

The Heartbeat of Highwater

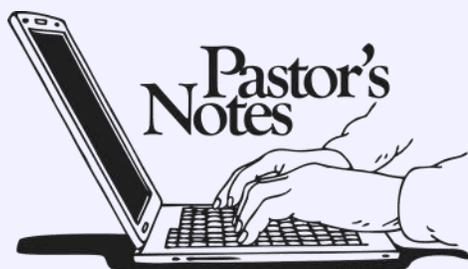


- Mission Statement

“Highwater Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, will be an active family of faith in North Central Licking County, dedicated to building awareness of God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit through meaningful worship, diverse service, and genuine fellowship.”

January
2021

The Angels We Haven't Seen



As I write, we are all waiting with bated breath to throw away or burn the 2020 calendar. We will replace it with a newer one, one with much more promise. For many of us, 2020 has been filled with frustration, disappointment, loneliness, and for some, loss. 2021 promises similar frustrations, yes, but one can see the light at the end of the tunnel, if we look hard enough.

From a church perspective, we got through the year. It wasn't easy. We had to make many uneasy decisions. I remember joking “Be gentle, this is my first global pandemic as a Pastor” in March and by June, it didn't seem so funny. I'm certain the same goes for everyone who serves in a leadership function here.

One thing that we can be proud of is this—I doubt there has been a year when we've done more to meet the needs of our community. This would have been a year to hold on to our resources—and we had to weigh every decision. Still, we collected money and served a ton of meals—by my count, close to 2000 meals on Sunday nights at the Salvation Army, plus summer lunches in the park and the money for meals to be sent to Haiti. And, we took and filled the wishes of more Angel Tag kids than we ever have before.

Most years, we simply lay out the tags and they get taken and returned. This year, I held all the tags and sorted them by age and gender and played match-maker with them. I spent a bit of time looking over each of them and found myself praying over the kids. I struggled, as some of you did, to wrap my head (and heart) around the 15-year old who asked for socks and underwear. Passing them out was profound for me. Receiving every single tag back with a bag full of gifts was hopeful for me.

I tried my best to keep you informed about what we were doing as a congregation to help those around us, in a year that was financially very difficult for so many. Some commented how proud they were of our congregation. Count me as one of them.

Peace,
Pastor Scott



Bible Study
Mondays at noon
**Look for emails and view
details on facebook.**

Celebrations & Concerns

Happy Birthday to:

1/04 Janet Goodman
 1/04 Ernie Ross
 1/06 Marcia Hoskinson
 1/07 Steve Matheny
 1/08 Peggy Green
 1/10 Edsel Blackburn
 1/10 Abbey Shipley
 1/15 Ethan Barnes
 1/16 Tom Lake
 1/20 Ron Hall
 1/22 Carol Hoar
 1/27 Melanie Shipley
 1/29 Stacey Atherton

Happy Anniversary

1/04 Rev. Ed & Cheryl Lopeman
 1/12 Jack & Peggy Green
 1/15 Allen & Joy Smith
 1/22 Ed & Marcia Hoskinson



Prayers for those in need of healing:

Betty Nash Gayle Gibson Bob Tucker
 Dave Nash
 Tom Siegel Becky Wright Donna Shipley
 Laurie Garno Lane Gibson Jim Farmer
 Sharon Mummey
 Mark Frick Marsha King Judy Schmoll
 Stewart Krulikoski & Family
 Theresa Gonda Jesse Buchanan Glenna Biggins
 Christine Schmidt Dick Gibson

Continued prayers:

For all those who have been there on the front lines during this uncertain time and who will continue to be there through the next year. And for those who serve in our armed forces and all of their families, as well as those who have suffered the loss of a loved one.



January Worship Schedule

January 3—New Years Worship with communion, streaming on Facebook Live and YouTube AND in-person in the Legg Center, with Sue Steele playing, at 8:30 am.

January 10—Epiphany Worship streaming on Facebook Live and YouTube AND in-person in the Legg Center, with Patsy Farmer playing, at 10:30 am.

January 17—Due to blood drive that morning, worship will only stream at 8:30 am on Facebook Live and YouTube with Laura Laughlin playing.

January 24—Worship streaming on Facebook Live and YouTube AND in-person in the Legg Center, with Cathy Bero playing, at 10:30 am.

January 31—Worship streaming on Facebook Live and YouTube at 8:30 with Janine Shipley playing, and in-person at 10:30 in the Legg Center with recorded music.

Thank you for your generosity. As seen above, we were able to give more children their wishes this year than any other with 45 tags being completed and delivered.



**Thanks
for Your
Support!**

This year has been very hard but Highwater has remained a family of support.. Due to the love and generosity that is this Church, at the time of the writing of this newsletter, our giving will end up at only \$400 less than we did from 2019. THANK YOU!!

Who to call with ideas and questions

Moderator

Jackie Parrill 740-817-0295

Care Ministry

Mary Jo Layman 740-892-2217

Christian Education

Abby Shipley 740-975-1209

Fellowship Ministry

Tracy Storts

Membership & Outreach Ministry

Amy Gartner 740-624-0232

Missions Ministry

Mike Laughlin 740-501-8227

Mark McKimmins 614-565-3509

Music and Worship Ministry

Janine Shipley 740-404-8837

Stewardship Ministry

Kathy Preston 740-745-1043

Treasurer

Jack Schmidt 740-587-2890

Trustees

Phyllis Buxton 740-745-2152

Peggy Green 740-892-3235

Jeff Preston 740-644-1614

Bob Tucker 740-892-4829

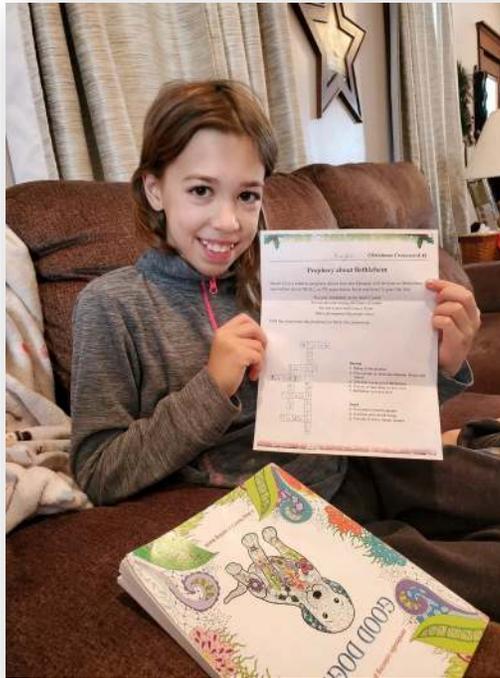
Andy Kalas 740-973-1143

WISH

Becky Campbell 740-501-2421

WISH II Quilt

Adrienne Anderson 740-404-4891



Thank you so much to Abby and all who helped in the process of the Advent boxes that were delivered and enjoyed by our children.

A huge thank you to all who contributed to the adorable 2020 pageant!

Also...

Thank you!

Everyone for sharing the gift of music and the warm and wonderful greetings.

Thank you Adrienne for FlipGrid and thank you Janine for pulling us all together.

Thank you Pastor Scott for all your love that went into every recoding and every edit that you did to make this all happen!

We welcome Jackie Parrill as our Moderator. Jackie has volunteered to fill this position for the next two years and we look forward to serving together with her.

We wish to thank Mae Pound for her past 2 years of service, her leadership was awesome and greatly appreciated through the difficult times we are in.

Because of the difficulty in holding a congregational meeting, council has decided to carry over the budget of 2020 through the first quarter of 2021.

As soon as we are able to safely hold a meeting of the congregation in 2021, we will vote to approve Jackie and the 2021 budget.



Thank you to everyone who shared in the Nativity Trade. The different textures and colors have added both life and brightness.

We can rejoice in the sharing of the Light!



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Debra Smetts, Secretary &

Newsletter Editor

Email : highchurch@windstream.net

Phone : 740.745.1281

Jackie Parrill, Moderator 740-817-0295



Our doors will be open for worship throughout the following months. Please follow your emails and check out facebook and the website for times and any changes. Being mindful of the safety of all those in our church family, at all times during our in-person worship masks will be required and social distancing will be respected.



WE'RE ON THE WEB! Check us out! www.highwaterchurch.org



**Blood Drive
Sunday, January 17th
8:00a - 12:30p**

You must reserve a spot at

[Donate Blood, Platelets or Plasma. Give Life | Red Cross Blood](#)

Sponsor Code: HighwaterChurch
www.redcrossblood.org

