



COMING EVENTS

Sunday, Dec. 1—Worship @ 10 AM
- Advent Lunch @ 11 AM
- Care & Share Store is open
- City of Parma Heights Tree Lighting @ 5 PM

Thursday, Dec. 5—Grief Group @ 4 PM (Zoom)

Sunday, Dec. 8—Worship @ 10 AM
- Coffee Hour @ 11 AM
- Care & Share Store is open

Tuesday, Dec. 10—Esther Circle @ 10 AM

Sunday, Dec. 15—Worship @ 10 AM
- Care & Share Store is open (final day)
- Christmas Dinner @ 11 AM

Thursday, Dec. 19 - Tidings articles deadline
- Grief Group @ 4 PM (Zoom)

Saturday, Dec. 21—Blue Christmas Service @ 3 PM

Sunday, Dec. 22—Worship @ 10 AM

Tuesday, Dec. 24—Christmas Eve Service @ 4 PM

Sunday, December 29—Worship @ 10 AM
- Zoo Wild Winter Lights outing at 5:30 PM

Our Christmas Eve Worship Service at Parma-South Presbyterian Church will be at **4 PM on December 24**. The service will be family-oriented. Come join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ with song and voice.



Parma-South will hold a "Blue Christmas" service on Saturday afternoon, December 21 at 3 PM. This contemplative service is held on or around the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. For those who mourn and for those who struggle, this service provides a space for those grieving a loss or not feeling especially "joyful" this holiday season.



Dear Parma-South Family,

As we begin the Advent season, a time of anticipation and hope, I invite you to join us on a unique journey through the birth narrative of Jesus. This year, we will be guided by the "From the Manger" program from *Illustrated Ministry*. I think you'll find this to be a fresh and imaginative approach to Advent that centers on the theme of hunger and nourishment.

The story of Jesus, the "Bread of Life," is deeply intertwined with the theme of food. From His birth in a feeding trough in Bethlehem, (literally translates to the "House of Bread" in English) to his miraculous feeding of the multitudes, Jesus continually demonstrates His compassion for those who hunger, both physically and spiritually.

This Advent, we will explore the various ways in which Jesus satisfies our deepest needs. We will delve into the biblical text, reflecting on the symbolism of the manger and the significance of Jesus' birth. We will consider how the story of Jesus' birth speaks to our own experiences of hunger and longing. We will also, of course, encounter the hope, peace, joy, and love that Jesus brings to the world, and we will be challenged to share these gifts with others.

In addition to our regular worship services, we'll have a **"Longest Night"** (sometimes called **"Blue Christmas"**) **Service on Saturday, December 21st at 3 pm.** This is a contemplative service on the longest night of the year that provides a space for those grieving a loss of any kind. It's also appropriate for anyone who isn't feeling especially "joyful" this holiday season. Everywhere in the world tells you to be happy and cheerful this time of year, this is one place where you can slow down and be authentic with God.

As we enter into this Advent season, I encourage you to embrace the unconventional, and to approach this season with open hearts and minds. Let us allow the story of Jesus' birth nourish our souls and inspire us to live lives of compassion and service. May this be a time of spiritual renewal and growth for you and your family. May you experience the love and peace of Christ in a profound way. And may you be filled with gratitude for the gift of God's Son, the "Bread of Life."

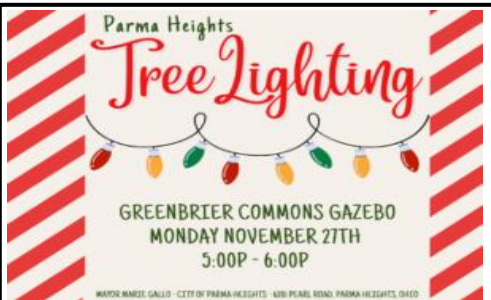
Peace and Joy,
Pastor Christin





You are invited to join others for holiday fun and a delicious Christmas dinner in the church Dining Room following worship on **Sunday, Dec. 15**. The dinner will be catered by Stancato's, and a free will offering will be collected. To help plan food quantities, please RSVP by **Sunday, December 8**, by calling the church office (440-885-2652). Or you can fill out the form included in the Sunday bulletin.

ATTENTION ALL BAKERS: For dessert, we are hoping that you bakers out there will donate a plate of your delicious holiday cookies to share. With your RSVP, please also indicate if you will bring your special baked cookies.



You are invited to the city of Parma Heights' Christmas Tree Lighting event on Sunday evening, December 1st at Greenbrier Commons from 5-6 PM. Parma-South will have a table at the event, handing out Christmas cookies and our Christmas Eve Service info to attendees. Besides the tree lighting countdown, the Valley Forge High School Choir will perform and photos with Santa will be available. Come and enjoy the festivities!



FAMILY IN NEED: Parma South's total donations for the Family in Need was \$5,015.00. The contributions came from Mission Committee, Care Team, Presbyterian Women and the congregation.

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BUHRER SCHOOL CHRISTMAS: Mission Committee sent \$2040 to Buhler Dual Language School to be used for Christmas gifts for the children. Their teachers will buy the gifts and plan the party for them. The congregation is invited to attend the school's Christmas party, to be held at **11 AM - noon on Wednesday, December 11th**. If you want to attend the party, please meet in our small parking lot at 10:20 AM to carpool. We will leave at 10:30 AM.

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CARE & SHARE

The **CARE & SHARE STORE** is sponsored by our Mission Committee and helps our congregation reach out to help others in a variety of mission causes. This year's store will be open from November 21st to December 15th. There is a good selection of items in the store again this year. The complete shopping list can be found in the Sunday bulletin and on the MISSION page of our Parma-South website (www.parma-south.org).



New Church Administrator



Please welcome our new Church Administrator **Nancy Chism**, who began her duties at Parma-South on November 18. She comes to us with extensive experience in church administration. Nancy's office hours are Monday thru Thursday from 9 AM - 3 PM. We welcome her to our church family.

Crèche Set-up



Men's Square is planning to erect Parma South's Christmas Crèche display again this year. So, we will need a full turnout for the occasion. In order to facilitate this, we are asking that anyone who is available on either **Saturday, December 7th** or **December 14th** to let Ed Walker know. We will decide on our meeting date based on the responses. Please email Ed at: ejwalker5@cox.net or phone/text him at 440/552-2998.

We will get together at Denny's Restaurant on Day Dr. for breakfast before the project. The final meeting date will be conveyed to everyone who has responded. Thanks in advance for your support.

WILD WINTER LIGHTS @ ZOO

On **Sunday, December 29 from 5:30-9:30 PM**, join members of your church family at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo for its biggest holiday celebration, *Wild Winter Lights*. Highlights include a dynamic musical light show featuring an enchanting 50-foot tree, carousel rides, festive costumed characters, and model train displays. In order to get our group rate, the form below and payment must be returned to the church office **by Monday, December 16th**. Checks can be made payable to: Parma-South Presbyterian Church. If you have questions, contact Katie at katekolthoff@gmail.com

Please join us

Wild Winter Lights @
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

Sunday, December 29th from
5:30pm-9:30pm

\$15.75 per ticket
Ages 2 years and under free

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

_____ tickets x \$15.75= _____

Synod of the Covenant - WEBINAR

This election season reinforces the toxic polarization that stains American society. The Pew Research Center regularly releases information about these divisions. The Synod of the Covenant is offering a webinar (via Zoom) about the psychology of polarization, entitled, "**Polarization and the Groups We Join**". The Zoom presentation will be on **Tuesday, January 21st from 10-11:30 AM**, and will include a Q & A with Dr. Dominic Packer of Lehigh University. It will be followed by facilitated conversation about how the church can build our capacity to defuse toxic polarization. Participation is free, but you must first register at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrcOqupzMvGtOFNr8IP9Z9rpd-rJ5qsFQM?mc_cid=81b8e44046&mc_eid=c5d998566b#/registration



Pastor Christin has noted that as we look ahead, we are excited about what God has in store for Parma-South and our ministry. We will encounter new opportunities to deepen our spiritual lives, expand our outreach, and nurture our fellowship.

As we think about our plans for next year, it is also a time to think about stewardship and making use of our blessings. What have we been given, and what are we making use of, for Christ's Kingdom? Our calling is not to hold our gifts in storage but to make them a blessing to others.

Soon you will receive further information in the mail about Parma-South's 2025 Stewardship Campaign. Please give this prayerful consideration. With your continued support, we can reach even more people with Christ's message of love, hope, and salvation.

"...as each has received a gift from God, so let all use such gifts in the service of one another, like good stewards of the grace of God"

- 1 Peter 4:10



Memorial Carillon



Carillon music during December will be played in loving memory of:

- Dec 1 M/M William Yurcheshen
and Michael Yurcheshen
Marilyn Weiss
- Dec 8 Alfred M. Schilens
- Dec 15 Pearl Thiele
- Dec 22 Gay Ellen Sargent
Ben F. Evans
Albon Johnson
Harvey Hale
- Dec 29 M/M John E. Cantwell



Day	FirstName	Last-Name
3	Lindsay	Gavala
4	Robert	Decker
7	Parker	Muranko
10	Caera	Adam
12	Roseanne	Best
16	Chloe	Ackley
22	Raymond	Burner
24	Mary Ewokolo	Molua
28	Michell	Adam
28	Janice	Lappin
29	John	Krisch

CARING CORNER



Four Care Team members: Shirley, Wendy, Claudia and Norma, surprised Anna Graham on her 99th birthday with goodies, balloons and singing. She was happy to have us and we all had a great time. Anna was our church librarian for many years. She now resides at Sunrise Senior Living in Parma.





Tidings

Rev. Christin Moreland

Email: pastor@parma-south.org

Phone: (440) 885-2652

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Visit our website: www.parma-south.org

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