

THE CARILLON



December 2019

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

December 1	Matthew 11:1-5 "Is He the One?"
December 8	Hebrews 1:1-3 "Who is this Child?"
December 15	Luke 19:1-10 "Why did Jesus come?"
December 22	Christmas worship with our youth Lessons and Carols
December 24	Ephesians 2:13-18 "Jesus our Peace"
December 29	Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:20-23 "God with Us"

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CLARIDON

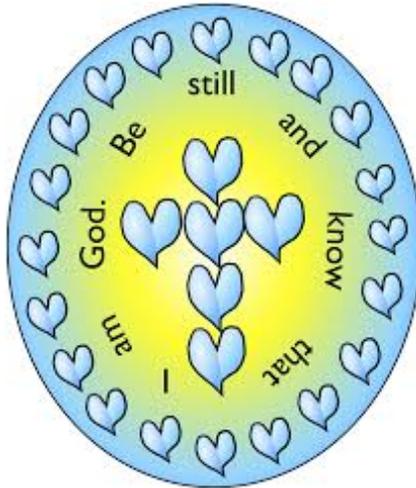
13942 Mayfield Road
Huntsburg, OH 44046
440-635-1467

claridoncongregationalchurch@gmail.com

Mary Lou Morgan, Secretary
Pastor Mary Ellen Hoffman

- 1 8:30am Advent Pot Luck Breakfast and Workshop
10am Worship
- 5 11am Teeter's Memorial Service and Luncheon
- 7 9am Cookie Walk
- 8 10am Worship
- 11 7pm Trustee & Deacons Meetings
- 15 10am Worship
- 17 5-6:30pm CCH Dinner
- 22 10am Worship
2pm Worship at Blossom Hill Care Center
- 24 7:30 pm Singing with Ian LeRoy at Piano
8:00 pm Christmas Eve Candle Light Worship
- 25 Merry Christmas
- 29 10am Worship





Bill Angstrom
Benjamin Waida
Betty Ann Felberg
The Holtz family
Bruce Johnson
Delton Dudley
Karen Sebor
David Clark
Luann Sayre
Randy Rose
Connie Streble
Patrick Carver

Betty Peck
Joann Giovannelli
Susan Little
The Rosati's
Matthew Christian
Ken Stanley
Richard Hacker
The Bryan family
Sarah Lanza
Fred Hunter
Albert Ricer

Keith Streble
Kenrick Byler
Kathy Hogamier
Franke Fende
Don Burt
The Taylor family
Larry Fox
Janice Stanek
Mary Jane Troyer
Judy Irvin
Kevin O'Reilly

Teeter Grosvenor entered into eternal rest on Monday, November 18. There will be a celebration of her life on Thursday, December 5 at 11am at the church. Please hold the extended Grosvenor and Kellogg families in your prayers at this time.

THANK YOU to those who hosted coffee hour for the month of November.

Messiah - Saturday, December 7th at 7:00 pm and Sunday, December 8th at 3:00 pm at Notre Dame Chapel, located at 13000 Auburn Road in Munson. These performances benefit the Geauga Hunger Task Force, which is a volunteer organization whose mission is to ensure that no resident of Geauga County goes hungry. This is accomplished by seven food pantries located throughout the county that provide emergency food to people in need.

Caroling will be after church on Sunday, December 22, to those in our congregation who are in nursing home care or homebound. All are invited to help spread some cheer through the gift of song.

MISSIONS

The Angel Wish Tree for our Christmas families will be up by December 1. Choose an ornament and provide the gift. Please leave your gifts in the church office, indicating family 1 or 2, gift cards with amounts marked should be left on the desk. We are gifting 5 children this year. The Sock & Mitten tree will be up. Please remember, the need for socks is much greater than hats, gloves and mittens for children and adults.

"The Light Shines in the Darkness"

It is soon to be another "New Year" and once again the time is here to support with our generosity the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund. This fund provides direct financial assistance to individual United Church of Christ clergy and lay employees. Sometimes our retired clergy, lay employees, and their surviving spouses rely on this income supplement for needs such as food, utilities, and living and medical expenses that arise. This fund also provides individual grants to clergy and professional staff in crisis or acute need. It is important to remember that these funds do not support "programs" or "institutions", but rather they support **people**.

The Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ have passed along sincere thanks to us on behalf of the hundreds of clergy, lay people and their families whose lives were touched by our generous support of last year's Christmas Fund Offering. Thank you to all who made last year's appeal a success.

Please consider sharing your gift in envelopes provided in pews in the month of December. Please look upon your gift as thanksgiving for knowing God Our Father and for all those that serve Him. May these gifts of money become the shelter, support, healthcare and love that His people need.

Karen Sebor, Missions Committee Member

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Advent breakfast and workshop will be December 1 at 8:30am. Please bring a dish to share, and then enjoy the workshop. Greens, wreath forms and some decorations will be provided, and children may again decorate a gingerbread house. This is a family event and all are invited. Worship will begin at 10am.

Donations of candies, pretzel sticks, marshmallows, frosting etc. would be greatly appreciated for the gingerbread decorators to use 😊

We will have the Christmas Play on Sunday, December 22nd during church service. We hope you all can join us as we celebrate the greatest gift of the season in Jesus Christ! Many Blessings to all!

TRUSTEES

The Trustees have completed the wood siding on the West side of the Church along with window and door repair and were very happy with the results. The new wood has been primed for the painting that will take place in Spring 2020. The contractor Dennis Farmer did a wonderful job for less than his original quote. We will likely use him again for other projects. The painting will be a substantial project next year requiring approximately \$15,000 in total but is important to protect the historical treasure that we have in our care. We are getting prices from a couple of contractors for the painting.

Once again, the Claridon Township Trustees have agreed to provide snow plowing for our parking lot when they plow their own. Any special meeting times, we will need to hire our back up snow plow company.

We had some repairs to the water softener at the Parsonage this quarter, but our new tenant seems to be working out well. We still plan to replace the kitchen flooring at the Parsonage and are waiting for a quote.

Please see below for our Financial Update through September 2019.

Financial Update from the Church Trustees

Thank you all for your generosity that continues to support our church!

In the nine months ended September 30, 2019 the church received funds from collections, donations, fundraising and one-half of the Parsonage rental (Operating Funds) which came to a total of \$74,292. Operating expenditures for the same period including salaries, utilities, and other operating expenses came to \$89,639, so we are showing a loss of \$15,347 in our Operating Funds for the three-quarters of the year.

Although this is slightly better than it was at June 30th, you can see, receipts are still substantially less this year than the amount we spent to operate the church. Please consider ways you can help-

- Could you give one additional weekly or monthly contribution to celebrate your birthday?
- Would you be willing to add \$1 or \$5 to each contribution to the church?
- Every little bit helps and your gift will be used with careful consideration.

And as we come to the end of the year, for those of you over 70 ½, please consider a gift directly from your IRA to the Church. This may save you taxes and is a very easy process. Please see Dianne Kellogg for questions.

Your continued prayers and gifts are very much appreciated!

If you have any questions please see one of our Trustees.