

Maynard Messenger



December 2010

Pastor, Rev. Patricia Wagner, Maynard United Methodist Church, 2350 Indianola Avenue, Columbus, OH 43202; 614-263-5145

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9:30 A.M.
SUNDAY WORSHIP:
10:30 A.M.
PASTOR:
REV. PATRICIA WAGNER
SECRETARY AND EDITOR:
CLAUDIA ERLNBACH

Pastor's Pulpit...The Advent of Something...

BY PASTOR PATRICIA

It is early morning, an hour and a half before dawn. Technically, it is the new day, but I can't see it yet. It's the first Monday of Advent.

How wise our first Christian sisters and brothers to create this time to remember and prepare for the birth of the Messiah. Of course, they prepared differently than we do. They didn't have to haul boxes of ornaments down from the attic, or string up lights, or knit scarves, or look for sales on Christmas gifts. They did have to work hard, find water and food, wash clothes, mend them, and then make time to pray and fast and enter into thoughtful contemplation.

In Advent, we can ponder the same questions they asked: what does it mean that God comes to us as one of us? That he is poor, and his parents are turned away from shelter? That some hail his coming and others fear his power? That some will love him, but most will reject him? What does it mean that God is with us, Emmanuel?

This quiet morning I am thinking: if Jesus, the Messiah, is one of us, then he experienced the darkness before dawn. And perhaps it is in the long nights of this season that we find the soul of Advent. We do not know what this day, this life, will bring, so we lean into this amazing story, this faith, this hopeful light, this illuminating Love that encircles us all the time, season after season.

I pray for you a blessed Advent in the midst of the bustle: a thoughtful one, full of faith, full of hope, full of joy.

The Three Trees

According to legend, the three trees grew near Jesus' manger: an olive tree, a palm tree, and a fir tree. The olive offered its fruit to the newborn King, and the palm tree gave its dates.



The poor fir, having nothing to give but worship, raised its boughs in adoration, and the angels hung stars on its branches. So the fir became the first Christmas tree.

The Candle

The candle symbolizes Jesus being the light of the world (John 8:12), as well as his call for Christians to be lights (Matthew 5:14). Candles play a prominent role in the Christmas season as shown by the candles on an Advent wreath — the candles symbolizing hope, love, joy, peace. The white candle in the middle representing the birth of Christ, the "Christ Candle," which is lit on Christmas Eve.



Outreach to the Homeless



On December 5, the Intergenerational Mission Team will again be visiting the homeless. They are collecting winter clothing for adults, coats are a big need, especially for men, and blankets—gently used but clean, they do not have to be new. The team and anyone wishing to help will meet in the kitchen at 3 p.m. to pack lunches, then leave the church at 4 p.m. to distribute lunches, clothing, and blankets. Donations are needed for the lunches—bologna, bread, and sandwich bags. The evening will conclude at the State Auto Nativity display.

Coupons for Your Donations

BY DON WAGNER

If you bring in kids winter glove and hat set, coat, scarves or boots, you will receive a coupon for One Free Wet-N-Cheesie Burrito from Talita's Mexican Kitchen! Make sure you put your name attached to the bag that the items are in so we can get you your coupon!

Talita's is located at 3090 Southwest Blvd. in Grove City. It is easy too, just go I-71 south to I-270 west, and take the first Grove City exit. Then turn left and go down Southwest Blvd. until you see the Family Dollar and Talita's signs on the left-hand side of the street!

Their web site is Talitasmexican.com.

Babysitting!

Luminous Flux will again provide babysitting on **December 18** from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. for a donation of \$10 per child for the entire evening.

Light snack will be provided. Crafts and games!! Your children will have a great time!!

Homemade Christmas on a Budget

**Saturday, December 11
1-3 p.m.**

Make practical, beautiful, affordable gifts for friends and family. 5 home-y gifts:

- easy knitted postcards,
- origami boxes,
- homemade dishcloths,
- covered hangers, and
- "Gifts in a Jar,"

all ranging from 25 cents to \$3.

See the display in the parlor and sign up so we can get all the supplies together.



Maynard & Neighborhood Potluck

**December 3, 2010
6 p.m.-8 p.m.**

Dances of Universal Peace and Pasta Night

Come meet our neighbors at the second Maynard and Neighborhood potluck for this winter season. Theme for that evening is "Dances of Universal Peace" and Pasta Night – easy circle dances with music from around the world. Everyone can join in or watch! Make your favorite pasta dish and share in the fun as we offer hospitality and friendship to our community

Kroger Community Rewards

To all of you who signed up for Kroger Reward program & encouraged your family and friends to do the same—THANK YOU! Just for shopping at Kroger & using your Kroger Card from August 1 to October 31, Kroger donated **\$422.76** to Maynard.



Sign up now if you haven't already! All you need is a Kroger Plus card. Go to the Kroger web site www.krogercommunityrewards.com and sign up. (Maynard's Non Profit Organization number is 84120.) An email will be sent to you, just follow the instructions in that email. Whenever shopping at Kroger, swipe your Kroger Plus card and the church will benefit. Use of your card for the community rewards program does not affect discounts on store items or gas in any way.

THANK YOU OSU Home Game Football Parkers

Another OSU football season is behind us...Thank you to all those who volunteered to take donations and direct drivers where to park on the eight home game Saturdays! Pastor Patricia, Connie Bloor, Sam Mullins, Jeff Bohling, Hope Roberts, Diana Kubovcik. We raised between \$250 to \$410 a game.

Thank you, Volunteers, for giving up part of your Saturdays to help in this fund-raiser and outreach opportunity. Your time and effort is so appreciated!!



A big "Thank You" to Bill Brownson, the Conference Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, for joining Maynard on November 28, 2010, to share the work of the whole church, as well as his own personal journey of faith and hope

A Song with a Message?

According to folklore, the song "The 12 Days of Christmas" was written to help young believers learn about their faith. Although no evidence proves that claim, some say the popular carol contains these codes:

The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ.

Two turtle doves are the Old and New Testament.

Three French hens stand for faith, hope, and love.

The four calling birds are the four gospels.

The five golden rings are the Law: the first five books of the Old Testament.

The six geese a-laying represent the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represent the gifts of the Holy Spirit: prophecy, serving, teaching, exhortation, contribution, leadership, and mercy.

The eight maids a-milking are Jesus' eight Beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing are the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

The ten lords a-leaping are the Ten Commandments.

The 11 pipers piping stand for the 11 faithful disciples.

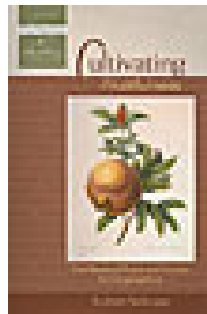
The 12 drummers drumming symbolize the 12 statements of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

Risk-Taking Mission and Service Group Meets

We continued gathering in groups this fall to consider how to be a stronger and more faithful community, so join Lyndsey Johnston in the office after worship Sunday, December 5 through December 19, for the last of five practices of Cultivating Fruitfulness

All members should have the book, "Cultivating Fruitfulness" by Robert Schnase. Questions in the book are linked to our website:

www.maynardav.org. You will be able to go to the website and share your answers. These answers will be shared with members of each group. Simple procedures for using the website to answer these questions are included with the books and are on the website.



Neighborhood Services, Inc. (NSI)

BY KATHY EVANS

Well, NSI made it through Thanksgiving serving 568 people with the food donated from our very generous friends. But, now we are thinking of Christmas. In three weeks we will be helping provide our neighbors with Christmas food. NSI is asking church partners to consider a donation of food. I am asking Maynard to provide 200 cans of fruit. (No applesauce, peaches, or pears as they have those on the shelves.) Neighbors love pineapple and any other kind of fruit not able to get for the pantry easily. These items need to be dropped off by Friday, December 17.

Volunteers are needed during the week of Christmas for both the food pantry and for the toy room at NSI. Contact NSI at 614-297-0592 or email me at kevans@neighborhoodservicesinc.org. I will have a schedule of open times.



Volunteer Opportunity



BY CYNDY GARN, CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio is a ministry of the West Ohio Conference that provides free medications to those who cannot afford them.

Open since February 26, 2010, the Pharmacy has served almost 800 patients and dispensed more than 9,295 prescriptions valued at over \$743,000. In order to continue this vital ministry, we need the help and support of churches and individuals like you! Volunteers are needed to serve as greeters and to sort medications; monetary donations will allow us to purchase generic medications; samples donated from your doctor's office can help provide the Pharmacy with brand-name medications; and your prayers for our patients and staff will sustain and guide us as we serve among the "least of these!"

For more information, please email charitablepharmacy@gmail.com, call 614-227-0301, or visit www.charitablepharmacy.org.

Christmas Biblical Storytelling Workshop

December 12
1-3 p.m.

We are developing a biblical story telling group here that will learn the scriptures by heart, telling the stories in worship. We are beginning by learning the Christmas Story by heart to tell on Christmas Eve. A 2-hour workshop will be held on Sunday, December 12 (an all-day retreat in January). Tom Boomershine, the national director of Network of Biblical Storytellers and GoTell Ministries, will lead the workshop.

If you are interested in attending the Christmas story workshop, let Pastor Patricia or Claudia know by December 5. Let them know also, if you would like to be part of the storytelling on Christmas Eve.

Congratulations Maynard on the 5th Anniversary as a Reconciling Congregation!!! Celebrated on November 14, 2010

November 2010

Dear Maynard friends,

Grace to you and peace in Christ Jesus our Lord. "I thank my God every time I remember you" (Philippians 1:3). God bless you on this fifth anniversary of becoming a Reconciling Congregation. I join you in thanking God for a community that welcomes and affirms all God's children. May God grant you strength to continue living out your mission: to celebrate and share Christ's love and acceptance of all.

Those of you who were at Maynard through the process of becoming a Reconciling Congregation will remember both the pain and joy of that journey. I appreciate many dear souls who made that journey possible. We stand on the shoulders of courageous and steadfast forebears.

I remember Joanne Thickstun and Vel Pierce, on the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee when the theology hit the fan, holding the congregation together by sheer force of their iron wills. I remember Larry Knisley asking, "If we are a Reconciling Congregation, why don't declare ourselves one," and helping us do so. I remember Michael Johnson, our superintendent, gathering money to keep us afloat the year people left in droves. I remember Bishop Ough bravely giving the keynote address at our Reconciling celebration banquet. And I remember the response of one elderly woman when I asked if she was going to leave too: "I'm not sure I agree with all this," she said, "but I've loved you all too long to leave." God moments, all. What a privilege to share a Reconciling journey with such dear and faithful saints.

By the grace of God, an ordeal became a blessing, stress gave way to legacy. Which is, of course, what God has promised: "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not hurt you. For I am the Lord your God" (Isaiah 43:2-3).

Faithfully,

Rev. Glenn Schwerdtfeger



Archive photo from Reconciling celebration

I am so excited, together with your brothers and sisters in the Capital Area North District, on this your 5th anniversary of becoming a Reconciling Church. The love of God and the passion of Jesus Christ shows very much through all of you and especially in this ministry.

blessings, joy and hope,

Rev. Marcus Atha,

District Superintendent

Dear Friends,

As the newest Reconciling Church in the West Ohio Conference, we, the Village Church, Toledo, celebrate your five years as a Reconciling Church. As a

new church start, almost every week we have a new visitor find their way to us who needs a church like Maynard Avenue and other welcoming churches. Thank you for your courageous witness!

Rev. Cheri Holdridge

and the Village Church, Toledo, Ohio



Doug Joseph, Joan Krause, and Paul Wilbur serve as praise team



The Centerstage Players joined us in celebration singing "I'm Going Home"



Pam Hill and Tom ("T.P.") Warfel serve as Liturgists



Congratulations Maynard Avenue UMC on the celebration of your fifth anniversary as a reconciling, inclusive welcoming congregation. As one of the pastors at one of your fellow Reconciling Churches, I know what a blessing and sanctuary you are to all persons seeking to know the love of Christ in their lives. Your mission and ministry are light and salt in spreading the grace of God in gathering people into the body of Christ. As you let all persons know that they matter to God, please know that you do too!

***John Keeny
King Avenue UMC***

Dear Friends at Maynard Avenue UMC,

We bring you greetings and good wishes on this special occasion in the life of your faith community. During our worship this morning we will be praying with you and for you in gratitude for all God has done through you in the past and in hopeful expectation of how God will continue to reconcile the world to God's dream through you in the days to come. May you continue to be blessed with the wisdom to discern God's calling and the will to act boldly to be channels of God's peace in your community.

**Peace,
The Faith Community of Clifton Church
A Reconciled United Methodist Congregation
Rev. Suzanne Fountaine
Clifton United Methodist Church**

Congratulations Maynard Avenue on the fifth anniversary of your formal witness for an open and inclusive church. As a pastor of two reconciling congregations on Columbus's west side, I am well aware of the costs and joys of advocating for a church that truly welcomes all God's children. We look forward to working and marching side by side with you and all other Reconciling Congregations until we achieve a global church that is truly inclusive.

**N. Eugene Brundige, Pastor
New Horizon and HIltonia UMC**



Pastor Patricia introduces guest speaker Rubén Castilla Herrera



Many friends joined Maynard's Choir and music director Bryan Babcock in celebration of this joyous day!

Greetings from your brothers and sisters at North Broadway UMC and congratulations on your five years as a Reconciling Congregation. Thank you for being a place of welcome and grace, and especially for your witness to the beauty of including all persons in community.

**Deborah Stevens
North Broadway UMC**



THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR



*In those days
there went out a decree
from Caesar Augustus that
all the world should be taxed.*

And so each went to his own city to be counted.

So Joseph went up from Nazareth to Judea, to the town of Bethlehem, the City of David, because he was of the house and family of David. He went with Mary, who was to be his wife, who was carrying a child by the power of the Holy Spirit.

And while they were there in Bethlehem, the time came for the baby to be born. And so Mary gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

There were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their sheep through the night.

The angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone all around them, and they were all afraid. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid! I bring you good news of great joy, which shall be to all people. For this day, in the city



of David, is born to you a savior, it is Christ the Lord! And this will be a sign for you - you will find the baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

Then suddenly, there was with the angel, a great company of angels, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all in whom God's favor rests."



December Schedule of Events

- 12/3 — 6 p.m., Maynard & Neighborhood Potluck, "Dances of Universal Peace" and Pasta night
- 12/5 — 10:30 a.m., Advent Worship Service "Hope"
3 p.m., Outreach to the homeless
- 12/11 — 1 p.m., Homemade Christmas on a Budget – crafts to make as gifts
- 12/12 — 10:30 a.m., Advent Worship Service "Home"
1 p.m., Christmas Biblical Storytelling workshop
- 12/18 — 5 p.m., Luminous Flux babysitting, \$10 for the evening, crafts and snacks provided
- 12/19 — 10:30 a.m., Advent Worship Service "Harmony!" Christmas Choir Concert
- 12/24 — Christmas Eve:
6:30 p.m., Music;
7 p.m., Candlelight Service

Financial Reports


As of the end of third quarter, from Andy Alderman, Treasurer.

Maynard Avenue UMC Statement of Fund Balances

	12/31/05	12/31/06	12/31/07	12/31/08	2009 activity	12/31/09	2010 activity	9/30/10
Current	74,069	66,419	39,373	33,200	10,719	43,918	(5,825)	38,094
Memorial	21,479	20,653	18,481	18,481	(24)	18,457	0	18,457
Needy Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth								
Children's Ministry	82	0	0	411	0	411	311	722
Camp	672	422	422	422	0	422	0	422
Summer	793	0	0	6,681	(1,500)	5,181	(759)	4,422
Capital Improvements	(21,664)	(4,705)	897	897	0	897	0	897
Construction Loans	14,280	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Music (non-budgeted)	4,028	3,842	4,131	4,231	(319)	3,912	95	4,007
Music (Capital for Air Cond)	878	878	878	878	0	878	0	878
Banquet Profits	277	277	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accessibility	0	900	1,900	5,200	2,568	7,768	0	7,768
Education	0	800	2,189	1,725	(1,125)	600	0	600
Key Deposit	10	40	30	30	0	30	0	30
Gain on Investments	892	2,956	4,064	(2,804)	3,509	705	1,119	1,824
Needy Family (Pastor Admin)	5,503	4,415	2,783	2,344	(313)	2,031	(357)	1,675
TOTAL	101,299	96,896	75,147	71,695	13,515	85,210	(5,415)	79,795
Checking Account (Ledger)	12,172	14,963	4,423	29,262		39,569		33,383
Savings Account	62,727	54,316	43,630	22,644		22,656		22,664
Book Value of Investments	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000		20,000		20,000
Gain on Investments	892	2,956	4,064	(2,804)		705		1,824
Credit Union Balance	5	247	248	249		249		249
Pastor's Discretionary	5,503	4,415	2,783	2,344		2,031		1,675
Total	101,299	96,896	75,147	71,695		85,210		79,795
<i>Check</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>		<i>0</i>		<i>0</i>
Notes:								
"Available" Church Funds	74,960	69,375	43,437	30,396		44,623		39,918
"Designated" Church Funds	26,339	27,521	31,710	41,299		40,586		39,877

Financial Reports (cont'd)

	Q1		Q2		Q3		YTD	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
100 Income-Budgeted								
110 Pledges	24,267	22,500	20,988	22,500	19,743	22,500	64,998	67,500
120 Non-Pledged	819	1,500	1,976	1,500	1,058	1,500	3,853	4,500
130 Loose Offering	451	775	788	775	229	775	1,468	2,325
Total 140 Building Use Contributions	3,100	1,280	2,222	1,280	3,248	1,280	8,570	3,840
145 Apportionments	350	150	350	150	300	150	1,000	450
Total 150 Fund Raising	1,621	0	50	0	1,968	1,250	3,638	1,250
Total 160 State Fair Net Profit	(2,230)	(2,555)	(2,451)	(2,276)	13,803	14,831	9,123	10,000
Total 100 Income Budgeted	28,378	23,650	23,923	23,929	40,348	42,286	92,650	89,865
Expenses								
Total 200 Pastoral	14,754	15,379	14,754	15,379	14,754	15,379	44,262	46,137
Total 300 Lay Salaries	7,198	7,816	6,784	7,770	7,294	7,891	21,262	23,477
400 Trustees								
410 Church Maintenance	1,634	1,250	2,178	1,250	1,073	1,250	4,885	3,750
420 Parsonage Maintenance	47	375	0	375	150	375	197	1,125
Total 430 Church Utilities	6,205	5,450	4,299	2,331	2,339	1,356	12,842	9,137
Total 440 Parsonage Utilities	2,310	1,993	1,134	1,393	993	993	4,438	4,379
Total 400 Trustees	13,944	12,658	11,503	9,529	6,549	5,974	31,995	28,161
Total 500 Church Committees	950	1,235	544	1,485	373	1,235	1,822	3,955
Total 600 Administrative Expenses	838	1,045	610	795	954	795	2,402	2,635
Total 700 Apportionments	2,880	4,044	2,880	4,043	5,208	4,044	10,967	12,131
Total Expenses	40,519	42,177	37,074	39,001	35,117	35,318	112,709	116,496
Operating Income	(12,141)	(18,527)	(13,150)	(15,072)	5,231	6,968	(20,060)	(26,631)
Non-Budgeted Items								
Total Non-Budgeted Income	1,711	0	8,083	0	2,732	0	12,526	0
Total 800 Non-Budgeted Expense	0	0	45	0	(1,044)	0	(999)	0
Net Non-Budgeted	1,711	0	8,038	0	3,776	0	13,525	0
Net Cash Flow	(10,430)		(5,112)		9,007		(6,534)	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h1>DECEMBER</h1>						
5 Noon—Risk Taking Mission 1 p.m.—Luminous Flux	6 7 p.m.—AA	7 5 p.m.—Tutoring	8 12 p.m.—AA 7 p.m.—AA 7 p.m.—Choir	9 7 p.m.— Trustees	10 8 p.m.—NA	11 1 p.m. - Homemade Cristmas on a Budget 6 p.m. - Assn. of the Blind
12 Noon—Risk Taking Mission 1 p.m.—Luminous Flux 1 p.m.—Christmas Biblical Storytelling workshop	13 7 p.m.—AA	14 5 p.m.—Tutoring	15 12 p.m.—AA 7 p.m.—AA 7 p.m.—Choir	16	17 8 p.m.—NA	18 5 p.m.— Luminous Flux Babysitting
19 10:30 Worship -- Christmas Choir Noon—Risk Taking Mission 1 p.m.—Luminous Flux	20 7 p.m.—AA	21 5 p.m.—Tutoring	22 12 p.m.—AA 7 p.m.—AA 7 p.m.—Choir	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 6:30 p.m.-music 7 p.m.-worship 8 p.m.—NA	25 CHRISTMAS DAY
26 1 p.m.—Luminous Flux	27 7 p.m.—AA	28 5 p.m.—Tutoring	29 12 p.m.—AA 7 p.m.—AA 7 p.m.—Choir	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 8 p.m.—NA	 Coming This Month