“Mary of Nazareth”
By Pastor Jim Winkler

There is always a moment when the Holy Days (Holidays, right?) of the Christmas Season come alive for me. Something catches my attention and pulls me into the heart of Christmas. Often it comes in some family moment – a first Christmas, Christmas through a child’s eyes. Sometimes it comes through signs and symbols – lights, festivals, Advent Wreaths, cheerful holiday decorations. The moment frequently comes through music – a Christmas cantata, a carol, a startling new version of a beloved hymn – like when I first heard Andrea Bocelli sing What Child Is This? with Mary J Blige, the hip hop artist.

Or it comes when some aspect of the biblical narrative stands out in a new way. This year the moment came as I was reading about Mary of Nazareth in The Journey by Adam Hamilton. Nazareth – not the little town of Bethlehem – captured my attention.

It is interesting to note that Nazareth is not mentioned in the Old Testament. Nor does it draw much attention from historians or scholars of the time. Nazareth really is a tiny town, smaller even than the little town of Bethlehem. There were less than 400 people living in Nazareth, maybe as few as one hundred. No “City of David” like Bethlehem, Nazareth was an insignificant little town, hardly worth mentioning in the history books or the scriptures or on the maps. You may remember in John’s Gospel when Philip said to Nathanael, “We have found the One about whom the prophets wrote – Jesus of Nazareth!” Nathaniel scoffed and said: “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?”
Now nearby Sepphoris – that’s what we would call a town worth mentioning. It had thirty thousand residents; it was well known; it was prosperous; it was proud; it was where people would choose to live if they had a choice. Shopping, culture, sophistication, affluence, beauty, architecture, great sports teams – that kind of town. Who would scoff at Sepphoris?

And yet the Christmas story begins not in Sepphoris but in Nazareth – Nazareth, the humble home of the humble Mary. It was to Nazareth the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a virgin named Mary, pledged to be married to a man named Joseph. It was in Nazareth where the angel spoke those remarkable words: “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you” (Luke 1:28). It was Mary – highly favored, full of grace – who received in her hometown of Nazareth the most startling news in all recorded history. It was here the angel brought to Mary the announcement (the Annunciation) that she would give birth to Jesus (meaning, God saves) who would be great and would be called the Son of the Most High. From Mary come the most honest and most troubled questions, “How can this be?” The Bible then tells us that she yielded to God in bewildered obedience with those strikingly humble and most beautiful words: “I am the Lord’s servant. May it be to me as you have said.”

Why didn’t the announcement take place in Sepphoris among the wealthy, the sophisticated, the educated, the elite? Why did the message come to humble Mary, living among working class people in a nondescript town of little note? With the announcement to a humble virgin in Nazareth, we are reminded that God so often chooses the humble ones from the humble places to do his greatest work because they make room for him in their hearts.

Could it be that this message of humble obedience is for us here in West Geauga? Could it be that God wants us to humble ourselves to make room for the message, God saves? Yes, the message is for us! Let every heart prepare him room and sing with wholehearted faith, “Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Let earth receive her king! Let every heart prepare him room!”

Humble Christmas Joy to Each of You!

-Pastor Jim
“The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem” Series

December 2: Holy Communion
“Mary of Nazareth” Luke 1:26-38

December 9:
“Joseph of Bethlehem” Matthew 1:18-24

December 16:
“Mary’s Visit to Elizabeth” Luke 1:39-45

December 23:
“From Nazareth to Bethlehem” Luke 2:1-7

December 30: ONE SERVICE SUNDAY

Christmas Eve at Mayfield Church

12 PM: Traditional Service
Lessons, Carols, & Candlelight
Light Lunch following the service.

5 PM: Family Service with Worship Band

7:30 PM: Traditional Service
Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight with Handbells & Choir

11 PM: Midnight Candlelight Service

Join us for soup and salad from 4:30 to 7 PM in Fellowship Hall!
It’s that time again…time for our annual Heifer Drive!

A Heifer gift is the perfect way to remember and honor those for whom a traditional gift does not seem appropriate. Why? Because Heifer gifts change lives.

For those not familiar with Heifer, families receive the gift of an animal that can help a family and the entire community become self-sufficient by providing sustainable resources that continue to support their needs year after year. For example, a dairy cow can produce up to four gallons of milk a day—enough for a family to drink, share with neighbors, and sell what is left over. Protein-rich milk can transform sick, malnourished children into healthy boys and girls. The sale of surplus milk provides money for school fees, medicine, clothing and home improvements.

But the gift doesn’t stop there. Heifer recipient families all agree to “pay it forward” by passing on the offspring to another family in need. And because a cow can produce a calf every year it will eventually benefit an entire community.

Heifer also supplies sheep, goats, chickens, rabbits, llama and water buffalo to name just a few. Heifer provides tools and training to better the lives of families and to help them become self-sustaining. Water projects help to ensure that communities have safe drinking water.

Our goal as a church is to provide the gift of an Ark each year by raising at least $5,000. We have done it in the past, and with your help, we will do it again. (An Ark contains: 2 cows, 2 sheep, 2 oxen, 2 water buffalo, 2 pigs, 2 beehives, 2 goats, a community veterinarian kit, 2 trios each of ducks, rabbits and guinea pigs, 2 flocks of geese and chickens, 2 llamas and 2 schools of fish.)

If you give a Heifer gift, we will provide a greeting card for you to send to the person you are honoring with this gift. Stop by our Heifer table in Fellowship Hall any Sunday in December to buy your gift/make your donation.

“HANDS THAT SERVE” BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9
9 AM - 1 PM
CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA AND PLANT SALE

The Garden Ministry will sell and take orders for poinsettias and plants on Dec. 2, 9, and 16. The last day to order plants for the Worship Center is Dec. 16. Plants will be for sale on Christmas Eve for gifts.

You may pick up your Worship Center poinsettia after the 11 PM service on Christmas Eve or Thursday, Dec. 27.

If you have any questions or would like to place an order directly, please contact Linnea Bubnow at 440-729-2424 or linneabubnow@hotmail.com.
CHRISTMAS EVE MUSIC FOR THE FAMILY SERVICE

Kids from elementary through high school are invited to play one Christmas piece for the beginning of the 5 PM Family Service on Christmas Eve. The music should be Jesus related—not Frosty or Rudolph, please. Any instrument is fine, or a singing solo. Carol Neff will be happy to accompany you if needed. Please let her know by Dec. 10 if you want to participate. It’s a wonderful way to begin our worship service celebration of Jesus’ birth!

Contact Carol Neff at 216-970-5654 or carol@mayfieldchurch.org.

All Church Christmas Caroling!
Sunday, Dec. 16 @ 1 - 4 PM

Would you like to spread the joy of Christmas to our wonderful church family members who can no longer attend worship? We will be going caroling on Sunday, Dec. 16. We will carpool and leave the church at 1 PM and return by 4 PM. Bring your family and friends for a happy afternoon of Christmas cheer.

Contact Carol Neff at 216-970-5654 or carol8861@aol.com with any questions.
Hospitality Ministry

Once again, we will be serving cookies during our Christmas Eve fellowship times. If you can bring nut-free cookies, homemade or store bought, please sign up on the board outside of the Worship Center on or before Dec. 23. Thank you!

Angel Tree Ministry

Thank you to those who have participated in the annual Angel Tree Project, which provides Christmas presents for area children who have a parent in prison.

We have requested the names of 125 children, each of whom needs to be called for items on his or her wish list. If you signed up for a name last month, please have your wrapped gifts returned by Sunday, Dec. 9, with delivery set for Saturday morning, Dec. 15.

If you can help by calling, packing or delivering, please call Nancy Dickerson at 440-449-4639.
Our “Anxious for Nothing” Recap  
By Pastor Jan Fillmore

Our fall study – “Anxious for Nothing” – is over, but I wanted to take the time to thank our 30 LifeGroup facilitators who helped lead our 24 groups and who have responded to our online/mail survey about the study. Your thoughts and suggestions will help us improve our Life-Groups ministry!

A total of 241 people took part in the fall study (168 women and 73 men). Why so many more women than men? One reason could be that more women than men attend our church. Another reason might be that the topic (anxiety) was of more interest to women than men. Still another reason might be that we need a few more all-men’s groups!

Our ministry goal is to have as many people in LifeGroups as we do in our Sunday services (average 300 last fall). With 80% in LifeGroups, we are inching closer to that goal.

Included in the 241 people were 17 who are new to our congregation (began attending during the last 12 to 15 months) and 20 who do not attend Mayfield but were invited by Mayfield folks to take part in a Life-Group. So … new people made up 15 percent of the people in our study. That is wonderful!

Numbers are important, of course, but they don’t provide the entire picture. Stories do!

Here’s one from Gary Eilrich, a member of the Saints and Sinners (Tuesday Evening) LifeGroup:

Gary was preparing for a trip when he met with his group for its last session.

At the time, Gary told members that God was with him. On Saturday, just a couple of days before the LifeGroup meeting, he discovered that the front left tire on his van had split. He was able to get a new tire on Sunday and shared with the group that he would begin his trip the following Thursday.

After his trip, Gary emailed the following: “There is NO QUESTION that God’s Angels are looking after me! It became obvious that the supervisor at the tire center was not truthful when he told me that the other three tires were OK. There had to be signs of failure on at least one of the other tires when they replaced the left front tire.
“The left rear tire failed on Thursday by splitting at the bead on the inside shoulder just as the left front tire had failed on Saturday. There was a split about halfway around the tire.

“The amazing thing was that I made it to my motel before it failed! I noticed that the rear tire was low when I arrived at the motel and went inside to check in. It was completely flat when I came back out to take my luggage inside.

“I don't believe the timing that this happened was by chance! God was with me on the trip! There is no other way to explain how I drove 650 miles on that tire that didn't lose the air until I stopped at the motel!”

Gary was able to pump up the flat tire and drive to the tire store (less than 3 miles away), and have the three tires replaced. He was back on the road by 10 on Friday morning.

Gary says: “Overall, I was blessed on my trip. More examples of how God is looking after me – no need to be anxious for nothing!”

I hope that you, too, as a result of this study, have seen instances of God “looking after” you in times that could bring anxiety!

As we end our study of “Anxious for Nothing,” you may wish to keep your book – and pass it on to someone you know who could benefit from reading it. If you do not wish to keep your book, please place it in the gray bin outside my office. We will give the books, leader guides and DVDs to a smaller United Methodist church that does not have the money to buy the curriculum. Thanks!

Coming Up:

Interested in studying “The Journey,” the Adam Hamilton book that will be the focus of our Advent message series? Several of our LifeGroups, including Sundays at 11, Tuesday Afternoon, Wednesday Morning, Thursday morning Faith Club (women) and the Sunday morning Seekers, will be studying this book. Contact jan@mayfieldchurch.org for more information.
The staff at Rowland School looks forward to the day we bring pies to the school ... and that day was Thursday, Nov. 15, when the teachers had parent-teacher conferences until 8 p.m. Our thanks go to the Patterson family, whose pies made the day a special one!

Lisa Artino, counselor at Rowland, sent the following thank-you:

A big THANK YOU for the delicious Patterson’s Farm Pies! They were absolutely delicious! Your generosity & support is greatly appreciated. What warms our hearts even more is the continued partnership we cherish with Mayfield Church. We are so blessed. Thank you again for your kindness.

**Book Fair at Rowland:** That week (Nov. 12-16) was also the week of the PTA Book Fair, “The Enchanted Forest.”

**A Twist:** Usually in this space I talk about what our congregation has been doing for the students and staff at our partner schools. I want to let you know what the students and staff did for me after my fall from the ladder. I received some beautiful get-well cards from Miss Thompson’s second-grade class (where I tutor on Wednesday mornings). I also received a delicious fruit basket from the staff. This school is a blessing to me!

— Pastor Jan
New Books to Adrian: In November, we paid $751.30 to ship 536 new books to Adrian. The books came from First Book National Book Bank, based in Washington, D.C.

The books will be used in the classrooms. Once the assignments are completed, the students will be able to take the books home.

This batch of titles included “Cat in the Hat Comes Back,” “Cinderella,” “Division Flash Cards,” “Dog Who Thought He Was Santa,” “Frozen: 3 Tales of Friendship,” “Little Mermaid,” “My Ultimate Super Hero Manual,” and “Sage and the Journey to Wish World.”

This academic year, Adrian has received 3,647 new books. A grant from Legacy Village paid to ship 1,485 of those books; Mayfield Church paid to ship the remaining 2,152 books.

Where does the money to ship the books come from? You!

When you eat a donut at Holy Donut Day and give a donation, you help us send a new book to the school. Thank you for supporting HDD … see below for the date of our next donut-eating extravaganza!

coming up:
Here is our schedule of activities for the rest of the school year. We hope you will join us for one -- or several -- of them!

December: Rowland PTA Holiday Gift Shop (Dec. 3-7); gifts and apples for families in need; gift for Rowland staff.

February: Holy Donut Day (TBD); school supplies for Rowland and Adrian, baked goods fellowship for staff during parent-teacher conference night (Feb. 21).

March: Pack Spring Break snack bags for students (packing on March 17 at church; delivery to school on March 21); Rowland PTA Science Night (March 21).

April: Rowland PTA BOGO Book Fair (April 29-May 3).

May: Ice cream cone certificates to our third-graders following state testing (May 5); PTA End-of-School BBQ (May 16), East Coast Custard Truck visits school on last day for teachers (May 30).
Mission Outreach

Mayfield Guatemala Mission 2019 is gearing up for their next week long mission trip on July 13, 2019! They are teaming up with Chagrin Falls Methodist Church and Catalyst Resource International, (CRI).

The team is just being formed and would love to have you be a part of it! A commitment needs to be made in January in order to go. They will have their first formal meeting on Sunday, Jan. 13, at 11 AM, to discuss possible mission projects. These projects can include: building houses, installing stoves, installing toilets, assist with medical care, and/or organize feeding programs. They would love for you to be part of the team. Please contact Karyn Sulzer for any additional information at Frog7271@aol.com.

S.A.M.I.

Our Single Adult Ministry Ignited meets the last Wednesday of each month at 6 PM for dinner out. To RSVP or for more information, please contact Sandy Pavick at 440-429-5029 or sandyinnewbury@aol.com.

Wednesday, Dec. 26 @ 6 PM

Chesterland Tavern
8190 Mayfield Rd.
Chesterland

Bring a wrapped regular-size candy bar to exchange!
The Care and Prayer Ministry is offering transportation to shut-ins for the Noon Christmas Eve Service and light supper after the service.

If you are able to volunteer by driving, serving at the dinner, or clean-up afterwards, please contact Cyndi Nicholson at 440-729-4006 or cyndi@mayfieldchurch.org.

Thank you!

**Want to make someone feel special this Thanksgiving and Christmas season?**

Why not send some cards to some special people? Our homebound members still dearly love Mayfield Church, but are unable to attend services anymore.

You would be amazed and delighted at how their eyes sparkle and faces light up when they receive cards from their congregation. Please pick up a list of names and addresses at the display board in the main hallway and begin (or continue) a holiday tradition that will bless you as those who receive.
Praying Our Way Forward

Pastor Jim and Pastor Jan, along with the Executive Team, would like to invite the entire church to do “The Faithful Work of Finding a Way Forward” by reading the relevant documents and attending our own “listening post” gathering here at the Mayfield Church. It is scheduled for **Sunday, Jan. 13, 2019 from 4 to 6 PM** in the Worship Center, followed by a fellowship dinner. We will use the worship format offered by the East Ohio Conference, *Praying Our Way Forward – We are One in Christ*: “Maintaining and strengthening the unity of the United Methodist Church is all of our work to do and all of our conversations to have” (Bishop Tracy S. Malone, East Ohio Conference resident bishop).

It will be very helpful for all of us to read the relevant documents. These may be found on the East Ohio Conference website, [eocumc.com](http://eocumc.com) in the section titled, Special Session of the General Conference:

- A Special Session of the General Conference has been called for Feb. 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri to receive and act upon a report from the Commission on a Way Forward and recommendations of the Council of Bishops.

- Read the **Mission, Vision, and Scope** article that shaped the Commission’s work.

- Read the **Final Report from the Commission on a Way Forward** that outlines the work of the Commission and contains details on each of three proposed plans: The One Church Plan (recommended by the Council of Bishops); the Connectional Conference Plan; and the Traditionalist Plan.

Included on the website are Bishop Malone’s video address to the East Ohio Conference and other related letters, articles, and reading resources.

Based on Ephesians 4:1-6, Bishop Malone has written, “I believe, and am convinced, that we can find a Way Forward that will keep the unity of the United Methodist Church if we fully embrace this call to conduct ourselves with all humility, gentleness, and patience; accepting each other in love; and making an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties us together. I continue to proclaim what I have said before: finding a Way Forward is all of our work to do and all of our commitments to make.”

Here at Mayfield Church we hope and pray we will keep our focus on our mission and our unity as we look ahead.
Christmas Thoughts from your Stephen Ministry Team
By Joy Clason

At this Christmas time, we are often focused on gifts. Children think about what they would love to receive and, as we grow older, we focus on what we can give to others that they would enjoy receiving. Certainly the greatest gift humanity has ever received was the infant Messiah. God knew what we needed the most and He gave us Jesus who taught us to love God and love each other.

As we love and serve others, we are doing God’s work. My grandmother was a loving servant. My father, her son-in-law, said that in every minute of every day it seemed she had just finished doing something for someone else, was doing something for someone else, or was getting ready to do something for someone else. Wouldn’t we all love to be described in such a way?

On Dec. 25, 2017, PBS aired a special Christmas episode of “Call the Midwife.” It included the memorable quote, “The hands of the almighty are often found at the end of our own arms.” At this Christmastime and throughout the year ahead, may we be willing servants of God and also willing receivers of the service of others.

Stephen Ministers are here to serve you when you are going through difficult times. If you or someone you know would like more information about receiving the services of a Stephen Minister, contact the referral coordinator, Joyce Gordon, at joytgordon@roadrunner.com or 216-570-3767.
The Thanksgiving Team would like to thank all of the church members, staff, youth, and friends who helped with the many aspects of the Thanksgiving dinner last month. We had 83 volunteers working the dinner and many others who helped throughout the week leading up to the dinner. The church served 314 meals to church members, friends, family, and community members! We raised over $800 to be used to prepare meals for community dinners in 2019!

Heather Sasse and more volunteers in the serving line

Dan and Joan serving pumpkin and apple pie

Behind the scenes: kitchen crew having fun!
Hold the Rope, a ParentLink Training event, focuses on giving parents a shared spiritual experience that they can lead their kids through every year. It helps parents experience what it’s like to lead their children spiritually and is tailored to their grade level so that the child can comprehend and take to heart the family experiences. This class is for any parent(s) of children from birth to Grade 12. Come and learn how to pass down your faith through unique family experiences. Dinner will be served for all who attend and childcare will be provided! Contact Adam Vodicka at adam@mayfieldchurch.org to RSVP.
Young Servants’ Families of children Pre-school to Grade 5 are warmly invited to join us on Saturday, Dec. 1 at 10 AM in Fellowship Hall/Kitchen to bake cookies! We will sell them each Sunday morning during the month of December to raise money for Heifer International.

Volunteers will also be needed to make and refrigerate dough the evening prior to this event to allow the dough to chill overnight. If you are able to help, please contact Jess Martz at jessica@mayfieldchurch.org.

Tweens Ministry Join us in attending “The Light Before Christmas” program on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 4 PM, followed by soup & salad, and a craft! If your fourth or fifth grader is interested, please send your RSVP to Jess Martz at jessica@mayfieldchurch.org.
Heartland Childcare Center

FROM THE HEART

The Heartland children and staff are continuing a month of gratitude and thanksgiving while looking forward to the joy and anticipation that the Christmas season brings! On Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 5 PM in the Worship Center, we will be presenting our annual Christmas program this year titled “Christmas Hide and Seek.” Please join us in celebrating our Savior’s birth. There will also be an open house after the performance. We may even have a special visitor stop by! We will also be having a second performance for God’s Caring Community on Thursday, December 13, at 10:30 AM. Please feel free to join us for either performance!

Also, during the month of December, Heartland is giving back through “The Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive” sponsored by Scholastic Book Clubs. This will be our sixth year participating in this special program. We will be collecting new pajamas which will be given to children waiting to be adopted. If you would like to help, please bring in a new pair of pajamas or a nightgown for ages newborn through adult to the “Giving Tree” basket on the lower level by the Heartland door before Wednesday, Dec. 12. Every child deserves to have a nice warm pair of pajamas to sleep in each night. Scholastic will combine each pair of pajamas with a book for each child. Thank you for giving to someone in need!

During the month of December, we will be learning while making a faith connection:

- Week of Dec. 3 – Numbers Help Us Explore God’s World – Letter N
- Week of Dec. 10 – Opening the Best Christmas Gift of All – Letter O
- Week of Dec. 17 – I Can Bring Peace to God’s World – Letter P
- Week of Dec. 24 – Christmas Around the World – No Letter

A big thank you to the Mayfield Church family for allowing Heartland to spread the good news of great joy to the Chesterland community and beyond.

Merry Christmas!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Heartland Office at 440-729-4006 EXT. 116 or email heartland@mayfieldchurch.org.
Student Ministries

Every Sunday Morning:
The Uprising
High School/Middle School
Starting in The Rock at 11 AM, splitting out into HS/MS @ 11:30 AM (sit together in worship @ 9:30 AM)
Ends at 12:30 PM

The Light Before Christmas
Don’t miss out on this night of Christmas fun and festivity on Dec. 9 at 4 PM!
Our student ministry will be part of this night as we will have skits, videos, party displays, and more. If you can help, please let Adam or Kathy Thomas at k.l.thomas366@gmail.com.

Uprising Christmas Party and NYE Lock-in
Our Uprising Christmas party will be on Dec. 15 from 7 to 8:30 PM at the church. Come join us for a white elephant gift exchange, Christmas games, prizes, food, and fellowship! And then, don’t miss out on our NYE Loco Lock-in on Dec. 31 starting at 9 PM until 7 AM the next morning (1/1/19).
Hope to see you there!

Carol with Carol
On Dec. 16, The Uprising will participate in our annual “Carol with Carol” as we sing Christmas songs to shut-ins in the area. We will meet at church at 12:30 PM as Carol is providing pizza for the student ministry. We will leave at 1 PM and get back around 4 PM. Be there!

REMINDER – No Uprising on Dec. 23 or 30 due to the holidays.
Don’t forget, the first Wednesday of every month is The Uprising Day at BadaBing Pizza in Chesterland, OH. Come in anytime from 11 AM - 8 PM and mention Mayfield Church…we get 20% of their total sales that day.

Bring your appetite on Dec. 5!
M.U.M.S. Annual Birthday Party for Jesus!
Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, Dec. 18 @ 6 PM

Please bring socks to donate to the homeless.

M.U.M.S. ANNUAL
WINTER BALL
SATURDAY, JAN. 19
6 - 8 PM
MAYFIELD CHURCH
EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Please contact Sandy Pavick for more information at sandyinnewbury@aol.com or call 440-429-5029
Ornament Exchange and Craft Luncheon  
Saturday, Dec. 8  
11 AM - 2 PM  
Enjoy fellowship and creativity with a potluck lunch and making ornaments with Kathy Rolla. Please sign up at the table in Fellowship Hall before or after service on Dec. 2 or email Kris Larrick at larrick97@gmail.com

Morning Moms’ Group
The Moms’ LifeGroup meets every other week from 10 - 11:30 AM on the lower level. The next meeting is Thursday, Dec. 13, to finish up “Anxious for Nothing” and pick the next study. If you are interested in more information, please contact Mary Oklander at maryoklander@yahoo.com or visit the Facebook group “Moms’ Life Group.”

“A good support system is a life changing factor.”
Finance Committee

If you are over 70 and ½ years of age and have an IRA, you can take distributions from your IRA, including your Required Minimum Distribution, and have the money sent directly from your IRA trustee to the church and you won’t pay any tax on that distribution. On the other hand, if you can still itemize your deductions, you can’t deduct that contribution.

If you have a security that has appreciated in value and you are considering selling it, you can donate the security directly from your brokerage account to the church. You get a tax deduction for the full market value of the donation, the institution gets the full amount of the funds and no one pays any income taxes on that donation. It is best to check with your financial advisor on their procedures. If you receive the check and then give it to the church, you will still have to pay the Capital Gains tax.

Pledges for 2019

My Intention of Giving for 2019

Defined by Generosity – “You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us” (2 Corinthians 9:8).

Name: ____________________________

$ __________________ Operating & Ministry Budget (1/1-12/31 2019)

$ __________________ Mortgage Fund (1/1-12/31 2019)

7747 Mayfield Rd – Chesterland, OH 44026
(440) 729-4006 – www.mayfieldchurch.org

If you haven’t received a Pledge Card in the mail, you can find them on the board in the main hallway or in the Dec. 2 bulletin. The Finance Committee is better able to forecast our operating budget for 2019 when we know the actual amount pledged. We encourage and welcome your pledges for 2019 if you have not already turned yours in. Your pledge may be placed in the envelope and dropped in the offering baskets or in Darlene’s mailbox in the office. Thank you for your faithfulness to God from whom all blessings flow!
Prayer Warriors

Prayer is a powerful opportunity to have a closer, personal relationship with our Father. It’s a time to become focused on sharing our deeper needs, and offering love and encouragement to others in need. What a moving time to open our hearts up to our most glorious Jesus Christ! Amen and Hallelujah....

The Prayer Warriors meet every second Sunday of the month, at 10:15 AM in the West prayer room on the first floor. Come and share in honoring our Father in this time of prayer and renewed hope in God’s presence in our daily lives. HE lives in each of us!

We Extend Our Deepest Sympathies

… to Rich and Judy Moeller and family on the passing of Judy’s sister, Ruth Burdick, on Nov. 13.

… to Nancy and John Donahue on the passing of their nephew, Carl Spitaleri, on Nov. 17.

… to Beth and Dave Welty on the passing of Dave’s sister, Pat Jones, on Nov. 22.
December Events

5  Hold The Rope– ParentLink, 5 - 8 PM, FH
8  The Light Before Christmas Rehearsal, 9 AM, WC
   Women’s Ornament Luncheon, 11 AM, FH
9  Blood Pressure Screenings, 9 AM - 1 PM, FH
   “Hands That Serve” Breakfast, 9 AM - 1 PM, FH
   The Light Before Christmas Program, 4 PM, WC
   Soup and Salad Dinner, 5 PM, FH
11 Happy Packers (Foodbank volunteers), 10 AM, at The Foodbank
   Heartland Christmas Program, 5 PM, WC
   Holy Land Trip Informational Meeting, 6:30 PM, B29
12 UMW Eve Circle, 7 PM, Home of Carol Mulhern
13 Morning Moms’ Group, 10 - 11:30 AM, The Uprising Room
   God’s Caring Community, 10:30 AM, WC
   West G Choral Concert, 7 PM, WC
15 Men’s Breakfast, 8:30 AM, FH
16 All Church Caroling, 1 - 4 PM, meet at church to carpool
18 M.U.M.S., 6 - 7:30 PM, FH  (a ministry for those with special needs)
24 Christmas Eve Services, 12 PM, 5 PM, 7:30 PM, 11 PM, WC
   Free Light Christmas Eve Meal, 4:30 - 7 PM, FH
25 Christmas Day, Office and Heartland Closed
26 Office Closed (Heartland is open)
27 Red Cross Blood Drive, 2 - 7 PM, FH
31 New Years Eve, Heartland Closed

Community Dinner is cancelled this month

WC– Worship Center  FH– Fellowship Hall

Dates are subject to change. Please call the office with
any questions about an event.

We are looking for childcare providers for Sunday
mornings and during other church events. This is a
paid position. If you are interested, please contact
Carrie Barry at 440-521-8343 or
carrieb@mayfieldchurch.org.
December Activity Highlights

COMMITTEES/MINISTRIES
Intercessory Prayer Group Tuesdays 10 AM-NOON
Finance Dec. 10 6 PM
Garden Ministry Dec. 3 7:15-8:15 PM
Prayer Shawl Ministry Dec. 13 1 PM
Prayer Warriors Dec. 9 10:30 AM
Trustees Dec. 5 7 PM
PSPR Dec. 4 7 PM

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Overeaters Anonymous Mondays in B42 (except Dec. 24 & 31) 7:30 PM
Alcoholics Anonymous Mondays in B26 (except Dec. 24 & 31) 7:30 PM
Alcoholics Anonymous Tuesdays in B42 (except Dec. 25) 7:30 PM
Narcotics Anonymous Wednesdays in B25 7:30 PM
Cub Scout Pack 3104 Dec. 19 in Gym 6:30 PM
Karate Thursdays (except Dec. 27) 6:15 PM

ADULT LIFE GROUPS / CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Adults 9:30 & 11 AM (every other week) & throughout the week
Children 9:30 AM
Middle School/High School See page 20

MUSIC
9:30 Band Rehearsal Wednesdays 7 PM
Hand Bell Rehearsal Thursdays 6:15 PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal Thursdays 7:30 PM

Church Cancellation Notices
It’s that time of year in Northeast Ohio when we never know when weather conditions may warrant cancellations. If you are in doubt, there are several ways to find out if your activity will go on as scheduled or if the church office is closed.

If West Geauga Schools are closed due to inclement weather, we are also closed. Please check our phone message, website, and social media.
Mayfield Staff Information

Pastor Jim Winkler
Lead Pastor
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Associate Pastor
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Steve Vegel
Facilities Manager
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Patty Wenzel
Director of Heartland Childcare Center
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American Red Cross

Thursday, December 27
2 – 7 PM
Fellowship Hall

Sunday Worship Celebrations
8:00 AM: Communion
9:30 AM: Modern
11:00 AM: Traditional
LifeGroups: see page 8 & 9