January 2019 Tydings

Come One, Come ALL to the Banquet Hall!

for the
EPIPHANY MADRIGAL FEAST
and Annual Visit of the Three Magi

FRIDAY, the 4th of JANUARY
in the Year of Our Lord, Twenty-Nineteen
in the Great Hall of Westminster at Christ Church in Canton

Now with the fresh energy of Co-Directors, David & Terry Everett, we celebrate in even grander style the conclusion of Christmas Revelry: the feasting, pageantry, and entertainment featuring the Firestone High School Madrigal Singers, under the direction of Chad Pittman. Fare: grapes & cheeses, roast beef, potatoes, vegetables, bread pudding, and beverages. Doors open at six o’clock; feasting begins at half past six. Tickets are $25 per person ($10 for Children & Students). Proceeds from this event benefit the Food, Clothing, and Prayer Ministry of Christ Church. Seating is limited to 120 guests. Tickets available online and in the Church office.

Hey Kids! Get ready for...

Put on your comfiest jammies for church on Sunday, January 13!

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! Grown ups are welcome to join in the fun too!

Get ready to have a ball at Camp Wakonda this summer!
Here’s what to look forward to in 2019:

Lego Masters
Escape Wakonda
The Great Wakonda Cooking Challenge
Explorer Superheroes
Treasure Hunters
Discovery
You Can’t Do THAT at Camp!
Wakonda’s Got Talent
Roughin’ It - Last Tent in the Woods
TAG
Tuesday Afternoon Group
Tuesday, January 15
11:30 am – Bender’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 Bender’s Tavern. Bender’s is located at 137 Court Avenue SW downtown just a couple of blocks from the church. Bender’s has quite a diverse menu, and you will be able to order anything you’d like, and get an individual check. In addition, at lunchtime they have very reasonable prices. You can park in the lot directly across from the restaurant, and bring your parking receipt inside to be validated by Bender’s, making your parking free with a minimum purchase of $22. Carpooling is strongly encouraged! Better yet, walk over from the church.

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 for January TAG no later than Sunday, January 13. You can sign up in the kiosk area, or call the church office. You can also sign up online. Thank you!

Spirit & Space Team Report

Tidings of comfort and joy from the Spirit & Space Team to you and your family in the New Year!

To keep informed of our progress or to access past Tydings articles and other info, check out our Spirit & Space link on CPC’s Web site.

On November 18th members of the congregation gathered after worship for a charrette – an architectural brainstorming session – with architects Elizabeth Murphy and Lauren Burge. It was a delightful opportunity to express our ideas about how we might become a more welcoming church to those in our community. While munching on sandwiches, pasta salad, chips and cookies; Jerry Norton, Chair of the Spirit & Space Team, presented an overview of how the Team, up to that date, had re-imagined specific concepts about church worship, service and space.

The architects then directed attendees to their tables where each person was given prints of our church’s layout by floor, as well as colored pencils and markers. We were instructed to consider our own re-imagining as to how the church might be redesigned, and then reflect those thoughts directly onto the prints provided. We were told to “dream big”, and be limited only by the boundaries of our own imaginations, because all ideas are useful. And although not all ideas would be adopted by the architects, we were told that one idea might lead to a thought that they CAN use. What fun we had modifying the prints with our suggestions…diagrams, pictures, layouts and notes! The architects were quite pleased with the treasure trove of ideas expressed. We’re certain they will be considered as the architects work through their process, all the while respecting the historical character of our church home. We anxiously await their initial, preliminary concept drawings!

The other interesting exercise that afternoon was to express our individual priorities for the following list of pre-defined architectural attributes to be considered in any re-design of our church: Welcoming, Inspirational/Peaceful, Comfortable, Accessible, Functional, Flexible, Beautiful/Artful, and Historical/History. Attendees added “Quality Choir Music” and “Music Program” to the list. Each of these attributes was printed on a sheet of paper mounted on the walls surrounding us. Using six sticky dots provided for each person, we were asked to affix them to the attribute sheets of our choice…all six on one, or split among multiple attributes per our desired priorities. The purpose of the exercise was to quantify for the architects what is relevant and important to us about our church space.

In order by priority (number of dots), the result of the exercise to determine preferred Architectural Attributes is:

1. Accessible – 61
2. Welcoming – 54
3. Functional – 41
4. Inspirational/Peaceful – 37
5. Quality Choir Music/Music Program – 32
6. Historical/History – 31
7. Flexible – 29
8. Beautiful/Artful – 25
9. Comfortable – 6

Interesting, don’t you think?? More later!

The Spirit & Space Team

Danielle Drumm
December 12, 2018

Herbert “Mike” Crowl
December 13, 2018

Christian sympathy is extended to the
Drumm/Rudy and Crowl Families.

Please remember to watch for and cut out Box Tops for Education. Please put your unexpired box tops in a marked envelope in the collection plate.
Back in September, The Rev. Matt Skolnik, General Presbyter of Muskingum Valley Presbytery, invited me to lunch so I could meet Dr. Hany Rizkalla. Hany is an Egyptian minister who works up and down the Nile River establishing new Christian communities. Matt has traveled to Egypt several times and the two have become fast friends. Hany is a gregarious and outgoing kind of guy and you can easily see why he is so successful at what he does. Our lunch was filled with story-telling and laughter.

Hany had reason to return to the U.S. in late November and stopped in to see Matt. Matt, in turn, arranged for the three of us to get together again to share some fellowship. I gave Hany a tour of CPC. As you might guess, he was impressed. Then he said something that caught me off guard. “You must come see my church. When can you come?” Matt broke out laughing. Matt knew Hany would not leave before he had set the invitation in motion. And so it is I am going to Egypt January 2-13, 2019.

Why? Matt explains the reasoning better than I.

Dave de Vries and I will be going to Egypt the early part of January. It is a small step to taking others for the purposes of learning and teaching. This is a safer investment than taking a whole group, and Dave will be your eyes and ears on the ground for evaluation. Dave is going because Dr. Hany asked him directly. I know others are excited to go and I assure you that it is my desire that we will get as many pastors and elders overseas to learn and build relationships so that we can be better equipped for our ministries here. We have a lot to learn from the global church.

By design, this trip is very much a mission partnership that it is mutually beneficial. We will be offering leadership training for some of Dr. Hany’s pastors. This will obviously involve content. From my experience, this content is important but primarily the pastors appreciate knowing that they are not alone in ministry. Leading a church in Egypt is a very challenging call, and they appreciate the ministry of presence—building relationships which help sustain their spirits. We will also be preaching when the opportunity arises.

Now for our benefit: as we have talked about in the past, we will be learning how churches build community and start new congregations in a non-Christian context. This will be important for us as we work to strengthen our own church communities and start new. I also want Dave to experience a variety of churches. Some will have pastors, others will not. Some will have buildings, others will be gathering in small farm houses. As the landscape around us changes, we need not be afraid to experiment outside of what we have known as church. In addition, Dave will benefit from listening to and observing Egyptian Christians who are in relationship with Muslims. This is quite powerful and is a model for us as we seek to live the gospel and be at peace in our own land.

Currently, Dave and I ask for your prayers. This will not be an easy trip. For example, we expect to be sleeping in uncomfortable train seats with bright lights on during the night after long and emotionally challenging days. Please pray for safety and success.

As you might have guessed, this all unfolded very quickly. I suspect I will have many good stories to tell upon my return. More importantly, I will share with you how the Holy Spirit is working to build new churches throughout Egypt. It should encourage us all!

Thanks be to Christ,

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).

Photos Are In!

All photos taken for the directory are now in and can be picked up at the table in Cloister Hall or in the Church office during the week.

Weather/Building Related Closings

In the event of church services/activities being cancelled due to inclement weather, the closing will be announced on the local television stations, WKYC-TV3; NewsChannel 5. You may also check the websites: www.wky.com; www.fox8.com; or www.newsnets5.com.

2019 Offering Envelopes

If you requested envelopes, you will find them 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.

Reminder: The 2019 Per Capita Communicant Apportionment is set at $30.56 per member, with the General Assembly receiving 8.95, Synod $3.25, and the Presbytery $18.36. Your assistance in donating to help defray the cost to the church will be greatly appreciated. Please indicate on your check for the 2019 apportionment.
**Sunday Morning Adult Classes—9:15-10:15 a.m.**

**Westminster Class:** Starting on Sunday, January 6, the Westminster Class will welcome Dr. Carl Pace to teach a five-week Sunday School course on the writings (or Kethuvim) of the Hebrew Bible. Dr. Pace is an adjunct professor at Malone University and specializes in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies. In his five-week course, he will cover the final section of the Hebrew Bible, which includes the books of Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Song of Solomon, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Chronicles. While he surely won’t be able to cover all of these books in this limited time, we are confident that you will learn something new as we continue our year-long class on “Getting the Big Picture of the Bible”. Join us on Sundays in Westminster Hall at 9:15 AM. If you ever miss a class, don’t forget that you can listen to the podcast at <www.cpc.podbear.com>.

**The Parlor Class** is studying from the Present Word. 1/6—Hold Fast to God’s Love, led by Don Bowers; 1/13—Submit to God’s Love, led by Paul & Barb Batchelder; 1/20—Submit to God in Christ, led by Betsy Smith; 1/27—Devote All to Christ, led by Jim Smith.

**The Intergenerational Sunday School** discusses the Christian faith in an open and interactive way where everyone is invited to discuss the Christian faith, but nothing is required of anyone. Each week, we discuss a different topic or question and the class follows no curriculum, so people can come and go from the class as they like and they will not feel lost in any discussion, because we will not intentionally build on previous weeks’ discussions. Every week will be different. This class meets in the Upper Room.

**Coffee & Conversation for Parents in the Pine Room:** Enjoy coffee and conversation in the Pine Room during the 9:15 hour as we talk about what’s happening in our lives and our faith. Over these next several weeks, our conversation will center around spiritual development and how our faith in God changes over time.

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**Visit by the Students from the Hebrew Academy**

Following the collaborative cooking class between our confirmed and the pre-confirmation students at the Chadash Hebrew Academy, we were excited to bring both groups back together on Sunday, December 2. All students along with teacher Ellen Shankle and Rabbi John Spitzer gathered at 9:15 am in the chapel for a special Sunday School class, in which Pastor Michael spoke about (1) the Christian liturgical calendar, (2) the history of Christianity (in brief), (3) the distinctives of Protestantism/Presbyterianism, and (4) what to expect from our worship today. Then, everyone attended the 10:30 am worship service together. Following worship, we enjoyed lunch together and a time of great questions and conversations. We are excited that this relationship continues to grow between our congregations and we look forward to attending a Shabbat service in March.

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**More Than A Book Club—February 24**

The 2nd Mile “More Than a Book Club” will gather to discuss A.J. Jacobs’s book *It’s All Relative: Adventures Up and Down the World’s Family Tree*. In his book, Jacobs “undergoes a hilarious, heartfelt quest to understand what constitutes family—where it begins and how far it goes—and attempts to untangle the true meaning of the ‘Family of Humankind.’ Jacobs’s journey would take him to all seven continents. He drank beer with a US president, found himself singing with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, and unearthed genetic links to Hollywood actresses and real-life scoundrels. After all, we can choose our friends, but not our family. Now Jacobs upends, in ways both meaningful and hilarious, our understanding of genetics and genealogy, tradition and tribalism, identity and connection. *It’s All Relative* is a fascinating look at the bonds that connect us all.” (From the Publisher)

While a lighter book than what we normally read, we intend to discuss the important topics of humanity’s interconnectedness and our international origins. To that end, everyone is invited to bring in a story, picture, or other family artifact to share something from their—and really all of our—family tree. A potluck dinner will begin at 5:00, with discussion to follow and we should be finished by 8:00. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Michael.

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**FINANCIAL NOTES**

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>YTD 11/30/18</th>
<th>YTD 11/30/17</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Balance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating Funds as of 7/1</td>
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<td>$82,464</td>
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<td>Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pledges</td>
<td>292,447</td>
<td>241,560</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>116,062</td>
<td>114,077</td>
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<td>Trusts &amp; Endowments</td>
<td>23,573</td>
<td>18,942</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
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<td>$374,580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating Expenses</td>
<td>(405,581)</td>
<td>(402,158)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ending Balance</td>
<td>$127,141</td>
<td>$54,486</td>
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_This reporting reflects the General and Camp Funds from July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019. PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR PLEDGE CURRENT. THANK YOU!

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**STEWARDSHIP—November**

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<tr>
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<th>Nov—18</th>
<th>Nov—17</th>
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<tr>
<td>Average Monthly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>230</td>
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<td>General Fund Income</td>
<td>$68,158</td>
<td>$47,932</td>
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<td>G/F Budget Needed</td>
<td>$61,363</td>
<td>$61,794</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly Net + / -</td>
<td>6,795</td>
<td>(13,862)</td>
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Monday, 1/1—Happy New Year  
Church Office/Building Closed All Day

Wednesday, 1/2  
6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision—Parlor  
7:00 pm Deacons Meeting—Pine Room

Friday, 1/4  
10:30 am Small Group Meeting—Parlor  
6:30 pm Epiphany Madrigal Feast—Westminster Hall  
(Tickets required)

Sunday, 1/6—Communion/Homebound Communion  
10:30 am Combined Worship (no 8:00 service)  
5:00-6:00 pm Confirmation  
6:00-7:00 pm Youth Group (Mission Impossible)

Tuesday, 1/8  
7:00 pm Discipleship Meeting—Parlor

Wednesday, 1/9  
8:00 am Food Ministry  
4:30 pm Worship Ministry—Parlor

Saturday, 1/12  
8:30-10:00 am Food Ministry Breakfast

Sunday, 1/13  
Pajama Jam—Wear Your Jammies to Church  
10:30 am Combined Worship (no 8:00 service)  
5:00-6:00 pm Confirmation  
6:00-7:00 pm Youth Group (Game Night)

Monday, 1/14  
1:00 pm Personnel Meeting—Parlor  
4:00 pm Property Meeting—Parlor

Tuesday, 1/15  
11:30 am TAG Luncheon—Bender’s Tavern  
6:00 pm Session Dinner/Meeting—Parlor

Wednesday, 1/16—TYDINGS DEADLINE  
6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision—Parlor

Friday, 1/18  
10:30 am Small Group Meeting—Parlor

Sunday, 1/20  
TBA—Youth Group (Laser Quest)

Wednesday, 1/23  
8:00 am Food Ministry

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January Birthdays

1  Elyse Ohlinger  
2  Brian Kemper  
3  Chris Magoon, Jordan Miller  
4  Corey Utterback  
5  Marylu Byrom, Joyce Effinger, Eric Ward  
6  Marilyn Eadie, Mark Snively, Fidel Zamolo-Lori  
7  Jan Bartchy, Janet Peckinaugh  
8  Kristos Dallas, Judith Freeland  
9  Janet Mason  
10  Mitch Miller  
11  Gail Moore, Lori Spillman  
12  Megan Cooper, Emma George, Amy Simon  
13  Nicholas Kling, Ian Ohlinger  
14  Dustin Davison, Laura Milligan, Rachel Shaffer  
15  Catherine Forgach, Reed Grindler, Robert Klinger, Edith Ophardt  
16  Rich McElroy  
17  Cincy Camp, Ellie Grindler, Jack Ketterer  
18  Michelle Ryals  
19  Kevin Rice, Betsy Smith  
20  Brandon Engler, Cheryl Rodriguez  
21  Randy Bailey, Dave Fedder  
22  Kathy Domin, Peggy Hult  
23  Marilyn Renner  
24  Corine Cornish, Andrew Hubsch  
25  Matt McCahan, Carol Reckhemer  
26  Milo Dallas  
27  Amanda Carter, Doris Langsdorf, Marilyn Schneider  
28  Pete Bate  
29  Pam McElroy, Theo Wiggins

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Christ Church celebrates birthdays of members who are 95 years or more:  
January 5—Marylu Byrom (97)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liturgists:</th>
<th>Van Drivers:</th>
<th>Ushers:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/6 Bette Maier</td>
<td>Shawn Campbell</td>
<td>Becky Banfield, Mary Jane Ebie, Steve Schott, Shawn &amp; Lisa Campbell, Julie Sproul, Scott &amp; Lori Sproul, Beth Souers</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/13 Molly Hudson</td>
<td>Dan McGrew</td>
<td>Joyce McKimm, Darrell &amp; Dianne Holland, Bob Clark, Mike &amp; Carol Gravilla, Kent Berg, Kim Kemper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/20 Joe Orin</td>
<td>Marsha/Ken Wise</td>
<td>Randy &amp; DeDe Bailey, Debbie D’Antonio, Heather Leadbetter, Gregg Schorsten, Karl Hershberger, Mary Ann Beck, Libby Wilson, Kari Martinez</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/27 Lori Sproul</td>
<td>Jack Burnquist</td>
<td>Dan McGrew, Josh &amp; Allison Burdeshaw, Rick &amp; Mary Angeli, Erica Davison, Ray &amp; Pam Ohlinger</td>
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Sunday
Mornings
8:00 & 10:30 am
Listen to the
Cathedral Hour on
Sunday mornings at 10:30 am
on 640AM WHLO, or log on your
computer to www.640whlo.com
for live streaming.

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00 am—5:00 pm

Prayer Chain:
Whenever there's a need for prayer, please
call one of our Prayer Chain co-chairs:
Miriam Hinterleiter ~ 330-966-5846
Miriam Carter ~ 330-832-5120
Alice Bailey ~ 330-456-6290
or email AliceB1519@aol.com

Friends Helping Friends:
If you are in need of temporary assistance
or medical equipment, we want you to know
that we care. God has His hand in this
ministry, sees your need, and wants you to
receive this assistance through Friends
Helping Friends. Please do not hesitate to
call co-coordinator:
Alice Rauch—330-494-2997
Sue McCarty—330-323-0934

On Sunday, March 3rd at 7:00 pm, we will welcome the Grove City College Touring Choir to our very own Sanctuary. The choir, under the direction of Dr. Katherine Mueller, is a select group of forty-eight singers, consisting of students from a variety of academic majors and tours annually during the spring semester throughout various regions of the United States. The GCC Touring Choir members desire to make beautiful music using the gifts and talents given them by God. Join us for an evening of choral music including works by Mozart, Poulenc, Bernstein, Gjeilo, Rutter, and Moses Hogan. Additionally, as we have invited this ensemble to come, the members of the choir request a place to stay. Therefore, we are seeking overnight hosts for the ensemble, with at least two students staying in a home. In your hospitality, you would only need to provide a ride to your home, a warm bed, breakfast, and a ride back to the church the following morning. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Pastor Michael.