

# South Minds

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

December 2023

(606) 324-6961 ashlandcornerstone@gmail.com www.ashlandcornerstone.org

Keith Katterheinrich, Lead Pastor
John Carwell, Discipleship Pastor
Genée Johns-Morrison
Director of Youth &
Children's Ministries
Bev Moore

Director of Worship

Rodney Miller

Praise Team Coordinator

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
Lou Moore

Evangelism Team
Steve Meyers & Ed Spears
Outreach Team

Lisa Hammond Discipleship Team

Joy Daniel
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Cheryl Spears First Impressions Team

Bev Moore Kathy Hughes Stephen Ministry

Praise Team:
Rodney & Erin Miller,
Stacia Carwell, Karen Dial,
Eric Akers, Clancy Hatfield,
Mike Harbour, Peyton Levi,
Hunter Blankenship,
Jacob Shytle, Barb Mitchell

As a church, we are entering the season of Advent, which is a time of preparation and anticipation. As we journey closer to Christmas and the birth of Jesus, Advent calls us to prepare for Jesus' coming. We often spend a lot of time preparing for parties, time with family, the gifts we are going to give, and so many other things that accompany this season. But more importantly, we have to ask ourselves what Jesus' birth means to us and how we should spiritually prepare for this season.

If you were in church last week, you will remember that I talked briefly about fasting. While the season of Lent is the season in which we normally talk about fasting, it is very appropriate in the season of Advent to have this conversation. If you are following the daily Bible reading plan, you recently read Ezra. In Chapter 8, Ezra called for a fast in order to seek God's safe passage from Babylonia back to Jerusalem. This was an act of humbling themselves as they were seeking God's grace and provision. In Jeremiah chapter 36, the people are called to fast in repentance as the words of the prophet are read in their hearing. This was an act of seeking God's mercy in the face of their sin. In Joel chapter 2, the people are commanded to return to God with fasting and mourning, once again as an act of repentance.

Here, we have examples of humbly repenting and seeking God's face. These are both appropriate ways to enter into Advent as we prepare for the coming of the Savior of the world. So here is what I am encouraging you to do in this Advent Season: set aside a time during the week that you can participate in a water fast for 24 hours. If you are having a hard time deciding when to do it, I invite you to join me as I fast from dinner time on Tuesday to dinner time on Wednesday. After you eat your Tuesday dinner, have only water until dinner time on Wednesday. Choose another day if that suits your schedule better. Or choose to fast from breakfast to breakfast. And if your health will not permit you to water fast, then choose an alternate activity to abstain from. Then use this time to draw near to God and pray for our church.

I believe God is preparing us as a church for some new Kingdom work. I am not sure at this time what all that involves, but I am sure He is bringing His Kingdom into our world in a powerful way. And in order to be ready, let's fast and pray.



Let's spread Christmas cheer and love to our senior members and friends. In our church foyer you will find a box in which to place Christmas cards to let them know we are thinking of them. These need to be dropped off no later than <u>Friday.</u> **December 15**.

Tootsie Baldrock Sonnie Blanton Bill Clinger Billie Brown Tish Crawford Teddy Cole Faye Dehart Shirley Dixon Jean Duncan Lois Early Ann Gehringer Amos Gearheart Dr. Malcolm King Faye Lenning Ray McCann Gene Maddox Linda Meyers Shelia McKee Steve Meyers John Newman Jim Newton Jack Nuckols Stella Pennington **Bob Poore** Jon Roberts Norma Thompson Kaelyn Wellman Mary Wheeler Karlene Wheeler **Toby Williams** Cheri Woods Harry Wurts



#### Hillcrest-Bruce Mission Adopt-a-Child & Adopt-a-Senior Programs

**Adopt-a-Child** is for children ages 16 and younger who reside in our community <u>and</u> who are not receiving gifts from another agency. You can determine how many children to whom you would like to sponsor and give gifts. Hillcrest-Bruce will provide you with their age, sex, size, and a gift wish list.

**Adopt-a-Senior** is truly needed as our senior citizens, for the most part, live alone and are on fixed incomes. You can determine how many seniors to whom you would like to sponsor and give gifts. Hill-crest-Bruce will provide you with their age, sex, size, and a gift wish list.

Monetary donations can also be made to Hillcrest-Bruce Mission and labeled either "Adopt-a-Child" or "Adopt-a-Senior." **Gifts need to be returned to the Mission**, wrapped and labeled with the child or senior's name and code number, **between Monday**, **December 11th through Friday**, **December 15**.

Please call the Mission (606-324-5723) with any questions or for more information.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24



6:00 P.M. FEAT. PUPPETS & CHILDREN'S CHOIR

8:00 P.M. TRADITIONAL

11:00 P.M. MIDNIGHT (BILINGUAL)



The church office will be <u>CLOSED</u> on **Friday, December**22, and **Monday, December**in observance of the Christmas holidays.

The church office will also be **CLOSED** on **Monday, January 1**, for New Year's Day

## The Facts and Only the Facts A Digging Thought from Pastor John

Before you begin, grab your Bible - you will need it.

With the time change, the days seem to be so much darker. I wake up when it is dark. I sit down for dinner when it is dark. There are days when I think it is 10:30 pm and I feel like it is bedtime, only to look at my watch to discover it is only 8:23pm. This time change has worked me over this year.

The circumstances we live in can really do a number on us, just like the time change. One thing we can learn from Jesus is to simply rely on Scripture in time of temptation and turmoil.

**Read Matthew 4:1-11.** What did Jesus use to combat each temptation? That's right, Scripture. We should be doing the same. That is one of the reasons why we do a daily Bible reading at CornerStone.

It is our desire that each of us at CornerStone hide God's Word in our hearts (Psalm 119:11). It is God's Word that enables us to resist temptation. I want to encourage you to dig into Scripture each day so that you can withstand all ups and downs this life throws at you.

Speaking of digging, another way we can hide God's Word in our hearts is to learn more about the Bible through archaeology. On **December 10th at 6:00pm in the Family Life Center**, biblical archaeologist Tommy Chamberlain will be sharing with us more artifacts and information regarding biblical times and the birth of Jesus. Come out and "dig" into the Word. We will take up a love offering to help spread the word about Jesus through biblical archaeology.

Questions of the day:

What Bible verse(s) have you hidden in your heart (memorized)?

What can you change or adapt that will give you more opportunities to dig into God's Word?

Living the Life God has Given,

Pastor John

### CornerStone MC Treasurer's Report - November 2023

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<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Budget Items</b>	Specials	Totals	
Beginning Balance	\$53,268.91	\$48,618.23	\$101,887.14	
Receipts	\$55,460.38	\$6,522.69	\$61,983.07	
Disbursements	(\$41,141.40)	(\$6,353.97)	(\$47,495.37)	
Transfer	\$3,557.93	(\$3,189.23)	\$368.70	
Closing Balance	\$71,145.82	\$45,597.72	\$116,743.54	
Year-to-Date				
Balance 12/31/2022	\$20,063.93	\$75,306.83	\$95,370.76	
Receipts	\$459,057.73	\$224,703.97	\$683,761.70	
Disbursements	(\$437,798.08)	(\$235,482.74)	(\$673,280.82)	
Transfer	\$29,822.24	(\$18,930.34)	\$10,891.90	
Closing Balance	\$71,145.82	\$45,597.72	\$116,743.54	

#### **Honors & Memorials**

#### Adopt a Brick

In Memory of Teresa Kirkpatrick Given by the Pathfinders Class

#### **Backpack Blessings**

*In Memory of Darlene Meyers*Given by Harry & Diane Nelson

#### Budget

In Memory of Teresa Kirkpatrick
Given by Burt & Mae Saunders;
Steve & Toby Simmerman; Barry & Lynn Cohen;
Fred & Dana Hill; John & Lynda Cannon;
and Helen Johnson

In Memory of Mona Leibee Given by Arline Franklin

In Memory of Darlene Meyers
Given by Steve & Toby Simmerman;
Richard & Francie Martin; Bob & Jo Keifer;
John & Lynda Cannon; and Barry & Lynn Cohen

#### **Choir Fund**

In Memory of Wanda Baker Given by Bill & Martha Rice *In Memory of Darlene Meyers*Given by Al & Becky Gehringer

#### **Costa Rica Farm**

In Memory of Teresa Kirkpatrick
Given by Diane Pierson; Kay Gevedon;
Bryan & Joan Flanery; and
Marvin & Karen Sizemore

In Memory of Darlene Meyers
Given by Kay Gevedon and
Bryan & Joan Flanery

#### **Costa Rica Feeding Program**

In Memory of Darlene Meyers
Given by Mark & Paulette Meenach

In Memory of Teresa Kirkpatrick
Given by Don & Gloria Neikirk;
Jim & Nedra Fennell; Ed & Cheryl Spears;
Frank & Cheri Sloan; Dick & Trish Wheeler; Jim,
Lynne, & Doug Wagnaar; Pathfinders Sunday
School Class; Bill & Martha Rice; and Mark &
Paulette Meenach

#### Hillcrest-Bruce

In Memory of Darlene Meyers
Given by Frank & Cheri Sloan;
Ed & Cheryl Spears; and Paul & Vicky Brenner

#### **Jail Ministry**

In Memory of Nita Nunley
Given by Ed & Cheryl Spears

#### Missions

*In Memory of Darlene Meyers* Given by Don & Gloria Neikirk

#### **Thanksgiving Baskets**

*In Memory of Darlene Meyers* Given by Barry & Lynn Cohen

#### Trustee's Project/New Bus

In Memory of Wanda Baker Given by Lou & Bev Moore

In Memory of J. H. Hicks on His 100th Birthday Given by Peg Hicks

In Memory of Teresa Kirkpatrick Given by Lou & Bev Moore; Greg & Arland White; and Ray McCann



"Dear Baby Bottle Liaison, [t]hank you...for your willingness to serve as liaison for your church and Two Hearts. The Baby Bottle Blessings fundraiser was a great success! [...] The grand total for CornerStone Methodist is \$1,980.13, which includes all individual donations and change....I stand in awe of God's goodness, His churches, that participated, the special people He placed as church liaisons, and each of His people who said 'Yes' and filled a bottle. [....] Thank you again for your time and effort with the Baby Bottle Blessings fundraiser!" - Sandy Bellomy, Executive Director of Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Centers

"I taught with [Mona Leibee] for many years at Crabbe [Elementary] [before] my family was moved to Lexington. We talked and visited with each other for many years. The last time I talked to her was around June 3rd for her birthday. She sounded good and cheery. I was shocked to read...of her death in August [which was] published in the Kentucky teachers newsletter...I'm sorry I didn't know this sooner. I would have come to Ashland. She was a great friend and a great lady. She will be missed. Sincerely" - Ailene Franklin, former member of South Ashland United Methodist Church

"To Teresa's Church Family, Sheryl [Hickman] and I are so very grateful for the beautiful service for Teresa! We felt her presence there. Every member of our immediate family was there - 24 of us. We realize Teresa had an enormous church family as well. Our hearts are broken, but we know we'll see her again one day. Thanks for everything! P.S. Please make Larry wear that UK shirt again!" - Diana Van Bibber & Sheryl Van Bibber Hickman

"We're all ready for Advent and Christmas! I want to thank the team of members who gave up their Sunday afternoon rest and relaxing time to prepare our church for the Advent and Christmas season, which begins Sunday, Dec 3. This army of volunteers fluffed trees, hung ornaments, tested and replaced lights, hung lighted wreaths in the rain, hoisted a super heavy ladder around the Sanctuary in order to hang wreaths on the walls, very carefully moved Chrismon trees to their assigned spots, placed Nativity sets where needed, and graciously accepted any assignment given. We completed the task in two hours, bringing to life my motto, 'many hands make light work.' May you experience the true meaning of Christmas as you worship with us in the coming weeks. In his Blessed Name" - Martha Rice

"The season has come to an end for weedeating and mowing the grass of our properties. Our grounds have been regularly maintained by three diligent and special guys: Don Neikirk, Jim Hunt, and Michael Barnhorst. They have done a superb job all spring, summer, and fall. The trustees greatly appreciate your time and effort for making our properties look the best ever! " - Gloria Neikirk

"Dear Church Family, [m]y sincere thanks to everyone for the lovely greeting cards and notes during ther fall and Christmas seasons, along with the candy and snacks. I appreciate so much of you thinking of me. Sincerely," Ray McCann



#### **NEW BUS TO US CAMPAIGN**

GOD IS SO GOOD!!! We had another great month of donations given to our campaign! Our plan is to purchase a 15-seat, handicap accessible bus. This bus won't be a brand new one, but it will be new to us! It will benefit our senior members as well as our youth. We are past the halfway mark to having accumulated the amount needed to reach our goal! Please pray about giving to this campaign. Mark your envelope, "Trustees Capital Projects". We appreciate each one of you who has donated to this project. You are a blessing!

## Youth & Children's

### **News and Events**

One Sunday night recently, the youth had a discussion about injustice and how, at its root, much injustice around the world occurs because of greed. The youth were asked what they can practically do about it - how might they participate in changing the world for the better? The societal current of consumerism has such a dangerous pull, it can be hard to swim against. Yet imagine how the world would look if people chose generosity over greed, others over self? Perhaps we, as a church body, can start from the ground up, not allowing consumerism to pull us under but modeling to even our littlest members how to give and providing opportunities for them to do so.

The Sunday before Thanksgiving, some of our elementary, middle, and high schoolers had the opportunity to serve at Hillcrest Bruce. Our youth are eager to help at the **Community Christmas Party** taking place at CornerStone on Sunday evening, **December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Our intergenerational Stewardship & Missions group heads to town one Wednesday night each December to shop for Hillcrest Bruce adopt-a-child-and-senior. Stewardship & Missions, Puppets, and Kids Choir plan to visit Woodland Oaks on Wednesday evening, **December 6<sup>th</sup>**, to hand out Christmas crafts and have a Christmas carol **performance** for residents. **On December 20<sup>th</sup>**, we plan to have church-wide **Christmas caroling** for anyone who would like to participate.

I have said many times that I am blessed to be part of such a generous church. May we continue providing ample opportunities for our young people to give, even beyond Christmas. Because abundant giving might just change the world.

#### - Genée



















Merry Christmas My Brothers and Sisters,

My prayer is that you all have a very blessed and Merry Christmas. As I was praying before I started writing this, I kept thinking of how God has blessed all of us and, if we allow, He will hold and lead us each and every day of our lives. Thank God.

As you all know, we support two ministries, one that feeds children here in Ashland and the other ones in Costa Rica. The backpack program and the Costa Rica feeding program have been blessed with so much support and prayers. I was thinking about how, in this country, our government supplies food for the children. In Costa Rica, it is not the same. Anyone who has been on our mission trips has seen how poor and hungry the children are. I just wanted to say, one more time, thank you for your support and prayers for both ministries. Currently, we are helping to feed children in Pital, El Mirador, and Vera Cruz.

I think of John 21:15-17 so often when thinking of the feeding ministries: When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you. "Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep.

I know Jesus was talking about more than just food for His followers, but it still makes me think about feeding the children. Many ministries continue through Paul's efforts at the farm. It is such a blessing to hear how many things are happening at the farm and the outreach into the communities there.

Your team will leave on February 5th and will return on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The team members are: John and Nick Carwell, Keith Katterheinrich, Matt and Kim Hart, Don and Gloria Neikirk, Carolyn King, Mary Ann Galloway, Donita Cox, Martha Rice, Adam Elkins, Cher Kiser, Paulette Meenach, John and Marcella Aparicio, and myself. We also will have five people from Georgia and three from Maryland joining us. What a big team!

We are still in need of small tubes of toothpaste, individually wrapped candy for the children's VBS, gift bags, and quart/gallon baggies. These items can be placed in either the box in foyer or box in the FLC.

Please keep all of us in your prayers as we prepare and travel to Costa Rica to be our Lord's hands and feet in ministry. Thanks for your prayers and support of this ministry. Nothing could be done without ALL of you.

In His Love and Service, Eduardo

#### 2024 COSTA RICA TRIP

There is a box/stand in the fover and in the Family Life Center with a list of items we need. Thank you for your generosity! (Items marked with an asterisk are needed most.)

Colored pencil and markers

Hand sanitizer (small bottles)

Deodorant

Antibiotic cream

Baggies (quart and gallon)\*

Band-Aids

Bars of soap

Candy (individually wrapped)\* Children's scissors

Construction paper

Crayons, pens, and pencils

Gift bags\*

Erasers Rulers School glue and glue sticks Shampoo (travel size)

Toothpaste (travel and large size)\*

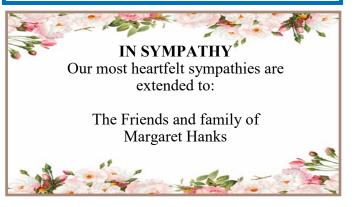
Vitamins (children's, prenatal, and seniors)

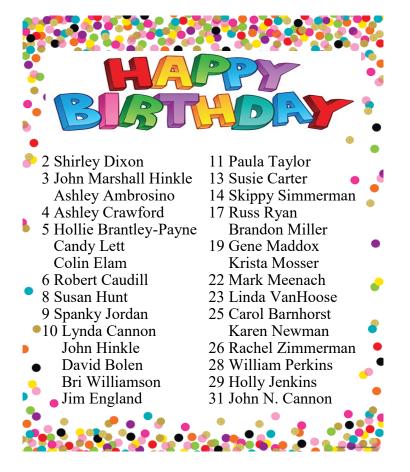
White Twin Sheet Sets

Charlotte Jo Lambert was born on **November 1, 2023.** 

Congratulations to the Lambert family for their new addition!









Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dec	Cemi	Ber			1	2
3 7:30 Pastor Prayer Support 8:00 Billingual Worship 8:00-12:00 Discipleship Classes 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Contemporary Worship 5:30 Youth & God's Gang/Godly Play 5:30 Women's Class 5:30 Lifegroup	4 8:30 Pastors Covenant Group 7:00 p.m. Lifegroup	5 11:00 Friends of the Children 11:00 Lifegroup 7:00 Scouts	6 10:00 Men's Class 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Children's Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Puppets 6:30 Stewardship & Missions	7 9:00 Praying for the Church 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Praise Team 6:30 Red Letter Bible Study 7:00 Charge Conference (Ashland Area GMC)	8	9
10 7:30 Pastor Prayer Support 8:00 Billingual Worship 8:00 12:00 Disciplestin Classes 9:00 Christmas Cantata 11:00 Christmas Cantata 5:30 Youth & Gods Cang/Godly Play 5:30 Women's Class 5:30 Lifegroup 5:30 Archaeologist Tommy Chamberlin		12 9:30 Staff Meeting 11:00 Lifegroup 6:30 Trustees Meeting 7:00 Scouts	13 10:00 Men's Class 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Children's Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Puppets 6:30 Stewardship & Missions	14 9:00 Praying for the Church 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Praise Team 6:30 Red Letter Bible Study	15 6:30 Emmaus Gathering	16 12:00 Puppets 4:00 Christmas Dinner (Ashland Pentecostal Church)
17 7:30 Pastor Prayer Support 8:00 Bilingual Worship 8:00-12:00 Discipleship Classes 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Contemporary Worship 5:30 Youth & God's Gang/Godly Play 5:30 Women's Class 5:30 Lifegroup	18 8:30 Pastors Covenant Group 7:00 p.m. Lifegroup	19 11:00 Life Group 6:30 Finance Meeting 7:00 Admin Council 7:00 Scouts	20 10:00 Men's Class 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Children's Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Puppets 6:30 Stewardship & Missions	21 9:00 Praying for the Church 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Praise Team 6:30 Red Letter Bible Study	22 Christmas Eve (Observed) - Office Closed	23 12:00 Puppets
24 7:30 Pastor Prayer Support 8:00 Billingual Worship 8:00-12:00 Discipleship Classes 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Contemporary Worship 6:00 Candielight Service - Traditional 11:00 Candielight Service - Midnight	25 Christmas - Office Closed	26 11:00 Life Group 6:00 Loving Arms 7:00 Scouts	27 10:00 Men's Class 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Bible Study 6:30 Children's Choir 6:30 Puppets 6:30 Stewardship & Missions	28 9:00 Praying for the Church 5:00 Seniors Ministry Dinner 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Praise Team 6:30 Red Letter Bible Study	29	30
31 7:30 Pastor Prayer Support 8:00 Billingual Worship 8:00-12:00 Discipleship Classes 9:30 Traditional Worship 11:00 Contemporary Worship 5:30 Youth & Cod's Gang/Godly Play 5:30 Women's Class 5:30 Lifegroup						



CornerStone Methodist Church 2203 29th Street Ashland, KY 41101

Keith Katterheinrich, Lead Pastor John Carwell, Discipleship Pastor

Return Services Requested

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Celebrating Jesus, Others, and You!