

Millcreek Community Methodist Church
4570 Lockwood Boulevard
Youngstown, Ohio 44511-3799

The Beat Newsletter

"Love Works Here" December 2025



YOU CAN FIND US ON



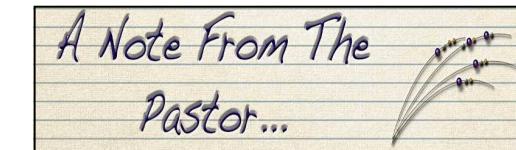
Millcreek Community Methodist Church

OFFICE HOURS

M-W-F 9am - 2pm

(330) 782-0573

info@millcreek.church (e-mail)
www.millcreek.church (website)



December is here, which means snow, Advent and the Christmas season are also here. Most of us have heard the Christmas story so many times that we probably don't think too much about it. Is it possible that we have become so familiar with the story of Christmas that we are no longer amazed by the mystery of it all? Like other things that can become routine, it is easy to overlook the wonder that surrounds us during this most special time of the year.

The gospels of Matthew and Luke provide a written record of the birth of Christ; each told from a different perspective under the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Luke's main purpose in writing was to provide an "orderly account" of the life of Jesus Christ, and to show that He came into the world to redeem humankind. His Gospel provides many of the details that inquiring minds need to know, like the time, date and intimate details of how it happened. Matthew's purpose in writing was to demonstrate that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah of Israel, and his account of Christ's birth clearly reflects that. He begins with the record of the genealogy of Christ, going back 42 generations to Abraham, to establish that Jesus was of the line of David, as the Scriptures clearly foretold. That was no small detail, for if this Child was not of the lineage of David, he could not be the true Messiah.

Luke reveals much about Mary's thoughts and prayers at the time, and Matthew does the same for Joseph. Both writers speak of fear. Luke reminds us that Mary was afraid, hearing from an angel that she had found favor with God. She wasn't sure what that meant, but she knew it came with responsibility. Matthew tells us that Joseph was "a just man" that had fears about marrying a woman who was carrying a child that was not his. What was he afraid of? The Bible doesn't say, but it is reasonable to conclude that it was fear of God himself. If he took Mary as his wife, he would have to deceive those around them into believing that the child was his. Character and integrity meant something to him.

It is obvious God chose Joseph to be the surrogate father of Christ, just as He chose Mary to be the birth mother of Jesus. God allows nothing to happen by chance, or by mere routine. God sent an angel to both to alleviate their fears and provide guidance and direction. They both submitted to the will of God. Both willingly accepted the role that they would have in world changing event and were obedient to the will of God for their lives. Their lives were changed forever by their encounter with the Christ and then creation was forever changed. What is God asking you to do that might also change our world for good? Be not afraid this Christmas season, for God is with us! Pastor Greg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY

9am Holy Grounds Café
10:30am Worship



WEDNESDAY

11am Pastor's
Bible Study

SUNDAY MORNINGS
Prayer Team @ 10:15am

THURSDAY EVENINGS
Music Team Practice @ 6:30pm

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING
December 9th @ 5:30pm

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST
December 13th @ 9:00am - Truck World in Hubbard

Prayer Chain



Call any prayer requests to
Barb Childs (330-360-6796)
Mary Lois Floyd (330-782-7683)
Betsy Stark (330-727-9634)



Join us for *live* worship
at 10:30am on our website
www.millcreek.church

Pastor Calko is available for visits. He can be reached at
pastorgreg@millcreek.church **or by phone at 330-782-0573.**



Millcreek Community
Methodist Church



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Millcreek Community Methodist Church Leadership Team Meeting

November 11, 2025 @ 5:30pm

Present: Barb Hubler, Susie Justice, Diane Redfern, Hope Sabanick and Elaine Williams

The meeting was opened with prayer.

Minutes of last meeting were approved and there was no old business.

Treasurer/Finance:

- Tithes and offerings slightly down in October
- Investment fund and endowment fund had net gains

Building and Grounds:

- New cleaning service is going well
- November 23rd Hanging of the Greens after worship

Missions/Outreach & Vision:

- November missions – Church of Monte Feria, Cuba, Protestant Family Service, Salvation Army, Free Community Drive-Thru Thanksgiving Dinner
- December missions – Church of Monte Feria, Rescue Mission, Warren Family Mission, Wounded Warrior, Boardman Twp Fire Dept Fire Prevention and Education
- Community Dinner will be November 22nd (Turkey, mashed potatoes, cranberries, etc)

Worship:

- Special Advent music and Christmas Eve music and readings will be done instead of cantata this year

Meeting closed with prayer. Next Leadership Meeting December 9th at 5:30pm.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Joann Vitto
Mike Calko
Shirley Stauffer
H. Blackann

Marilynn Makar
Dominic Viola
John Locicero
Al Miller

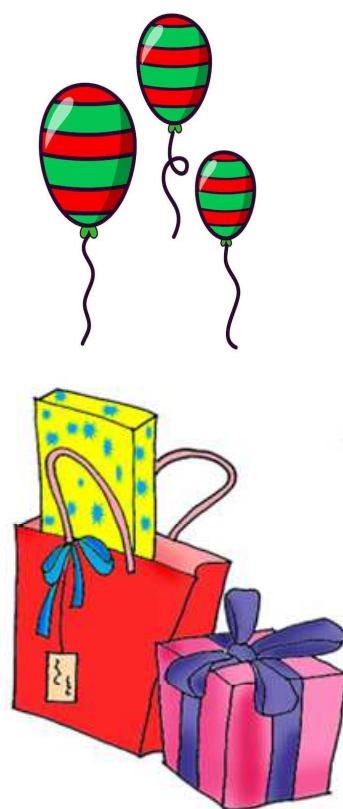


Barb Zautner
Morningside House of Ellicott City
5330 Dorsey Hall Drive, Rm 312
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

Shirley Stauffer
Humility House
755 Ohlton Rd, Rm 37B
Austintown, OH 44515

Gloria Finkley
Caprice Health Center
9184 Market St, Rm 604
North Lima, OH 44452

Marilynn Makar
Humility House
755 Ohlton Rd, Rm 20B
Austintown, OH 44515



December BIRTHDAYS

11th - Randy Carman

17th - Gloria Finkley

18th - Barbara Hubler

20th - Janice Rose



Festival of Trees at Fellows

Millcreek Community Church is participating in the Fellows Riverside Garden Festival of Trees. Our tree will be on display December 7- January 4 at the Davis Center along with other community sponsors. Christmas cards, candy canes, scripture prayer cards and crosses will be passed out. Come and see the trees and enjoy the beauty of the season! -Outreach Team

Millcreek Community Methodist Church

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 24th
6:00 pm

4570 Lockwood Blvd Youngstown, OH
(330) 782-0573
www.millcreek.church



Upcoming Flying Trees Academy Events:



Mission Bells Are Ringing



December Missions:

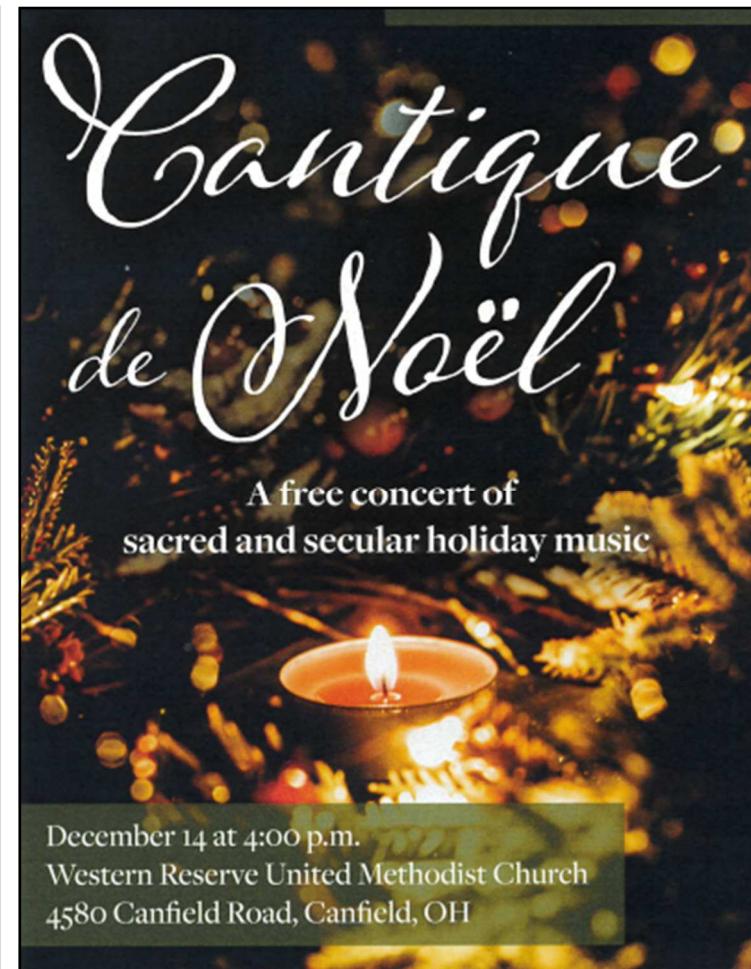
Methodist Church of Monte Feria,
Cuba

Rescue Mission - Christmas gift to
feed & care for people

Warren Family Mission - Christmas
gift for meals, shelter & care

Wounded Warrior - Help for
veterans wounded around 9/11

Boardman Township Fire
Department - Fire prevention &
education



Pastor Greg's
Recommended Reading

Christian Patriot
12 Ways to Create One Nation
Under God
By: Taylor Marshall

Susie's Fun Corner

Just when you think you have
graduated from the school of
experience, someone thinks up
a new course.



Show me an unemployed
Santa, and I'll show you a
Ho-Ho hobo!



God grant you lightness in your step,
A smile on every face you meet,
Loved ones gathered at your hearth,
And at your door, good friends to greet.

A holy hymn upon your lips,
A window candle burning bright,
And may the Good Lord bless your heart
And come to dwell there Christmas night.

- Irish Christmas Blessing

The Goodness of God

As I sit and look out the sliding doors watching the snowflakes fall softly to the ground, how beautiful each flake is formed. The goodness of God allows us these moments to remind us of the beauty of each season.

This past November, God has blessed our church in many beautiful ways. He enabled us to send a huge suitcase of medicines (70 pounds) and food and supplies (26 pounds). Imagine a gift of \$1600 in monetary donations and a laptop computer to our Sister Church in Monte Feria, Cuba.



How can we not be grateful for the bounty of our church folks
who gave so graciously to this mission!

May I add a very "Special Thank You" to those who helped with our Free Community Drive-Thru Thanksgiving Dinner. I know it takes many to get the dinner out the door. All of you are very much appreciated! Our Renowned Chef Pastor Greg - we praise God for his guidance and always watching over us (his flock).

Thank you, my church family for your generous spirit as we continue to serve those who are in need.

♪ LET US SING: ♪

"Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His mighty power and His grace. I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face, surely the presence of the Lord is in this place."

pg. 328: Old Lockwood Hymnal



Love to all,
Susie J, Mission Team

