

The Church Bell

12316 BEESON ST NE

ALLIANCE OH 44601

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:30am

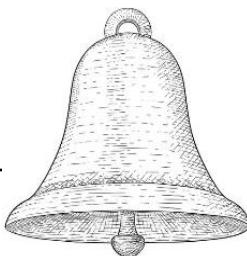
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 11:00am

FEBRUARY 2026

PH. 330-823-3439

office@sciencehillcc.org

www.sciencehillcc.org



By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

(Galatians 5:22-23)

The Fruit of the Spirit

I still remember when I was about ten years old and my parents gave me my first BB gun. My Dad, who was a part-time police officer for our township, had always taught me to have a healthy respect for his firearms. Now he was going to teach me how to properly handle a gun and shoot. After explaining all the safety rules, my first target practice took place in our yard. He had me line up our flagpole in my sights, explaining how to aim using the guides on the barrel. When a “ping” rang out, I knew I had found my mark!

In the Christian life, we also have a target to focus on, but it’s easy to forget what we are aiming for. Perhaps we begin just going through the motions of our spiritual disciplines – prayer, church attendance, Bible reading, giving, helping others – and we lose sight of the purpose God has in mind. We neglect what He intends to shape in us through rote routine. We know the “what” of our practices, but we ignore the “why.” An old saying reminds us that when we aim at nothing, we hit it every time.

In February and March, I will be preaching a nine-part series on “The Fruit of the Spirit” from Galatians 5 to remind us of what we should be aiming to produce in our spiritual lives. Each week, we will take a look at how one of the essential Christian qualities was expressed in the life of a biblical character, what the opposite of that fruit looks like, and how we can be more intentional about yielding a healthy crop in our personality. This isn’t a legalistic journey to be more rigorous and “do better” to try to please God; it is an encouragement to get back to the basics of our first love for Jesus and seek to imitate His character in our inner soul. Join us on this journey to rediscover some of the sweetness and wonder of our relationship with our Father God through Christ!

Pastor Jon

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS

Thank you kindly for your continued support and generous tithes and offerings.

| <u>WEEK OF:</u> | <u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u> | <u>OFFERING</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| In person + Online | | |
| December 28 | 44 + 10 | \$5,563.00 |
| January 4 | 37 + 16 | \$4,027.00 |
| January 11 | 40 + 13 | \$1,858.00* |
| January 18 | 38 + 11 | \$3,333.00 |

As of 12/31/25

General Fund Expenses: \$158,603.67

General Fund Income: \$155,753.75

Year-to-date difference: - 2,849.92

Budget for 2026: \$164,918

Needed weekly is \$3,171.50*

MISSION OFFERINGS FROM THE CONGREGATION:

December Mission: S.A.M. Center and Legacy of Honor: They each received \$221.00.

(In 2026 our church budget gives an additional \$100 monthly to the mission(s) of the month.)

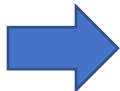
February 2026 MISSION: Men's Toolbox Ministry

Area men are invited to gather and enjoy breakfast, fellowship and a program on the first Saturday of each month from 8:30-10:00am. They meet at Robertson's Supply, 2155 W. Main St. in Alliance. (This is the Main Street extension.) Leading the group are: Freddie Rodrigues, Alliance Hospital Chaplain; Pastor Gary Bush; Joe Dyke, Lay-Minister. Our next date is February 7th.

GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS: If you are not able to be in worship on Sundays, you can mail in your offering donations at any time to: Science Hill Community Church, 12316 Beeson St. NE, Alliance OH 44601.

A **PayPal option** is also available for those wishing to give electronically. Just visit our church website: www.sciencehillcc.org. THANK YOU for your support of our church!

*****If you watch our service online, please let us know so we can add you to our virtual attendance.*****



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Items for the March 2026 newsletter should be submitted to the church office by Thursday, February 19 at 8am. You can bring them in or send them in at any time to office@sciencehillcc.org or sciencehillcc.org@gmail.com.

THERESA'S OFFICE HOURS: Mondays and Thursdays 8am-3pm.

PASTOR JON'S DAY OFF: Pastor Jon's weekly day off is Wednesday.

“Our mission is to joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ and lovingly care for others.”

“HIGHLIGHTS” OF THE CONSISTORY MEETING: Monday, January 5, 2026 (moved up from the 12th)

Present: Elders: Craig Reay (out-going president), Derek Swegheimer, Jan Raber, Mark Haidet, Gary Casto

Deacons: Ben Favazzo, Rose Wade, Ray Courtwright, Jeff Hahn

Pastor: Jonathan Truax and Secretary/Treasurer: Theresa Marks

PRAYER/DEVOTION: Rose Wade

Craig Reay opened the meeting and the first order of business was to elect a new Consistory President. Craig asked for nominations, which were Gary and Derek. Private ballots were cast and Derek Swegheimer will be the 2026 Consistory President. Craig turned the meeting over to Derek and he left the meeting. The nominees for Consistory Vice-President are Gary and Mark. Gary was elected.

Head Elder is Mark Haidet; Head Deacon is Ray Courtwright; Liaisons between Consistory and Committees include: CE – Gary; Worship – Jan; Church Life – Ben; Building & Grounds – Rose; Trust Fund – Derek; and Outreach – Ray.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Consistory meeting Monday, December 8, 2025 were reviewed and placed on file.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ending December 2025 was reviewed and placed on file.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT: For January 2026 of \$14,818.47 for the General Fund and \$0 for the Youth checkbook were approved with motions by Mark and Jan.

CORRESPONDENCE: n/a

MISC. REPORTS: 1.) Rose and the Building & Grounds Committee: a.) The rear sanctuary furnace was fixed, thank you to the Trust Fund. b.) Santa visits went well, thank you to Craig and Lori Reay. c.) Rose is working with Holly Swegheimer on the Super Bowl sub fundraiser. d.) The basement flooring has a final decision to purchase carpet tiles to be installed by Elite Floors. Payment breakdown will come from the Memorial Fund, remaining balance of the N.Hoover Fund, and Capital Improvement.

OLD BUSINESS: Youth Ministry Director position is still open. Holly Swegheimer has been hired as the Children's Ministry Director.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussions took place on how to bring in new families and youth to grow our church.

PASTOR'S REMARKS: 1.) His current sermon series is called, “Why We Do What We Do.” The sermon series for February/March/Lent is “The Fruit of the Spirit.” 2.) The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held following worship on Sunday, January 25, 2026. No refreshments or Sunday School that day. 3.) There will be combined Lent Services with area churches. Science Hill will host one of those. The theme is “The Lord’s Prayer.”

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:35 with motions by Mark and Jan. The next scheduled Consistory meeting is changed to Monday, February 9, 2026 at 7:00pm.

Derek Swegheimer, 2026 Consistory President

Theresa Marks, Secretary/Treasurer

Children's Ministry News

Holly Swegheimer, Director of Children's Ministry

We are studying the life of Christ in Jr. Church and Sunday School, focusing on the Heart of God. On Tuesdays, we are studying the Parables of Jesus. The incentive program is going well, and we are excited about how many verses the girls are learning.



We are still in need of helpers for Tuesday night. We need a couple of people willing to teach Jr. Church. If you are interested, please speak to Holly.



IT'S A MIDWEEK SPIRITUAL LIFT

Community Connection meets first & third Tuesday evenings 6 to 8 pm.

This month: February 3 and 10

We gather and share a meal at 6pm with our usual menu of hot dogs, and attendees bringing sides and desserts. Classes for children, youth and adults begin at 6:30pm. Pastor Jon teaches a Bible Study on the Gospel of John. If you can be a helper for the children and youth areas - please see Holly Swegheimer.

SUPERBOWL SUB FUNDRAISER

They will be available for pick up on Sunday, February 8th. Deadline to order is Thursday, February 5th. All proceeds benefit the Building and Grounds Committee's new Roof Fund, which we are saving up to replace the church roof in about 5 years.

Order slips are available in the narthex before and after worship.

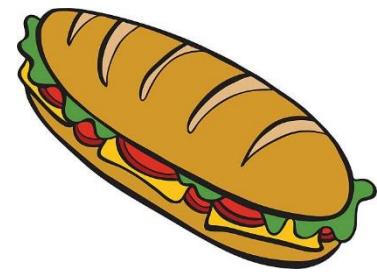
You can also call the church office.

SUBS

- \$7 Ham
- \$7 Turkey
- \$8 Ham and Turkey

TOPPINGS AVAILABLE:

- American Cheese
- Lettuce
- Tomato
- Onion



Please Join us for



Science Hill Community Church

Light Lunch & Educational Fun

Sat Feb. 21, 2026 11:30-1:30

Five Extraordinary People by Jack Weber, Alliance Historical Society

Register on our website or by calling [\(330\) 823-3439](tel:(330)823-3439)

SCIENCE HILL BOOK CLUB

Start reading now!

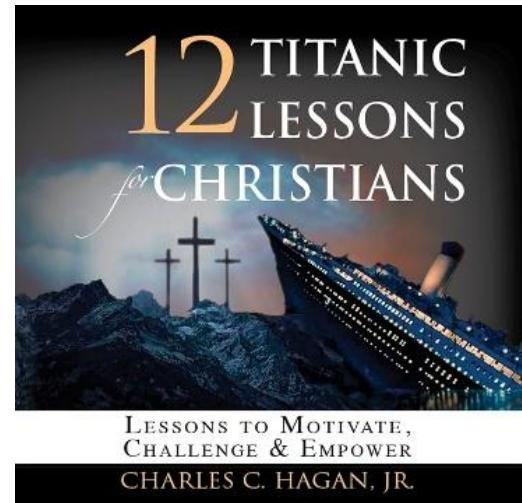
Join us for our 1st gathering of the Science Hill Book Club on Thursday, March 19th from 6-8pm with a light dinner and discuss how the Titanic can teach us great lessons using biblical references.

12 Titanic Lessons for Christians: Lessons to Motivate, Challenge and Empower

by Charles C. Hagan Jr.

Books are available on Amazon (paperback or audiobook), Audible, thrift stores, or a copy will be ready to borrow in February. Laura will have some available in the office. This is open to family, friends, and the public. Contact Laura Courtwright for questions.

(P.S.... you are more than welcome to come on March 19th, even if you do not get a chance to read the book!)



THANK YOU NOTES IN THE MAIL AND MISC. INFO ...

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Dorothy Oyster, who passed to eternal rest on January 14, 2026.

Dear Church Family: Thank you so much for the generous Christmas gift! We appreciate having some extra resources to help with special holiday expenses. As always, we feel honored to be the pastoral family at Science Hill Community Church!

-Pastor Jon and Debbie

Dear Church Family: Thank you for all of the love, prayers, cards, and texts with the recent passing of my mother. All were greatly appreciated by our family. You are a very special group to me whom I cherish in my heart.

-In Christian Love, Shirley Farnham

THE TOOLBOX: A Men's Ministry: Area men are invited to gather and enjoy breakfast, fellowship and a program on the first Saturday of each month from 8:30-10:00am. Meet them at Robertson Heating & Supply, 2155 W. Main St., Alliance. The next dates are **February 7 and March 7**. For more information, please see Pastor Jon.

DONATE YOUR POP TABS: This initiative is good for Ronald McDonald House families, local organizations and the environment. We can all do a little to make a big difference in our community! *Our container is in the area where the food is collected for the Salvation Army.* **How do pop tabs help the Ronald McDonald House?** They are taken to be recycled in exchange for dollars for our Family Fund, which provides items for families that use RMHC NEO programs. They offer assistance in emergencies, lodging, travel, clothing, hygiene and help to give families special moments – like providing small birthday gifts for children.

There is a **BIBLE READING GUIDE** on the table in the narthex if anyone would like to read through the Bible in a year, on your own, as we have done a few times in previous years. Your choice ... you can read the Old and New Testament passages or just the New.

New Church Directory This Spring: We're looking forward to updating our names, addresses and phone numbers in the church directory. If you have any changes over the last year, please contact the church office by phone or email. Let Theresa know by the end of February!

"THANK YOU" FOR VOLUNTEERING ON SUNDAYS

| DATE | REFRESHMENTS | LITURGIST | BELL RINGER | PRAYER ROOM |
|-------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------|
| February 1 | Jeff & Patti Hahn | Jenny Digiantonio | | |
| February 8 | Schroeder Family | | | |
| February 15 | Lynn Penturf | Rose Wade | | |
| February 22 | Jenny Digiantonio | Marsha Graham | Bob Poto | Connie Poto |
| February | USHERS | GREETERS | ACOLYTE | |
| | Ray Boyce, Mark Haidet | Jeff Hahn | | Sabrina Thomas |

Ash Wednesday Service

February 18, 2026 at 6pm

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the reflective and penitential season of Lent, a 40 day countdown to Easter (not including Sundays.) This year for our observance, Science Hill invites you to attend a brief service beginning at 6 pm which will include prayers, hymns, and the imposition of ashes. This will be a quiet, reflective time preparing our hearts for the work God wants to do in and through us. All are welcome.



COMBINED LENT WORSHIP SERVICES WITH AREA CHURCHES

Focusing on The Lord's Prayer

We hope you will make plans to join us, along with area churches,
to attend these Lenten Services at 6pm.
This is a tentative schedule and is subject to change.

| Date | Host Church | Preaching |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| February 22 | Christ United Methodist Church 470 E. Broadway St, Alliance | Pastor Russ Gumm |
| March 1 | Science Hill Community Church 12316 Beeson St NE, Alliance | Pastor Becky Weamer |
| March 8 | Grace Community Church 13245 Edison St NE, Alliance | Pastor Jeff Coggins |
| March 15 | TBD | Pastor Josh Smith |
| March 22 | Alliance First Christian Church 1141 W. Beech St, Alliance | TBD |
| March 29 | TBD | TBD |

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

1st: 9am Prayer Time; 9:30am Worship; 10:45am Refreshments; 11am Sunday School classes for all ages

2nd: 6:30pm Building & Grounds Committee

3rd: Community Connection with 6pm meal, then classes for all ages

6th: 9am Blessing Bags

7th: 8:30-10am Men's Toolbox Ministry: Robertson's Supply

8th: 9am Prayer Time; 9:30am Worship; 10:45am Refreshments; 11am Sunday School classes for all ages

9th: 2pm Tech Committee; 7pm Consistory with Spiritual Council meeting following

12th or 13th: 9am Blessing Bags

15th: 9am Prayer Time; 9:30am Worship; 10:45am Refreshments; 11am Sunday School classes for all ages

16th: 6:30pm Worship Committee; 7:30pm Christian Education Committee

17th: Community Connection with 6pm meal then classes for all ages

18th: 6pm Ash Wednesday Service

19th: 8am newsletter deadline for March information

20th: 9am Blessing Bags

22nd: 9am Prayer Time; 9:30am Worship; 10:45am Refreshments; 11am Sunday School classes for all ages. 6pm Lent Service at Christ United Methodist Church, 470 E. Broadway St., Alliance with Pastor Russ Gumm speaking

23rd: 6:30pm Outreach Committee; 6:30pm Girl Scouts?

27th: 9am Blessing Bags

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- 1st: David Floyd
- 2nd: Alaina Courtwright
- 3rd: Kim Crum, Sandra Sadler
- 4th: John Ameser, Sharon Zurbrugg
- 5th: Martha Honaker
- 7th: Shron Carlson, Alexis Todd, Chris Schroeder
- 8th: Liz McDonald
- 9th: Levi Swegheimer
- 11th: Bob Farnham
- 14th: M/M John Eves
- 15th: Tim Church
- 19th: M/M Jeff Church
- 21st: Richard Berube
- 29th: M/M Travis Davis

FEBRUARY

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

One of the purposes of the Holy Spirit is to form us to the image of Christ, making us more like Him. The fruit of the Spirit (as listed in Galatians 5:22-23) reveal the character of a life empowered by God's presence. While Galatians 5 offers a powerful list, the fruit of the Spirit is seen throughout the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps us embody qualities like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, and more, shaping our lives to reflect God's kingdom here on Earth. Take this quiz to test your understanding of the fruit of the Spirit and don't forget to share it with a friend!

1. Which of the following is NOT listed as a fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23?

- a) Love
- b) Peace
- c) Knowledge
- d) Patience

2. In John 15:5, Jesus speaks about abiding in Him. What fruit does He promise to produce in us when we remain in Him?

- a) Joy
- b) Faith
- c) Self-Control
- d) Peace

3. Fill in the missing fruit of the Spirit in Romans 14:17:

“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, and in the Holy Spirit.”

- a) Kindness and compassion
- b) Love and boldness
- c) Peace and joy
- d) Patience and wisdom

CHURCH MEMORIES

-Tami Theisler, Church Historian

February 21st, 2021 – Hallelujah! We are back in the sanctuary. Our first indoor worship service since November 2020. (due to Covid) Derek Swegheimer was liturgist and Nancy Harsh gave the Children's Message. Becky Dixon was at the piano. Pastor Jon's message from his series in Mark was "Our Weakness, Christ's Strength". So good to worship together.

** 10 Years Ago – February 20th, 2016 – The 9th Annual W.O.W. Retreat was held with 75 ladies attending. "Get Your Game On: Using God's Manual to Succeed". The Church was decorated throughout with games and game boards. Guest speaker was Christine Wolfe, with breakout sessions led by Dennie Kohler, Marsha Graham and Debbie Truax. Marilyn Preas led the day, with Lori Reay, Comm. Chairman, recuperating from recent surgery. The day also included singing, a craft, games, breakfast and a catered lunch. Communion was served and the song circle completed the wonderful day.

February 6th, 2011 – The Youth held their Sub Sale for Super Bowl Sunday and Four Chaplains Sunday was celebrated with the presentation of the colors by a local color guard. Quentin & Brandon Rock were presented their "Duty to God" awards and Miyoko Shields provided special music. The L.A.B. Youth Group had a Super Bowl Party at the parsonage.

February 16th, 2006 – Our prayers go with Nicholas Marks as he is deployed to Iraq for 3 months.

** 25 Years Ago - February 4th, 2001 – Science Hill participated in the Festival of Choirs at the Chapel in Marlboro.

February 21st, 1996 – Our first Ash Wednesday Service "The Imposition of Ashes" 7pm at Science Hill – Pastor Barry. Last year's palms were burned Feb 18th at the church by Russell Newburn, Herb Oyster, Jerry Hoover, Kathy & Betsy Stirbens. Administering the ashes during the service was Mark Haidet, Jerry Hoover, Herb Oyster and Marsha Graham.

February 6th, 1991 – Debra Newburn and Theresa Marks attended a Teacher-to-Teacher Workshop at the Fairlawn West United Church of Christ in Akron.

February 16th, 1986 – Lenten services began. We joined again this year with Vine Street, Aldersgate & Beechwood Methodist churches.

February 3rd, 1981 – May Marquis left for two weeks in Haiti with Project Partner. The group will be working on a clinic which has already been started.

** 50 Years Ago – February 15th, 1976 – Mr. and Mrs. Thank Dang and children were special guests. Mr. Dang spoke on life in Vietnam, the Communist take-over, and the Dang family adjustments to life in the U.S.A.

February 27th, 1971 – Lenten Services are now until Easter alternating with Maximo and Methodist Aldersgate.

February 4th, 1966 – Sharon Renee, daughter born to Mr. & Mrs. James Hastings, Jr.

February 5th, 1961 – A son was born to Mr. & Mrs. David Sines.

February 1956 – Special evening Lenten services were held each Sunday in both Maximo and Science Hill Churches on alternate Sunday evening with music by the choirs.

** 75 Years Ago - February 18th, 1951 – After many months of hard work by some of the congregation, the church was finally ready for the 50th anniversary celebration – being fully refinished and refurnished with a new pulpit, lectures, Communion table, cross and candles on the same backed by the new red reredos. At the service the new Hammond organ was played. A large number of the congregation enjoyed a dinner in the newly refinished basement after which an afternoon service was held at two o'clock. Special vocal and organ music was enjoyed. Rev. Otto Zickiel a former pastor delivered the sermon and greetings were brought by Dr. Gerber. Pres. of the S.E. Ohio Synod, Rev. Anderson and Rev. Scharbaum. At the close of the services which were all well attended to capacity, much visiting was done with former members attending the services.

February 9th, 1946 – Mr. & Mrs. Harry Newburn were parents of a new baby daughter – Joyce Elaine.



IN OUR PRAYERS

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Calvin Beck | Craig Reay |
| Kathy Boyce | Danielle Sadler |
| Ron Braho | Stephanie Shealy |
| Ben Favazzo | Paul Sullivan |
| Donna & Valerie Grubb | Rebecca Verlezza |
| Laura Keyes | Greg Wade |
| Tom & Bonnie Linerode | Cindy Wolk |
| Jill Peterson | |



For the Family and Friends of Wade Unkefer, Olive Eick, Dorothy Oyster, Milo Matthew, Valorie Carney

HOMEBOUND/CARE FACILITIES

Peggy Hawkins, home
June Truax, St. Luke's - N.Canton
Craig & Carol Datz, Bel-Air
Audrey Wood-Clayton, Green Meadows

MILITARY

Nick Marks, Air Force
Daniel O'Neil, Air Force
Brandon Rock and Carova Rock, Navy
Ryan Brown, Marines
Jared Azemopoulos, Space Force
Matthew Cicero, Marines

COLLEGE

Cayden Monk, University of Mount Union
Becky Hornyak, University of Rio Grande

CONSISTORY

ELDERS: Gary Casto
Mark Haidet
Jan Raber
Derek Swegheimer
DEACONS: Ray Courtwright
Ben Favazzo
Jeff Hahn
Rose Wade

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Jonathan Truax
Secretary/Treasurer: Theresa Marks
Pianist: Nancy Springer
Children's Ministry Director: Holly Swegheimer
Custodians: J & D Cleaning / Elizabeth Courtwright

Junior Church and the Nursery

Junior Church class will take place on Sunday mornings after the Children's Message in worship.
Those Pre-K to 5th graders are invited upstairs in the educational wing for a lesson and craft.

FLOCKNOTE: *We love having you as part of our Flock! Keep in touch with us via email and text.*

Text SHCC to 84576 or connect at: sciencehillcommunitychur.flocknote.com. No passwords or app download necessary. Choose the ministries (including prayer chains) and committees you would like to connect with.

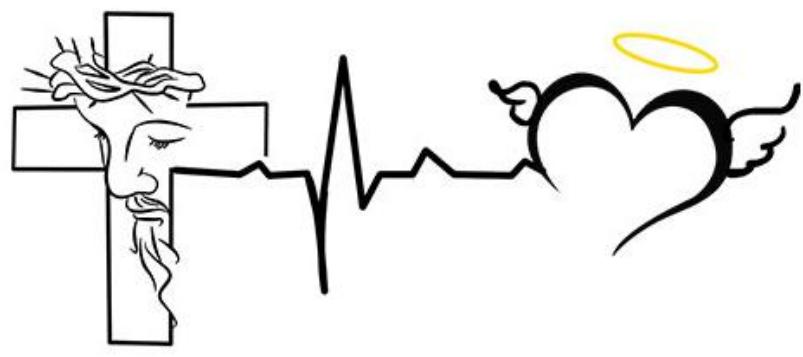
SCIENCE HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

12316 Beeson Street NE

Alliance, OH 44601

(Address Correction Requested)

February 2026



FAITH HOPE LOVE