Café Connection 6:00 pm Pantry Set-Up (1 week early)	<b>21</b> 9:00 am Pantry Distribution (1 week earlier than normal)
<b>22</b> <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Christmas Joy Offering</b> 8:45am Education hour 10:00 am United Worship 5-7:00pm All youth Christmas Party	<b>23</b> <b>Office &amp; building closes at noon</b> 8:00 pm Traditional Christmas Eve worship with communion Lessons and Carols 4:00pm Family Party - Slusser Family	<b>24</b> <b>Office &amp; building closed today</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi-Café Connection	<b>25</b> <b>Office &amp; building closed today</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00 am TOPS Meeting	<b>27</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi-Café Connection	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10:00 am United Worship	<b>30</b> <b>Building &amp; Office closed today</b>	<b>31</b> <b>Building &amp; Office closed today</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi-Café Connection				

## In Need of Items for the December Pantry Distribution Needed by December 15, 2019

- Cans of Pineapple
- Boxed Potatoes
- Cake Mixes
- Icing
- Boxes / Pouches of biscuit mix.

Thank you for any donations you can provide - Janice, Julie and Terry



### A Note of Thanks ....

I would like to thank all of my church family for keeping me in prayer during my tests, surgery and recovery. Your prayers provided the peace I needed to recover well. I am home and feeling like my old self again.

May God Bless You All!

Fran Drosenos

### Addresses of Serviceman - So you may send Christmas wishes, or words of comfort

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### Opportunity to Serve

Dear New Members & Megan :

In December there is an all church service project

DECEMBER 14th  
HELP PREPARE&SERVE and CLEANUP  
COMMUNITY LUNCH

You can sign up on the Bulletin Board outside the church office or call Kathy Craddock @ 330-697-6712 This phone accept texts but please identify yourself. Also can contact the church office at 330-923-9735 or email [kathyC844@gmail.com](mailto:kathyC844@gmail.com)

Thanks be to God!