



**Columbiana First
UMC**
210 South Main Street
Columbiana, OH 44408
(330) 482-2382
ColumbianaUMC@gmail.com

November/December 2025

The Shepherd

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.” -
- Psalm 146:2

It is that time of year when we pause to reflect on the many blessings we have received. Thanksgiving serves as an important reminder to us all to practice gratitude. While it is true that we should make it a habit to be thankful at all times and regularly count our blessings, it is easy to lose sight of this in the busyness of everyday life. How often do we actually take the time to acknowledge all that we have?

Reflecting on the passage above, I am reminded of my deep appreciation for singing praises during church services. Music has always been my favorite part of worship. I found great joy in singing hymns and learning about the testimonies of the saints who wrote them, their stories expressed so beautifully through the lyrics we sang together.

Our family would often sit in the balcony, close to where the organist played. I have sometimes wondered whether my parents chose that spot because they enjoyed the music or simply wanted more space, as the church was crowded in those days and we were all squeezed into the pews. (How I wish that were still the case today.) Mrs. Popki was the organist, and I cherished every moment of singing hymns while she played. Even today, music remains my primary means of worship. There is something special about singing wholeheartedly to the Lord, expressing gratitude for all that He has done and all that He will do in our lives.

What is your preferred way to worship? Is it through singing, moments of silence, or prayer? Whatever your chosen practice may be, I encourage you to make time for it more often and allow it to deepen your spiritual life.

I am deeply thankful for each and every one of you. I appreciate the monetary gift presented to me for Pastor Appreciation. I used the gift to put new brakes on my car, and the remainder will be spent during my little retreat at Lakeside, where I hope to find spiritual renewal and some much-needed rest and relaxation.

It is truly a blessing to serve as your pastor.

Blessings,
Pastor Cyndi

Office Information
Columbiana First UMC
210 South Main St.
Columbiana, OH 44408
Church: (330) 482-2382
ColumbianaUMC@gmail.com
www.columbianafirstumc.com

Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday, & Friday
9:00am—1:00pm

Our Staff

***Pastor Cynthia Midlick**
cmidlick@msn.com

***Church Secretary**
Miranda Caldwell

Financial Secretary
Lisa Kauffman

***Custodian**
Bradley Moore

***Team Leader/Organist**
Monica Detwiler

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

(If we have missed your special day, please notify the church office to be added to the list! 330-482-2382)

Virginia Neville	Nov-16
Phillip Welce	Nov-19
Anne Brown	Nov-22
Jeff Schreiber	Nov-28
John Kimpel	Nov-30
Dan Malanowski	Dec-2
Carol Meissner	Dec-4
Vivian Keller	Dec-13
Sam Detwiler	Dec-28

If your birthday is in November or December and it is not on the list we wish you also a very Happy Birthday.



Christiana House

Christina House launches text-only crisis line.

The Christina House Domestic Violence Program has launched a text-only crisis line. Persons seeking help or information about domestic violence can text 234-335-7908 24 hours a day. A trained advocate will reply to the text message and offer advice, a listening ear, or referral to other resources. Information about any of the Christina House’s services is available through the text line. The crisis phone line is also available 24 hours a day for phone calls at 330-420-0036.

The Christina House program includes an emergency shelter, legal advocacy, case management, and referral to other community resources. The legal advocate offers information about and assistance with protection orders. To connect with the legal advocate directly individuals can call 330-420-0845 Monday through Friday from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm. Additionally, the Christian House offers community education about healthy relationships, teen dating issues, and domestic abuse. The community education specialist can be reached at 330-744-3320 ext. 206.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **In person Worship Services are on Sunday's at 10:30am.**
- **Bible Study on Wednesday @ 10 am in the Pastor's Study.**
- **There will be no Ham Dinner in the month of November.**
- **Soup Sales will resume in December. Due to the price of groceries we do feel the need to raise our price a little. Soup will be \$9.00 a quart this year. Pre-Orders only.**
Soups available to order will be: Chicken Noodle, Stuffed Pepper, Potato, Ham & Bean, Vegetable, and Chili
Pre-Order deadline will be Dec. 7th
Pick-Up will be Dec. 11th between 3—5 pm
- **Nov. 19th & Dec. 17th One Board Meeting 5:30 pm**
- **Nov. 16th & Dec. 21st Chef Brad's Brunch after Worship Service**
- **Nov. 23rd @ 5:30 pm we will be decorating the sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season. Please come join us if you can.**
- **December 10th Fellowship Breakfast at the Dutch House, 10 am. No reservations needed.**
- **Christmas Eve Service will be held at 4 pm this year.**
- **Kids Club is from 6—7:30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month.**

Trustee Report

On behalf of the Trustees and One Board, we would like to sincerely thank the McMurray family, Becky and her sons, Rodney and Bob for all their much appreciated volunteer work at the parsonage. We are grateful for their time, expertise and contributions in guiding us through the repair work. A Very Special Thank You to Rodney who has volunteered a great deal of his time to the indoor painting and general work.

Thank you to all those who have sent monetary donations for this project.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this project with their prayers.

Thank you Pastor Cyndi for your help painting and guidance.

The parsonage is still a work in progress, but it is moving in the right direction.

**With our most sincere gratitude and appreciation,
Sam and Monica Detwiler**

Thank you to Steve Burbick for filling in for me on Sept. 28, Oct. 5, Oct. 19 and 26th.

Thank you to Robert McMurray for filling in for me as volunteer organist on Sept.12

Our church is truly blessed with your wonderful music,

**With much appreciation,
Monica Detwiler**

Trustee Report

Church Maintenance and Improvements Update

We have been diligently working on several projects at the church to ensure that our facilities remain comfortable and welcoming.

As detailed in Monica and Sam's report on the parsonage, renovations are progressing well. By now, the new air conditioning and furnace systems should be installed, just in time for the colder months ahead.

While significant progress has been made, there are still a few important tasks that remain:

- Restoration of the wood floor in the Den
- Replacement of the existing linoleum in the Kitchen/Dining Room area with tile or vinyl flooring
- Interior painting in designated areas
- Carpet cleaning throughout the parsonage
- Re-installation of the outside water spicket and associated pipes

Heating System Maintenance

To prepare for the colder weather, we have also undertaken necessary repairs on the boilers to restore heat throughout the church.

Window Improvements

We are pleased to report that Tri-State Glass has completed the re-caulking of our windows, further improving our building's insulation and comfort.

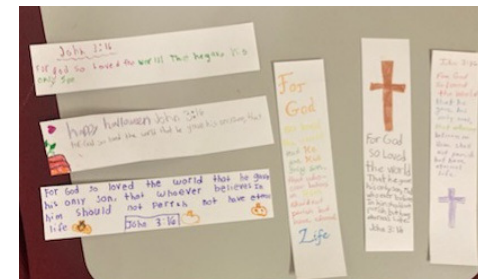
Gratitude and Support

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who continues to support our church. Your generosity allows us to maintain the building and ensures that we can continue our important work. With ongoing repairs, expenses inevitably arise. If you feel moved to contribute a little extra, your gift will be greatly appreciated. We pray for God's blessings upon you and your family.

Kids Club

The kids are enjoying the new season of Kids Club! We just completed the 2nd part of a 4-part series called "The Me I Can't See." This curriculum involves the lesson, skit, music and craft. The kids leave with a memory verse to learn before the next meeting. They have done self portraits and book marks with John 3:16 on them. We now have 9-10 kids in 6th thru 9th grade who are now our teen group. We decided to be called "The Pathfinders". We are working on our mission statement and fundraising ideas for upcoming events. We had our Halloween party. Thank you to Melanie Stelts for the yummy treat bags! If anyone would like to help, please see me. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 6:00-7:30. Thank you Ginny Neville for her help in funding our Kids' Club, Jeff Schreiber and Nancy Lanza for volunteering to help supervise at our meetings and to Pastor Cyndi for her help in putting our new curriculum together and for the honor of being able to execute this message to the kids.

Karen Culp



Good as New Shoppe

After being closed Street Fair weekend, we transitioned from spring/summer to fall/winter and the shoppe has been quite busy for which we are thrilled. Please stop in as we have lots of quality tops, pants, coats, shoes and boots, jewelry and purses. The shoppe continues to grow with our sales these past couple weekends the best so far. To date, the church has benefited in funds from the shoppe totaling \$28,445.81 either from consignment share or donations.

Christmas in Columbiana kicks off with the annual parade on Friday November 21st. The shoppe will be open our regular hours during the holiday season. Starting December 5th we will giving away a chance to win a Christmas decoration with every purchase. The winner will be chosen on December 20th. Also various sales will be held throughout the holidays.

With everyone's efforts, the shoppe has been blessed.

Happy Holidays!

Marge & Linda

Store hours Friday 10-4

Saturday 10-3.

Store Phone Number: (330) 831-0399

United Methodists Women

Breakfast will be December 10th at 10 a.m. at Dutch Haus

Special Days in November!



All Saints' Day

November 1st

Daylight Saving Time Ends

November 2nd



Election Day

November 4th

Veterans' Day

November 11th



Thanksgiving

November 27th



Special Days in December!



Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

December 7th



First Day of Winter

December 21st



Christmas Eve

December 24th

Christmas

December 25th



New Year's Eve

December 31st



During the rush of the Holidays take the time to remember why we are celebrating and what we have to be thankful for!

1 Thessalonians 5:18