

Canfield UMC Friendly Visitor

Volume 91 Issue 11 December 1, 2023



Pastor's Ponderings

Peaceful Rest

Moving into this Advent season of the coming birth of the savior Jesus Christ, there are plenty of activities to do. There is Christmas joy and excitement around every corner. During the Christmas season the weather changes to snow. Doing Christmas shopping has us travel all around looking for the perfect Christmas gifts for loved ones. While out Christmas shopping there are plenty of Christmas treats to eat.

During the Advent season leading up to Christmas it can become a busy time that can bring about a host of feelings and anxiety with all that needs to be done. Before you know it, you are in the heart of Christmas drinking eggnog and hoping you have enough time to buy everyone Christmas gifts before December 25th.

One of the gifts that is being sold this time of year and frankly the rest of the year is a new bed or mattress that guarantees a good rest. There are a host of manufacturers that make mattresses that claim to provide rest. Bed makers include Sleep Number, Purple, Tempur-Pedic, Sealy, and a ton of other makers.

In this Advent season we need to take some time to catch our breath and to rest well knowing that the Messiah Jesus Christ came into the world as a child to bring God's peace, hope, and love for the world. Read and rest upon the words in Luke 2:

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:10-11 an angel tells the shepherds not to be afraid because there is good news - that a child has been born that is the Messiah of the world. In Luke 2:14, we know that we have rest in Christ the Savior. As followers that proclaim that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, we know that the good news is that Christ grace and love bring us hope, peace, and joy in the season of Advent and all the glorious seasons of life. When Christ grace and love rest upon us we know a peaceful rest in the business of this life and the life to come eternal. We know that the Messiah of the world Jesus Christ has brought God's love into the world and into relationship with us. Rest well in this Advent season knowing that Jesus Christ has come into our lives and has brought life into the world.

JOIN US!

Church Office: 330.533.9801

Address:

27 S. Broad Street
Canfield, OH 44406

Worship 9:00AM

Email: office@canfieldumc.org

Web: www.canfieldumc.org

Facebook: facebook.com/CanfieldUMC/



Christ Birthday

Moving through December with thankful hearts helps us to prepare a place for the coming birth of God's Son Jesus Christ during the Advent Season in December. Remember in the months of November and December to be thankful for the gift of Jesus Christ coming in the flesh to be with us and the world to share the gift of God's grace and love. Ponder and think about how you can support the gifts of God's Ministries in the Canfield United Methodist Church through giving of your time and financial gifts to support ministries that reach people with the gift of Jesus Christ's grace and love.

In this season of Advent and the birth of the Messiah Jesus Christ reflect on this passage in 2 Corinthians 9:6-10 NIV:

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

During the Advent Season in December, I will be preaching on Mike Slaughter's book, [Christmas is Not Your Birthday](#). The church will be sending out pledge cards at the end of November for the 2024 Year of Ministries. During the Advent Season in December pray over the cards at home and examine what God puts on your heart to give financially to support ministries in the new year of 2024. On January 14th we will collect the prayer cards at church and pray over them. One area you may want to consider giving to is the audio-visual technologies of the church by earmarking part of your giving to help cover those costs going forward.



Moving into this new year we need people to give of their time to help with children's ministries, youth, and adult ministries. The church needs people to help with the audio-visual technologies of the church as we do worship. There will be lots of ways for people to serve and connect in ministries next year as we look to encourage new people to be part of the church.

God calls us to give out of what he has put on our hearts, and we are responding to the gift of Jesus Christ grace and love that we have received from God. God calls us to share the Good News of Jesus Christ through the ministries and missions of the church. Let us pray together as a church that we would be thankful in our giving and support of ministries that reach new disciples for God's Kingdom.



For our Special Christmas Offering members can order a poinsettia for the altar or make a gift to the Music Fund. Flowers can be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.

The Worship committee will predetermine the number of flowers needed for altar decoration. The remainder of Special collection money will go to the Music Fund. Please consider making your donation to the Music Fund if you are not interested in taking a flower home.



Deadline to order flowers is December 11. Cost is \$10.00.



Annual Youth Pasta Luncheon and Basket Auction

Sunday, December 10th
following 9 am worship



Join us for our annual Youth Auction on December 10th after worship. Food from A La Carte Catering will be provided. Please RSVP to the office or via email (youth@canfieldumc.org) no later than December 5th.

If you can donate an item, baked goods or experience for the auction, please drop at the office and/or let Liz know (youth@canfieldumc.org).

Any help is greatly appreciated!

If weather permits and we get enough interested church members, we would like to have a caroling evening followed by cookies and hot chocolate back at the church afterwards.

If you are interested in caroling, please contact Phil or Denise May at valleypromo1@aol.com or (330) 547-8801.



United
Methodist
Women

On Wednesday, December 6th, UMW will meet at the church at 11:45 a.m. to carpool to Fellows Riverside Gardens. Lunch will be at 12:30 p.m. in their café which will be followed by a tour of the Holiday Decorated Trees. RSVP to Bonnie Tieche by Sunday December 3rd at 330-533-3686.

UMW activity for Wednesday, January 3rd at noon in the Fellowship Hall is Line Dancing with Linda Smith. Everyone is to bring a plate of cookies to share. There will be coffee.

February UMW will be Wednesday, February 1st at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Dessert will be provided by Diane Netti. We will be addressing Valentine cards for our "Members at Home".

We will have no meeting in December, but will resume again on Thursday, January 18, 2024 and we will be reading and discussing the book [Miss Benson's Beetle](#) by Rachel Joyce.

Wishing all of our avid readers a wonderful holiday season while looking forward to reading and discussing many more excellent books in the months ahead!



Church Advent Word Search



Candle	Joseph	Christ	Gifts
Purple	Jesus	Advent	Church
Love	Angel	Savior	
Joy	Light	Sunday	
Mary	God	Decorate	





The Reverends Allison LeBrun (Frank and Judy Sees' daughter) and Paul Turner will be leading a Blue Christmas Service on Thursday, December 21st at 6:30 p.m. The joint service will be held at Boardman United Methodist Church (6809 Market Street in Boardman, north of 224). This service is for Boardman, Canfield, and Poland United Methodist Churches.

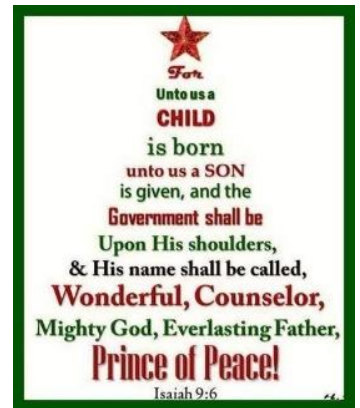
A Blue Christmas service is often held on the evening of the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. The idea is that a sacred space is created for people living through dark times. The service is intended to be reflective, accepting where we really are, and holding out healing and hope.

This information and more can be found at <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/blue-christmaslongest-night-worship-with-those-who-mourn>.

On December 24th, a 10:00 a.m. service will be held at Canfield UMC for the 4th Sunday of Advent. There will be no morning service that day at Poland UMC and we graciously invite those parishioners to join us in worship that morning.

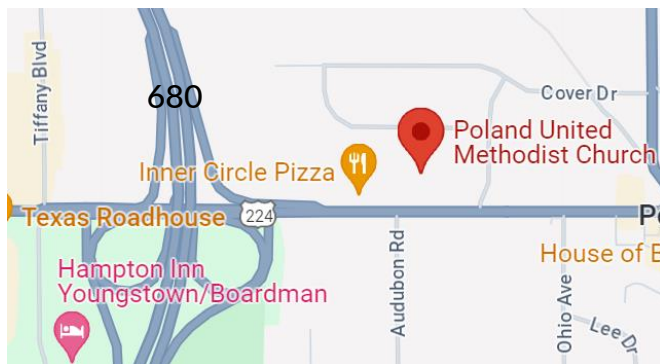
The Christmas Eve services will include a 4:00 p.m. service at Canfield UMC and a 7:00 p.m. service at Poland UMC.

Please note that on New Year's Eve there will only be a 10:00 a.m. service at Poland UMC. All are invited to worship together there.



Poland United Methodist is at 1940 Boardman Poland Rd, Poland, OH 44514.

Map of the area:



December 24th:

10:00 a.m. at Canfield - 4th Sunday of Advent
4:00 p.m. at Canfield - Christmas Eve with Silent Night by candlelight
7:00 p.m. at Poland - Christmas Eve

December 31:

10:00 a.m. at Poland UMC

Pastor George and Trudie would like to thank everyone for the wonderful reception on November 12th. Pastor George appreciates all the support you have given him over his tenure at Canfield as both Pastor and Pastor Emeritus.

Pastor George and Trudie Lee's new address is:
1103 Bogey Drive
Ontario, Ohio 44903



Canfield UMC Youth Group

December 3	6-8 pm	Gingerbread House Making!
December 10	After Worship	Auction!
December 17	5:30-8:00 pm	Brookfield UMC Christmas Party!
January 7	After Service-12 pm	Youth Group
January 12	TBA	Y-Night
January 28	6-8 pm	Youth Group

60 YEARS

We are eagerly searching for past teachers and administrators from our preschool. Please, if you have been a part of our wonderful program in the past, or you know someone who has, reach out to us at:

PRESCHOOL@CANFIELDUMC.ORG.

We want to honor you as part of our 60th Anniversary Celebration!



Responding in Love in Crisis and Disaster
Global / International Disaster Fund #982450
United States Disaster Fund #901670

More information about UMCOR and how they are responding can be found at
<https://www.umc.org/en/how-we-serve/we-are-disciples/disaster-relief>

Church Committees for 2024

Pastor Paul Turner is requesting that people on church committees and in church leadership roles stay in their positions for another year as we move forward. Church committee members, church leaders, and the congregation as a whole will continue to explore the Simplified Accountability Structure (S.A.S.) moving forward into this new year and figure out if the church as a whole would like to implement S.A.S. at Canfield UMC.

Stay tuned for more announcements about S.A.S. information and training events.

December Meetings

Church Council	December 4 th	6 pm
Worship and Music	TBA	TBA
Finance	December 18 th	6 pm
Trustees	December 18 th	7 pm

Reminder from the Financial Secretary:

2023 Pledges must either be:

- 1) Turned in at Canfield UMC on or before Friday, December 29th (the office closes at 11 a.m.) or
- 2) Mailed to the church (27 S. Broad St. Canfield, OH 44406) with a postmark on or before December 31st.

Pledges postmarked after December 31st or turned into the church office after December 29th will be credited to 2024 pledges.

There will be no collection on December 31st as we are having service at Poland UMC that morning.

Canfield United Methodist Church
27 South Broad Street
Canfield OH 44406

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-profit
Organization
Permit 19
Salem OH



Keith Bingham, Donna Bricker,
David Dyer, Michele Kalaher,
Jill Kercher, Pastor George Lee,
James Moon

Our members at home.

