



**South Ashland United  
Methodist Church**

# South Winds

*Sharing the love, hope and  
healing of Jesus Christ through  
the power of the Holy Spirit!*

*December 2020*

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**Director of Youth &  
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Bev Moore

**Director of Worship**

Rodney Miller

**Praise Team Coordinator**

Karen Morgan

**Secretary**

Becky Gehringer

**Pianist**

Eric Akers

**Organist**

Jenny Johnson

**Prayer Coordinator**

Becky Powers

**Nursery Coordinator**

Jr. Fitzpatrick

**Technical Coordinator**

**Ministry Team Leaders:**

Martha Rice

**Worship Team**

Brenda Roberts

**Children's Ministry Team**

Jerry Mounce & Lou Moore

**Evangelism Team**

Steve & Darlene Meyers

**Outreach Team**

Lisa Hammond

**Discipleship Team**

Joy Daniel & Shelly Mounce

**Hospitality Team**

Cheryl Spears

**First Impressions Team**

Teresa Kirkpatrick

Kathy Hughes

**Stephen Ministry**

**Praise Team:**

Rodney & Erin Miller,

Eric Akers, Clancy Hatfield,

Mike Harbour, Peyton Levi,

Hunter Blankenship,

Jacob Shytle, Barb Mitchell

Several months ago, I was talking about the problem of human trafficking in our modern world. And it is overwhelming to think that a problem like slavery still exists, but the reality of the matter is that it does. Several people asked me how to get involved and so here is your chance. As I told you, my niece Katie is raising funds for Dresember by wearing a dress every day in December. If you would like to support her in this project, here is a link that you can use to donate.

<https://dresember2020.funraise.org/fundraiser/katieperkins>

We are entering the season of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting and expectation. In the Old Testament, the people were waiting for the long promised Messiah to come and redeem Israel and ultimately, all of humanity. Jesus promised his followers that even while he was going away, that he would return and bring his Kingdom and all would be made right again. So now we are in another season of waiting. While we prepare to celebrate Christmas and remember that God has put on flesh and come into our world, we wait for his second coming.

I was watching a promo video on Dresember's website, and they said that this movement is about light shining in the darkness. As the people of God, we are to be light shining in the darkness. We are to be about the movement of the Kingdom of God in our world. So this Advent season, I invite you to wait, but not idly. While you wait for the return of the King and the Kingdom that he brings, shine some light in the darkness. Get involved in sharing hope and life and freedom with the world. Get involved in bringing dignity to humanity because we are all people of sacred worth, created in the image of the Living God. So, if not Dresember, then get involved somewhere. Serve a meal at The Neighborhood. Adopt a child or a senior. Give hope. Give love. Because while we wait for the coming of God's Kingdom, we wait remembering what God has already given for us.

*The light has shined in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it! (John 1:5)*

**Pastor Keith**

## Honors & Memorials

### Hillcrest-Bruce Mission

*In Memory of Tom Wellman*  
Given by Lisa Hammond

*In Memory of Daniel Terry*  
Given by Ashland Area Woodcarver's Club

### Prayer Brick

*In Memory of Daniel Terry*  
Given by Betty Brown

### Costa Rica Feeding Program

*In Memory of Evelyn Crawford*  
*In Memory of Judy Nichols*  
Given by Lou & Bev Moore

### Choir

*In Honor of Bill & Martha Rice*  
Given by Michael & Carol Barnhorst

### Costa Rica Farm

*In Memory of Lou Moore's brother*  
*In Memory of Evelyn Crawford*  
*In Honor of Ashley Ambrosino's Birthday*  
Given by Don & Gloria Neikirk

### Budget

*In Honor of Jr. Fitzpatrick*  
Given by Carla Skaggs

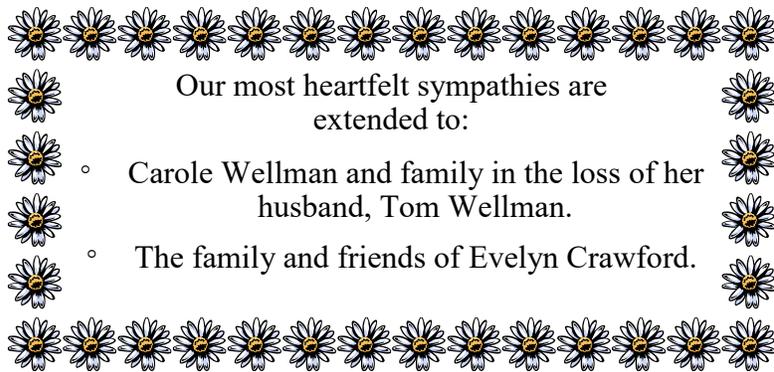
*In Memory of Tom Wellman*  
Given by Mike & Charlene Qualls

*In Memory of Nita Nunley*  
Given by Ed & Cheryl Spears

*In Honor of Martha Rice*  
*In Honor of Charlene Cooper*  
Given by Skippy Simmerman

### Budget

*In Memory of Evelyn Crawford*  
Given by Carla Skaggs  
Given by Jeff & Donna Suttle  
Given by Jack & Pat Gallaher  
Given by Wayne Martin  
Given by K.A. & Linda Oller  
Given by Brenda Vanover  
Given by Patricia McLean  
Given by Jack & Betty Nuckols  
Given by Carol Barnhorst  
Given by Elfie Sologic  
Given by John & Mary Gifford  
Given by John & Lynda Cannon  
Given by Lou & Bev Moore  
Given by Jim & Susan Ifert  
Given by Lisa Hammond  
Given by Greg & Arland White  
Rannie & Charlene Cooper



Our most heartfelt sympathies are  
extended to:

- Carole Wellman and family in the loss of her husband, Tom Wellman.
- The family and friends of Evelyn Crawford.

South Ashland UMC,

Bro. Keith's quarantine was unfortunate but it did allow me another opportunity to preach and share in worship with you. It is amazing to see how you all adapt to changing circumstances. No quarantine, no Covid, no rain is going to keep you from worshipping the Lord! Press on church and thank you for having me.

Bro. Tim Burton

# South Ashland UMC Treasurer's Report - October 2020

Current Month	Budget Items	Specials	Mortgage Fund	Totals
Beginning Balance	\$74,550.03	\$112,796.56	\$0.00	\$187,346.59
Receipts	\$36,872.22	\$4,356.10	\$0.00	\$41,228.32
Disbursements	(\$30,747.85)	(\$2,602.94)	\$0.00	(\$33,350.79)
Transfer	(\$175.00)	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Closing Balance	\$80,499.40	\$114,724.72	\$0.00	\$195,224.12
<b>Year-to-Date</b>				
Balance 12/31/2019	\$32,271.21	\$21,921.57	\$8,346.74	\$62,539.52
Receipts	\$375,941.12	\$163,344.96	\$0.00	\$539,286.08
Disbursements	(\$329,469.91)	(\$70,046.07)	(\$8,346.74)	(\$407,862.72)
Transfer	\$1,756.98	(\$495.74)	\$0.00	\$1,261.24
Closing Balance	\$80,499.40	\$114,724.72	\$0.00	\$195,224.12

## *Where's Joseph's Donkey!?*

Alright everybody, it's time to pull out your cameras and get your scavenger hunt faces on. During the season of Advent, the wooden donkey (pictured below) will be on a journey around Ashland, and it's up to us to find it! We need to get it to Mary and Joseph in time for their journey to Bethlehem! Each Sunday, a new clue will be posted on Facebook as to where the donkey has wandered. Anytime that week, you and your family can drive to the implied spot, locate the donkey, and snap a photo with it. Post that photo to your Facebook page and in the photo's description, type **#saumcdonkey**. Let's see how many weekly pictures we can get before that donkey heads to Bethlehem! Get ready, get set, go!

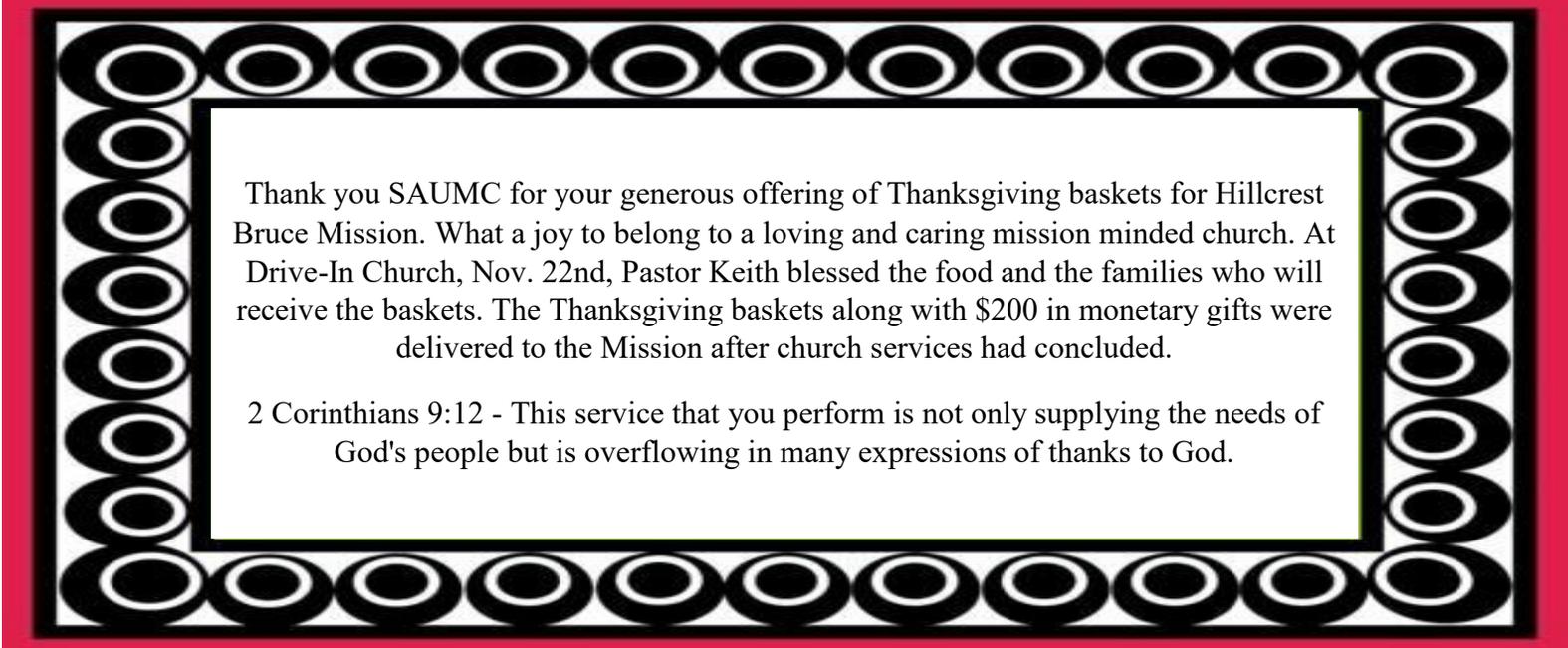


**WOW! Our congregation is amazing!** Even though we weren't able to collect gifts and toys for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes throughout the year, your generosity provided more than expected! In less than 6 weeks, you filled and donated 95 boxes to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to children around the world!

To all of you who packed shoeboxes, donated money or prayed for the children who would receive these boxes, we thank you so very much! You have ensured that a child will have a Blessed Christmas when they open their box filled with gifts. But most importantly, they will be introduced to Jesus and learn about his love for them. Thanks again to each of you and to Pastor Keith for supporting this ministry.

May you have a Blessed Christmas!  
Gloria





Thank you SAUMC for your generous offering of Thanksgiving baskets for Hillcrest Bruce Mission. What a joy to belong to a loving and caring mission minded church. At Drive-In Church, Nov. 22nd, Pastor Keith blessed the food and the families who will receive the baskets. The Thanksgiving baskets along with \$200 in monetary gifts were delivered to the Mission after church services had concluded.

2 Corinthians 9:12 - This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

## Youth & Children's

## NEWS AND EVENTS

Despite the atypical year we've all experienced and the difficulty of sacrificing our personal wants for the

good of the community, youth & children's ministries continue to strive to connect families, especially during this season of Advent. Children have been mailed an interactive Advent calendar to put on their fridges, and families are encouraged to participate in #saumcdonkey around Ashland. Short virtual lessons, geared toward kids but made with any audience in mind, are posted on the Ashland Area UMCs YouTube channel each Wednesday. Youth group continues to meet virtually on Sunday evenings, and students are sent a short video devotion each Wednesday morning to encourage and challenge them throughout the week. On Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm, South Ashland children's ministry will be holding a virtual talent show for our kiddos who participate in the children's activities held here at church. The link will be posted on our church Facebook page for those of you who would like to virtually attend.

Although each of us is likely experiencing an array of emotions this holiday season, I encourage us to shift our focus to Advent. Latin for "coming," Advent encourages us to wait in prayerful expectation. May we greet this uncertain season with hope, for although light has already come into the world through the incarnation of God Almighty, we were not left alone when Jesus ascended back to the Father. Light is here. Salvation is not a futuristic word—it is present. Jesus came to bring us light, to bring us hope, to give us freedom from sin's darkness *now*. As Isaiah prophesied, "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned." (Is. 9:2) Praise God that light has not been extinguished! As we continue to wait for the tide of coronavirus to ebb, may we look to the light that is already among us and find peace. If our 'happiness' levels are not what they typically are at this time, may we still seek joy. And while we feel distanced from those we love, may we express love by actively taking part in protecting one another.

While we wait together this Advent, may we each experience the peace, joy, and love of Immanuel, God in human flesh, Who came to be with us and bring us light. And be encouraged, church—Jesus has promised He will come again!



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

I pray that each one of you have a very blessed and Merry Christmas. Each month as I start to write these articles my mind goes 100 places as I pray about what God wants me to say and lift up about our Costa Rica mission efforts. This has been a very difficult year due to Covid not only for us but for Costa Rica and Mary. She has not been able to come home to visit her family, no teams going to Costa Rica, all the restrictions and money concerns, yet God has been with all of us the whole time.

We have been blessed to be able to send money to Mary during this time to help support the ministry. We will be sending down this month another \$2,500.00. What a blessing that will be to us and Mary as well. Costa Rica law requires all employers to pay all employees a 13th month bonus in December of each year. This money will allow Mary to meet this obligation plus extra money to do more mission work.

I am writing this on November 20, 2020. The team will be traveling to Costa Rica in 79 days!!! There are still a couple of open airline tickets if anyone else wants to be part of the team, please contact me asap.

Thanks so much for your support and prayers. All that you do allows us to go and be the Hands and feet of Christ in Costa Rica from South Ashland UMC. Please remember any money that you give to Costa Rica goes directly to the mission work as each team member pays for their whole trip. Proverbs 22:9 says this: *The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.* This talks about all the people who have been on a mission trip and for all the ones that support the efforts thru prayers and giving.

As I prayed and thought more about what our bible says about this work, I was led to this: Romans 10:14-15

*14How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*

I think this surely applies to your team.

In His love and Service

Eduardo



# Happy Birthday!

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Shirley Dixon   | 11 Jack Daniel      |
| 3 John M. Hinkle  | 13 Susie Carter     |
| Ashley Ambrosino  | 14 Skippy Simmerman |
| 4 Ashley Crawford | 17 Russ Ryan        |
| 5 Hollie Brantley | Brandon Miller      |
| Candy Lett        | 22 Mark Meenach     |
| 7 Kent Mansfield  | 23 Linda VanHoose   |
| 8 Susan Hunt      | Valerie Highley     |
| 9 Josh Daniel     | 25 Carol Barnhorst  |
| 10 Lynda Cannon   | 31 John N. Cannon   |
| John Hinkle       |                     |
| David Bolen       |                     |
| Bri Williamson    |                     |

www.PlanetPosters.net

# Happy Anniversary

- 5 Kenneth & Kay Bush  
 17 Frank & Cheri Sloan  
 22 Matt & Kim Hart  
 26 Greg & Arland White  
 27 Randy & Cynde Elkins  
 Mark & Paulette Meenach  
 Rodney & Erin Miller  
 29 Jim & Susan Ifert  
 31 Jack & Susie Daniel

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>December</b>		1	2 <a href="#">6:30 Adult Study Zoom</a> <a href="#">6:30 Children's Online</a>	3 10:00 Intercessory Prayer	4	5
6 9:30 Drive-In Worship & Facebook Live 6:30 Youth - Zoom	7 	8 9:30 Staff Meeting	9 <a href="#">6:30 Adult Study Zoom</a> <a href="#">6:30 Children's Online</a>	10 10:00 Intercessory Prayer	11	12
13 9:30 Drive-In Worship & Facebook Live 6:30 Youth - Zoom	14	15	16 <a href="#">6:30 Adult Study Zoom</a> <a href="#">6:30 Children's Online</a>	17 10:00 Intercessory Prayer	18 	19
20 9:30 Drive-In Worship & Facebook Live 6:30 Youth - Zoom	21 	22	23 <a href="#">6:30 Adult Study Zoom</a> <a href="#">6:30 Children's Online</a>	24  Office Closed	25  Office Closed	26
27 9:30 Drive-In Worship & Facebook Live	28	29	30 <a href="#">6:30 Adult Study Zoom</a> <a href="#">6:30 Children's Online</a>	31  Office Closed		