



PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church

150 N. Oak St., Ottawa, OH 45875-1810 ♦ (419) 523-3694

9:00am Worship/10:15am Sunday School ♦ ottawapresby.org

Lance Wiesmann, *Pastor* ♦ Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

December 2022



And, just like that, another Church year has passed! Welcome to the Season of Advent/Christmas – the beginning of the year on the Christian calendar!

As we look at the last month of 2022, probably the most important announcement I need to share is that your Session – after much thought, discussion and prayer – has decided to have our annual Christmas Eve Service on Saturday, December 24th. The service will begin with music at 8:30PM and the Worship Service will begin at 9:00PM. However, the Session also voted to NOT have Church only a few hours later on Christmas morning. It was decided that this was asking a lot of your worship leaders, musicians and tech crew. Instead, you will be offered TWO different virtual opportunities. The first will be a recorded worship service recorded by several Presbyterian Churches here in the “Findlay area.” Your Choir and I will be involved. You will also be offered a recorded Worship Service provided by Churches from all over the Synod of the Covenant (all of Michigan & Ohio). You will be free to enjoy these two worship experiences as much or as little as you wish, and links to the videos will be provided soon.

Speaking of the Findlay Area Churches video, we need TEN (10) volunteers from our congregation to appear in a very short video clip for this. We want you to give a ONE WORD answer to the question: “what is your favorite Christmas gift EVER?” I will be seeking you out in the first few days of December, as the video needs to be submitted by December 11th so it can be edited, etc.

Also, the Education Committee has decided there will NOT be Sunday School on either Christmas Day (we won’t be here) or the following week on New Year’s Day (because we hope you’ll want to spend time with your family and watch some football).

As the clock ticks ever so steadily toward the end of 2022 and the beginning of 2023, I pray that you will be able to rest in God’s loving grace, and that your days will be filled with the love of family and friends. I wish you all a VERY HAPPY Christmas and a bright and healthy New Year.

As a reminder, I am in the Office (or in the Ottawa Community) on Thursday mornings and afternoons. I am also available for an hour (or 2) after Sunday Worship each week, if you want/need to talk or visit. Remember, if you need to contact me for any reason, my email address is: wiesmannlance@gmail.com or Pastor@ottawapresby.org. My mobile phone number is: 517-270-4837 and (if I don’t answer) you can either text or leave a message. I will return the message/call as quickly as I can.

Peace,

Pastor Lance



Prayer Concerns

Please note: Specific information about those included in our prayers is available during worship, from Pastor Lance, in our office, or from our Session members. However, specific names will not be posted on this web version of the newsletter.

Please pray for those with **health concerns** no matter what their stage of life.

Please pray for those **servicing in the military**, both at home and overseas, as well as the families who watch and wait for them.

Please pray for those who are either waiting for or who have received **organ transplants** and the families who face difficult decisions.

Please pray for **those facing decisions** in their personal lives, their professional lives, their family lives, or their spiritual lives.

Please pray for **Pastor Lance** and his ministry here. And finally, please say a prayer of thanksgiving for the **blessings of this congregation**—especially as we celebrate over 175 years of congregational life here in Ottawa!

*The **Prayer Circle** is a group willing to confidentially pray for your joys and concerns.*

Please contact prayercircle@ottawapresby.org.

Financial Report

Financial reports for the church are available in the hard copy version of this newsletter. If you would like more information, you may also contact our treasurer (treasurer@ottawapresby.org).

Event Happenings



If you would like to help put up the tree in Fellowship Hall and decorate the sanctuary, please plan on showing up on Monday, November 28 at 6 pm. Pizza will be provided!

Decorate the Sanctuary with Poinsettias. If you would like to do this, please sign-up on the sheet on the bulletin board by December 7th.



Please specify if the poinsettias are in memory of or in honor of someone. Have them to the church by noon on Friday, December 9th.



White Elephant Party has returned! Will be held on Friday, December 9, at 7 pm, at Myers home. Bring a white elephant gift and snacks to share.

OPW will be participating in the Christmas Gift Bags for the Senior Citizens this year. If you would like to have a bag to fill with presents/goodies, or have decided you are feeling extra generous and need another bag to make someone's day, please contact Dee B. All gift bags will be due back to the church on Sunday, December 11th. Thank You!



The junior class (K-3rd grade) needs your help to decorate the Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall. Along with some art work, the tree will be decorated by the kids with mittens, gloves and hats which will be taken to the thrift store after Christmas. If you can donate a pair of mittens or more, please put them in the white tub on the bench in the foyer. Thank you for helping to keep others warm this winter!

As of this printing; there will NOT be Sunday school these days:

*December 25th

*January 1st

*January 29th

Putnam Pet Pals will be having their first annual Poinsettia Sale this year. The poinsettias will be supplied by Indian Trails Garden Center and will come in red, white, and pink. If you are interested, please sign up on the list on the bulletin board no later than Wednesday, December 7th. The poinsettias will be delivered to the church for Advent and the cost is \$15 per plant. Contact Lynne Hirzel for details. Thank you for your support!



December is our month to help with Food Pantry. Volunteers are needed for the Mondays of December 5 & 19 from 9:30 – 11:30 am to help pick-up, unload, and put away or sort food. Volunteers are also needed for the Tuesdays of December 6 & 20 from 9:30 am – 2 pm to assist customers with selecting their items. Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board.



Elder Victim Ministry, a program of Crime Victim Services

So far in 2022, Crime Victim Services has helped 33 people who had credit accounts opened in their names, or credit cards stolen or misused. With identity thefts growing by the day, it's important to monitor your credit report. **On Credit Check Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2022, five local financial institutions will coordinate with Crime Victim Services to offer credit report checks in 18 locations.**

After some of our largest spending days, Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, Cyber Monday and Giving Tuesday, stop in Wednesday, Nov. 30 to review your credit report at: Citizens National Bank: Bluffton, Elida and Lima branches. **First National Bank: Bluffton, Ottawa, and Pandora branches. Premier Bank: Ottawa branch. Superior Credit Union: Elida Rd., Allentown Rd., Kibby St., Shawnee, N. West St., Delphos, Ottawa and Wapakoneta branches. TopMark: N. West St. Lima, Allentown Rd. Lima and Cridersville branches.**

Bring a picture ID. If you want to check your credit report on your own computer, go to: <https://www.annualcreditreport.com/index.action>.

You can also order by phone: 1-877-322-8228. Checking your credit report does not affect your credit score.

Crime Victim Services serves all types of violent and property crime victims in Allen and Putnam Counties. Our services are free. Reach out at CrimeVictimServices.org or call or text us at 877-867-7273.

Volunteers Needed



Starting in December, signup sheets will be going up on the bulletin board for anyone willing to volunteer to be a liturgist, help with coffee, or provide flowers on Sundays for the 2023 year.

Christmas Service

Christmas Eve Service will be held on Saturday, December 24th. Music will begin at 8:30 pm and Worship Service at 9 pm.



There will be no regular Worship Service on Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th.

The church directory will start to get updated this month and into January. Please get any changes, (email, phone, address, baby, etc.) to the church office. Thanks!

Just for laughs 😊

How did the ornament get addicted to Christmas?

He was hooked on trees his whole life.

How much did Santa pay for his sleigh?

Nothing. It was on the house!

What's every elf's favorite type of music?

Wrap.

What's the absolute best Christmas present?

A broken drum—you can't beat it!

What's every parent's favorite Christmas Carol?

Silent Night.

What part of the body do you only see around Christmas?

The mistletoe.

How do sheep say Merry Christmas in Mexico?

Fleece Navidad.

What do you get when you mix a Christmas tree and an iPad?

A pineapple!

Taken from [50 Funny, Clean Christmas Jokes That Will Get You In The Holiday Spirit | Thought Catalog](#)

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Presbyterian Tidbits is published once a month by:

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Our website is ottawapresby.org

DATE	ELDERS IN CHARGE	FLOWERS
December 4	Nancy K.	Hirzel
December 11	Karl H.	Poinsettias
December 18	Stan B.	Poinsettias
December 24	Wayne B.	Poinsettias

2022 Committees Chairs and officers:

Treasurer - Beth Myers
Financial Secretary - Lynne Hirzel
Worship and Music - Nancy Kaufman
Fellowship - Carrie Johnson
Mission and Evangelism - Stan Beckman
Stewardship - Wayne Badder
Presbytery Rep - Beth Myers
Young People Group - Katrina Riepenhoff
Christian Education - Katrina Riepenhoff
Clerk of Session - Karl Hirzel
Operations - Karl Hirzel
OPW - Nancy Kaufman

Session:

Class of 2022: **Karl Hirzel, Nancy Kaufman**
Class of 2023: **Wayne Badder, Carrie Johnson**
Class of 2024: **Stan Beckman, Katrina Riepenhoff**