

Stewardship of Time and Talents, November 22, 2015

General.....\$1,125.00	Hospitalization.....\$50.00
Parsonage.....\$125.00	Benevolences.....\$10.00
Coffee Outreach.....\$8.00	Food Pantry\$15.00
Blankets.....\$120.00	Poinsettia.....\$24.00
Attendance.....39	

Schedule of Events and Meetings for this Week

Today, November 29, 2015.....	9:00 AM.....	Worship
	10:00 AM.....	Sunday School
Monday, November 30, 2015	9:00 AM.....	Sermon Shaping
	5:30 PM.....	Dulcimers Practice (Katie Boltz)
Tuesday, December 1, 2015.....	7:00 PM.....	Bible Study
Wednesday, December 2, 2015.....	9:00 AM.....	Book Club
Thursday, December 3, 2015	7:00 PM.....	Life Lessons
Friday, December 4, 2015	8 – 4 PM	REACH
Saturday, December 5, 2015.....	10 AM.....	Tara Brown’s Family Christmas

Announcements and Reminders

- December 6, 2015 – DEADLINE date for ordering Christmas Altar Flowers, CUMC
- UMW Christmas Meeting – Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at 6PM, at CUMC. This is an OPEN invitation to all women of the church. Please RSVP by December 6 to Anne or Millie.
- The Y&R class will host the Christmas Card Exchange starting December 6 – 20’ 2015. The card box will be in the Narthex.

Participants in this morning’s Worship

Pastor:	Rev. Bruce McDaniel	Organist:	Linda Allen
Pianist:	Kathy Bame	East Greeters:	Eileen Avery, Eileen Smith
North Greeters:	Bruce and Deb Smith	Ushers:	Kent and Kay Lincoln

Praises, Prayers and Concerns

Don Allen	Richard Angel	Kim Arasato
Enriqueta Baldonado	Troy Bame	Mike Bateson
Don Cramp	Gloria Davis	Josh Earl
Justin Frank	Mary German	Leslie Gill
Mike Gill	Lynn Gillian	Tate Glassford
Connie Grilliot	Betty Hampshire	Patricia Harm
Marcia Moore	Family of Tanna Naus	Evelyn Perez
Joe Perez (Dad & Son)	Coke & Smoke Perez	Gary Rothenmueller
Katy Stevens	Anne Strickland Family	Ethal Thomas
Family of Justin VanDiver	Dolly Warner Gregory	Ruth Troxell

Christ United Methodist Church
301 West Main Street
Portage, Ohio 43451-0218



Worship: 9:00 AM
 Sunday School: 10:00 AM
 Vision Statement:

CHRISTIAN SERVANTS UNITED IN MISSION TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD
[HTTP://HOME.DACOR.NET/CHRISTUMC/](http://home.dacor.net/christumc/)

Christ United Methodist Church

November 29th, 2015

1st Sunday of Advent, United Methodist Student Day

*(this symbol is an invitation to stand if you are able)

Gathering and Preparation

Time of Gathering and Welcome

Prelude....music to help us prepare for worship

The Way of Blessing

*Call to Worship

People of faith, prepare for the coming reign of Christ!

As we gather to pray and sing and listen, a spirit of anticipation and hope fills us.

The days are surely coming, says Our God, when justice and righteousness will prevail.

May our worship illuminate our hearts and minds, freeing us to respond joyfully to God's call in the days to come.

*Prayer of the Day

Holy Source of life and hope, as we come together this day, open our ears to hear, open our eyes to see, and open our hearts to love, that we may come to know your ways and follow your paths. Help us grow in love for one another, and for all creation, as we prepare for the coming of the one who calls us to turn from our false gods to you, Holy One, the true source of our salvation. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise, #196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

Thanks be to God

Today is the First Sunday of Advent, to establish his kingdom upon the earth.

(Light the First Candle)

Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

God of Abraham and Sarah and all the Patriarchs of old, you are our Father and Mother. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Child of God, and descendant of David. Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth, to make our hearts ready and to place our hope in you. Help us today and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with others. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

The Way of Letting Go

Offering the Prayers We Bring

Prayer Hymn #186

"Alleluia"

Prayer of Confession

Loving Creator, you call us to rejoice in your promise of the birth that is to come, but we are afraid.

You invite us into a world where justice and righteousness prevail, but we turn away in fear.

We long for an easy path into your promised world, but you warn us that there is no easy way.

Birth new life within us, that we may abide in your perfect love — the love that casts out fear.

God's mercy and steadfast love endure, strengthening our hearts and overcoming our fears. God will remove every obstacle that keeps us from being the body of Christ.

Prayer for One Voice

The Way of Creativity

A Conversation with the Children

"Are you ready?"

Rev. McDaniel

Reading of the Sacred Text

"Jeremiah 33:14-16, Luke 21:25-36

Rev. McDaniel

Response to the Word

Ever-faithful Teacher of Truth, your word is born anew each moment. It will never pass away.

Grant that we may be bearers of that word, bringing your love and hope and justice into this violent, hurting world.

Interpreting the Sacred Text

"Do you hear what I hear?"

Rev. McDaniel

The Way of Compassion and Justice Making

Sharing ways to get connected

Offering ourselves through our presence, gifts, service and witness

*Doxology

Offering Prayer

Giver of all good things, as we offer these gifts to you, open our eyes to see more clearly all that we have been given and all that we have to give.

Stretch our capacity to give of ourselves: our love, our companionship, and our material resources, wherever they are needed. Amen.

Blessing

*Hymn, #327

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Benediction

Go into the world awake to the signs of God's invitations to new life.

Help us see and know that the reign of Christ draws nearer with each right action we choose.

Postlude