

Teays Valley Presbyterian Church

The Valley Viewer

December
2018



Pastor's Point of View

"Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always."

1 Chronicles 16:8-11



December 2018 Pastor's Point of View

Greetings Dear Ones!

As we enter into the Advent Season, I thought it might be good to share a little history lesson about the meaning behind many of the decorations we use at Christmas.

Through the centuries Christians have observed a time of waiting and expectation before celebrating the birth of the baby Jesus. The Advent Season is a time for reflection and preparation. Are we ready for the Advent of Jesus into our hearts? As we decorate our homes, let us be filled with wonder and make room for the birth of Emmanuel—"God with us."

The Sanctuary Greens: The garlands we hang in our homes have long been a part of Christmas observances. Laurel and bay leaves symbolize victory and triumph; the yew and the cypress symbolize eternal life; holly is a symbol of joy and peace; wreaths of holly represent the unending, timeless nature of such qualities. These greens remind us of the timeless nature of the Christmas message and the eternal dimension of the gospel. In our own day, when the relationships of nature and human technology seem so disruptive, the greens remind us of the need to rediscover the earth as God's glorious and delicate creation.

The Window Greens: Of all the Christmas symbols, none is more familiar than the evergreen. Its use during this season is common throughout the world, both as simple decoration and as the Christmas tree. Long before the birth of Christ, evergreens were used as an emblem of eternal life. Now, as a Christian symbol, the evergreen represents Jesus Christ, who is eternal life. See: Isaiah 60:1-3; 13-14

The Poinsettias: Poinsettias are the flowers of Christmas. They are growing things; their beauty is alive in splendid color. They call us to celebrate the world about us and share its beauty in the place where we worship. The poinsettia is a vivid plant, full of meaning. A cluster of small yellow flowers springs forth from among crimson leaves, which themselves contrast sharply with the remaining green leaves of the plant. The star-shaped formation of the red leaves suggests the guiding star of Bethlehem. The crown of yellow flowers reminds us of him who was born the infant king. The blood-red leaves foreshadow the cruel cross that lay ahead for the King of Glory. And underneath, the carpet of green, the reflection of abundant life.

Candles The Christmas season is symbolic of light, beginning with the star that guided the Magi to the house where Jesus lived. The Christian use of candles is symbolic of Christ as "Light of the World." As such, Jesus illuminates our spiritual darkness. When we choose to be a disciple, we become light to the world.

The Nativity: When we display a nativity, it is an attempt to remind us of the simple, yet profound story. God reaches out to all of humanity—the powerless and powerful, the meek and the proud, the outsiders and the "in-crowd." There were wise men and shepherds, there was a mother and a father, there were angels and innkeepers. We join these witnesses

and kneel at the manger, overwhelmed by God's expression of love for us.

Advent Wreath: This wreath and candles are formed in a circle to remind us of the continuous and eternal nature of God's love. Each of the candles on the perimeter represents an Advent theme of joy, hope, love, and peace. The center white candle represents Christ as the "Light of the World." We will mark the weeks of waiting for the Advent of the baby Jesus into our lives by lighting a candle each week.

See: Isaiah 9:2, 6

Ring of the Bells: For centuries, church bells have pealed out the glad tidings of the birth of Jesus. In Bethlehem, city of the nativity, it has become a tradition to usher in Christmas Eve by the ringing of bells. As their tones scatter over the countryside, they are a reminder—just as the voices of angelic hosts so long ago—that Christ is born.

As you decorate your homes for Christmas, may each of these beautiful decorations be a reminder of how much God loves you and may the rich symbolism behind them help you prepare for the return of the King of kings!

Hope to see you in church and bring a friend with you!
Merry Christmas!

Kyle



Happy HO HO HO time and a very MERRY CHRISTMAS to all you dear people ... the OWLS had a wonderful "Thanksgiving" luncheon, hosted by Bill and Rose Hensley, held at The First National Bank in Hurricane and catered by Mary (?) and it was delicious! There were 19 in attendance ... Next month the hostess is Dianne Harrah and she has made arrangements for us to go to Shonets in Milton on December 18th at 11:30 ... Don't miss it, they have beautiful decorations and good food ... below is another poem from the book written by Jerry HarrahDecember . . with a quality all its own...standing above all others in the parade of months and panorama of seasons. December like the final star on the tree . . .the icing on the cake ...the best saved until last. Decembersleigh

bells, carols, wide-eyed children, twinkling lights, snow flakes and more. December winter arrives ... a special king of beauty ... frozen ponds ... frosted window panes... bare tree limbs silhouetted against a crisp blue sky ...k and finally all of nature clothed in an ice garment of white. Decemberspecial pleasures ... seeing your own breath... writing your name on fogged windows ... fearlessly wading snow to within a fraction of your boot topslistening to an oak log crack and pop in the fireplace... burning your tongue on too hot, hot chocolate. December cold nights ... chilling winds ... star-studded black skies casting an air of mystery over the country-side. When the wind dies ... all is quiet as if all of creation is holding its breath....and waiting..... Thank you, Lord. for December. jdh Remember, random acts of kindness, bring blessings....Luv CM

O.W.L.S. 

All are welcome to attend OWLS functions, you don't have to be retired or old to enjoy the fellowship of Older, Wiser, Livelier, Sexier people.



Hannah Circle meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. Women of all ages are invited to join us as we study God's Word.

Community Cupboard

Thank you to all who donated money toward the purchase of holiday turkeys for those served by the Christian Community Cupboard. Our congregation contributed \$955.00 which, along with donations from other churches, enabled the Cupboard to purchase and distribute 300 vouchers for holiday turkeys.

In December, we will collect **Canned Fruit** for the Christian Community Cupboard. As always, please put your donations in the cupboard in the Narthex.

Thank you for your support and Merry Christmas!

Barb Davis
bbdavis01@hotmail.com
304-757-7369 or 304-546-7369



DECEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday	Saturday
25 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service	26 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	27	28 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	30	1
2 COMMUNION 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 5:30 PM Christmas Family Night	3 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 6:30 PM Evangelism Ministry	4 7:00 PM Hannah Circle	5 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7 8:00 AM PCS Developmental Screening 9:30 AM Van to Cupboard 6:00 PM Parents' Night Out	8
9 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 5:30 PM Christmas Family Night	10 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 6:30 PM Mission Outreach Ministry Team	11	12 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	14 6:00 PM Oakwood Christmas Party	15
16 Bucket Brigade 8:00 AM Christmas Breakfast 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 5:30 PM Christmas Family Night	17 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 6:30 PM Worship Ministry Team	18 11:30 AM Owls	19 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	21	22
23 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service	24 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	25	26 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	28	29
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Parents' Night Out

Discipleship Ministry Team is offering a free "Parents Night Out" on Friday, Dec. 7, 6-9 PM at the church. Parents may drop off their grade school age children for songs, crafts, snacks, and movies, while they shop or just enjoy an evening out without the little ones. Volunteers are needed to help check in children that evening and to assist with the evening's activities. Please contact Bonnie Prisk to help (304) 561-7766. We pray this outreach to the community may result in more people becoming familiar with our church and wishing to come here to worship and be a part of our church and its ministry. All are invited to share this information with their friends who have children on Facebook.

TO ALL OF OUR LOVING FRIENDS AT TVPC:

Thank you for all of the welcome, inspiring cards, prayers, delicious soups, Danish and homemade pickles and for caring for us.

We depend on Christ Jesus & His disciples to survive.

We miss seeing all of you but the closeness still exists and will prevail eternally.

Please continue praying for us as we will for you.

Thanks again.

Love,
Ray & Barb Stringer



Thanks to everyone who participated in the blood drive on Nov. 8. We collected 39 units of blood with 6 members of TVPC donating. Thanks to the volunteers that made it possible, especially Bill Hensley who coordinates these life-saving drives.



The men of TVPC will be hosting our annual Christmas

breakfast on Sunday, December 16th from 8:00 – 10:00 AM. This is a free breakfast for all. Come join us for this wonderful time of Christmas fellowship.








Recent Prayer Requests



ALICE BROYLES —healing
LINDA CHAFIN – Health concerns
BEN & TINA COBB and Family
CAROLYN DAVIS – Health Concerns
NANCY HILL – recovery
CATHERINE KING – manor resident – various health problems
ELIZABETH SCHUSTER – asking for strength
STU SCHWALM – recovery from surgery – Marci Ingram's dad
SHARON SHREVE – asking for strength
DEBBIE SOWARDS –
RAY and BARB STRINGER
PAT SHINN
JACK VAN DYKE, III – health issues
RISHEL AND SANDY WALKER
DORIS WALL – cancer (Sandy Walker's Sister)
BETTY WHITE
MARTHA WILLIAMS –(Ben Vest's sister)
ANITA YEAGER – recovery
PRAY for our nation and our military
PRAY for Missionaries and Christian Refugees
THOSE Affected by fires and earthquakes If you have a prayer request please contact: Pastor Kyle – 540-40-1042; Bill Hensley – 304-757-8599; Or Dianne Harrah – 304-549-0026



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

-  12/02 Molly Brown
-  12/05 Wyatt Gould
-  12/09 Minnie Valentine
-  12/10 Kyle Key
-  12/10 Luther Cope
-  12/17 Barbara Scoular
-  12/17 Madison Gould

-  12/17 Isabella Remines
-  12/20 Paul Konstanty
-  12/21 Anita Yeager
-  12/27 Diane Pauley
-  12/30 Chris Key
-  12/30 Tina Cobb



- 12/08 Roger & Diane Pauley
- 12/16 Bruce & Barb Davis

Contact Information for Ministry Teams

Budget & Finance:	Chris Allman 304-757-3310	chris@allmanandassociates.com
Building & Grounds:	David Brown 304-757-5599	chisolm314@gmail.com
Discipleship Ministry Team (Christian Education):	Bonnie Prisk 304-757-8937 or 304-561-7766	prisk@marshall.edu
Evangelism Ministry Team:	Bob Hansen 304-760-8138 Becky King 304-757-9456	hansen76@aol.com bk0517@gmail.com
Member Care Ministry Team:	Bill Hensley 304-757-8599	billybh@suddenlink.net
Mission Outreach Ministry Team:	Dianne Harrah 304-549-0026	dianneharrah1977@gmail.com
Personnel Ministry Team:	Bob Hansen 304-760-8138	hansen76@aol.com
Worship Ministry Team:	Janet Sims 304-757-7640	jlemonsims@gmail.com



Visit us on the Web!

www.teaysvalleypresby.com



CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

<http://www.facebook.com/TeaysValleyPresby>

View the calendar online – just click on the link.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Teays Valley Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone to come as you are. We strive to strengthen the Biblical Faith of individuals and families on the move. We seek to build community through Christ-centered worship, intergenerational ministries, and compassionate outreach.

Together - learning to live God's love

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