

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

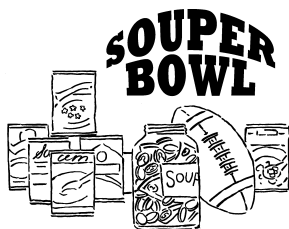
THE JOYFUL NOISE

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 17, 2014

"SOUPER" BOWL CELEBRATION 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
- Enjoy a soup lunch and fellowship following worship
- Have a Congregational Meeting

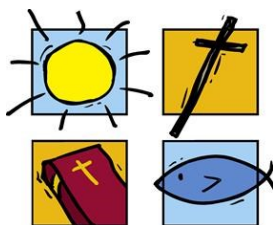
Soups and beverages will be provided. We ask the congregation to bring either a salad, bread, or dessert to share to round out the meal.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Beginning January 4, 2015, our children's Montessori-type Sunday school will stop meeting during worship.

Instead, we invite all children ages 4 years-old through 6th grade to come at 9:00am on Sunday mornings, still in the Atrium classroom on the third floor.

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



FPC Hosts Presbytery Meeting Saturday, February 7, 2015

The leaders of the congregations in our presbytery will meet at our church on Saturday, February 7. We are expecting around 125 people to attend. Volunteers from our congregation will be needed to serve meals and snacks as well as help make our guests feel welcome. See Lana Potter and Michael Hudson for more details.

Pioneer Clubs resume on January 29 and will run on consecutive Thursdays up to Holy Week, 6:00—7:30pm. FPC invites all



children ages 4 years-old through 6th grade to Pioneer Clubs, which is something like a combination of Sunday School and Boy/Girl Scouts.

Registration forms can be found on our website, ashlandfpc.org. Only children new to Pioneer Clubs need to register and we do accept walk-ins. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Tia Sponsler, 419-606-7155.



CHRISTIAN SYMBOL**Sand dollar**

These circular shells in shades of white, brown or purple are from sea urchins related to starfish and sea cucumbers. The shell's unique characteristics call to mind Christ's birth and death: the poinsettia- and lily-like images, holes representing the four nails and spear that pierced Jesus, small bones inside the shell resembling doves and thus symbolizing the Holy Spirit.

**The Legend of the Sand Dollar**

There's a pretty little legend
that I would like to tell
Of the birth and death of Jesus
found in this lowly shell.

If you examine closely, you'll see
that you find here
Four nail holes and a fifth hole,
made by a Roman's spear.

On one side the Easter lily,
its center is the star
That appeared unto the shepherds
and led them from afar.

The Christmas poinsettia
etched on the other side
Reminds us of his birthday,
our happy Christmastide.

Now break the center open,
and here you will release
The five white doves awaiting
to spread good will and peace.

This simple little symbol,
Christ left for you and me
To help us spread his Gospel,
through all eternity.

—Author unknown



Communities
Responding
to Overcome
Poverty

Recently Jim Pifer, Coordinator of Ashland's Crop Walk, released the final report for 2014.

- 13 congregations participated
- 101 people walked and raised funds
- Total funds raised: \$9,083.26

Twenty-five percent of the funds raised are equally divided between St. Edward's Church, Emmanuel United Methodist Church, the Salvation Army, and the Helping Hands Food Pantry of Loudonville, all of which have food programs for our county.

Thanks for your support!



We are looking
for an on-call fill-in
person for the nursery.

If you feel this could be a
way to serve the
congregation please call
Tia Sponsler.



To the family and friends of Brad Hudkins,
who passed away on December 16, 2014.



Amira Elise Boswell was
born to Angelica Morales
on December 4, 2014.

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


STAFF AND OFFICERS' RETREAT
JANUARY 13

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, January 13 for an all-day staff retreat. The staff will spend the day at Camp Mowana. Session and Deacons will join them there for dinner and a meeting in the evening.

**ACCESS UPDATE**

Our time to host is
January 18-25.

Guests will be staying at Peace Lutheran Church. Please sign up to volunteer when you see the board in the narthex, or contact Becky Sheeks.

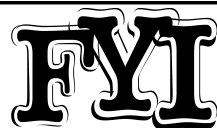
Muskingum Valley Presbytery
Leadership Training
MANAGING CONFLICT

Saturday, January 10, 2015
9:00am-4:00pm

Full Day Workshop led by Sue Krummel
\$35.00 cost includes lunch and the Thomas-Killman Conflict Mode Instrument Profile

You can register via email at mvpjourney@gmail.com or by filling out a form found in the church office. Registrations are due to MVP Presbytery by January 6.

Workshop will be held at:
Faith Christian Church
2012 Pleasant Valley Road
New Philadelphia, OH 44663



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.

JANUARY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				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 Ordination and Installation of Officers	12 7:00pm Stephen Ministry	13 Office Closed— Staff Retreat 5:30pm Session and Deacons Dinner/Retreat @ Mowana 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 6:00pm Pioneer Clubs Begin	30	31

YOUNG LIFE TEXT MESSAGE

"I know it's late and I'm sorry to bother you. But I gotta tell you something. I wanna say thank you. You and Lauren have changed my life. You have opened a new door for me. Before Young Life I was just some punk. The Bible I received tonight is the first Bible I've owned. I've never realized how much God could change your ways. I don't know where I would be if I never started coming to Club. So I just wanted to say thank you for being so supportive and encouraging!"

The quote to the left is a translated text message Matt and Lauren

McClain received after Young Life Club. Young Life leaders have been

praying for this young man and his two buddies for the past two years, and within the last two weeks, all three of them have begun relationships with Jesus.

Club is the once a week Young Life gathering where high-schoolers have fun and hear a simple message about God's love for them. For more information about Young Life, or if you would like to get involved, please contact Lauren McClain, (567) 215-7806.



Young Life Christmas Club



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF ASHLAND**

320 Church Street
Ashland, OH 44805

Phone: 419-289-6205
E-mail: office@ashlandfpc.org
Facebook: FPC Ashland

**GLORIFY GOD,
MAKE DISCIPLES,
MEET HUMAN NEEDS**

www.ashlandfpc.org

**NewsLetter
DEADLine**

**Monday
January 26**

**Food Gram
From the Food Dude**

Canned goods donations for December were outstanding. Let's remember the cold weather is upon us so hot cocoa and oatmeal might warm the tummy.

PRSRT STD
Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID

Ashland, Ohio
Permit No. 258

To:

January 2015

Happy New Year & Happy New Year

Associated Charities Requests the following items:

Food Needs:

Fresh Potatoes
Boxed Stuffing
Gravy
Cereal
Oatmeal
Spaghetti's and/or Ravioli
Jelly-Grape or Strawberry
Vegetable Oil
Sugar
Saltine Crackers
Tuna
Canned Chicken
Egg Noodles
Ketchup and Mustard

Taxable Items Needs:

Bath soap (liquid or bars)
Laundry Soap
Dish Soap



**HUNGER
SUNDAY**

January 4