

January 2018

## The Cornerstone News

First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

Volume 4 Issue 1



### Thoughts from Ian...



We are in the wake of Christmas. Maybe I am being a bit dramatic, but after the busy holiday my house (and maybe yours) needed some attention. Now that family has left, we have been tidying up our house from their visit. Presents, which were bought, carefully wrapped and hidden, are now open and organized in their proper place. Food, which was thoughtfully planned and prepared, is now consumed or stored as leftovers. Decorations, which were joyously displayed, are now packed away in boxes. Christmas was wonderful and now it is back to life as normal. Or is it?

With the birth of Jesus, God's kingdom is now at hand (Mark 1:15). In the wake of Christmas, the dust settles and we see that a child has come. Even though we pack up our decorations and put away our leftovers, Jesus' kingdom persists. Because Jesus came, the world can never go back to what it once was. This is true for our lives as well.

How did the humble birth of a baby named Jesus come to leave such a lasting impact in the world? How does the birth of Jesus change our lives? Join us this year at Paulding First Presbyterian Church as we continue walking through the gospel of Luke. After Jesus enters our world, our lives will never go back to life as normal.




Pastor Ian's Office Hours:  
Monday—Thursday  
1:00 to 4:00 pm

These are the hours that I am committing to being in the office. I will be in many other hours, but these are the hours that you can be sure to find me.

If you would like to meet any other times, I am happy to set up a time outside of these hours.

Secretary's Office Hours  
Thursday & Friday 9 am to 2

# January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2	3 1st Wednesday meal (5:30) and service (6:15)  Choir Practice 7:00	4 Ladies Bible study on Colossians 7:00  N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement	5	6 "Un" decorate church 10:00 am
7  Communion	8	9  Carol Razo using fellowship hall for Prom Decorating planning meeting 6:00 om	10  Choir Practice 7:00	11 Ladies Bible study on Colossians 7:00  N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement	12 5th Quarter Party following the home basketball game	13
14	15	16  Session 7:00	17  Choir Practice 7:00	18 Ladies Bible study on Colossians 7:00  N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement	19	20
21	22  Meet with Sal Sajuan for training on sound system 6:00	23  Session 7:00	24  Choir Practice 7:00	25 Ladies Bible study on Colossians 7:00  N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement	26	27
28 Annual Meeting with lunch following	29  Meet with Sal Sajuan for training on sound system 6:00	30	31  Choir Practice 7:00			

## January Birthdays:

2<sup>nd</sup> - Dianna Karlstadt  
4<sup>th</sup> - Darwin Cline  
10<sup>th</sup> - Mary VanAtta  
11<sup>th</sup> - A. J. Wolford  
11<sup>th</sup> - Kenny Robinson

16<sup>th</sup> - Larry Fishbaugh

20<sup>th</sup> - Kristen (Koenig) Gerber

22<sup>nd</sup> - Harry Weibe

23<sup>rd</sup> - Betty St. John

24<sup>th</sup> - Scott St. John

28<sup>th</sup> - Bryce Verfaillie

## January Anniversaries

12<sup>th</sup> - Rob and Chris Henson

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, or is listed incorrectly, please get the correct information to the office ASAP. Thanks!

## Session Highlights November and December

During November and December, elders:

\*okayed, at the recommendation of the Property committee, re-routing the plumbing in the bathrooms/kitchen to get it out from under the Fellowship Hall, at a cost of approximately \$7000. Funds will come from the Nicelley income or investment funds.

\*are exploring internet upgrade. At minimum, there are plans to switch carriers from Windstream to either Metalink or Spectrum.

\*heard that cottage items have been moved now that Fergusons are using the cottage for their home. Some are in the new garage, and some in Nice's shop.

\*learned that two 5th Quarters are scheduled during basketball season, and that the school, our partner churches, and the VFW are again supporting this activity for Paulding teens.

\*heard that church Christmas ornaments, plates and mugs (discovered in the cottage attic) will be offered by the Historical committee for a freewill donation during December. Funds received will be used to renovate a stained glass window (also discovered!) for display in the church. The display is in the Fellowship Hall.

\*set the date for the Annual Congregational Meeting for

Sunday, Jan., 28, 2018 with a meal to follow.

\*approved the 2018 budget of \$130,629, pending approval at the January Annual Meeting.

\*learned that the church locks have all been keyed to one key; and that the cottage locks have been changed, as it is now the Fergusons' residence.

\*were delighted to hear that Pastor Ian had a Skype interview with Steve Brown, chair of the Presbytery's Ministerial committee, to preview questions he will face when he is examined on the floor of Presbytery. Steve Brown deemed him 'rock solid' and foresees no problem.

\*expressed considerable frustration at the hold-up on Pastor Ian's psychological test results, despite efforts by our Session and by the Candidate Care committee of Midwest Presbytery. This cork in the dam is holding up other steps needed toward ordination for our new pastor. Elders, with Ian's agreement, have approved Ian to establish an appointment with a Midwest examiner to be re-tested at the earliest possible time, with the church bearing this new expense.

\*learned that Pastor Ian and Pastor Dan Young have discussed a mentor relationship, and both are enthused at the possibilities.

\*approved Gideon use of the kitchen and Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Feb. 25 for Rally Sunday.

\*were reminded that Lent begins on Wed., Feb. 14 and will again involve Community lunches and church suppers for 6 consecutive Wednesdays.

\*learned that there have been more boiler problems. Although the situation has been repaired for now, the day is coming in the next year or two when the parts for the boiler will no longer be available. Plans will need to be made to deal with this coming major expense.

\*thanked Phyllis Lutz for her service on Session. Phyllis is completing her duties at the end of 2017, and has additionally served several previous stints as an elder. Thank you, Phyllis!

Submitted by Barb Searing,  
Clerk of Session



Session honoring Phyllis Lutz at her final Session meeting. Your church family says "Thank you" also, Phyllis

## Ways to Serve in January and February



Volunteer in the nursery:

Call Dianna Karlstadt 419-670-2948 We have babies every week now, and adults are needed.

Willing to clean up after the First Wednesday Meals? Drop a note in the collection plate so that we know.

Suggest a favorite hymn, call Sue Paulus 419-399-5533 or Sue Crossland 419-399-5943 or put a note in the collection plate.

Invite a friend to the evening meal and service on Wednesday January 3rd.

Lent begins in February, so we will be looking for workers each week for the evening meal.

Like to sing but just been shy? Walk into the sanctuary on Wednesdays at 7:00. Worship the Lord in music, work a little and have a great time.

## Caring & Sharing Food Pantry

The same things are needed each month, but during this cold weather it seems that skin care items for all ages is important.

Brent is delivering donations to the pantry for Becky until she is able to take this responsibility back.

Thank you for generosity to this need in caring for our local residents.



## Angel Tree Gifts



Thank you for caring for the children of the Drug Court participants. You made their Christmas merrier. God bless you for your giving and caring.

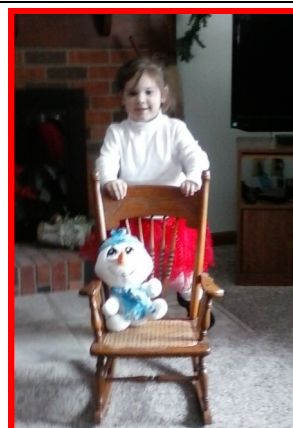




**Beautiful Babies Continue!** Three year old Abigail Searing, holds her new baby sister Kaitlyn Marie Searing born on December 15, 2017. She weighed 8 lb 12 oz at birth and was 21.5 inches long.

Kaitlyn and Abigail are the daughters of Paul and Kari Searing and the granddaughters of Stan and Barb Searing.

Three year old Quinn Morrison, daughter of Danielle (Martinez) and Ryan Morrison stands by the rocking chair made by her great-great-great-great grandfather (that is 4 greats) John Marshall nearly 100 years ago. Quinn is the great granddaughter of Dick and Sue Paulus.



### The Women's Ecumenical Christmas Celebration

This is the group of ladies as seen by MC Rhonda Smalley the night of our celebration. Rhonda took pictures from the pulpit so that we could all see "how purty we look."

This was a wonderful celebration of the birth of Jesus.



### Look what we found in the cottage when we were cleaning it to prepare for the Fergusons' move!

These church keepsakes will be available throughout the month of December for a free will offering. You can find them on a table in the fellowship hall.

Guess what else we found in the cottage?? A stained glass window that was removed from the church when the fellowship hall was added. The window is in need of repair, and we would like to have it fixed so that it can be displayed somewhere in the church building.

All of the proceeds from the cup, plate and ornament offering will go toward repairing the window, and the historical committee will pay the balance of the repair to the stained glass.



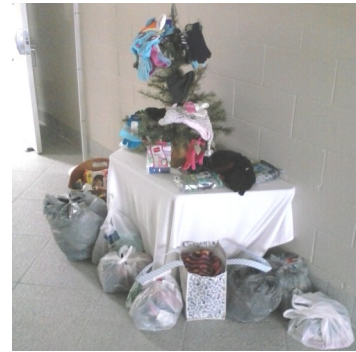
Sal Sajuan is offering us some training to improve our use of the current sound system and computer system in the sanctuary. He will be here on two Monday evenings (at least) to work with a group of three or four at a time - small numbers so that we all fit in that small corner.

Monday January 22 at 6:00

Monday January 29 at 6:00

There is a sign up sheet on the table in the sanctuary. Please let the committee know which time you can attend.

### The Mitten Tree



We had lots of donations for the Mitten Tree again this year. These items will be taken to the schools hopefully the first week in January. The administrations are always so thrilled to get what you have donated. Thank you so much!

### Next Presbytery meeting

The next meeting of the Presbytery of the Midwest will be Feb. 16-17, 2018 in Greenville, Ohio. The meeting begins at 1:00 Friday and continues Saturday morning until noon. This should be the meeting at which Ian Ferguson is examined on the floor of Presbytery as part of the process of coming to serve our congregation, and it would be wonderful to have a nice contingent from Paulding there to support him. You are encouraged to look ahead and save the date if you are interested in being there.



Ian Ferguson and Dave Meriwether share some time together in the church kitchen - where else do all the world's issues get resolved?



**Noteworthy items for November from the Treasurer:**-- We received the following anonymous donations: - \$1,000 for the Historical Fund - \$1,833.34 for Project Mercy - \$1,833.33 for the Caring and Sharing Food Pantry - \$1,833.33 for the House of Love Ministries

-- We paid the 2nd half of our per member asking in the amount of \$513.50 to Midwest Presbytery and \$908.50 to General Assembly.

-- We bought a dishwasher for Cornerstone Cottage from Don & Perrys in the amount of \$550.

-- We created a Nursery Fund with an anonymous \$1,000 donation.

- I will attend the January Session meeting to explain some of the financial reports and be available if there are questions. Carol Razo, Treasurer



The Mission committee recently distributed special

missions funds, with \$625 being sent to each of the following:

- God's Share Program
- Hands of Hope
- Youth for Christ
- The House of Love
- Project Mercy
- The City School

**WOW!**

## First Wednesday Meal

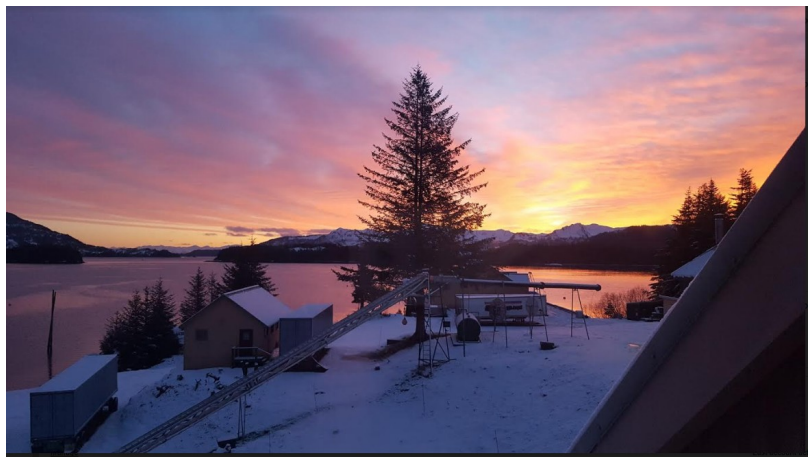
January 3rd at 5:30 will be our First Wednesday Meal with the meal prepared and hosted by the Reineck Family. In celebration of having Pia with them, they will introduce us to some German cuisine. Thanks to each of you.

## First Wednesday Service

This month will be Ian's first 1st Wednesday meal and service

**Sunrise from Alaska on the shortest day of the year.**

Photo by Tiffany Razo,  
Prince William Sound Alaska



# The Schumacher Scoop

News from Ron & Donna — January 2018

You Prayed—God Answered Thank you for praying for us during the week of December 18 as we worked with people from two languages on alphabet, glossary, and basic grammar. God gave us

stamina, wisdom and sufficient health for each day.  
The highlight for us was the joy with which the four  
people in my (Donna's) group received the New Tes-  
taments we gave them as a Christmas gift. (They  
speak a dialect of the Manobo language we  
worked on.) The last half of the week, however, they  
were quite worried about the approaching tropi- cal  
storm which hit their home area directly just be- fore  
they went home, bringing flooding.



Devastation in Davao City That same storm caused the Davao River to overflow its banks less than a half mile from where we live, and the homes of four employees of Faith International Academy (which adjoins the SIL property) were flooded. Thousands of families in this city have lost their homes, and over 300 are dead or missing. That same day, a young woman whom we know from one of the cultural communities where SIL has worked was almost caught in the fire that burned down a large shopping mall here. She worked in the call center where 38 were trapped and died. By God's grace she had not yet reported for work that day. However, the daughter of a local pastor was among the victims. The city is still reeling from these catastrophes. Pray that God will be somehow bring good out of this as His people help and share with those affected.

Assignment in Thailand On January 18 we leave for Thailand, where we will spend four weeks helping to train translation consultants from many countries, including one from another Asian country whom we knew at Nasuli years ago when he was helping with a new translation for his own language!

Please pray for the following aspects of this workshop:

Health and stamina

Travel, including six separate flights

Preparation of the presentations we are responsible for

Wisdom and clear communication as we mentor trainees from other countries in checking material in languages we're entirely unfamiliar with

Joy and confidence in the Lord throughout this time.



Contact Information Email: [ron\\_schumacher@sil.org](mailto:ron_schumacher@sil.org)

Address: P.O. Box 81439, 8000 Davao City, Philippines Headquarters: Wycliffe Bible Translators, P.O. Box 628200, Orlando FL 32862-8200 Gifts for our support should be accompanied by a separate note saying, "Preference for the ministry of Ron & Donna Schumacher."





## Continue in prayer for Andrew

(This was written during 2012. While we are not in a financial crunch right now, we have had some major property expenses, plus having a brand new pastor that we want to take care of, so I made a decision to run this again, five years later.)

Luke 6:38 *"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. **For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.**"*


Dear Friends in the Lord,

God has been dealing with me (and hopefully, with you) in how I have been giving financially to our church. He gave me what I think is a good idea and I would like to share it with each of you.

My thinking, when I saw that our budgeted giving was over \$9,000 behind at the end of July, was "The piddlin' little amount that I could give wouldn't put a dent in that deficit." God's thinking was totally different! Isn't *that* simply amazing? His message to me is this: if 20 of us would commit to an extra \$5.00 a week over the course of this year, our general fund giving would increase by over \$5,000.00. Personally, I can find \$5.00 a week. Would you join me by pledging an extra \$5.00 a week during 2012?

There is no way we can out-give God, but it sure wouldn't hurt to try!

In His Name, Sue Paulus



### Ladies' Bible Study

A new six week Bible study will begin on Thursday January 4th at 7:00 in the fellowship hall. The study is on Colossians with Joyce Meyer on DVD. Jill Straley is the leader. There are 10 study books available at \$5.00 each. Please contact Jill if you are interested. 419-399-7889



Thank you so much to Kristen Razo, Erin and Anna Karlstadt, Jacob and Julia Fife, Sydney and Joe Reineck and Pia Bornholdt for presenting the readings on Hope, Peace, Joy and Love to the congregation this year. The Christ candle reading was done by Pastor Ian at the late service. You were all a blessing and a great addition to our Christmas celebration.



*First Presbyterian Church  
Corner of Caroline & Cherry,  
Paulding OH 45879*

Praise Music 10:15  
Worship Service 10:30

*Fall and Winter Schedule*  
Sunday School 9:00



## First Presbyterian Church

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Paulding OH 45879

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Secretary's e-mail: [fpcpaulding@gmail.com](mailto:fpcpaulding@gmail.com) (new)  
[www.firstpresbyterianpaulding.com](http://www.firstpresbyterianpaulding.com) (new website)

**[firstpresbyterianpaulding.com](http://firstpresbyterianpaulding.com)**

In Essentials, Unity.  
In Non-Essentials, Liberty.  
In All Things, Charity.

