



PARMA CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

7000 Ridge Road, Parma, OH, 44129 (440)842-1614

parmachristianchurch.org

pcchurch1@gmail.com

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THE CHRISTIAN CALLER

Interim Minister: Rev. Nancy Dunn

Sunday School: 9:30 AM.

Worship Service: 10:45 AM.

January 19, 2020

Dear Family and Friends of Parma Christian Church,

“It’s scholarship season!” That’s the phrase my colleagues and I are saying as we work with high school seniors to plan for their lives after high school graduation. For most of my students, it’s important for them to apply to as many scholarships as they can so they can afford to attend college. Applying for scholarships can sound easy. But, as they will tell you, it’s a lot of hard work! Most scholarships require 500 to 1000 word essays. These essays ask questions that make these students think deeply about themselves, their life circumstances, and their future education and career goals. The process involves a lot of critical self-examination and soul-searching.

The congregation of Parma Christian Church is also in its own season of self-examination and soul-searching. Last year brought many changes to the life of the church. And, now, we are in the process of considering a merger with another congregation. No matter where conversations with Ridge Road UCC may lead us, we need to critically examine our ministerial and worship practices at PCC. One of the first areas we are examining is our order of worship on Sunday mornings. Beginning on Sunday, January 19, worship will look a little different. We will sing one less song at the beginning of worship and offering will be moved to just before communion. We want your feedback. Please let one of the elders know your constructive thoughts about the changes. We want you to be a part of this process.

Here is a list of our upcoming joint worship services with Ridge Road UCC in February and March. Your participation is very important.

- **Sunday, February 2 - 10:45am Worship at Parma Christian Church** - We will host our friends from Ridge Road at Parma Christian Church. There will be a coffee hour after worship. Please plan to attend.
- **Wednesday, February 26 @7:00pm - Ash Wednesday Service** at Parma Christian Church. Ridge Road UCC will be joining us for this service.
- **Sunday, March 1 - 10:30am Worship at Ridge Road UCC** - Please use your PCC offering envelope for your regular weekly offering!

Lenten Bible Study - During the season of Lent, I will be leading a weekly Bible study on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm. We will be using the book *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to*

Holy Week by Amy-Jill Levine, professor of New Testament at Vanderbilt University. If you would like to purchase a paperback copy of the book, please tell Richard Woodward. It is also available on Kindle from Amazon. The weekly study will begin on Wednesday, March 4. This study will take us through the events of Holy Week by critically examining the risk Jesus took on each step of his journey in Jerusalem and the risk we take in faithfully following him. I hope you will join me in this thought-provoking study.

I want to thank each of you for your dedication to this congregation as we faithfully follow Christ in our mission and work at PCC. I also want to thank you for the generous gift you gave to me and the church staff at Christmas. It truly is a joy to serve God with you. Thank you for giving me the privilege of being a part of your faith journey. I know I am blessed by your prayers and your presence in my life and ministry.

Many blessings,
Rev. Nancy

DIACONATE SERVING SCHEDULE

Jan. 19th Barb Dawson, Paul Gering
Jan. 26th Daniel Vithous
Feb. 2nd Barb Dawson, Paul Gering
Feb. 9th Daniel Virtuous
Feb. 16th Barb Dawson, Paul Gering

DEACONESS FOR JANUARY

Elaine Hlaves

DEACONESS FOR FEBRUARY

Julie Green

SHUT-INS

Here is the shut-in list of PCC members and friends. Please visit them, if you can, phone them, or drop them a note or a card. Above all, please **PRAY** for them!

Charlotte Mickovic
Falling Water Health Care Center
18840 Falling Water Room 213-W
Strongsville, Ohio 44136
440-238-1100, Room 213-Window

Ann Tyma
Sunrise of Parma
7766 Broadview Road
Parma, Ohio 44134

Our next Caller will be passed out on **Sunday, February 16th**. Articles are due by **Wednesday, February 12th**.

OUR DAILY BREAD booklet is available on the table in the rear of the sanctuary, and it's **FREE!** If you would like to make a donation in the box, that's fine, but there's no obligation!

BIRTHDAY-ANNIVERSARY OFFERING

Parma Christian Church has had this celebration offering for quite a long time. A dollar per year of your birthday and/or wedding anniversary is a wonderful way of thanking God for all His blessings AND helping your church. But if that's too much \$\$\$ (Everyone is getting older, after all!) just give whatever you can.



Food Pantry Items for January. For the month of January we are asking for donations of peanut butter & jelly. You can place your items in the barrels in the Sanctuary. Thank You!

Care & Prayer Time

Did you know Parma Christian Church has Weekly Prayer Time each Wednesday at 7am., Noon and 6:30pm. Please join us each Wednesday for Prayer.



Volunteers are needed to pack the food bags once a month. Food is passed out the **3rd Wednesday**

of each month so the bags must be packed before that date. There is a sign up sheet in the Sanctuary. If you have any questions please see Debbie Hannan our church secretary.

On **Sunday, February 2nd** the Ridge Road United Church of Christ members will be worshipping with us at 10:45am. After the service we will have a Coffee Hour. Please plan to attend this service and welcome them to our church.

Elders Meetings - **Sunday, February 2nd at 7pm.**

Hospitality Minister Meeting – **Sunday, February 9th** following the Worship Service.

Board Meeting – **Monday, February 10th at 6:30pm.**



St. Pat's Meal Program is **Thursday, February 13th**. If you can help serve at St. Pat's please be at the church by **4:15pm**. If you cannot help serve but can bake a cake (we need 9 cakes) please drop your cake off at church by **12:30pm**.



Soup & Pie Lunch

Sunday, February 16, 2020
Following the Worship Service
A sign up sheet will be posted
In the Sanctuary



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PAPER DRIVE!!

Parma Christian Church has a recycle container located in the church parking lot. We are asking you, your family members and friends to save your papers. Items that can be put in the container are: Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, phone books, junk mail, office and school papers, hard and soft bound books and cardboard. The cardboard must be flattened before putting it in the bin. Items **NOT** accepted in the recycle container are Styrofoam, metal, glass, trash, any type of plastic, aluminum.

Dear PCC Family, thank you for the Christmas Love Gift it is greatly appreciated. Love Debbie

ELDERS' CORNER:

I've used this here before, but it's one of my favorite post-Christmas meditations:

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

(by Howard Thurman)

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their
flocks,

the work of Christmas begins:

to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

How wonderful it would be if we
could do the work of Christmas
all year! --- M.A. Woodward, elder

PCC OFFERINGS FOR DECEMBER 2019

Breakdown for the month of December:

Current Expense	\$ 5,537.30
World Outreach	\$ 470.00
Restricted Funds	\$ 668.75
Reimbursed Expense	\$ 25.35
Bank Interest	\$ 25.83
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$ 6,727.23

Bills paid out for the month of December amounted to \$8,119.61.

Keeping in Touch

Hi there! Hope this finds you well and happy and enjoying the new year! We've been very fortunate weather-wise this winter. (You watch, by the time you read this we'll probably have a foot of the white stuff on the ground!)

Hope that your Christmas season was blessed and peaceful, and that it included some children!

We had a wonderful prayer-filled Christmas eve service, which featured all of the most-loved carols in our hymnal, and which included communion, of course! Many thanks to Pastor Nancy, who planned it all. She was also among the 5 of us who went caroling on December 14. The others were Sandy Stansky, Kim Wainwright, Dick and me. We visited Wanda Vasarhely, Charlotte Mickovic, Ann Tyma, Berda Allen, Fran Sykes (who served all sorts of goodies!), my mother Ida Cmolik, and Sandy's

apartment friends. Sandy's is always our last stop; many folks gather in the lobby to sing with us! Everyone we visited really appreciated the boxes of cookies baked/donated by all of YOU!!!

So now the Advent/Christmas decorations have been taken down (thanks to that crew, which included Pastor Nancy and her daughters, Daryll, Kim, Dick and me) and we get on with the church year. Upcoming events include Ash Wednesday on February 26, Wednesday evening Bible studies on the events of Jesus' Passion, and shared Holy Thursday and Good Friday services with other local churches. More information will be in February's Caller.

The hospitality ministry group has decided to do something different this year for Valentine's Day. Instead of our usual elaborate dinner and entertainment, we will celebrate our annual Soup-and-Pie luncheon after worship on Sunday, February 16. So break out your best recipes, all you great PCC cooks and bakers! A sign-up sheet will be up today. Please be as specific as you can when indicating the type of soup or pie you'll bring, so we don't have 4 apple pies and 3 kinds of chicken noodle soup! A free-will offering will be accepted for some worthy cause.

Speaking of worthy causes, please continue to bring in new or gently-used winter hats and gloves for men, women, and children, which we will take to St. Pat's with us on our next visit. Our clientele at St. Pat's is mostly men, but we also do have a number of women and kids who also come to eat. Last month we had only women's and children's hats and gloves, but every one of them was claimed before the meal even began!

While we're on the subject of St. Pat's, if you usually bake a cake for us to serve, please remember to do so! It's always the second Thursday of every month. This past week we had only 7 cakes (we actually need 8 or 9) but we were saved by the fact that we had fewer folks to feed. In February, in addition to cake, we will pass out small chocolate Valentine hearts donated by Beth Barnickel in her mother Gloria's memory. (Thanks, Beth!)

Please keep all your PCC family's intentions in your prayers. Sandy's apartment friend Mary Ellen suffered a

fall and injured her shoulder. Helene Delozier's friend Ann is very ill with cancer. My mother Ida Cmolik continues to go downhill mentally due to her advanced age. And Katie, the 22-year-old daughter of Julie's co-worker, became so violently ill with the flu while in Switzerland for her job, that she required emergency surgery and passed away suddenly. Please pray for her family as they work to have her remains returned for burial. Such a tragedy.

The elders are delighted to welcome Julie Green as a member of our group, filling out Audra's term while she's away, and then starting her own 3-year term in July. Welcome, Julie!!!

My husband's 75th birthday is February 1. I asked him a few months back where he'd like to celebrate it, and he chose Hawaii! So that's where we'll be January 29 to February 8, touring the island of Oahu before embarking on a 7-day inter-island cruise. We'll think of all of you -- if we have time!

Well, I'm definitely out of room! Till next time, take care and God bless!

Mary Anne Woodward

FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
						1 Dick Woodward's Bir.																																																																																				
2 10:45am Worship Service with Ridge Rd UCC Coffee Hour 7pm Elders Meeting	3	4	5 PCC Prayer Time 7am Noon & 6:30pm.	6 Audra Orego's Bir. Donna Marchese's Bir.	7 Noelle Schnell's Bir.	8																																																																																				
9 10:45am Worship Service Hospitality Ministry Mtg. after the Service	10 6:30pm Board Meeting	11	12 PCC Prayer Time 7am Noon & 6:30pm.	13 4:15pm St. Pat's Meal	14	15 9am PCC Men's Prayer Breakfast																																																																																				
16 10:45am Worship Service Week of Compassion Soup & Pie Lunch Following the Service Elizabeth Dalton's Bir.	17	18	19 Food Pantry Distribution 9am.-1pm. Kim Wainwright's Bir.	20	21	22																																																																																				
23 10:45am Worship Service Week of Compassion	24	25	26 ASH WEDNESDAY Communion Service 7pm.	27	28	29																																																																																				
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Our Joint Worship Services with Ridge Road UCC

Date	Worship Location	Time of Worship
February 2	Parma Christian Church	10:45 am
Wednesday, Feb. 26	Parma Christian Church (Ash Wednesday)	7:00 pm
March 1	Ridge Road UCC	10:30 am
April 5	Parma Christian Church	10:45 am
Thursday, April 7	Ridge Road UCC (Holy Thursday)	7:30 pm
May 3	Ridge Road UCC	10:30 am