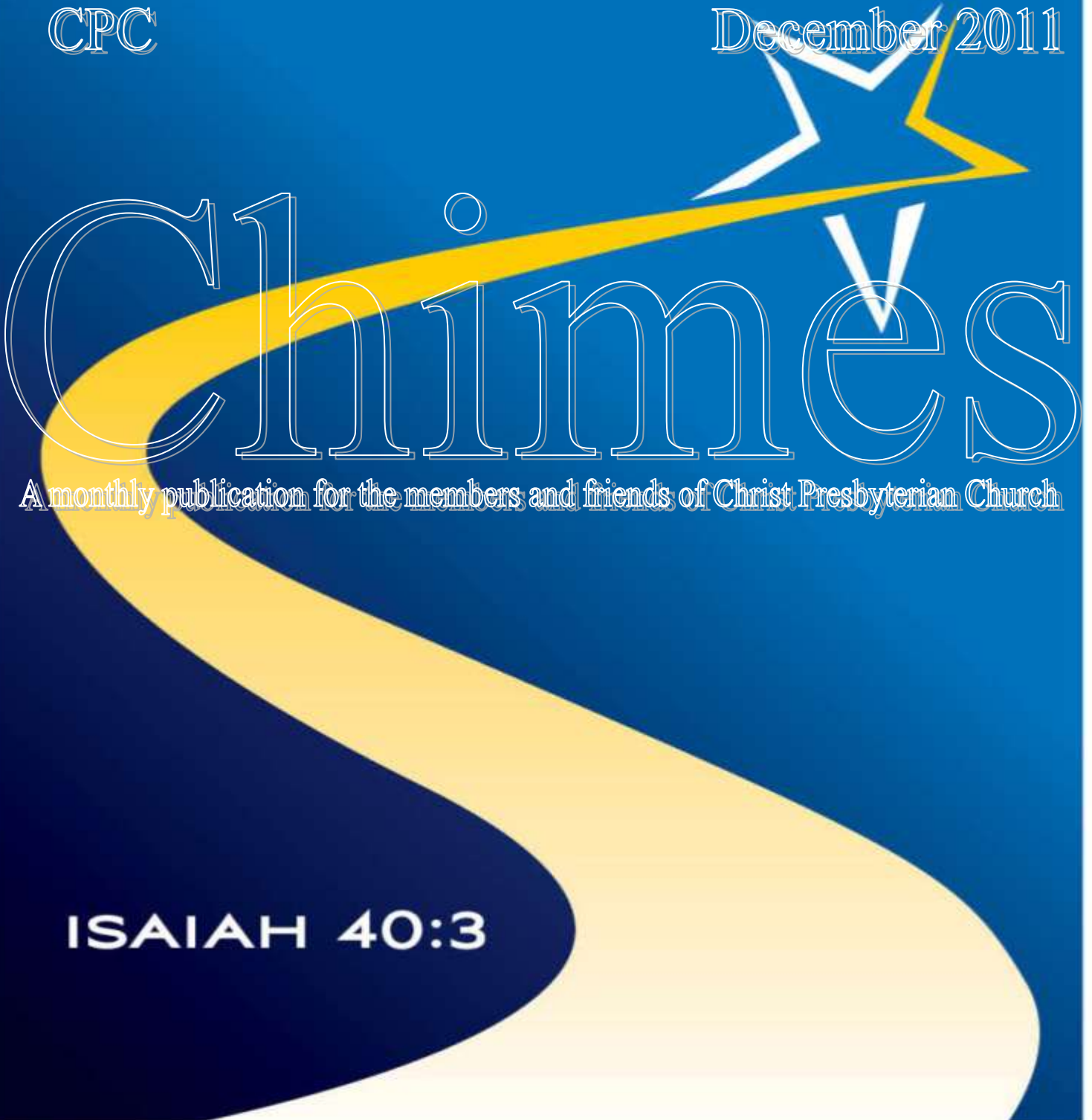


CPC

December 2011



# Chimes

A monthly publication for the members and friends of Christ Presbyterian Church

ISAIAH 40:3

PREPARE  
THE WAY

# ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT CPC

*Sunday, December 4 – 2nd Sunday of Advent*  
Sermon: "Salvation's Kiss," Rev. Matthew Reeves preaching  
Observance of the Lord's Supper  
"Hanging of the Greens"  
11:00am Advent Study  
12:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  
5:00pm Youth Group

*Sunday, December 11 – 3rd Sunday of Advent*  
Sermon: "With a Shout," Rev. Matthew Reeves preaching  
"Hanging of the Greens"  
10:35am Children's Ministries Teacher Meeting  
11:00am Advent Study  
2:00pm Children's Ministries Journey to Bethlehem trip  
5:00pm Youth Group

*Sunday, December 18 – 4th Sunday of Advent*  
Sermon: "God's Sleeve Rolled Up," Rev. Matthew Reeves preaching  
"Hanging of the Greens"  
CPC Advent Luncheon following Worship  
12:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  
4:30pm Youth Group

*Saturday, December 24*  
5:00pm Family Christmas Eve Service  
9:00pm Contemporary Christmas Eve Service

*Sunday, Christmas Day- Rejoice! For the Lord has Come!*  
9:30am Casual Worship– Kids can come in Pajamas!

*Sunday, New Year's Day*  
9:30am Worship

# Contents:

## 4. Pastor's Page

6. Children and Youth

8. Deacons

10. Stewardship

12. Chapel Circle  
Luncheon

14. Prayer

**We worship together at  
9:30am every Sunday.**

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**Church office hours:  
9:00 am-2:00 pm  
Mondays -Thursdays.**

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### **Contact Information**

**Christ Presbyterian Church**

**12419 Chillicothe Rd.**

**Chesterland, OH 44026**

**440-729-1688**

**Fax: 440-729-3733**

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**Website: [www.christpcusa.org](http://www.christpcusa.org)**

**E-mail: [cpc.office@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cpc.office@sbcglobal.net)**

### **What is Christ Presbyterian Church?**

We are a family called to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. We do this through calling others to personal faith in Christ, equipping them as His disciples, and inviting them into loving relationships. In all we say and do, we seek to demonstrate the love of God.



*Matt, and his wife Heather, met at The College of Wooster, and have been married for 12 years. They have moved here from Parkville, Missouri where Matt has served as the Associate Pastor of Parkville Presbyterian Church, since 2002. They are parents of Evan, a second-grader, and Gareth, a kindergartener. Both boys will be attending Lindsey Elementary School, here in Chesterland. They all look forward to a new adventure living in Geauga County and making a home in Ohio.*

## The Lord Jesus is coming

I write this first newsletter article to you from a box littered room. I might be either in a warehouse or among an abundance of gifts at the base of a Christmas tree! I like to imagine it is the latter.

It feels as though my family and I have received Christ early this year. This week we arrived to our new home and a table set with a generous lunch, a refrigerator stocked with more than just staples, a basket loaded with supplies, gorgeous new wood floors, freshly painted bedrooms, a finished bathroom in the basement, and many signs of scrubbing. As said one of our sons, “The church has given us a really nice welcome!”

Advent is a season of preparation for a welcome. As John puts it, “to all who did receive [Christ], to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God”. It’s a welcome that kindly cuts two ways—the God who has chosen to welcome us in Christ invites, indeed urges, us to welcome him. It’s a reception that requires preparation, a taking stock of

with great delight at being let into our lives.

our hearts and their longings, our world and its pains, God's justice and what it commands, God's love and what it can do.

Advent is mostly about preparing to receive. Eugene Peterson has said of the incarnation of God's Son that it was like God pitching a tent and moving into the neighborhood. A new pastor has moved in this Advent but I suggest that this is not the biggest deal in what is happening among Christ Presbyterian Church. The One who is coming is moving in to this congregation, this community, this God-longing world.

You have given a witness that you know something about welcoming someone in. As glad as I am to be welcomed by you, I dare say there is One whose glad reception far outshines mine: the Lord Jesus is coming with great delight at being let into our lives. The arms of our heart stretched wide, let us receive him.

It's so good to be with you, such a gift to share Advent with you this year. The Lord be with you all.



**The Pastor and staff of Christ Presbyterian Church**

Matthew Reeves, Pastor

Joshua Chenoweth, Choir Director

Bob Russell Jr., Contemporary Worship

Susan Congdon, Organist, Web Administrator

Jennifer Congdon, Children's Director

Karen Perko, Office Manager

Jerry Gibson, Custodian

*Children's Ministries takes you to*

# *The Journey to Bethlehem*

*Sunday, December 11th 2:00pm-5:00pm*

*Church Life at Yellowstone and Mayfield*

*3663 Mayfield Road*

*Cleveland, OH 44121*



**Hanging of the Greens  
Children's Christmas Presentations  
Every Sunday in Advent  
During Children's Moment  
9:30am Worship**

**Children's Lenten Study:**

December 4th and 11th

1st grade through 5th grade.

*(It will follow the Children's "Hanging of the Greens" Rehearsal.)*

*\*Children, Kindergarten and younger, will be taken  
to the Childcare Nursery at that time.*

**Children's Fellowship "Christmas Cookie" Hour**

**Downstairs December 11th**

45  
boxes



We did it!  
Thank  
you!



**Samaratin's Purse Shoeboxes**

### **CPC Youth Group**

Willoughby Hills Friends Church  
presents...

“The 2011 Christmas Pageant“

Featuring: Family Force 5,  
Hawk Nelson and Manafest

**Friday, December 9th**

Advance tickets are only \$15  
(\$20 at the door)

RSVP by Dec. 4  
(incl. Payment  
and Permission slip)



### **Winners of the November Chili Cook-Off**

Judges Choice - Alan Lupas

People's Choice - Dave Wunderle

Most Unusual Recipe - Jason Monsman



A photograph of a Christmas tree decorated with red and gold ornaments, including a large red star. A gift box wrapped in brown paper with a gold ribbon is visible at the base of the tree. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white.

# Deacon's Outreach

- **Geauga County Prison Ministry-**  
Playing cards will be purchased for the prison inmates as a part of the Prison Christmas Ministry.
- **WomenSafe-**  
This Year, Deacons and CPC will be sponsoring a Geauga County Mom and her two daughters, ages 9 and 6. Gift labels will be hung in Fellowship Hall. Each label will list the gifts requested. Once you purchase the gift, we are asking that you place it unwrapped in the box in Fellowship Hall by December 18<sup>th</sup>.
- **Geauga County Family-**  
Once again, a Christmas tree with ornaments will adorn our Fellowship Hall. Each ornament will contain a gift suggestion for a Geauga County family and their 3 boys, ages 15, 14 and 8. We ask that you take an ornament from the tree and purchase the gifts requested. Return the wrapped gifts and place them under the Christmas tree by December 18th. The Ornament you choose will be the Label on the gift.

If you have any questions, contact Marsha Zimmerman (338-1898) or any of the Deacons. Thank you in advance for your faithful support.

# Meeting Minutes

- The Deacons met on November 7, 2011, with all members present. No session representatives were present.
- The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were distributed and accepted. We received thank-you correspondence from Pat Garee and Crystal Kershaw. The Deacons helped a family with a Thanksgiving gift card from Giant Eagle.
- The Deacons have decided to have a special coffee hour for Pastor Reeves and his family's first service with name tags for everyone and a cake.
- We are also planning some festive coffee hours for December and need some volunteers to bake cookies.
- Please note that the Advent luncheon will be on Sunday, December 18 2011, and we have added an additional Christmas Eve service at 9:00 PM.
- The children of CPC will be decorating the Sanctuary during Worship as part of "The Hanging of the Greens" program in Advent.
- Our greeters are in place through December, but will be needed for January.
- The Deacon's Outreach Committee will be helping the Prison Ministry, Womens Safe (Mom and 2 daughters 7 & 9 years old) and a County Services family (Dad, Mom and three boys ages 8, 14 & 15). More information will be provided in the Sunday bulletins.
- Please see Lila Latta if you are interested in purchasing a poinsettia plant for the Christmas Eve and Christmas day services.

Have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving!

**Barb Albrecht,**  
**Secretary**

Interested in Baking  
Christmas Cookies for  
Coffee Hour in December?  
Sign up in Fellowship Hall.



# 2011 Stewardship



## **Supporting our church together**

The last day for submitting your 2011 contributions to Christ Presbyterian Church will be Saturday, December 31, 2011. All checks **MUST** be dated by December 31, 2011 to be accepted in the 2011 Statements of Giving.

Please try to have your contributions completed and turned in by Sunday December 25th. Next year's Pledge Envelopes should be available for pick up on Sunday, December 11, 2011. Please **DO NOT** start using them until 2012 because some envelope numbers may be changing from the envelope numbers that you are currently using.

Once Pledge envelopes are assigned, the boxes will be available for pick-up. If you do not see a box of envelopes with your name on it, and wish to use Pledge envelopes in 2012, please contact me, or leave a note in the mailbox reading, "FINANCIAL SECRETARY". The mailbox is located in the Fellowship Hall. Feel free to call me at 440-488-2926. If you have not been using Pledge envelopes and would rather not be bothered trying to remember where you last put them, simply use a Pew envelope, write your name on the outside. Your information will be taken from the envelope or the check inside. You will receive a year end statement of Contribution.

2011 Contribution statements should be ready to be passed out by Sunday, January 8, 2012 and January 15, 2012.

NOTE: The initial Offering envelope is used to offset the cost of the Pledge envelopes only. Each box of Pledge Envelopes (including Youth) costs less than \$5.00 (as a reference \$). The *PER CAPITA* is basically a membership fee for being part of the Presbyterian Church of the Western Reserve Synod and changes yearly; \$24 for 2012 per member.

***Merry Christmas to All,  
Rusty Wenger (CPC Financial Secretary)***



**CPC Financial Update  
2011 Operating Budget**

<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Actual Income</u></b>	<b><u>Actual Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>(Income – Expenses)</u></b>
Jan-Oct	\$186,190.71	\$170,219.70	\$ 15,971.01
<b><i>Reserve as of Jan 1</i></b>	<b><u>\$5,953.59</u></b>		
<b><i>Operating Fund Balance</i></b>	\$21,924.60		

Is the weather outside frightful?

Check CPC Website: [www.christpcusa.org](http://www.christpcusa.org)

Or call the church office: 440-729-1688

For event cancellations.

CPC Office is closed when  
west Geauga schools are closed.

# *Ladies' Luncheon*

## **Chapel Circle**

Meeting at:

Bass Lake Tavern

for the

Annual Christmas Luncheon.

Wednesday, December 21st.

12:00pm

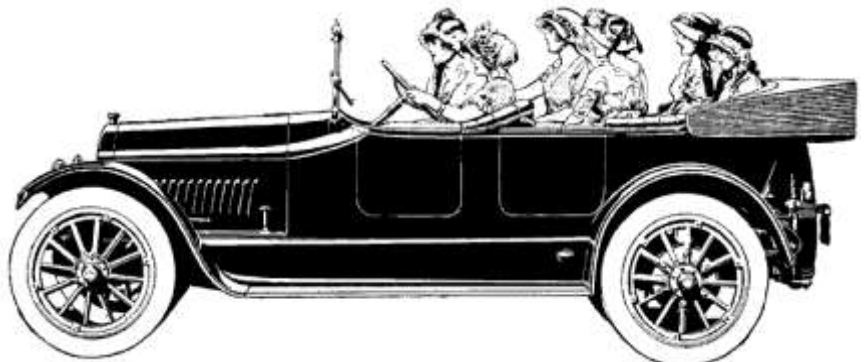
Carpool will leave CPC parking lot  
by 11:30am

# *Fellowship*



## **Bass Lake Tavern**

426 South St.  
Chardon, Ohio 44024  
440.285.3100



# Kids,



Draw the Nativity scene in the background above. Then bring it in to your Sunday School Teacher to hang in your classroom.



# December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays	Dates	Anniversaries	Dates
Lori Zagarskas	12/2	None	
Charlotte Wood	12/2		
Monte Zimmermann	12/2		
Irene Clyde	12/6		
Susan Congdon	12/6		
Heidi Minick Starke	12/8		
John Pauley	12/9		
Janet Davis	12/14		
Andrew Fondrk	12/14		
Creola Lambert	12/14		
Dan Wajahn	12/17		
Elijah Milnar	12/19		
Karen Arp	12/20		
Linda Ebersbacher	12/20		
Mackenzie Pauley	12/20		
Dave Wunderle	12/20		
Daniel Richards	12/26		
Dushan Boucek	12/27		
Ryan Fairfield	12/29		
Anne McCaslin	12/31		

The Wenger and Russell Families would like to thank all those wonderful, talented people who worked so hard updating the Russell room. So many hours and talents went into making it a pleasant room for meetings and classes.

God bless you all,  
Russ & Doris Wenger,  
Bob & Marilyn Russell



***Now, my God, may Your eyes be open  
and Your ears attentive  
to the prayers offered in this place.  
-2 Chronicles 6:39-41***

**Pat Garee  
Larry VanSanten –recovery  
The McKinney Family -healing  
Pat Martin -recovery  
Bill Shipitalo –recovery  
Jim Gear’s mom –health  
Ruth Scharlotte’s Nephew –recovery**

**The power of prayer is Amazing!**

**If you can spare a couple of "swipes" on your keyboard, and you want to see God's power at work, consider joining the CPC E-Mail Prayer Group.**

**Contact Dee Eichele at: [HappyD304@msn.com](mailto:HappyD304@msn.com).**

**If you prefer the telephone chain, give Dee a call at: 440-729-997.  
(Phone calling is simple and limited to 1or 2 phone calls).**



**PRAYER  
SHAWL MINISTRY**

**Have some extra skeins of yarn  
lying around your home?**

Your yarn Donations will go to the ladies in  
the Ethel Prayer Shawl Ministry.

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Donation box Located in Fellowship Hall.

*If interested in joining the ministry, please  
help yourself to some yarn.*

# DECEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4 Communion Advent Study 11:00am Bell Choir 12:00p Youth Group 5:00p</p>	<p>5 Staff 10:00pm Deacons 7:00p Men's Grp. 7:30p</p>	<p>6 Prayer Grp 9a Praise Team 7p</p>	<p>7 Men's Bible 6:30a Bootcamp 6:30p Worship 7:00pm</p>	<p>1 Choir 6:30p</p>	<p>2 Youth Group Event at Willoughby Hills Friend's Church 6:00pm</p>	<p>3 Men's Bible 8a</p>
<p>11 Advent Study 11:00am Children's Min. Teacher's Meeting 11:00am Journey to Bethlehem 2:00pm Youth Group 5:00pm</p>	<p>12 Youth meeting 7:00pm Men's Grp. 7:30</p>	<p>13 Prayer Grp 9a Praise Team 7p</p>	<p>14 Prayer Shawl 10a Men's Bible 6:30a . Bootcamp 6:30p Girl Scouts 7p</p>	<p>15 Choir 6:30p</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Men's Bible 8a</p>
<p>18 Advent Luncheon 11 Bell Choir 12:00a Youth Group 4:30pm</p>	<p>19 Men's Grp. 7:30p</p>	<p>20 Prayer Grp 9a Praise Team 7p Session 7p</p>	<p>21 Men's Bible 6:30a Chapel Circle 11a Bootcamp 6:30p</p>	<p>22 Choir 6:30p</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP 5:00pm and 9:00pm</p>
<p>25 9:30am Casual Worship</p>	<p>26 CPC Office Closed</p>	<p>27 Prayer Grp 9a Praise Team 7p</p>	<p>28 Men's Bible 6:30a Bootcamp 6:30p</p>	<p>29 Choir 6:30p</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Men's Bible 8a</p>