



**December 2025**  
**Weekly Update**  
**December 17, 2025**

When this newsletter is published, it will be exactly one week until Christmas Eve. Which means in one week we reach the end of the **contemplative** Advent and we enter the time **joyful** Christmas! If you have never thought very much about the season of Advent, I would encourage you to set aside a few moments each day this week and think about some key ideas of Advent – here's a guide to help. It will take you less than 5-minutes a day; but I encourage you to turn your attention to God this last week of Advent!

Thursday – December 18

Advent is a time of **Longing** – Read Psalm 42:1-2

Prayer: Ask God to increase your desire for Him. Advent is a season when we encourage ourselves to feel our deep desire for God to be present in our lives. Ask God to build your sense of need for Him.

Friday – December 19

Advent is a time of **Rescue** – Read Colossians 1:13-14

Prayer: Ask God to remind you of your need for salvation. At Advent we reflect on the fact that we could not save ourselves, and we needed God to come and save us from sin and death. Thank God for the way He has rescued you from darkness.

Saturday – December 20

Advent is a time for **Light** – Read John 1:4-5

Prayer: Tell God about the darkness you see in the world and ask Him to shine His light there. Sometimes it is in the darkest places that we see the light most clearly. Ask God to shine a light in the dark places of your own life.

Sunday – December 21

Advent is a time for **Joy** – Read Luke 1:46-47

Prayer: Thank God for the joy we have in Jesus. At Advent we rejoice that our Savior comes to make His home with us. And our joy is so much more than just happiness, for joy persists no matter our circumstances. Tell God of your gratitude for Him in all things.

Monday – December 22

Advent is a time of **Sorrow** – Read John 1:9-11

Prayer: Lament with God about the brokenness of the world. It is important and appropriate in Advent to remember that the world is a broken place. And that the Son we celebrate is also the Son who will suffer in our place. Advent is a time for us to repent of our sin.

Tuesday – December 23

Advent is a time of **Hope** – read Psalm 33:20-22

Prayer: Thank God for the trustworthy promise that He will one day set all things right and will redeem His people from their captivity to sin. During our season of Advent, we wait with hope – trusting in God's promise that the Messiah will come again and permanently bring us into eternal fellowship with Him.

Wednesday – December 24

Advent is a time of **Waiting** – read Psalm 130

Prayer: Tell God you have put your hope in Him and are waiting for His arrival. Allow your sense of waiting for Christmas morning to awaken in you a sense of waiting for Jesus' return. Ask God to help you continue to wait on Him and to build your faith in Jesus as you wait with perseverance and patience.

**Congregational Meeting Rescheduled.** Due to the weather last weekend, the Congregational Meeting scheduled for December 14, will be held this Sunday, December 21 following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers for 2026. Nominated for Elder are Frank Morrow, Steve Schlegel and Claudia Ward. Nominated for Deacon are Kim Morrow, Beth Reed and Veronica Styer.



## Calling All Women

Beginning in January, Seasons Study group is welcoming women of all ages in all seasons of life to

come, join us for fellowship and Bible study. We meet Tuesday evenings 6-7:30pm in the Seasons cafe. It's a great time to build relationships, open up, laugh and encourage one another in our walks with Christ. January 6th we will begin a new study, Strength in the Struggle by Lauren Ibach, a study to help women let go of fear and anxiety. Interested in joining or have questions? Contact Claudia Ward 330-466-2417. Looking forward to digging in deeper together!

## FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

### For November 2025

YTD Offering	\$213, 577.71
YTD Budgeted Expenses	\$206, 261.02
YTD Net Operating Income	\$7,316.69
YTD Net Other Income/Loss	\$36,801.16
<small>(Includes; Interest, rents, special donations, gain or loss on investments)</small>	
YTD Net Income	\$44,117.85
<small>(Operating income plus other income)</small>	
Available Funds	\$292, 489.00
<small>(This represents any funds available to FPC which session has not set aside for a specific purpose)</small>	

**A heartfelt thank you** to everyone who helped out with the Cookie Walk, the Live Nativity and the Buckeye Tree. Your response was overwhelming! From cookie and meal packers to greeters to the set up and cleanup crews and the cast of the live nativity. Thank you!



# PRAYER

**Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.**

The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

**Praises:** all who helped with and /or were blessed by the Advent service, the Cookie Walk, the live nativity and the Buckeye Tree.

**Military Service:** We have 7 young men & women serving in the Armed Forces. Please keep Abraham, Isaiah, Shannah, Christa, Steven, Ryan and Gaven in your prayers.

### Prayer Needs

- Prayers for our country
- Pastor Albert
- Unspoken

### Health Concerns

- **Holly Daugherty - healthy pregnancy**
- **Mary Lee's brother Don - serious health issues**
- **Bill Rock - low blood sugar w/heart issues**
- Jenny Reed - outpatient surgery & recovery
- Jessica - 2nd trimester high risk pregnancy
- Mayson White - injured HS football player
- Susan (James) Halliday
- Mark Lemon - cont'd prayers for progress
- Those needing/seeking mental health help
- Pat Thomson
- Jane Heilman

### Battling Cancer

- **Art Wetmore - newly diagnosed lung cancer**
- Mike Sherrick - lung cancer
- Justin Myers - considering hospice
- Mariann Stutzman - pancreatic cancer
- Logan - 13 yr. old with brain tumor
- Nicki
- Janet Lee
- Waldo - cont'd prayers for remainder of chemo
- Landon Sommers - Hodgkin's Lymphoma

*The Deacons encourage you to send cards or notes of encouragement to those in the church family experiencing prayer needs.*

**Thank you** – as we elect new church officers this morning, we also say goodbye to Adam Swinehart who served 6 years on Session, Wendy McKelvey, who served as a Deacon for 6 years, and Marcy Speelman who served as a Deacon for 3 years. Thank you all for your service and dedication to the church.

**The Children's Ministry Team has a special request for our church family.** We are asking you to join with us in praying for the kids of the church and for growth and blessing in kids ministry. We are eager to see more children and families connect with our programming for kids; but as we work toward that goal, we are asking all of you to join us in prayer. We know that God is the one who can help us reach more children and so we want to be asking Him to be at work in these things. Each week in the weekly update we will be sharing a simple prayer prompt for each day of the month and it will be connected with a Bible reference that the prayer is based on. We encourage you to pray with us but lifting up the children in your life, or by praying a general blessing on the children of our community. Your commitment to join us in praying for these things is a blessing to us and makes a difference! Thank you!

## **Praying for Kids – December 17 - December 23**

### ***December 17 - Philippians 1 :11***

May these children always be filled with the fruit of salvation—the righteous character produced in their lives by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to you, oh God.

### ***December 18 – Colossians 1:3-5***

I always pray for these children, and give thanks to you, God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. For they have shown me their faith in Christ Jesus and their love for all of God's people, which come from their confident hope of what you have reserved for them in heaven.

### ***December 19 - Colossians 1:6***

This same Good News that we teach in children's ministry is going out all over the world. I pray for those ministries, that they may bear fruit by changing lives, just as it changed my life from the day I first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace.

### ***December 20 – Colossians 1:7-8***

The children at our church are learning about the Good News from me and \_\_\_\_\_, my beloved co-workers. We are your faithful servants, and we have seen the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given my kids.

### ***December 21 – Colossians 1:9***

I will not stop praying for these children from the moment I meet them. I ask, God, that you give them a complete knowledge of your will and give them spiritual wisdom and understanding.

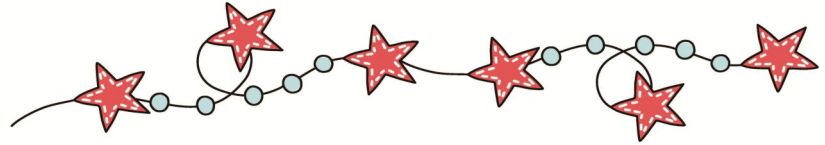
### ***December 22 – Colossians 1:10***

May the way children live always honor and please you, Lord, and may their lives produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, may they grow as they learn to know you better and better.

### ***December 23 – Colossians 1:11-12***

I pray that you will strengthen these children with all your glorious power so they will have all the endurance and patience they need. May they be filled with joy, always thanking you, Father. You have enabled us to share in the inheritance that belongs to your people, who live in the light.

# An Upside-Down Christmas



**November 30<sup>th</sup>:** Silence Turns to Song - Amos 8:11-12;  
Galatians 4:4; Hebrews 1:1-4

**December 7<sup>th</sup>:** A Priest and a Peasant - Luke 1:5-38

**December 14<sup>th</sup>:** The Empty Rich - Luke 1:46-56

**December 21<sup>st</sup>:** God in the Flesh - John 1:14-18; Phillippians 2:6-11

**December 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Eve):** A Manger for a Throne - Luke 2:1-20

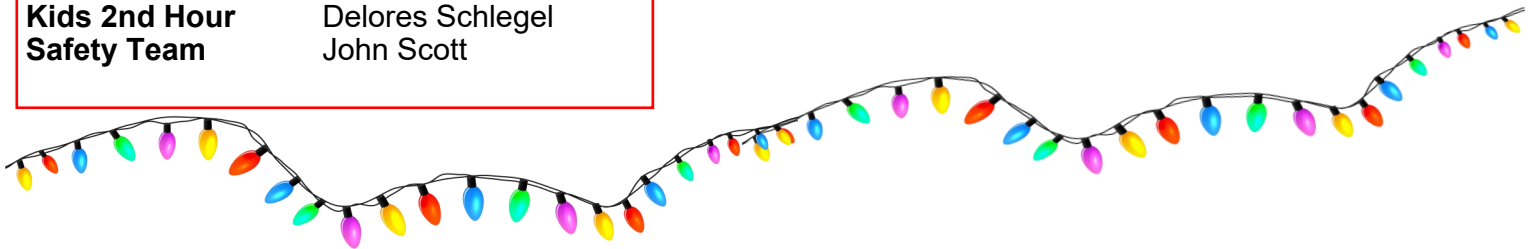


## VOLUNTEERS FOR DECEMBER 21

<b>Greeters</b>	Janine & Scott Schlauch Bridget Rhamy
<b>Ushers</b>	Shad Swinehart Adam Swinehart
<b>Café</b>	Adam Swinehart
<b>Nursery (Worship)</b>	Melinda Moffitt
<b>Nursery (2nd Hour)</b>	Jenny Miller
<b>Kidz Jam</b>	Delores Schlegel
<b>Kids 2nd Hour</b>	Delores Schlegel
<b>Safety Team</b>	John Scott

## VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

<b>Greeters</b>	Beth Reed Tanya Chupp
<b>Ushers</b>	Reid McKelvey Shawn McKelvey
<b>Café</b>	Wendy McKelvey
<b>Safety Team</b>	Gary Graham



FREDERICKSBURG  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## JOIN OUR TEAM!

**NOW HIRING: Director of Music and Worship**

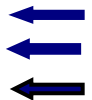
FPC is looking for an enthusiastic and respectful Director of Music and Worship who demonstrates an active faith in Jesus that falls in line with ECO's theology, and is skilled in vocal and instrumental music leading. This role also requires good verbal and written communication skills and works well in a highly collaborative setting.

### RESPONSIBILITIES (include but are not limited to):

- Coordinate worship experiences for the whole church; provide guidance for all worship experiences; work to incorporate worship in all areas of church life
- Coordinate music, media, and overall worship service with Pastor, Worship Team, Music Team, and Tech Team
- Lead music at regular Sunday morning worship services and other services of worship throughout the year
- Offer suggestions and observations which would improve FPC's music/worship ministries
- Assume other duties as may be assigned by the Pastor; participate in regular staff meetings

To learn more about this position and/or to apply, please email a cover letter and current resume to: [jsmolik@fredericksburgpres.org](mailto:jsmolik@fredericksburgpres.org)

Becoming a community that cultivates faith and faithfulness to Christ



**Please share**  
this  
information  
with anyone  
you think  
might be  
interested  
in



Worship with us at our...

# Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> | 8:00 PM

“For unto us a child is born...”  
- Isaiah 9:6



FREDERICKSBURG  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

201 N. Mill Street, Fredericksburg, OH 44627



Becoming  
a community  
that cultivates  
faith and  
faithfulness  
to Christ

*You can make your tithes and contributions in a variety of ways:*

- Use the box in the sanctuary on Sunday morning
- mail checks to P.O. Box 259 Fredericksburg, OH
- text to “Give” to 833-648-1702
- drop off your contributions during regular church office hours
- Use this link <https://give.tithe.ly/?formId=54989dfd-ce72-447c-bbc1-6109d5ecbd89>



**The Intercessory Prayer Group**  
will not meet on December 25 or  
January 1. We will reconvene on  
January 8.



Dec. 22—Delores Schlegel  
Dec. 25—Randy Smith



Dec. 23—Cheryl & Chris Nelson

*Merry Christmas to all of you  
from your church staff  
May God turn your Christmas  
upside down!*

Jos

Jenny



Jeann

Dean

Vickie