

New Announcements

This morning's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Leon Nichols by his family. Leon was the brother-in-law of the pastor.

Members of the Youth Sunday School Class are lighting the Advent Candles in today's service.

The Music after the Sermon today is *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, by Alice Parker and Robert Shaw. It is dedicated by Ethel M. Block, Linda Block-Coalter, John Block, and Sarah B. Naso in loving memory of the Rev. Ervin F. Block.

2013 pledge envelopes will be available for pick up starting next Sunday, December 16th.

Christmas Eve at Faith: Our family service will be in the sanctuary at 4:00 p.m. and a candlelight service with communion at 11:00 p.m. Please plan to join us for these special services, and invite family, friends, and neighbors to join you.

Would you like a part in the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service? Please let Karen know. All ages are welcome. We have twenty-five Jesse Tree parts, plus Advent candles, Bible verses, prayers, building the nativity, etc. There's a place for you!

The pastor will take his final week of vacation from Wednesday, December 26th, to Wednesday, January 2nd. For pastoral concerns during that time, contact Donna Nedrow at 440-285-7141. For pastoral emergencies, contact the pastor at 216-382-3156.

Middle School and College Students are invited to a lock-in, December 27th and 28th. Dinner, rock climbing, and fun. Middle School, 9th and 10th graders are staying at the Jacquet home. College age, 11th and 12th graders are at Faith from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. The cost is \$15.00 per person. RSVP is required by Wednesday, December 19th. Friends are welcome.

Just a reminder that Sunday, December 30th is the final Sunday in 2012. Any contributions that you wish to be counted for 2012 should be placed in the offering plate by this day. Also please note that the end of the year giving statements will be ready for distribution in mid January. If anyone would like a copy earlier, to catch up on pledges, they should contact the church office.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held next Sunday, December 16th at 12:00 Noon. The annual report of the congregation is available for pick up today after the service.

Join us for Christmas caroling! Following the annual meeting of the congregation next Sunday, December 16th, we will be caroling to our shut-ins from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. following a special lunch for carolers. Please sign up on the bulletin board opposite the kitchen before you leave church today.

This year's Giving Tree is up and full of ornaments! Gifts this year will benefit the children of Providence House, a crisis nursery offering emergency shelter and care to children who are actively at risk for abuse and neglect due to family crisis. Take an ornament, or two, off the tree, purchase the item and place it, unwrapped, under the tree. All items must be new. Donations will be accepted through December 23rd. Thank you for your support!

Ingathering 2012: As we did in our Ingathering for the past couple of years, we will be collecting cash donations through December 23rd. The cash will be donated to the New Covenant Lutheran Church Hunger Center on Hayden Avenue. While food donations are always welcome, cash is preferred by the Hunger Center because of its wonderful multiplicative effect. With your cash donations, food from the Cleveland Foodbank is purchased by the Hunger Center at an enormously reduced cost, thereby making our dollars go much further in alleviating hunger than they would by purchasing from retailers. Please join us as we seek to help those who are hungry in our community.

It's a Christmas Concert! Faith Seniors are hosting The Northcoast Women's Ensemble this Tuesday, December 11th, at 1:00 p.m. The Faith Seniors invite everyone to come and bring your friends and neighbors to enjoy this special holiday concert. If you can help provide baked goods or other snacks for sharing after the concert in the Social Hall, it would be most helpful. Please sign up so we know approximately how many will be attending.

A Christmas Recital will take place here at Faith on Saturday, December 22nd. Teacher, Oksana Melnychenko, invites everyone to the recital which will begin at 3:00 p.m. in the church Social Hall. It is free and open to the community.