

YOUTH NEWS

Sunday, December 17th: Youth will go ice skating. Time to be announced.

There will be no youth meetings Wednesday, December 20th, Friday, December 22nd or Sunday, December 24th.

AGAPE CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Agape Sunday School Class will have a Christmas party in Bish Hall at 5:00 P.M. Sunday, December 17th. We will go Christmas caroling and then come back to the church for an appetizer potluck meal. Please bring an appetizer or two to share!

KOINONIA CLASS CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

The Koinonia Class will have their annual Christmas breakfast on Sunday, December 17th. All members are asked to contact Debbie Kendall or Carl Nunnelley for additional details.

CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE

Our Candlelight Communion Service will be held at 11:00 P.M. Sunday, December 24, 2017. This year, the 30 plus year traditional service will be preceded by a 20 minute candlelight Christmas concert by the church's Bel-Lair Hand Bell Choir **(10:30 P.M.)** These quiet and worshipful services will emphasize with their devotional nature and candlelight, the meaningful peace of the Christmas season, as well as share the love to be found at the Lord's Table for all believers in the Christ Child.

Special music will be provided by the church's choir under the direction of Pam Henson, in addition to the hand bell choir and others. Conducted by Dr. Larry Bishop and Dr. Tim Teater, the services are gifts of love to Cynthiana and Harrison County given by the Cynthiana Christian Church, "A People Who Care." May all who come be blessed in the quietness of the historic sanctuary, decorated and lighted with Christmas hope, love, peace and joy.

Finish your gift list with win-win shopping: Let your holiday budget help those truly in need and remind your loved ones that you were thinking of them. Make a donation in honor or memory of your loved ones and receive donation cards for slipping in stockings or the mail. The church office has holiday donation cards for each of our outreach ministries.

CWF Circle: The circle will meet at 10:00 on Tuesday, December 19, at Biancke's for brunch: bring a friend.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

An expression of sympathy is sent to Alan & Lourena Judy and family in the death of Alan's brother Brian Judy who died Friday, December 8, 2017.

A note of sympathy is sent also to Grady & Joan Lawson in the death of their niece Wanda Jean White, Danville, IL. Mrs. White died December 11, 2017.

An expression of sympathy is sent to Jeff & Rebecca Jenkins in the death of Rebecca's uncle Henry "Monty" Brinker who died December 8, 2017.

----**Elizabeth Allison** will undergo knee surgery Friday, December 15th

CHRISTMAS OFFERING: Miracles happen in regional ministry

Miracles happen every day in all our regions as we:

Assist congregations and leaders in claiming their unique mission and ministry, and provide resources and support.

Call, commission and ordain new pastors, and support and equip all pastors for their ministries.

Revitalize existing congregations and plan for new congregations.

Connect Regional Disciples to give witness to ministries of justice, hope, and compassion.

Provide camps, conferences, and retreats where children and youth find hope and Christ's love and a community of faith that embraces "everyone."

Make visible the care for all of God's family through ministries of reconciliation and anti-racism.

Call and equip passionate leaders for today's church.

Provide pastoral care for clergy and congregations.

The Christmas Special Day offering supports all of these and many other ministries of our regions. Your generous gifts make a difference! We will receive our Christmas Special Offering Sunday, December 17th & 24th.

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO OFFICIAL BOARD OR CABINET MEETING IN JANUARY.

PLEASE NOTE: Those scheduled to serve the month of January:

Elders: Serving at the table, Gary Carter, Allen Maples;

Helping Elders (shut-in communion); Julie Edwards, Rick Dycus, Grady Lawson

Diaconate: Robbie Cox, Ch'm; Kay Cox, Brandie Dawson, Lindsey Florence, Ed Lanthorn, Gary McCord, David Sledd, Mark Thomas

Greeters: Dale Matthews, Mattie Ammerman,

Communion Preparers: Gary and Cathy McCord, Buddy Renaker

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Cynthiana, KY 41031

Mr. and Mrs. David Batcheller
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Cynthiana Christian Church
P.O. Box 236
Cynthiana, KY 41031
Address Service Requested

Give the Gift of Warmth: Gently used, warm clothing items will be delivered to the Hope Center in Lexington. Adult men's and women's coats, gloves, scarfs, hoodies and blankets are always needed at this time of the year. Please wash items before donating.

There is also a box in the Sunday School room across from the church office to collect gently used children's clothing that will be given to local children by the Berry Christian Church.

Green Chalice News You Can Use: Yes, we recycle strands of Christmas lights and extension cords. You'll find the labeled box in the communion preparation room.

When replacing Christmas lights consider buying the LED strands. They are more efficient, durable and longer-lasting than the traditional incandescent lights. They don't burn out, like other bulbs; and they also don't get hot to the touch, so they're a lot safer, too.

Addition to December Birthday Calendar:

December 2nd: Sam Marsh
December 28th: Kristin Marsh

BARNABAS TEAM MEETINGS
Barnabas Team # XII will meet Sunday, December 17th & 24th.
Elders are Brett Hines, Kristy Carey, Carl & Charla Nunnelley.



Sunday School 9:45 A.M.
Worship Service 10:45 A.M.

THE
CYNTHIANA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
NEWS

Dr. Larry Bishop, Minister
Dr. Tim Teater, Assistant Minister
Brad Allison, Youth Director
Pam Henson, Choir Director/Pianist
Marilynn Bell, Organist
Kathy Brown, Secretary
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December 14, 2017

Minister's Message:

This Sunday will be our third Sunday of Advent, the sermon will be entitled, "It's a Wonderful Life...The Gift of Joy." This Sunday's scripture lessons will be Isaiah 35: 1-10 and Matthew 11: 2-11. This classic movie not only plays many times during the Christmas season, but it also appears in other movies as well. It is that popular. For example you might be watching the Christmas movie, *Home Alone* or *Home Alone 2* and you will see some of our movie for Sunday being played there. You will also find a part of the movie being shown on television during the movie *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*. It also appears on the T.V. during the movie *Bruce Almighty*. That is not to mention the number of television programs that have shown members of their cast watching this movie. That list would include, *Friends*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *The Sopranos*, *Laverne and Shirley*, and *Cheers*. This movie just shows up everywhere at Christmas time. Oftentimes it shows up when you are not looking for it.

It is the same for the gift of joy. It shows up everywhere and at times when you are not looking for it. In the movie, George Bailey has a change of attitude after his experience with his angel friend, Clarence. His attitude is changed significantly. Could that be an option for each one of us? God gave George his miracle through other people. I certainly believe very strongly that God does the same for us. It is through caring friends, supportive families and even sometimes kind strangers who get us through this holiday season. The actor, Jimmy Stewart, came back into filmmaking after five years of hiding out. He had been a soldier in World War II and had spent fifteen months in combat. He had all kinds of scars. This story helped him work through his anguish and he found his joy, joy in the love of other people. See you Sunday morning as we talk about finding our lasting joy.

.....Larry