



Sheridan First United Methodist Church

CHIME NOTES

DECEMBER 2017

Volume LVII, Issue I



Read : Philippians 4:8 Have a Positive New Year!

How do you view life? Do you see the glass as half empty or half full? Do you see the silver lining in every dark cloud or do you only see the dark cloud? Do you focus on the positive or good side of people, or do you only see the negative or bad side? It is easy to get caught up in negativity...always pointing out what you don't like. It's so easy to see what's wrong with the world and the people around us and judge them accordingly. We live in a negative culture; just watch the news and see how many positive stories make the news...not many...sad isn't it? In our society we seem to always be comparing ourselves with one another, always wanting more and never being content or fully satisfied with what we have...always wanting better...and putting down those who don't measure up to our expectations.

For some reason, people of all ages today seem to have a sense of "entitlement", "the world owes me" kind of mentality...life is about me, what I want. Negative people are always focused on themselves. Unfortunately that kind of attitude blinds a person so that they can not see just how blessed they really are. Negativity causes one to miss out on so much...great relationships with spouses, with our children and neighbors; the joy of living in happiness and contentment; the peace that comes from counting ones blessings, and the faith that comes from knowing that God is going to take care of you...no matter what! Negativity is like a bad cold, it's very contagious and makes one miserable.

The Psalmist tells us in Psalm 27:3, As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. Our attitude comes from what is in our hearts. Perhaps that is why the apostle Paul encourages us to think on these things: whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable...if anything is excellent or praiseworthy (i.e. - positive and good) think about such things. If we dwell on the positive then we have faith and hope in the future and a sense of renewed life. However, if we dwell on the negative it will pull us down and drain the life right out of us. What is in our heart and what is on our mind is our choice. We *choose* to be positive or we *choose* to be negative. The healthy choice is to be positive...in every situation. Sometimes it is not easy to be positive...that is where faith comes in...seeing what is not visible. My prayer for you is for you to choose a positive attitude and live a positive faith filled life in 2017. Count your blessings, rejoice, and be thankful for what you have! Pastor Carol

HANGING OF THE GREENS

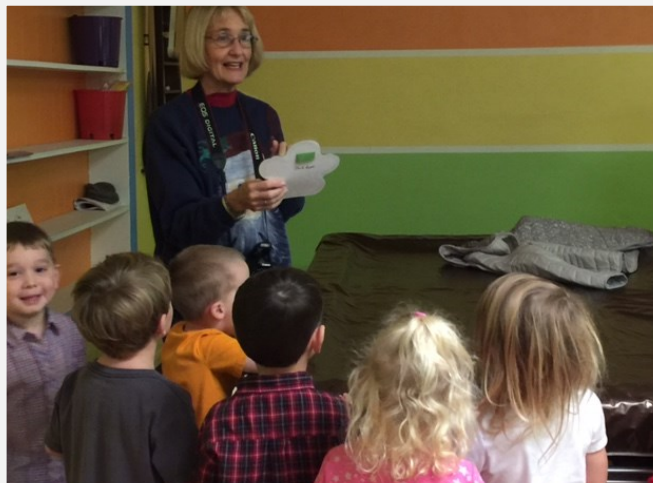


On December 20th, we decorated the church for Advent and made Advent wreaths. The church is beautiful this time of year!



YOUR CHURCH IN ACTION — LEARN AND PLAY

During Learn and Play, we read the story of The Gingerbread Boy and then we made a gingerbread boy. We put him in the oven. Imagine our surprise when we released he had escaped and left us clues. We had to go on a gingerbread hunt! We finally found him hiding in the refrigerator.



We even had a visit from Santa who read some stories, did some magic tricks, and listened to what we want for Christmas!



LEARN AND PLAY—CHRISTMAS PARTY



We had fun at our Christmas Party. We did our stations, iced cookies, and made a gift for our parents.



What a blessing this ministry is to not only the students but the teachers!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL



On Sunday, December 18, the children of the church presented "The Light Has Come" for the Children's Christmas Musical. We all enjoyed it! Thanks to Nikki Davis and Amanda Summers for directing the program.



SOUP SUPPER AND SERVICE OF CAROLS



On December 11, we held the Community Soup Supper and Service of Carols at our church.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



The children of the church enjoyed a Christmas Party on the afternoon of December 18. Santa visited, we played games, dressed others like Christmas trees, and decorated cookies.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Women's Bible Study Group celebrated their conclusion of the Beth Moore "Entrusted" Bible Study on December 21 with a Christmas Party complete with food, games, charades! A fun time was had by all. The next Bible Study "Listen, Love, Repeat" will begin on Wednesday, January 4 at 6:00 p.m.



And a fun time was had by all!

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR 2017

If you provided altar flowers for 2016 and would like to continue to do so in 2017, please contact the church office at 317-758-4195. I have the list from 2016 and would like to make sure that the list is correct for 2017. — Brenda



Larry Eidson, Jr.	01/02
Derry Zachery	01/07
Melanie Bales	01/08
Julia Neff	01/08
Faith DeVaney	01/09
Connie Pearson	01/12
Nikki Davis	01/15
Dale McCullough	01/17
Norm Wagoner	01/19
Pat Birden	01/21
Betsy Bensen	01/24
Pam Pickard	01/26
Patrick Weitzel	01/26

RED BIRD MISSION TRIP INFORMATIONAL MEETING

There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, January 8, at 2:00 p.m. for those who are interested in participating in the mission trip to Red Bird Mission on June 25– July 1. A \$50 deposit is due on January 15 to hold your spot for the trip.



Tim and Melanie Bales 01/13



**Remembering
Our Homebound Members**

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND

Please remember our homebound with a card, a call, or a prayer this week. If you need an address, please call the church office at 317-758-4195. If you know of someone who needs to be added to our list, please let us know.

Mark Blessing
Harold Nicholson
Joanne Norman
Mary Anne Ogle
William Oberthur
Robert Peterson
Helen Pickard

Kate Pickett
Mary Grace Pickett
Betty Rohrer
Melba Stephenson
Tresa Ann Waitt
Mary Walker



SunFlower Pantry at The GreenHouse
Open 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month 2:00 -
4:00 p.m.



Items needed for January:

Mouthwash
Paper Towels
Shampoos
Sponge & Scoring Pads

The SunFlower Board will meet the 2nd Tuesday
each month @ 7:00 p.m. at the GreenHouse.
Next meeting is January 10, 2017

*Thank
you*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift. We are
blessed to serve this congregation.

Sincerely,
Ralph & Linda Stephenson

To My Church Family,

Thank you so much for the Christ-
mas gift. It is truly appreciated as are all of
you. You are indeed our special family.

Brenda Davis

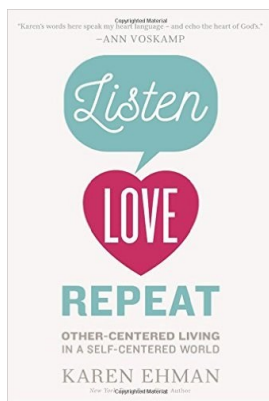
Dear Church Family,

Your precious Christmas gift is so
appreciated...Thanks to all for the many
blessings extended through the years. Your
love and prayers could not come at a better
time. God always provides an open door
and friends to love us.

Nancy Kerr

A special thank you to the congregation for the beautiful Christmas card and gift; and to
the choir for the Christmas goody box and beautiful Christmas tree painting! I appreciate
your generosity and spirit of sharing this blessed Christmas season. Your friendship, love
and support are blessings beyond words. May the Peace of Christ be with you...always,
always, always! In Christian Love and Gratefulness,

Valri



NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

LISTEN, LOVE, REPEAT

You are invited to join us for the new Women's Bible Study which begins on Wednesday, January 4, at 6:00 p.m. A light supper provided. This is a video-based study by Karen Ehman.

Our culture is self-obsessed – in our schedules, relationships, and especially online. (Can you say selfie?) But in this near-narcissism, people are less content than in decades past. Why? Because we forgot the joy that comes from putting others first. Doing so requires us to live alert, listening for “heart drops,” hints from those in our lives who need a helping hand or a generous dose of encouragement. Living alert lifts our own spirits, showing us that blessing others blesses us even more.

Listen, Love, Repeat offers biblical teaching and suggests doable actions that are simple, heart-tugging, sentimental, even sneaky and hilarious. This message:

- Presents scriptural examples of those who lived alert, including Jesus, who noticed those who least expected to be seen.
- Explains the role of good works for followers of Christ. They aren't our ticket to heaven but they are our marching orders on earth.
- Gives creative ideas for showing love to friends and family, and suggests practical ways to reach out to the lonely, the marginalized, the outcast, and the odd duck. Additionally, it helps you comfort the grieving, showing what you can do when you don't know what to say.
- Provides inspiration for blessing the “necessary people” in your life, those often-overlooked souls who help you get life done every day, and teaches you how to hug a porcupine by genuinely loving the hard-to-love.

As we scatter love, we create a safe space where we can openly share the gospel. We get to see lives changed right before our eyes. Most importantly, *Listen, Love, Repeat* will enable you to live a life that is full of kind deeds, not to selfishly shout, “Hey! Look at me!” but to humbly implore, “Will you look at Him?”



Special thanks to Kathy Small, Amanda and Nate Mylet, Carrie and Nate Byerly, Amanda Summers and Jo Ellen Flynn who have agreed to help with Children's Moment for 2017. You are truly appreciated!

LUNCH CLUB OVER CHRISTMAS BREAK

Lunch Club served every day the kids were out of school for Christmas break.



JANUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. Worship	2 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch Club 7:00 p.m. Church Council	3 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sunflower Pantry	4 6:00 p.m. Bible Studies 7:00 p.m. Choir	5 10:00 a.m. Learn & Play 12:00 p.m. Lunch Club	6	7
8 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. Youth 2:00 p.m. Mission Trip Informational Meeting	9	10 1:30 p.m. Lydia Circle 7:00 p.m. Sunflower Board	11 6:00 p.m. Bible Studies 7:00 p.m. Choir	12 10:00 a.m. Learn & Play 12:00 p.m. Lunch Club 7:00 p.m. Technology	12	14 7:30 a.m. UMM Breakfast
15 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m.	16 7:00 p.m. Trustees	17 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sunflower Pantry	18 6:00 p.m. Bible Studies 7:00 p.m. Choir	19 10:00 a.m. Learn & Play 12:00 p.m. Lunch Club 7:00 p.m. Koinonia Circle	20	21
22 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m.	23	24	25 6:00 p.m. Bible Studies 7:00 p.m. Choir	26 10:00 a.m. Learn & Play 12:00 p.m. Lunch Club	27	28
29 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m.	30	31 7:30 p.m. Finance				31