



Tower Views

Coming Up!

Sunday, December 17th

Red Sweater Sunday

Youth Bake Sale

8:15—Early Service

9:00—Continental Breakfast

9:30—Sunday School

10:30—Late Service

2:00-4:00—60th Anniversary
Reception for Bill & Earlene
Hull—please join them!

Monday, December 18th

6:00—Chancel Bells

Wednesday, December 20th

No Morning Bible Study

No UMYF

No Angelus Choir

6:00—Chancel Band

7:00—Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 21st

5:30—Blue Christmas service

Sunday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

8:15—Early Service

9:00—Continental Breakfast

9:30—Sunday School

10:30—Late Service

3:00—Communion

4:00—Candlelight Service

6:00—Communion

7:00—Candlelight Service

What a joy it was to see all the children and youth participate in the Christmas Program this past Sunday! I am so thankful for all the kids, parents and leaders who helped make it such a marvelous celebration!

As Christmas approaches we have several more opportunities to experience the sights and sounds of Christmas:

Red Sweater Sunday – Help us turn the sanctuary into a sea of red this coming Sunday, December 17.

Youth Bake Sale – This is one of the primary fund raisers for their mission trips next summer. Your support is deeply appreciated this Sunday.

Blue Christmas – If you are dealing with grief and loss this Christmas, you are invited to this somber service on Thursday evening, December 21, as we both acknowledge our pain and affirm God's grace and hope.

Christmas Eve Morning Worship – We have wonderful special music planned as we celebrate the final Sunday of Advent at our regular worship times of 8:15 & 10:30 am.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services – This service will be the climax of our Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of our Savior at 4 & 7 pm. Holy Communion will be available prior to both services.

I pray that Christ will be born in your heart in new and wonderful ways this Christmas!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce".

Worship Assistants

Gathering Music:

8:15—David Cummings

10:30—Marnie Bellamy

8:15 Song Leader:

Karen Switzer

8:15 Acolytes:

Isaac Duncan &

Ethan Johns

8:15 Ushers:

Greg & Carlene Lowe

8:15 Greeters:

Larry & Eunice Wright

Larry & Charlotte Hager

Continental Breakfast:

Mark Parker

10:30 Greeters:

Faye Ball,

Nancy Fleming &

Betty Braun

Children's Time

Janet Parks

Nursery helper 8:15

Sarah Steffens



Get in the Christmas Spirit with

Upcoming Holiday Programs

Sunday, December 17th

Red Sweater Sunday with all the glorious red Poinsettias and the Youth Bake Sale.

Christmas Eve - December 24th

Morning Worship 8:15 & 10:30

Communion at 3:00 and 6:00

Christmas Eve Services 4:00 and 7:00

Christmas Day - December 25th

Christmas Dinner at 1:00

2018 Offering Envelope Boxes are Ready!

Please stop in the Green Room to pick yours up. If you don't see yours, please contact Kathy in the office and she will get you a box! Don't use them until next year!



Prayer Concerns



The Family of
Gene Price
Peggy Younger
Genieve Huenefeldt
Ron Grunig
Steve Prince
Melvin Dennis
Wylie Brown
Gloria Saddoris
Tracy Guppy
Rosemary Hardinger
Wilbur Slocum
Sarah Duncan
Arnie Drendel
Guido Santero
Tom Griffiths
Teresa Jones
Connie Briggs
Jill Bernard
Angela Garbee
Fred McAllister
Julia Cary
Gary Dubina
Mike Lester
Lucille Clayton
Marty Setzer
Rick Wolf
Sharlene Wirsig
Jane Mautino
Shirley Stone
Rosie Banfield

Last Chance! Poinsettias for Christmas are going fast!

Only 5 poinsettias have not been spoken for, so call the office **TODAY** so you can purchase one for \$8.00 and dedicate it in memory or honor of some one. You can pick up your poinsettias after the 7:00 service or on Christmas Day.



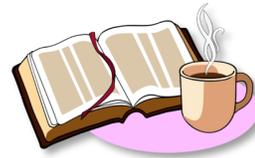


You're Invited!

Bill and Earlene Hull are celebrating their 60th anniversary on Sunday, December 17th from 2-4 PM here at the church. They invite you to join them for the celebration.

Invitation Tree

The Advent/Christmas season is a wonderful time to invite your friends and family to join us in celebrating this special season. There are many opportunities to invite those without a church family or those who have drifted from church to experience the joy of Christ's birth. To help you offer an invitation, there is an Invitation Tree just outside the sanctuary door. It is full of invitation ornaments for you to share with others as you invite them to come to church with you.



Daily Bible Readings and Prayers

Sunday Luke 1:26-38

Offer yourself to be used for God's plans

Monday Luke 1:39-45

Pray for those who feel lonely

Tuesday Luke 1:46-56

Offer a prayer of praise to God

Wednesday Luke 1:57-66

Pray for all of the children in our community

Thursday Luke 1:67-79

Pray for those who are struggling this Christmas season

Friday Ephesians 3:14-19

Give thanks for God's limitless love

Saturday Matthew 1:18-25

Give thanks that God is with us

Blue Christmas Service

Thursday, December 21 at 5:30 pm

This will be a somber service on the shortest day of the year for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one this Christmas season. It will be a time to both acknowledge our pain and affirm God's grace and hope. This service will be led by Peggy Eshelman and Brad Reed. Everyone who would find it helpful is invited to attend.



Kids Care about CARE!

The Middle School Sunday Funday class needs your help! We are helping to serve our community by gathering donations for CARE (Clinton Animal Rescue Endeavor). If you would like to help there will be a box in the Green Room to collect any of the following items the shelter can use:

Laundry Detergent (any kind), Bleach, Dishwashing Liquid, Hand Sanitizer, Clorox Wipes, Paper towels, Purina Kitten and Cat food, Pedigree dog and puppy food. Or you can drop a monetary donation in the offering plate to help with their annual vet bills. We will be collecting until December 27th.

Christmas Offering to Our Assistance Fund



Over the past year we helped over 100 families in our community with almost \$10,000 of aid through our Assistance Fund. These funds assisted them with utility bills and other special needs. Our Christmas Offering this year will replenish this fund. Your gifts will be a blessing to many, many needy families in our own community. Thank you for your generosity.

Touching Heart, Changing Lives— Generosity Program for 2018



Thank you to everyone who made a financial commitment to the church for 2018 on Commitment Sunday. We've already received 102 pledge cards. Your gifts are vitally important to the strength of our church. Together, we are touching hearts and changing lives with God's love every day. You can turn your pledge card in to the church office, email your pledge to pledges@clintonumc.net or place the card in the offering. Please prayerfully consider taking a step forward in your giving in 2018.

Finance Committee Update



2017 has been a wonderful year for our church and its ministries. Our youth and children's ministries are growing. We started a new young adult Sunday School class and launched four Partners in Prayer groups. Our music ministries and outreach efforts continue to thrive. But as we approach the end of the year, our income has not covered the cost of all these great ministries. At the end of November our income was \$391,378 and our expenses were \$411,287, leaving us with a shortfall of \$19,909. December is usually a strong month for the church financially. We encourage you to join us in making a special year-end gift to help us close this gap. Your generosity will help us begin the new year in a better position financially. Thank you in advance for helping to keep our church strong!

Brad and Jim Switzer



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Psssst.....Did you know?

No matter where you are, you can give to our church offering through "Text-to-Give." Use your cell phone to send a text to 77977 with the message "CMOUMC." It will reply with a text message with a link that will take you to the mobile website for our electronic giving provider – PushPay – where you can choose to make either a recurring gift or a one-time gift using your credit card or checking account. The next time you do, it's even easier because it remembers you! You can set it up to repeat on a weekly or monthly schedule. Safe and secure through PushPay! Call the church office if you need more information.