

A Season of Advent

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George Freer in Namdaemoon Presbyterian Church, Seoul, Korea

The season of Advent is a season of waiting. In the Christian calendar, Advent entails the four Sundays leading up to Christmas and is a special time when we place our focus and attention on the tension that we live in throughout the year. To what tension do I refer? Christ has come into the world and with Him ushered in the Kingdom of God; yet Christ and the Kingdom of God are not yet fully and finally present. If you were present in worship with us this past Sunday, you heard me make reference to this tension towards the end of my testimony. (If you weren't in worship with us, don't forget that you can listen to all of our sermons on our church website!!) In reference to this tension I shared the following verse: "For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known."

1 Corinthians 13:12



God's revelation comes to us in Creation, in Scripture, and most fully in Jesus Christ. We need to dive as deeply as possible into all of these areas to understand and experience as of much of God as God will allow. And yet, as Paul admits here, there will always be some mystery surrounding God and God's plans. We simply cannot and will not know it all!! I am one who often feels like I have to figure it all out – regardless of the subject matter, so I love the honesty and humility Paul exhibits here because in these words I hear Paul encouraging us to rest in that which we do know. Or perhaps I should say – rest in the One whom we know is secure. The next verse reads, "And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

Continued on p. 14



Freer Visits Church in Korea

Naval Aircrewman (Operator) 2nd Class, George Freer II, assigned to the Mad Foxes of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5 was recently in the Republic of Korea. The Mad Foxes of VP-5 and their P-8A aircraft are deployed in support of the U.S. 7th Fleet conducting maritime stability, patrol, and search operations throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. George, known to many in Ashland as Geordie, along with some friends visited the Namdaemoon Presbyterian Church in Seoul, Korea on October 28. Namdaemoon PC is the sister church of First Presbyterian Church in Delaware, Ohio.

Continued on p. 15

CCO AshlandXD



Patrick Emery,
Maggie Laginya,
William Thatcher,
Leslie Akerley,
Kyle Wahl,
and Jake Blasdel

Fall Break Backpacking Trip, Pennsylvania Grand Canyon, Oct 17 - 21

Our trip was a success!

What one experience really defines the trip for you?

"At our last campsite, Jake welcomed us into it as a "welcome home" experience. He described this place as being the most precious place in the world and nowhere else mattered and that we all were important then and there. This concept has never been shared with me before." - Leslie

Kyle Wahl and
William Thatcher



What is Next?

Jubilee Student Conference
February 20-22

Spring Break Backpacking
and Rock Climbing Trip,
Pisgah National Forest, NC
February 27-March 7

"The prayer experiential time was like a church event. It was like taking communion. It was awesome because we were backpacking all day but during the prayer time it was like we were not backpacking anymore. It was something other." -William

"The solo time just made me realize that I want to spend more time out in the woods and enjoying what God has given the world." -Kyle

How has your relationship with God been shaped from this trip?

"I learned that in the simple things of backpacking, you can see Christ working. I've learned to continue to be patient with God. I saw how having a community of people, the discipline of hiking, and the knowledge being taught all contributes to transformation."
- Maggie

"It's getting better after each trip. It is pulling me away from unimportant aspects of life and pulling me towards God. Each time I feel a little bit closer and a little bit more whole inside than I had before." -Leslie

CCO Ashland XD

*"transforming college students
to TRANSFORM THE WORLD."*

Birthdays



DECEMBER

2nd Frances Grafton
 3rd Lance LeVeck
 5th Donna Harrop
 Aaron Sheeks
 6th Betty Garrett
 10th Jacqueline Blasdel
 Alys Frcka
 Dottie Tennis
 12th June Etzwiler
 Harold Seifert
 13th Isabel Brinker
 Sean DeLong
 Sydney Webb
 15th Tony Smetana
 16th Teresa Hudson
 Jolynn Lopeman
 21st Jim Hooker
 26th Bill Latham
 Helen McClellan
 28th Alex Jarvis
 29th Becky Jones
 31st Lucille Ford
 Jana Funk

JANUARY

6th Stewart Dix
 7th Elizabeth Richmond
 8th Al Holdren
 10th Tom Mason
 13th Robert Beer
 Zane Blasdel
 14th Michael Hudson
 15th JoAnne Kash
 20th Dean McBurney
 25th Kevin Hart
 26th Gabriella Carver
 29th Sloan Brune
 James Shilling
 30th Kaitlynn Barnett
 Amanda Robles

FEBRUARY

5th Anne Downs
 Matt Paullin
 7th Janice Carr
 8th Carroll Schweyer
 9th Bonnie Manos
 11th Tommy Foley
 Jane Sponsler
 12th Bill Dravenstott
 18th Dorita Ramage
 19th Shawn Steere
 21st Aaron Mason
 Josiah Mason
 Jean Mason
 24th Carston Betson
 Olivia Betson
 26th Lana Potter



Poinsettia Order Form



In Loving Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

_____ I/We will take my poinsettia after December 24.

_____ Please deliver my poinsettia to: _____

_____ Please deliver my poinsettia to a shut-in or person in need.

Please return this order form by Sunday, December 7th with your donation to either the church office or place it in the offering plate. Checks should be made payable to the First Presbyterian Church and please put "poinsettia" on the memo line. One form per poinsettia, please. Thank you for your donation.

Financial Reports

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Balance Sheet (UNAUDITED)

Consolidated - September 2014

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Page: 1

	Current Year
ASSETS	
CASH ACCOUNTS	
Sutton Bank Checking Acct	\$97,460.82
Janney Montgomery Scott	101,886.95
PayPal	747.60
Subtotal Cash Accounts	200,095.37
TOTAL ASSETS	\$200,095.37
LIABILITIES	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
200th Campaign Fund	\$67,505.80
Chapel Expenses (Beer \$)	1,233.87
Music Ministry Donations	251.08
Mem. Fund/ Whitted/ Music	500.00
Subtotal Music Ministry Donations	751.08
Memorial & Special Gifts	
Nancy Donley Estate	37,500.00
Rex & Jean Robbins Mem.	3,500.00
Subtotal Memorial & Special Gifts	41,000.00
Special Mission Gifts	
CWS / CROP	5.00
Youth Ministry	
ACCF - Johnson	1,677.72
Subtotal Current Liabilities	112,173.47
WITHHELD PAYROLL TAXES	
F.I.C.A.	542.18
Medicare	126.78
Federal Income Tax	440.22
State Income Tax	434.08
City Income Tax	131.14
Employer's Share FICA	542.18
Employer's Share Medicare	126.78
Subtotal Withheld Payroll Taxes	2,343.36
TOTAL LIABILITIES	114,516.83
FUND BALANCE	
Fund Balance	\$85,578.54
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	85,578.54
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$200,095.37

Includes collections of \$146,437.22 for 200 for 200 campaign & expenses paid of \$78,931.42

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FINANCE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2014**

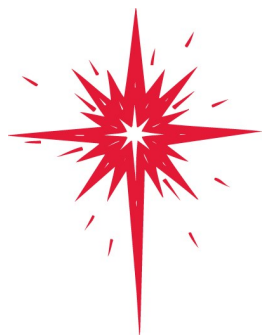
<u>Contributions/Receipts</u>	<u>SEPT. 2013</u>	<u>BUDGET 2014</u>	<u>SEPT. 2014</u>
	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Pledges	\$144,212.00	\$151,499.97	\$151,784.00 *
Non-Pledged Contributions	\$23,351.00	\$35,250.03	\$20,403.07
Loose Offering	\$1,697.21	\$4,124.97	\$3,767.95
Prior Year Pledges	\$1,273.14	\$650.00	\$1,247.00
Church Use Donations	\$790.00	\$749.97	\$350.00
Whiting Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
ACCF - Program	\$10,002.15	\$7,500.00	\$10,960.75
ACCF - Building	\$4,687.50	\$4,125.00	\$5,116.75
Stunz Mission Fund	\$1,794.75	\$1,875.00	\$1,860.00
Interest/Investment Income	\$158.53	\$37.44	\$74.17
Miscellaneous Income	\$515.36	\$3,375.00	\$2,373.85
Total Receipts	\$188,481.64	\$209,187.38	\$197,937.54
<u>Expenses</u>			
Personnel	\$131,287.76	\$144,387.10	\$142,879.02
Health Insurance	\$8,835.75	\$10,022.22	\$10,022.22
Missions	\$9,400.00		
Property	\$33,440.73	\$17,212.41	\$28,815.04 **
Property Insurance	\$6,876.00	\$6,750.00	\$6,702.00
Utilities	\$15,811.95	\$17,084.97	\$18,803.55
Finance	\$84.96	\$262.44	\$235.25
Per capita assessment	\$5,838.40	\$5,154.00	\$5,124.77
Session Expenses	\$1,368.80	\$824.94	\$208.98
Fellowship	\$775.35		\$3.38
Worship/Music	\$2,857.34	\$1,191.34	\$955.62
Office	\$7,314.18	\$8,175.06	\$6,584.53
Discipleship	\$1,883.35	\$2,437.47	\$3,904.79
Refuge	\$2,144.38		
Pioneer Club	\$915.38	\$1,500.03	\$89.06
Stephen Ministry	\$1,879.10	\$1,593.81	\$51.47
Mid Week Gathering		\$562.50	\$0.00
College-Aged Ministry		\$1,500.03	\$1,927.31
DEACONS	\$2,000.00		
Invite		\$11,250.00	\$8,576.63
Connect		\$3,749.94	\$3,170.28
Send		\$4,500.00	\$1,790.46
Deacons - Miscellaneous		\$749.97	\$2,277.80
ALPHA	\$666.32		
Total Expenses	\$233,379.75	\$238,908.23	\$242,122.16
EXCESS INCOME / EXPENSES	(\$44,898.11)	(\$29,720.85)	(\$44,184.62)

* Includes Prepaid pledges of \$21,250

** Includes \$4,455 + \$10,945 = \$15,400 total payments toward sanctuary painting

Christmas Joy Offering “Faith Guides”

Since the 1930s, Presbyterians have promoted and supported the Christmas Joy offering during Advent. Receipts from the offering provide much-needed funds to racial ethnic Presbyterian-related colleges to support individuals who may not otherwise benefit from a college education. Kindly read the personal testimonies of two such individuals in the bulletin insert on December 7.



Additionally, current and retired Presbyterian Church workers in need receive financial support and grants through this offering. Watch for the bulletin insert on December 14 with the stories of a retired pastor and a current church administrator whose lives have been positively changed, thanks to the Christmas Joy offering.

Your support of this offering can be placed in special envelopes in the pews through December 21, or on line at the Presbyterian Mission website, or by texting JOY as described on the bulletin insert.

Follow the tradition of the wise men,
and give this Advent season.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Have you been touched by your experience with Stephen Ministry, whether as a care receiver or Stephen Minister? Would you like to share your story, anonymous or named, if so please contact me to share it in an upcoming newsletter.

Blessings,

Tia Sponsler, Stephen Minister Coordinator

Stephen Ministry Christmas Party

All Stephen Ministers are invited to celebrate the holiday season together on
Monday, December 8, 5:30pm
at the home of Tia Sponsler
1431 Township Rd 1238
Ashland, OH 44805

We will be enjoying a potluck dinner and the company of as many Stephen Ministers, active and inactive, that can come. Please call 419-606-7155 to RSVP and for directions.

New Members

In November, FPC welcomed new members:

William (Bill) Beck

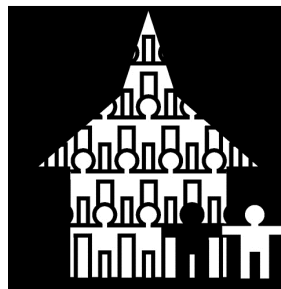
Bill is an Army veteran, 1st Lieutenant, and is in the Army Reserves.

Patti Fenwick

Patti currently directs Baby Steps, a support group for pregnant teens. She also is a photographer and does photo editing.

Amy Smetana

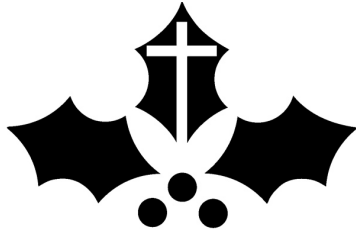
Amy graduated from Ashland High School in 2013 and is currently attending North Central State College studying nursing.



Welcome
to Our
Church Family

Tom and Melinda Roepke

Tom is serving as a Temporary Supply Pastor for the Linden Road Presbyterian Church in Mansfield. Melinda is a Associate Professor in the nursing department of North Central State College.



Worship Services

Christmas Eve:

7:00pm with choir, children singing,
Communion by intinction, and candlelight

11:00pm with Communion by intinction
and candlelight

December 28:

10:00am Lessons and Carols

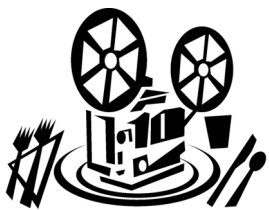
Wassail Gathering & Celebration December 21

Traditionally, the Winter Solstice, December 21, is a day for recognition of rebirth, festivals, gatherings, rituals and/or other celebrations. So, in this spirit and tradition we will gather as a family to connect over some Wassail and cookies after worship.



Needs

We need people to sign up to bring cookies. Please let Jake Blasdel or Linda Swanson know if you would like to bring some.



Movie Night

Movie Night does not meet in December. Join us in the new year on:

Friday, January 16

Friday, February 20

Anyone is welcome.

6:30pm gather & snacks

7:00pm movie begins



ACCESS

Our next week
to host is
January 18–25
at Peace
Lutheran Church

Holiday Office Schedule:

Wednesday, December 24
office open until 12:00pm

Thursday, December 25
office is closed

Friday, December 26
office is closed

Wednesday, December 31
office is open until 12:00pm

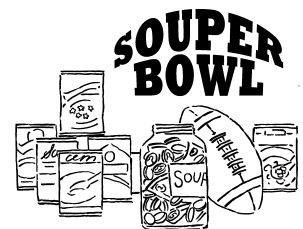
Thursday, January 1
office is closed

Friday, January 2
office is closed



“Souper” Bowl Sunday February 1

FPC will have our own “Souper” Bowl Sunday on February 1, our next Celebration Sunday. We will:



- Encourage people to bring in cans of soup to donate to Associated Charities in addition to our regular Hunger Sunday donations.
- Have a Congregational Meeting following worship
- Enjoy a soup lunch and fellowship following the meeting

December

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 10:00am Presbytery Meeting @Marietta 8:00pm AA	3 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Healing Care Group 7:30pm Choir	4 7:00pm Euchre	5	6
7 Advent II Hunger Sunday Communion	8 5:30pm Stephen Ministry Christmas Party @ Sponslers'	9 9:00am Staff Meeting 8:00pm AA	10 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Healing Care Group 7:30pm Choir	11 Session Packet Items Due 7:00pm Bridge	12	13
14 Advent III	15 Monthly Newsletter Deadline	16 6:30pm Session and Deacons 8:00pm AA	17 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Healing Care Group 7:30pm Choir	18 Organ Tuning	19	20
21 Advent IV 11:00am Wassail Celebration	22	23 8:00pm AA	24 Christmas Eve 12:00pm Office Closes 7:00pm Worship 11:00pm Worship	25 Christmas Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27
28	29	30 8:00pm AA	31 New Year's Eve 12:00pm Office Closes			

January

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Office Closed— New Year's Day	2 Office Closed	3
4 Hunger Sunday	5	6 8:00pm AA	7 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	8 Session Packet Items Due 7:00pm Bridge	9	10
11 Stephen Ministry Sunday Communion	12 7:00pm Stephen Ministry	13 6:30pm Session 8:00pm AA	14 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	15	16 6:30pm Movie Night	17
18 Host ACCESS	19 Host ACCESS Office Closed- MLK Day	20 Host ACCESS 9:00am Staff 8:00pm AA	21 Host ACCESS 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	22 Host ACCESS	23 Host ACCESS	24 Host ACCESS
25 Host ACCESS	26 Monthly Newsletter Deadline	27 8:00pm AA	28 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	29	30	31

February

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 “Souper” Bowl Celebration Sunday Communion 11:00am Congregational Meeting Soup Lunch	2	3 9:00am Staff 8:00pm AA	4 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	5 Session Packet Items Due 7:00pm Euchre	6	7 Presbytery Meeting @FPC Ashland
8	9 7:00pm Stephen Ministry	10 6:30pm Session 8:00pm AA	11 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	12 7:00pm Bridge	13	14
15 Communion	16 President’s Day Office Closed	17 9:00am Staff 8:00pm AA	18 9:30am Bible Study Ash Wednesday Worship Communion 7:30pm Choir	19	20 6:30pm Movie Night	21
22	23 Quarterly Newsletter Deadline	24 8:00pm AA	25 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	26	27	28

A Special Thank You

A BIG thank you to Paullin Sealcoating for sealing our parking lot this last week. Matt Paullin has been keeping a eye on our parking lot, checking to see when it needed to be sealed. Thanks to Matt and sister, Michelle Amstutz for their service to us.



Church Closings and Cancellations:

Please tune into WNCO FM 101.3 or AM 1340 for news of cancellations due to weather. It will also be listed on their websites and any of the other Clear Channel stations in the area.



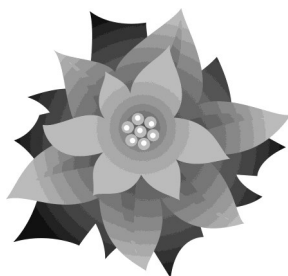
Our church website will also list any closings on our home page

www.ashlandfpc.org

Christian Symbol

Poinsettias

This shrub, native to Mexico, is at the heart of legend about a poor girl who wanted to bring Baby Jesus a gift one Christmas Eve. As she walked to church, she gathered a bouquet of weeds — which Jesus miraculously transformed into lovely red flowers. Thus the poinsettia (named for Joel Poinsett, the U.S. ambassador to Mexico who first brought the plant to America) is known in Mexico as la flor de la Nochebuena (flower of the Holy Night). The poinsettia is also an ideal Christmas symbol because its leaves turn red when deprived of sunlight and its flowers (the red inner buds) bloom in December.



Warm Fuzzy Tree

The Warm Fuzzy Tree is located in the Narthex and ready to receive hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, etc. All donations will be delivered to Associated Charities.



Per Capita for 2015
\$28.68

Wednesday, December 31 is the last day the church can accept contributions for 2014.

The office will close at noon on that day.





We are looking for an on call fill-in person. If you feel this could be a way to serve the congregation please call Tia Sponsler.

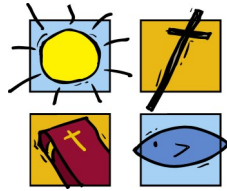
Youth Ministry

Wyld Life - A Taste for the Wyld

The majority of adults think middle school kids are smelly, hyper active, and obsessed with all things “weird.” Have you ever tried to communicate with one? It feels like you’re in dialogue with somebody, and yet that somebody thinks, feels, and behaves more like a something. They’re erratic creatures, and more than anything else they’re confused. While being bombarded with all the sudden emotional and physical changes that come with early adolescence, middle school kids are now starting to make big life decisions. And the scary thing is – they are doing it alone.

However, there is this rare breed of adults who genuinely do love everything about middle school kids. And these are the teachers, coaches, parents, grandparents, and other community members we are looking for. If you even think you might have a heart for this age group, call Lauren 567.215.7806 or check out the “Wyld Life in Ashland Middle School” Facebook Page for more information.

Matt McClain
Director of Youth Ministry



Children's Ministry

The children's atrium has gotten bigger over the past few months, filled with the new works to which the children have been introduced. Some of the children's favorites are: The Communion Table, Abram & Sarai (Desert Box), Spooning Peas, Creation Matching, Prayer Table, and of course the snack work. We have been blessed with visitors and are always looking forward to welcoming fellow congregation members to experience our Atrium. If you would like to visit the Atrium or if you are feeling lead to be more of a consistent presence in the atrium please call me at anytime.

We have been gifted many beautifully hand crafted wooden objects for our upcoming works. We are so grateful for the craftsmanship of our congregation member that has helped in this way. With the new liturgical seasons coming we will be planning for the new works to come. If you feel prayerfully lead to help in this way please contact me.

Things to look forward to:

Children will sing at the 7:00pm Christmas Eve Service

In February the children will be hosting an open house after service to show all they have been learning.

Being a part of the children's ministry continues to flood my heart with gratitude that He has lead me to this. I want to say thank you to the parents for allowing me to spend time with their wonderful children and also for fostering their spiritual growth at home while they are not in the Atrium. The Holy Spirit is majorly at work in these bright shining beings and what a blessing that this congregation gets to help nourish their growth.

Praying all of your families are filled with His Joy this Christmas and that 2015 holds an even closer relationship with Our Lord for you and that the Holy Spirit uses you to bring everyone around you closer to Him as well.

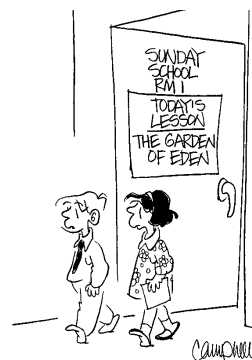
Blessings,
Tia Sponsler, Director of Children's Ministry
419-606-7155

Fun for the Family

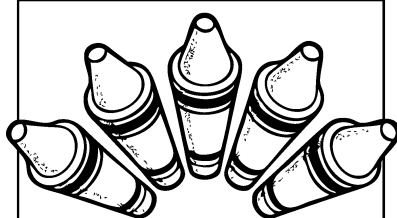
Scripture for discussion:

to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
who is the Messiah, the Lord.

—Luke 2:11



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat more fruit, but surely I can't be expected to go through with it after that!"



Crayon Heart

Make heart-shaped crayons as a reminder that the things of God should be written on our hearts.

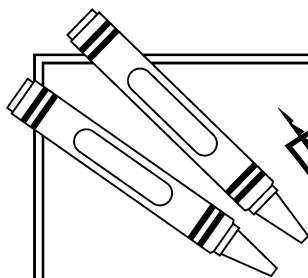
What you need:

- An adult to help
- Oven
- Oven mitt
- Heart-shaped silicon mold (available at craft stores)
- Old crayons

What you do:

1. Heat oven to 230 degrees.
2. Remove paper wrappers from crayons. (This is easier if you soak crayons in cool water first.)
3. Break crayons into small pieces. Place pieces into heart-shaped mold, filling them about two-thirds full.
4. Bake for 15 minutes or until crayons have completely melted.
5. When the heart-shaped crayons are cool, remove them from the mold.

Answer: "Commit to the LORD whatever you do and he will establish your plans." Proverbs 16:3, NIV



PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Want to start the new year off right?
Remember to always ask God for guidance.

Directions: Write each word (or word part) in the correct numbered box to complete Proverbs 16:3, NIV.

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 3						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

14 – tab 18 – Pro 7 – ever 6 – what 15 – lish 8 – you 4 – the
21 – :3 16 – your 9 – do 1 – Com 20 – 16 11 – he 10 – and 22 – NIV
3 – to 12 – will 19 – verbs 13 – es 2 – mit 17 – plans 5 – LORD

Passport to Entertainment and Enrichment

NOTE: CSLA has provided our library with many good books in the last few months. Among them are these two Christmas novels. Following are the brief reviews I wrote for CSLA's newsletter.

Carlson, Melody. *The Christmas Cat*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Revell, 2014.

Garrison brown has a problem or, rather, several problems. The thirty-four-year-old bachelor doesn't like cats and is, in fact, allergic to them. This presents difficulties for him when his grandmother dies a month before Christmas. As her only living relative, he has the responsibility of settling her estate. The elderly woman had six cats and Garrison must find homes for them. His grandmother's attorney gives him a lengthy list of qualifications which the prospective owners must meet in order to honor his grandmother's final wishes.

In *The Christmas Cat* Melody Carlson has endeared herself to cat lovers, especially, but any reader who lies a well-crafted story will appreciate it. Her feline characters are as carefully developed as her human ones. And a Christmas story has to have a happy ending.

Fisher, Suzanne Woods. *Christmas at Rose Hill Farm*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Revell 2014.

When Suzanne Woods Fisher's *Christmas at Rose Hill Farm* begins, we meet Bess Riehl. At twelve years of age, she attended her grandfather's funeral in Pennsylvania's Amish country and planned to return to her home in Ohio. However, her grandmother persuaded her to stay for awhile to help the widow through her grief. Now, nearly ten years later, Bess will soon marry. The reader quickly realizes that the young woman isn't as excited about her upcoming wedding as one would expect. The groom-to-be is Amos Lapp, cousin and best friend of Bill Lapp, Bess' first love. Four years earlier, Billy left without explanation after he and Bess had a misunderstanding.

From her grandmother Bess learned to love roses and has developed Rose Hill Farm into a thriving business. When she finds a rose in the greenhouse and know nothing about it, a call is made to Penn

State University's Extension office to request that a rose rustler come to identify it. Billy Lapp is that person. Bess' emotional problems and Billy's also begin to increase with his several visits to Rose Hill Farm in the next few weeks. On the day before Christmas, the rose blooms and its mystery is solved as well as some other mysteries and problems.

- Beverly Bixler

A Season of Advent continued from p.1

The Advent season invites us to rest in the midst of the tension that surrounds us in this time of already and not yet. We don't rest in a careless, carefree, or apathetic way, but we purposefully rest in the faith, hope, and love that we now dimly know and will one day fully know. We rest in the faith, hope, and love that as Jesus Christ came as an infant, He will one day return as the King. We rest in the faith, hope, and love that in the midst of the tension grace defeats sin, love defeats hate, hope defeats despair, peace defeats violence, joy defeats sadness, and life defeats death!! As the prophets of old prayerfully anticipated the coming of the long awaited Messiah, their prayers become our prayers as we now anticipate the second coming of the long awaited Messiah.

Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

Come to your people. We long for the fullness of your presence. We long for the fullness of your love. We long for the fullness of your Kingdom. We long for the fullness of your grace and mercy. We long for the fullness of your peace. We long for the fullness of your joy. We long for the fullness of your justice. We long for your people to be united. We long for the community of you the Trinity. We long for you, for you are our Savior, Lord and Friend.
Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

"And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

Pastor Mike

Church in Korea

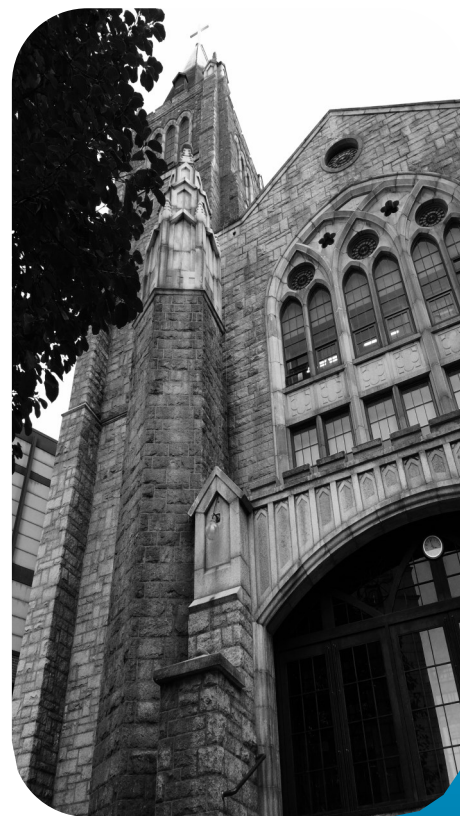
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Namdaemoon PC and FPC Delaware are connected because in 1884, Dr. Horace Allen, who was part of FPC Delaware, was appointed on a mission to Korea by the Presbyterian Church. He is credited with bringing Christianity and establishing a system of modern medicine in Korea. Namdaemoon PC considers him the founder of their church which was established in 1887.

Rev. Deb Patterson, who served as an Associate Pastor for FPC Ashland from 1997-2004, currently is pastor at FPC Delaware. In 2011, 20 Koreans, from Namdaemoon PC, came to Delaware in celebration of FPC Delaware's 200th Anniversary.

Geordie's mother, Laura Bowie, who attends FPC Delaware, encourage him to go visit Namdaemoon PC. He met with the Pastor, was given a tour of the church, and the organist, who just happened to be practicing during their visit, played a hymn for him and his friends. They also saw a display of photographs from the church's visit to Delaware in 2011. Geordie told them that his parents attend FPC Delaware and that he knew Pastor Deb because she with FPC Ashland when he was confirmed. Namdaemoon PC gave him and his fellow crew members, t-shirts from their recent 130th anniversary celebration of Dr. Allen's arrival in Seoul.

Geordie is the grandson of Carolyn Freer and Brenda Luttrell.



Namdaemoon PC,
Seoul, Korea



T-shirt Detail



Geordie Freer
and Friends at
Namdaemoon PC,
Seoul, Korea

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