

# HUM NEWS December 2021



Hartzell United Methodist Church

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## NEW GROUP FORMING

### Book Club

Our meetings will be on Tuesdays at 1:30 pm for 1 hour  
at the Reading Library

We are looking for 2-3 people who like reading to be involved and build relationships with others in the group from the community. We are still confirming the exact start date in January.

Happy Holidays!

We are in the season of Advent and preparations for many events are in full swing. The church has been decorated for this season. Thanks to all who participated!

Upcoming calendar: please read for additional information in this HUM News

December 5: handbell practice immediately after worship

December 11: (Saturday) Children's Christmas Program practice

December 12: Children's Christmas program during worship

Lunch and special guest visit immediately following worship

December 17: (Friday) Handbells practice at 7pm in the sanctuary

Boy Scout Lock-in until Saturday morning

December 24 :Office Closed

December 24: Candlelight service 7pm

December 26: Christmas Carol Celebration

December 24-31: Office Closed

November 2<sup>nd</sup> was our annual Charge Conference. Several congregation members were in attendance. Thank you for coming. Rev. John Whitaker from Shiloh UMC was the Presiding Elder.

If you are not familiar with this process, those present hear a Ministry Reflection. The names of the new lay church officers for 2022 are read, a Membership Report and Trustee Report are read as well. The Pastor's compensation package (salary, housing allowance and ARP) is presented and voted on at this time. The Pastor discusses his Pastor Report and Goals for the church for the upcoming year.

The Pastor's report contained items we have communicated with you through previous HUM News. (Community involvement and outreach), (Communication), (Financial Stability). New items under two of these categories are, first, the new website is up and running. Please look at it if you have not yet done so. Second, we have established a Kroger Rewards program for Hartzell. You shop, we benefit. third, we will receive \$14,000 in grant monies for kids, youth and outreach for 2022. Finally, goals for stretching us and inspire us to greater ministry include growth in worship attendance, online worship, professions of faith and baptisms, small groups for adults and children, people involved in weekly mission/outreach and growth in weekly giving.

After the Charge Conference, the board met to discuss the Annual Church Budget for 2022. This is currently a work in progress and should be finalized soon.

Have a blessed season of Advent!

Your Leadership Board





## Pastor's Reflection: The Signs of the Times

I'd like to start today by asking you a simple question: Are you ready for Christmas? Normally, when we think about our readiness for Christmas, we point to a number of different things. Do we have our tree out? Are the decorations and the lights hung? Is our Christmas shopping completed? Have we sent out our cards? Is everything wrapped and under the tree? Is our house ready for the guests to come over?

But that's not the kind of preparation I'm talking about. When I say, "Are you ready for Christmas?" I'm talking about a deeper, more important kind of spiritual preparation: a readiness of the soul. Just as we prepare for Christmas by putting up decorations, listening to Christmas music, hanging stockings, or buying gifts, advent asks us, "How are we preparing our souls to receive Jesus Christ anew this year?"

Literally, the term Advent means "coming" or "appearance." It is a season of spiritual preparation and readiness, not only for the coming of Jesus Christ on Christmas morning, but for his penultimate return. We are reminded of the past each Christmas in order that it orient us to the promise of the future. It symbolizes the present situation of the church as we wait for the return of Jesus Christ in the last days.

In many ways, we are in a similar situation to the people of Israel at the close of the Old Testament. Israel was looking back to God's gracious action in delivering them from the exile in Egypt, all the while waiting and longing for the coming of the messiah to bring about all that God has promised. In the same way, we look back upon Christ's coming at Christmas, but at the same time, look forward to his return.

So, we need to prepare our hearts to receive him anew. We need to be watchful and ready, because we do not know the day or the hour of his return. Jesus himself said it would come like a thief in the night.

Matthew 24:36-44 puts it like this: "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also, must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

So, I ask you again, "Are you ready for the coming of Jesus Christ into the world this Christmas?" And if not, what steps might you need to take this Christmas season to ready your heart to receive him anew?

Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

# Hartzell UMC

## Statistical Report on Consecration Sunday Results for 2021

Based on Numbers from 11/2020 thru 10/2021

November 30, 2021

A total of 37 giving units (husbands and wives or single persons) completed *Estimate of Giving Cards* this year committing to a total of \$97,844.

A total of 17 of these giving units increased their financial commitment above their last year's amount and a total of 10 new giving units.

A total of 23 giving units present on November 14, 2021 fill out *Estimate of Giving Cards* committing to a total of \$62,096.

Based on last year's giving records, we can expect to receive \$20,647 during the coming year from people who have consistent giving patterns during the past twelve months but are not present today.

Based on the average total of loose offerings during the past three years, we can expect to receive \$1,336 during the coming year from that source.

Church income from non-donor sources such as interest, rentals, and fees \$24,000.

This gives us a grand total of \$142,491 anticipated income for the next twelve months.

The total income for our general operating budget during the last twelve months was \$143,503.

Next year, we can expect our operating budget income to decrease by \$1,012.

This is a .007 percent decrease in total giving above last year.



## DECEMBER

- 4 Parker Oram
- 5 Julie Dreigon  
Ruth James
- 6 Spirit Owens  
Hannah Ross
- 7 Miranda Janzen
- 14 Keith Norris
- 15 Gage Jessen
- 17 Myrtle Lough
- 19 Dylan Sowder  
Luke Ross
- 20 Dave Dennis
- 21 Bill Watts  
Will deBord  
Levi Lattire
- 26 Martha Andriacco  
Flo Patterson
- 31 Jack Crane



## DECEMBER

- 7 Gerry and Joyce Berling
- 16 Harold and Mary Dreibelbis
- 31 Tony and Martha Andriacco

Congratulations to Adri and Shane Spurling on their 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary November 14, 2020.



Dan Timney – radiation treatments  
 Bill Watts – knee replacement  
 Martha Andriacco  
 Gordon Orr  
 John McCabe -seizure  
 Marge Freshley -skin cancer procedure  
 Steve Chaffins - Gerry Coffey  
 Billie Simpson – leg issues  
 Hudson - 3-year-old having mass removed from his brain  
 Chris Dreigon – medical issues  
 Michael Parker – cancer  
 Claire – AA – student –surgeries  
 George and Jeff Flaig – heart tests  
 Jean Carrier – stomach issues  
 Linda Ross – medical issues  
 Dolly King - rehab  
 Mary Joyce Davenport – rehab  
 Judy Crautter – cancer treatments  
 Sarah, Madelyn and Tristan  
 Pastor Justin



To Dave and Jennie Moses and Sandy and Mike Fahey and families on the death of Aleda Moses.

To Suzanne and John Carpenter on the death of Suzanne’s sister, Mary Ann Williams.

# MISSION NEWS

## JAIL MINISTRY

We still are not visiting at the Justice Center due to covid.



## CHRISTMAS COOKIES FOR THE JAIL MINISTRY

Christmas is a very lonely time to be in jail. The Council of Christian Communions wants to offer these men and women an expression that they are not forgotten, nor are they separated from the love of God. You can help by providing cookies to the inmates.

**Please wear a mask**

### COOKIE DROP OFF

Sunday, December 19 after 9:00 am  
Assemble and pack after worship  
Your help is needed!!!

### Baking and Packing Instructions

- Cookies should be 2-3"
- Allow cookies to dry completely before packing
- Pack flat, in protective box with wax paper or cardboard in between layers
  - Do not put in plastic bags
  - Tin or containers can not be returned
- Sugar cookies with sprinkles, decorated cut sugar cookies, M&M, chocolate chip, frosted or oatmeal with raisins are most popular
- Peanut butter, cookies with nuts are not approved due to food allergies
- Avoid anything fancy that could create jealousy (fudge, candy, etc.)

See Gerry Coffey for more details.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD THE SHOE BOX MINISTRY

Our thanks to all who donated items and money for the "Shoe Box Ministry". We were able to fill 69 boxes for the children.

PASTOR RICK'S churches (Camp Dennison and Miamiville) provided 30 of those boxes. That's the first time they were involved in this ministry and look forward to participate again next year. They were dedicated and sent on their way. If you would like to help underwrite the expenses to ship them, please mark your donation "Shoe Box".



## PAINTING FROM MY PALETTE

David Dennis showed 75 acrylic paintings of various sizes he has painted, on Sunday, November 21st.

So far, a total of 23 have been ordered totaling \$770 with 20% being donated to Missions.

If you are interested seeing his work and any new items, please text your email to him at 513/377-2997.

Thanks to everyone who came by and viewed/ordered and enjoyed delicious meal prepared by Melissa.

## Kroger Community Rewards

Hartzell is now enrolled as a charitable organization with Kroger Community Rewards. This allows us to receive a small percentage back on everything that you purchase at Kroger. To do so, you must list Hartzell in the Community Rewards section of your Kroger account. Enroll by doing the following: (1) Go to Kroger.com and log into your account. If you do not have an account yet, you will need to set one up and link it to your Kroger card, using the number on your Kroger card. If you do not have a Kroger card you can get one at the customer service desk at any Kroger store. (2) Click on "My Account" and then on "Community Rewards." From there, you can search for Hartzell United Methodist Church either by name or with our enrollment code RU942 and click enroll. If you are already linked to another organization, you will need to change the registered organization for Hartzell to receive the benefit.

Hartzell would like to you to know that we have launched a new and improved church website! Go to [www.hartzellumc.com](http://www.hartzellumc.com) to check it out. We look forward to your ongoing feedback.



Ringers! We will be playing during the Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> Worship service. Here is our final practice schedule for December  
December 5<sup>th</sup> – immediately after church in the Fellowship Hall  
December 17<sup>th</sup> – **FRIDAY**- practice will be in the sanctuary

## YOUNG AT HARTZ

JOIN US FOR A



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16 11:30 AM

AT DE SHEA'S RESTAURANT GAMES AND PRIZES

SEE SIGN – UP LIST ON BULLETIN BOARD



Sunday, December 12 during the Worship Service, the children will present the play, "Christmas International." Following the service, we will have a pancake breakfast and a special visitor.

The Children/Family Ministry met on November 10 and a tentative calendar has been set.



Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday April 16, 2022 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Lunch will be provided.

Graduation Sunday – Sunday May 22 during the Worship Service.

VBS – Week of July 11 in the evening.

Promotion Sunday – August 28 with reception to follow.

Trunk or Treat – Saturday, October 29, from 11 – 1.

Children's Christmas Program – Sunday, December 11 during the service with practice on Saturday, December 10.

The Children/Family Ministry will hold a family event in January or February. We will have chili and a movie or chili and a game night. More information to follow.

Additional family events for the community will be held in June or August.



The spotlight this month goes on the older children's class.

Tracy Craft leads this class and she has BOYS from the sixth grade through 11<sup>th</sup> grade. They are an exceptional group of young people who enjoy learning about the Bible, other religions, telling jokes, sharing their week and being together. They attend different schools but have formed a close relationship!

Most have been together all through Sunday school.



Thanks to our wonderful teachers and leaders. We wish them a very Merry Christmas.