Come One, Come ALL to the Banquet Hall!
Friday, January 5th, 2018
in the Great Hall of Westminster at Christ Church

The Firestone High School Madrigal Singers return! Adorned in festive attire and with the Boars Head to carry, they will be our entertainment for the night. Lest us not forget Lord and Lady Wallace, who hail from across the meadow in Cantonshire, shall join us with Prince Theophilus and Princess Genevieve. Furthermore, Duke and Duchess Everett will be present for the festivities. Thou shalt not upset their nobility by not being present in their grace.

Doors open at 6:00pm; feasting begins at 6:30pm
Tickets are $25 per person ($10 for Children and Students)
Available online at cantoncpc.org/eventregistration or in the church office.

Proceeds from this event benefit the Food, Clothing, and Prayer Ministry of Christ Church

TAG — Tuesday Afternoon Group
Tuesday, January 16, 11:30 am at Mulligan’s

For January and February, TAG is going out to eat! We will meet at restaurants while the TAG chefs take a well deserved vacation. These lunches will also be easier to cancel in case it snows.

January’s TAG will be held at Mulligan’s Restaurant & Pub. Mulligan’s is located at 4118 Belden Village Street NW, across from Sears. Mulligan’s has quite a diverse menu, and you will be able to order anything you’d like, and get an individual check. We will gather at 11:30 for a time of fellowship and greeting friends, with lunch at noon. In the event of bad weather, TAG will be cancelled if the Canton City Schools are closed for the day.

Because we will need to give the restaurant a headcount, please sign up no later than Sunday, January 14. Sign up at the kiosk or online, or call the church office. You can also sign up online. Thank you!

Hey Kids! Get ready for...

Put on your comfiest jammies for church on Sunday, January 14!

We’ll have extra special fun in Kids’ Church that morning! It might be winter outside, but we’ll be comfy and cozy inside with cocoa, treats, games, and stories. Be sure to invite a friend and don’t forget your slippers!

2nd Mile’s
More Than A Book Club

Join us for a potluck and discussion on Sunday, January 28, 5:00-8:00 p.m.
**Holiday Office/Building Hours**
In observance of the New Year Holiday, the Church office and Building Hours will be as follows:

Monday, January 1—Office/Building Closed All Day
Tuesday, January 2—Office/Building Closed All Day

The Church office/building will close at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, January 12, 2018, for the staff Christmas Dinner.

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**Susanne Ellis**
November 18, 2017

Christian sympathy is extended to the Ellis Family.

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**Congratulations to Andy & Susanne Smith-Penzel on the birth of their daughter,**
**Emmeline Gabriella Smith-Penzel**
Bert & Judy Smith are the proud grandparents.

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**Have you remembered your church in your will?**

We are an active and giving congregation. Besides giving to CPC each year, many of us also give to other charities in Stark County and beyond. When we pass on, however, many of us do not think to include the church in our wills. God has indeed been generous to us. Let us plan to return some of our wealth back to God to continue the work of this church. Please consider making a bequest to Christ Church in your will. You can amend your will with a call to your attorney. For questions about making a bequest to CPC, feel free to contact any member of the Endowment Ministry (Jack Burnquist, Roger Gray, Teresa Houston, Linda Norton, or Steve Stocker).

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**2018 Offering Envelopes**

If you requested envelopes, you will find them in alphabetical order on the table in Cloister Hall. If you do not find envelopes with your name, and would like to receive them, please call the church office or print your name on the pad found on the table. If you are not able to pick up your envelopes, please call the church office, and we will gladly mail them out to you.

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**2018 Per Capita Communicant Apportionment**

$29.34 per member
- 7.73—General Assembly
- 3.25—Synod
- 18.36—Presbytery

Your assistance in donating to help defray the cost to the church will be greatly appreciated. Please indicate on your check for the 2018 apportionment.
Sunday Morning Schedule
8:00 & 10:30 am Worship
9:15 am School Classes All Ages
10:45 am Kids’ Church

Monday Schedule
10:00 am Staff Meeting—Library
5:30-8:30 pm Mentoring Program—West. Hall

Tuesday Schedule
9:30 am Bible Study
12:00-2:00 pm SM Training—Library

Thursday Schedule
7:00 am Men’s Bible Study—West. Hall
10:00 am—Moms’ Group—Nursery
7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Monday, 1/1—Happy New Year!
Church Office/Building Closed

Tuesday, 1/2—Church Office/Building Closed

Wednesday, 1/3
1:00 pm Staff Meeting—Library
6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision—Parlor
7:00 pm Deacons Meeting—Pine Room
8:00 pm Worship Ministry—Upper Room

Thursday, 1/4
12:00-2:00 pm Stephen Ministry Training—Parlor
5:00 pm Madrigal Rehearsal—Westminster Hall

Friday, 1/5
6:30 pm Madrigal Feast—Westminster Hall
(Tickets required. Doors open at 6:00 pm)

Sunday, 1/7—Communion
Youth Ice skating or sledding (weather dependent)

Monday, 1/8
3:30 pm Property Ministry—Parlor

Tuesday, 1/9
1:00 pm Personnel Ministry—Library
7:00 pm Spirit & Space—Parlor

Wednesday, 1/10
8:00 am Food Ministry
6:00 pm 2nd Mile Meeting—Parlor
7:30 pm Discipleship Meeting—Parlor

Liturgists:  Van Drivers:  Ushers:
1/7 Steve Schott  Shawn Campbell  Marsha & Ken Wise, Terry Everett, Scott & Pam McCahan, Jonathan McCahan, Barb Gheen
1/14 Molly Hudson  Dan McGrew  Brian DeLap, Jack Burnquist, Skip & Linda Shriner, Bob Stanley, Amanda Carter, Curt & Stephanie Werren
1/21 Joe Orin  Marsha/Ken Wise  Becky Banfield, Mary Jane Ebie, Steve Schott, Shawn & Lisa Campbell, Julie Sproul, Scott Sproul, Stan Wood
1/28 Lori Sproul  Jack Burnquist  Joyce McKimm, Darrell & Dianne Holland, Bob Clark, Mike & Carol Gravilla, Kent Berg, Kim Kemper

from the Deacons’ Bench
“We must remember the words of the Lord Jesus. He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” - Acts 20:35

As the year 2017 comes to a close, the Deacons would like to thank the congregation for all the compassion and love shown to those in our church family and the community. Because of you, we are able to give a monthly hot Saturday morning breakfast meal to those in our community. We are able to take flowers to our homebound, supply medical equipment to members of our congregation, help church members with meals, rides to doctor appointments, and transportation to Sunday Morning Services. Thank you for donating clothing items and financial assistance to the Food, Clothing, and Prayer Ministry. Every donation helps a person in need in our community. Thank you for taking the time to ring the Salvation Army bell and sing Christmas carols to our homebound and thank you for supporting our Wakonda auction, truly a blessing to our community. Children who would never have a chance to worship God in a camp setting will now have the opportunity to do so. Thank you for giving your time and talents to the many ministries of Christ Church. We wish you all a very Blessed New Year!
Major stuff from the minor prophets
From Jan. 7-Mar. 25, the Westminster Sunday School class will study four prophets. Starting with Daniel, Rev. Dr. Debbie Rundlett writes,

“Daniel calls us to remember who and whose we are. As his life reminds us, exile is often (if not always) the place where we are called to do our deepest work on self. It is the place where we come home to God anew and know the purpose for which we were created: to glorify and enjoy God forever! May our lives indeed be shaped from beginning to end by doxology! Praise be to God for the example of his servant Daniel.”
In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up...then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.  

(Genesis 2:4-7)

“In the beginning,” God created! Now a new year dawns! What will this new year create? Will we know tidings of great joy? Sorrows untold? Boredom, satisfaction, elation, depression, anger, surprise, anticipation? What will 2018 bring?

Change is a given, or as Heraclitus of Ephesus put it, “Everything changes and nothing stands still.” I suspect the biggest change the de Vries family will contend with in 2018 revolves around daughter Ali. She will graduate in May and has plans for college come August/September. This change creates another; empty nest. This change also creates inner chaos: I anticipate going “back to the future.” Just Jeanne and me...like in the beginning. I find the thought exciting. But I’ve also just come to accept the reality that Zach is fully and completely “out of the nest.” It took me three years! Now Ali leaves? God have mercy.

As 2018 unfolds, I turn to Paul’s letter to the Romans and remember; “We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” Paul writes this to address the fact that new Christians have started to know what it is to suffer for their faith. Christians are enduring hostility and rejection. He writes this as encouragement.

If we are to know joy, we will also know sorrow. We will experience success and we will experience failure. We will laugh and we will cry. We will experience hope and anxiety, gratitude and want, surprise and panic. You get the idea! Yet in it all, “all things work together for good for those who love God. Or as Paul writes elsewhere,:

“...in him (Jesus) all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

I find there is something incredibly comforting in that last phrase...“and in him all things hold together.”

How are we, each of us, to contextualize the many events and feelings that will unfold this new year? We start by recognizing that “all things hold together” in Christ. Everything that comes our way can bring glory to God while bringing purpose and meaning to our lives. All things find their ultimate purpose through Christ.

But that thought is also a huge challenge. If “all things hold together” in Christ, that means all things. It means God will use all things to form and shape us deeper into faith. It means even illness, depression, job loss, divorce, even the death of a spouse, sibling, or friend have the potential to shape us more fully into the likeness of Jesus Christ because, “in him all things hold together.” As always, God leaves us free to decide for ourselves how we will engage the pain and suffering that comes into our lives; for the glory of God in Christ...or no.

2018 has begun. Happy New Year! I pray that we all know the blessings of love (in all its wonderful manifestations!), good health, meaningful living, and faithful service. May we laugh a lot, sing loudly, pray often, spend wisely, and live fully. And in all things (blessings and challenges), may we see God at work molding us, as a potter with clay, into the likeness of Christ.

And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.  

2 Corinthians 3:18

FINANCIAL NOTES

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This reporting reflects the General and Camp Funds from July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018. PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR PLEDGE CURRENT. THANK YOU!

Online Giving with a Credit/Debit Card or directly from your Checking or Savings Account.

Designate amount, general fund (or choose other fund), one time or recurring gift, credit card or debit bank.

Text CANTONCPC to 73256 to give using your text messaging. Standard text messaging rates may apply.

Need help or have questions? Contact Diane in the Church Office 330-456-8113.
Return Service Requested

The Church is charged for every returned Newsletter. If you have moved, or changed a seasonal address, please notify the church office. Thank you.

To be added to the Tydings email list or to submit an article for Tydings, please email dnav@cantonpc.org no later than Wednesday, January 17, 2018.

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OPENING EVENT OF OUR SUNDAY EVENING LENTEN SERIES:
Hearing the Gospel of Mark as a Complete Story: Engaging! Inspiring!
Sunday, February 18 @ 6:00 pm

Mark’s story is the most immediate and accessible of the Gospels. It is also solo theatre, a feat of memory, and actor Geoffrey Darling is a master of the greatest story ever told. Everything in Mark happens at once, straight away, immediately, suddenly. Geoffrey takes us through Jesus’ miracles and teachings, his travels through the Holy Land and finally his arrival in Jerusalem, the Passion and the Crucifixion and the Good News of the Resurrection.

Mark’s Gospel is the shortest, the first, and the most accessible, especially in this Contemporary English Version. Mark wrote with the aim of deepening the faith and commitment for Jesus’ followers in the early church.

Mr. Darling, a New Zealander, has lived in Ohio since 2006 with his wife Rose (Ohio native) and has presented parts and all of the Gospel in Ohio prisons as well as many congregations in Northeast Ohio. Last summer he took “Mark” to Northern Ireland!

Over the last ten years he has appeared frequently in productions at Magical Theatre, Barberton and the Ohio Shakespeare Festival in Akron, most recently as King Pellinore in Camelot, the Christmas 2017 production; other Northeast Ohio venues have been Coach House Theatre, Akron; Weathervane Theatre; Actors Summit Theatre and the Beck Theatre in Cleveland. Geoffrey is married to Rose Darling, music director at the Canal Fulton United Methodist Church.