



LEDGEWOOD LIGHT

Ledgewood Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
A BEACON ON THE HILL™



Rev. Heidi L. Barham, Pastor
Alissa Bodner, Pianist
Like us on Facebook!

Church Phone 440.338.5844
8261 Kinsman Road, Box 350
Novelty, OH 44072
www.ledgewoodcc.org

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019

SPREADING LOVE AND WARMTH, ONE BLANKET AT A TIME

It is that time when Ledgewood Christian Church is once again partnering with Church World Service (CWS) to blanket the world with love. The blanket program helps to keep our neighbors warm by providing blankets to families here in the United States and around the world.

What difference can a blanket make? A blanket can provide warmth to a victim of a flood or fire or serve as bedding to a guest in a homeless shelter or be a gift of welcome to a newly arrived refugee or migrant worker.

Our Chrismon tree has been transformed into the Blanket tree with miniature blanket ornaments to represent each blanket donation. We are well on our way to reaching our annual goal of donating at least 100 blankets at the cost of \$10 per blanket but there is still room on the tree.

So, won't you help us to cover the tree with even more blankets? Special envelopes will be placed in the bulletin each week or you can donate online using Givelify. Please be sure to indicate your donation is for CWS Blankets.

CWS KITS | CWS BLANKETS IMPACT REPORT: 2018

The CWS Kit and Blanket Programs are two of the many ways Church World Service shares in a hope-filled tomorrow. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of children and families the world over. Here are some of the places Church World Service has provided kits & blankets through your support of this program.



TOTAL KITS AND BLANKETS DISTRIBUTED GLOBALLY: **174,041**



Thank you in advance for your support of this worthwhile cause!



A Note from the Pastor:

It was songwriters, Burt Bacharach and Hal David, who wrote the popular 1960's classic, "What the World Needs Now Is Love." The song was recorded more than 50 years ago but the lyrics seem especially apropos in light of all that is happening in the world right now. The chorus simply states, "What the world needs now, is love, sweet love. It's the only thing that there's just too little of. What the world needs now is love, sweet love. No, not just for some, but for everyone."

And while I agree with the songwriters for the most part, I would venture to say that there actually is more than enough love to go around, if we would only take the time to find it. Throughout the scriptures, we are reminded of God's everlasting and unconditional love for us – for **ALL** of us.

We need only turn our attention to John 3:16, "*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*" The "whoever" that Jesus refers to here is fully inclusive. He makes no distinction based on age, gender, race, socioeconomic status, political affiliation, cultural heritage, etc. because God's love is big enough, wide enough, long enough and deep enough to encompass all of us, period.

And while we may be living in a day and time when people are going out of their way to promote a culture of exclusion, we must never lose sight of the fact that God is and has always been a God of inclusion. As disciples of Christ we are encouraged to do the same. When the Pharisee asked Jesus what the greatest commandment was, Jesus responded, "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.*' *This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'*" (Matthew 22:37 – 39).

The command to us is clear and the order of the day has not changed since Jesus first issued it. We are called to love. It is as simple as that, no matter how much other people may try to complicate the matter.

So, in the words of the beloved disciple, John, "*Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God*" (1 John 4:7).

With all my love, your Pastor and friend,

Pastor Heidi

A HOLIDAY TRADITION

Our annual Christmas Eve Service of Carols, Communion and Candlelight is a favorite holiday tradition for our church family. We were blessed to have many friends and family members join us for this special night. Thank you to everyone who contributed to truly making it a night to remember!



ALMOND JOY CAKE

Ingredients:

1 pkg. chocolate cake mix with pudding
1 C. sugar
1 14-oz. pkg. of coconut
¼ C. butter
1 C. toasted almond slices

1 C. evaporated milk
24 large marshmallows
½ C. evaporated milk
1 12-oz. pkg. chocolate chips

Directions:

- Bake chocolate cake as directed on package.
- Combine 1 C. evaporated milk and 1 C. of sugar in medium saucepan, bring to a boil and stir in marshmallows until melted.
- Add 14-oz. package of coconut and pour mixture over cake while both are still hot.
- Melt together remaining ½ C. of evaporated milk, butter and chocolate chips.
- Stir until melted and add 1 C. toasted almond slices.
- Pour on top of warm cake.
- Cool cake until coconut layer and chocolate layer are set.
- Better if made the day before serving.



A Little LIGHT Humor

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?" The mother replied, "Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life." The child thought about this for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

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Three boys are in the schoolyard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, "My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, and they give him \$50." The second boy says, "That's nothing. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, and they give him \$100." The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"

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A police recruit was asked during the exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?" He answered, "Call for backup."

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A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied, "They couldn't get a babysitter."

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A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "Honor thy father and thy mother," she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat, one little boy answered, "Thou shall not kill."

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At Sunday School they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and she said, "Johnny, what is the matter?" Little Johnny responded, "I have a pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife!"

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An elderly woman died last month. Having never married, she requested no male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she wrote, "They wouldn't take me out while I was alive, I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead."

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*Thanks to Aunt Pam for the chuckles!*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS...



### REGULAR SCHEDULE

|                                     |                                                             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Worship Service                     | Sundays – 11:00 a.m.                                        |
| Sunday School for all ages          | Sundays – 10:00 a.m.                                        |
| Official Board Meeting              | Next meeting, Thursday, February 14 <sup>th</sup> 7:30 p.m. |
| FREE Community Breakfast            | Every <b>Third</b> Saturday 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.               |
| Fourth Friday Family Fun Fellowship | Every <b>Fourth</b> Friday 7:00 p.m.                        |

**Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>** *Candelmas Day*, also known as “the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus” and “the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary,” commemorates the presentation of Jesus at the Temple. Christians would take their candles to the church to have them blessed in hopes of bringing blessings to their household for the remaining winter. During these early times, people believed that if Candlemas Day was sunny, then winter would last for six more weeks and if Candlemas Day was cloudy or overcast, winter would soon be over. When this tradition was introduced in Germany, it evolved to include a hedgehog. According to German lore, if the hedgehog saw his shadow on Candlemas Day there would be a “Second Winter” or 6 more weeks of bad weather. When German settlers came to the United States, the hedgehog was replaced by a groundhog.

**Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>** *Groundhog Day* derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch belief that if a groundhog emerging from its burrow sees a shadow due to clear weather, it will retreat to its den and winter will persist for six more weeks. If the groundhog does not see its shadow because of cloudiness, spring will arrive early. While the tradition remains popular in modern times, studies have found no consistent correlation between a groundhog seeing its shadow or not and the subsequent arrival time of spring-like weather.

**Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** *Valentine’s Day* originated as a Western Christian feast day honoring one or more early saints named Valentinus. Valentine’s Day is now recognized as a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance in many regions around the world, although it is not a public holiday in any country.

**Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>** “*Presidents Day*” is celebrated on the third Monday of February. Washington’s Birthday was originally established to honor President George Washington. It became popularly known as Presidents Day after it was moved as part of the 1971 Uniform Holiday Act which established several three-day weekends for workers. The original plan was to honor the births of George Washington (February 22<sup>nd</sup>) and Abraham Lincoln (February 12<sup>th</sup>); however, in more recent times it has become a day to celebrate all U.S. Presidents, past and present. Fun fact: Presidents Day never falls on the actual birthday of any American President.



### **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

|                  |           |                 |            |
|------------------|-----------|-----------------|------------|
| Chanelle Kazamek | January 3 | Cedric McMillon | January 20 |
| Jeff Angle       | January 6 | Traci Gambino   | January 29 |
| Dave Morris      | January 7 | Gisela Suarez   | January 29 |
| Denise Greene    | January 9 |                 |            |

### **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

|                     |             |                 |             |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Ismael Suarez       | February 5  | Monique Kazamek | February 21 |
| Emily Marie Hardman | February 13 | Brianna Kazamek | February 24 |

### **MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

|                   |          |                 |          |
|-------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| Mollie (Gray) Nye | March 17 | Louise Cortland | March 28 |
|-------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|



### **FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

|                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Jane & Don Gray | February 25 |
|-----------------|-------------|

### **MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

|                       |         |                   |          |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------------|----------|
| Kathie & David Morris | March 3 | Al & Doreen Jaite | March 19 |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------------|----------|

# REMINDER

The Ledgewood Christian Church Youth Ministry continues their outreach efforts to collect donations for the on-going support of the Geauga County Hunger Cupboards. We have been partnering with the Burton United Christian Church (the location of one of the county's seven food cupboards) in answering a "special need" each month. In honor of Valentine's Day the "special need" for February will be any **chocolate flavored** non-perishable food item. Donations may be placed in the plastic bin under the coat rack in the narthex. As always, your contributions of non-perishable foods, paper products and "special need items" are all greatly appreciated!



**REMEMBER, HUNGER NEVER TAKES A HOLIDAY!**

**LEDGEWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**FREE**

**MONTHLY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2019**

**SERVING 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Menu includes: Pancakes, Scrambled eggs, Sausage  
Salmon patties, Orange juice, Coffee, Tea  
... and more!**

**8261 Kinsman Rd.**  
**(Rt. 87 just west of Rt. 306)**  
**Novelty, Ohio 44072**

**Questions???** Please call Jeff Angle 440.564.5912



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[www.ledgewoodcc.org](http://www.ledgewoodcc.org)

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