

**Presbyterian Church of Wyoming**

225 Wyoming Avenue  
Wyoming, Ohio 45215

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
CINCINNATI, OH  
Permit No. 6626

Address service requested



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day 11 am Single Service	2 Office Closed	3 9 Prayer Meeting 10 Staff Meeting 2 pm Organ Practice 6:30 pm Daisy Troop	4 7:30 Owen Study Grp 6:45 Chancel Choir 7:30 Visions Rehearsal	5 8:30 Wmn's Bible Stdy 4:30 Organ Practice	6 7:15 Men's Bible Study	7 1 pm Jr./Sr. Hi Ski Trip 2 pm Organ Practice
8 8 Traditional Worship 9 Contemporary 10 Christian Education 11 Traditional Worship 7 Sr. High Youth Group	9 7:30 Men's Study 8:00 Wyoming Middle School Retreat 7:30 Boy Scouts	10 Crossroads Deadline 9 Prayer Meeting 10 Staff Meeting 2 pm Organ Practice 7 LLCPCAC Mtg	11 7:30 Owen Study Grp 11:30 LLCPC Learn & Lunch 6:45 Chancel Choir 7:30 Visions Rehearsal	12 8:30 Wmn's Bible Stdy 4:30 Organ Practice	13 7:15 Men's Bible Study	14 SSSS 2 pm Organ Practice
15 8 Traditional Worship 9 Contemporary 10 Christian Education 11 Traditional Worship 7 Sr. High Youth Group	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Offices Closed	17 9 Prayer Meeting 10 Staff Meeting 2 pm Organ Practice	18 7:30 Owen Study Grp 6:30 Jr. High 6:45 Chancel Choir 7:30 Visions Rehearsal	19 8:30 Wmn's Bible Stdy 4:30 Organ Practice 6:30 Brownie Troop 7:00 Wyoming Historical Society	20 7:15 Men's Bible Study 3:30 Girl Scouts 41476 8:00 Tween Lock-In	21 2 pm Organ Practice
22 8 Traditional Worship 9 Contemporary 10 Christian Education 11 Traditional Worship 7 Sr. High Youth Group	23 7:30 am Men's Study 6:30 Childrens Ministry 7:00 Mission Meeting 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	24 9 Prayer Meeting 10 Staff Meeting 2 pm Organ Practice 5 pm Sanctuary in use	25 7:30 Owen Study Grp 6:30 Jr. High 6:45 Chancel Choir 7:30 Visions Rehearsal	26 8:30 Wmn's Bible Stdy 4:30 Organ Practice	27 7:15 Men's Bible Study	28 8:30 Jr. High Mt. 25 2 pm Organ Practice
29 8 Traditional Worship 9 Contemporary 10 Christian Education 10 Sr. Hi Pie Baking 11 Traditional Worship 7 Sr. High Youth Group	30 7:30 am Men's Study 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	31 9 Prayer Meeting 10 Staff Meeting 2 pm Organ Practice	Feb 1 7:30 Owen Study Grp 6:30 Jr. High 6:45 Chancel Choir 7:30 Visions Rehearsal	2 8:30 Wmn's Bible Stdy 4:30 Organ Practice	3 7:15 Men's Bible Study	4 8:30 Tweens at Mt. 25 2 pm Organ Practice



# JANUARY 2012

# CROSSROADS

January 2012 | Monthly Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church of Wyoming



## In This Issue



*SSSS at Lighthouse*  
Bill Seale  
1

*Letters from Our Pastors*  
2, 3

*Task Force Update*  
Blood Drive  
Thank You!  
4

*Meet Our New Members*  
Mystery Bowl and Clock  
5

*Adult Sunday School*  
Maple Knoll Transport  
VBS  
6

*Heifer Project*  
Youth Events  
7

*Deadline for next month's Crossroads is January 10th. Please contact Linda Crank with articles and ideas: [lcrank@pcwyoming.org](mailto:lcrank@pcwyoming.org) 821-8735, ext. 125*

## Making A Difference Wherever We Go

*Blessing the Boys at Lighthouse from Bill Morley*  
*December's Super Second Saturday of Service*

**Six PCW members continued** our ongoing mission with the Lighthouse Youth Development Center by showing up on Dec. 6th to help the boys decorate for Christmas. We arrived with decorations, Christmas cards, Christmas music, cookies and eggnog to help get the holiday spirit going.

The development center is for boys who have been displaced from their homes and are waiting for foster homes, so that the holidays can be a particularly tough time for them. It was a great event as several of the boys wanted to send cards, and everyone jumped in to help with getting the decorations up. Tony, the lead staff member, shared that the boys are really coming to see us as extended family and look forward to our activities and visits. He was also pleased because the decorations lifted the boys' spirits and helped to reinforce the sense of home and family that they are trying to build.

Thanks to everyone who donated decorations and especially to Don Peairs, Julie King, Christi Graeter, Suzie Jacob and George Lewis for sharing their time.



## *Bill Seale, Director of Music at PCW*

Excerpts from an article in the TriCounty Press, Nov. 23, 2011 by Evelyn Perkins



**"Thanks to Wyoming's Claudia Streeter,** for introducing me to the delightful and talented William Seale. The occasion was the Sunday opera and musical theater concert at The Presbyterian Church of Wyoming where Claudia attends. It was also my granddaughter's birthday, and she thoroughly enjoyed her introduction to opera.

Bill Seale has been the Director of Music at PCW for 16 1/2 years. Born in Washington, D.C., he became interested in music as a child. Neither parent was musically inclined, but his great-aunt and a next-door neighbor played piano and were huge influences. He studied piano and the organ at the National Cathedral in Washington.

*continued on p. 6*

## from Pastor Ed

About a month ago we sat around tables and reflected upon the blessings in our lives. I thought about the thanksgivings I have about this congregation and about the blessing that it is to serve as one of your pastors. I love what Paul writes about his thanksgivings for the community in Colossae.

***“In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God.” (Colossians 1:3-7)***

Paul speaks of their ministry, their hope, and their people. So, why am I thankful for PCW?

- For a community of faith that worships with passion, energy, and enthusiasm
- For a people who see mission and service as a key component of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ
- For the incredible ministries of caring that take place all the time by the people of PCW – from visits made in homes to quilts sewn, prayed over and shared, meals prepared and delivered, cards and calls made, etc.
- For the enthusiasm of children soaking in the stories of Scripture
- For the teachers who give of their time each week to fulfill their baptismal vows of passing on the faith to the next generation
- For the faithful ministry over decades of men and women here at PCW that has laid a foundation for today's ministry and for what God has ahead of us
- For a choir that beautifully and wonderfully lifts the worship of God to new heights
- For the Visions Band and the energy that fills the Great Room each Sunday
- For the ministry of Lads and Lassies and the lives that are changed of preschoolers in our community
- For a PCW staff that is incredibly gifted, committed, passionate, and faithful and are all dear sisters and brothers in Christ
- For opportunities to serve in mission beyond

- Wyoming and Cincinnati – whether it's in Tennessee, Brown County, South Dakota, Cambodia, or somewhere in between
- For the faithful prayers of those lifting up the concerns and joys of the community
  - For our elders and deacons, who respond to the call of Christ upon their lives
  - For our volunteers, who give in so many ways
  - For those with whom I have had the honor here to study the Scriptures in small groups and in one-on-one conversations
  - For a community that has embraced and supports me and my family
  - For youth in whom we see great hope for the present and the future
  - For Be the Church Sundays, Super Wednesdays, Super Second Saturdays, and for each day as Christ is lived out in deed and in word
  - For Super Wednesday cooks and cleanup crew
  - For the Senior Connection guild and their heart for outreach and service
  - For God
  - For Jesus
  - For the Spirit
  - For God's Word, that speaks into and changes our lives
  - For, as Jeremiah says, a future of hope
  - And finally...for all those areas, people, ministries, relationships, projects, programs, and all else that make us who God has made us to be.



Paul concludes his thanksgiving with this blessing:

***“We have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.”***  
***(Colossians 1:9-12)***

Grace & Peace, Ed

## from Pastor David

---

**Happy New Year to you all!** Now what I want to say next is, “I trust you had a wonderful Holiday Season.” That is what I “want” to say, but that would be pretty disingenuous - because I know some of you had a pretty challenging holiday season. For many, the Christmas holidays are not times of “Deck the Halls.” For some, the holidays represent times of remembering those who used to sit around the table and are now gone. For others it is a time of worry about jobs and investment accounts. For some the prospect of a New Year is a continuation of health concern-induced anxiety.

*As I recently heard someone say, “2012 feels like a steep hill to climb.”*

So what I want to share with you this month, are several scripture passages from the Old Testament - several hope-filled truths about the nature of God and our relationship with God, because all of us face times of daunting challenges. All of us have, are, or will face steep hills to climb.

The first quote is from the book of Zechariah 4:8, 9:

***“Then another message came to me from the Lord: ‘Zerubbabel is the one who laid the foundation of this Temple, and he will complete it. Then you will know that the LORD of Heaven’s Armies has sent me. 10 Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel’s hand.’”***

Here is a thumbnail of the context. The prophet Zechariah (whose name means, “God has remembered”) is one of those who returned to Jerusalem after decades of captivity in Babylon. The ones who returned are among the poorer people in captivity. The conditions in Jerusalem are so awful that the people are focused on basic survival. In other words their “hill to climb” is very steep. So they just survive and have no hope of rebuilding the centerpiece of their lives – the Temple.

Now there is much for us to discuss about these verses but I have limited space. So let’s focus on just two points. First, please notice verse 8: “Then another message came to me from the Lord...”

“Another message came to me,” tells us what about the nature of God? Yes, it tells us that God desires to speak with us and that we should expect a continuing communication. The older I get the more I seem to “not hear” conversations. So it is really good news that God repeats Himself. And what is it that God wants the Israelites to hear? What is the hope of this text that God wants you and me to hear? We see it in verse 10:

“Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin...” In other words the “hill is always steep” until we take the first step. God is telling us that we need to begin to face whatever it is that is burdening us. We need to take even the smallest step towards wholeness, health, healing.

Now I know that is sometimes easier said than done. And that is why Zechariah 4:6 is so important for us to also hear. It is just 4 verses prior to the above text. And here it is: “Then he said to me, “This is what the LORD says to Zerubbabel: It is not by force nor by strength, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.”

When we are ready to take the first small step, we are empowered, we are loved, we are backed up, and supported by the “Lord of Heaven’s Armies.” Well, Happy New Year! I trust that with the support and encouragement of the Lord of Heaven’s Armies you will have some healthy new beginnings in 2012.



—Your pastor and partner, Daz

## Task Force Recommendations Update from Ed Goode

---

**At the beginning of 2011** a Task Force was formed in order to craft recommendations for Session action. Session's goal was to address our congregational finances for both short-term and longer-term horizons. These recommendations were formed from member meetings after each of the worship services and several focus groups.

One of the key Session action areas was in staff re-organization. Shifting from a single full-time position, we hired two part-time employees to manage the main office and communications.

- Catherine Burke was hired for approximately 5-10 hours per week for managing the office.
- Linda Crank was hired to serve as our Director of Communications, responsible for overseeing and producing worship bulletins, producing *Crossroads*, website maintenance, and email communications, among other duties. Linda serves approximately 20 hours per week.

During this time Jim Walton, our long-time financial administrator, shared his plans to retire by the end of 2011. The Personnel Team has been interviewing candidates and anticipates having a person in place for this position by early January.

Jim's old position will be expanded to include oversight of property management of the church. This also is a part-time position, set to be approximately 25 hours per week. There were other areas of staffing that were a part of the Task Force report, specifically in the Director of Christian Education position and in the music department. These are areas that the Session continues to discern and prayerfully consider where the Spirit is leading as we enter into 2012.

**Thank you for your prayerful support** as we discern where God is leading through times that have been a combination of great blessing and significant challenges. Please do not hesitate to speak to one of the Task Force members or with members of the Session if you have further questions or thoughts.



### Thank You for Your Generosity!

**Dear Wyoming Presbyterian Members,** A huge "Thank you" for your generosity for the 2011 Sharing Tree! 175 presents were delivered this week. Think how many families you have made happy. Not one tag was left. We know during this very busy season and economically tough times it is hard to keep on giving...but you always do!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a faithful, happy, peaceful and healthy 2012!

*Sue Lewis and Carol Maupin, Chairs of the 2011 Sharing Tree*

## Hoxworth Blood Drive: Who Will You Save?

---

**PCW will hold its Winter Blood** drive on Sun., Jan. 29th, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Each year in the United States 4.5 million patients need a blood transfusion. Someone needs blood every two seconds. Only 38% of the U.S. population is eligible to donate. Each year only about 5% do.

Please consider a donation. You must be at least 17 years old. 16 year olds can give only with parental consent. All donors must weigh at least 110 lbs. Tell five friends that PCW is a convenient place to give.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Denise Koesterman, 289-7322, [dkoesterman@cinci.rr.com](mailto:dkoesterman@cinci.rr.com) or schedule online at [www.hoxworth.org/groups/PresbyterianChurchofWyoming](http://www.hoxworth.org/groups/PresbyterianChurchofWyoming). Each donation can save the lives of three patients in our hospitals.

**Hoxworth**  
BLOOD CENTER

## Welcome Our New Members

### Scott Ellis

Scott and his wife Sue Ellis, along with their daughter, Chantelle joined PCW on Nov. 21st. They have another daughter, Brittany. Scott received a degree in business from Broch University in Canada. His profession in the food and beverage industry has taken him from Canada to Chicago and Atlanta before coming to Cincinnati. He and his family currently live in Glendale.

### Chantelle Ellis

Chantelle is Scott and Sue Ellis' daughter. She was born in Canada, raised in Chicago, and is currently attending the University of Alabama as a junior studying Human Development and Family Studies.

### Stephen and Cheryl Heilman

Stephen is married to Cheryl Heilman and the father of Tristan. He is retired after 38 years at NCR. He loves to read, build furniture and boats and is a life-long sailor.

Cheryl has her Bachelor of Science in Management and works in financial services. She was born and raised in Philadelphia, and lived and worked up and down the East Coast. She loves the mountains, skiing, and her husband.

### Fritz Naeve, Jr.

Fritz is married to PCW member Terri Naeve. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Ohio State University. After serving five years as a U.S. Navy officer, he started a career in Distribution and Operations Management, returning to Cincinnati. He enjoys occasional games of golf, reading and classical music.

### Linda Ann Rumpf

Linda received a fine arts degree from Pratt Institute in New York and became a Waldorf teacher (teaching through the arts). She has three children and works as a homemaker, an artist and a massage therapist.

### Lawrence and Vivian Von Moll

recently moved to Maple Knoll Village. They have six children, eleven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Before retiring Lawrence spent most of his life in marketing management. Vivian was a stay-at-home mom and also managed a weight-loss center.

Scott  
Ellis



Chantelle  
Ellis

Stephen  
Heilman



Cheryl  
Heilman

Fritz  
Naeve, Jr.



Linda  
Rumpf

Lawrence  
Von Moll



Vivian  
Von Moll



## What Do You Know About a Brass Bowl and a Clock?

**Sherry Sheffield is making a notebook** about items donated to our church. She's looking for the donors' identities, the history of the items and anything else of interest to the future generations, and she needs your help. If you know anything about this bowl or this clock, please contact her at 821-5866 or leave a written note in her mailbox in the office.

Last month she received information about the paintings in the Parlor. One is a copy of *"The Shepherdess"* by Johann Baptist Hofner, 1866, and the other a copy of Raphael's *"Madonna della Seggiola,"* the most copied painting in history. They were painted by professional artists in either Germany or Italy between 1866 and 1880 and sold to people who were usually in Europe on *"The Grand Tour."* Much of this information was shared by the restorer who had worked on them in 1976 and had been tracked down by a label on the back of the painting.

(Bill Seale, continued from p. 1)



The Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music beckoned in 1970, where he first studied under Franklin Bens, who also taught soprano Kathleen Battle. After three years with Patricia Berlin, Seale began 21 years with Andrew White, who taught renowned baritone Sherrill Milnes, as well as Mark Oswald, who sang lead baritone at the Met.

"You learn something new with each teacher. All were very good, but Mr. White gave me the vocal technique I now teach," Seale said. "I'm so pleased to take what Mr. White gave me, pass it on and see it come back to me in my students," Seale said. Some have gone on to sing in Europe, on Broadway, at the Met, in Chicago and San Francisco.

Seale brags about others, but his personal accomplishments are many. In addition to accompanying numerous singers and instrumentalists, he played piano for the PBS special, "The Deming of America," written by Wyoming's Priscilla Petty. He was the national finals judge for the Karaoke World Championship. In his last year they picked Brian Scott, who became

one of the judges in the ABC series, Karaoke Battle USA. This year he plans on taking the PCW Chancel Choir to the World Choir Games.

Along with his position at PCW, Bill also directs the Valley Concert series. He selects the varied programs that he has run for 15 years at the church. If you enjoyed the opera/musical concert or the lovely Christmas concert, there will be a **Valentine's Concert of music from the Romantic period on Sun., Feb. 12, at 4 p.m.** Please plan to come and invite music-loving friends.



## Adult Sunday School News



### *Founders of Our Faith*



Sunday Mornings at 10 a.m., January 8th for Six Weeks in the Founders Room

**The beginnings of the Christian story** are told in the first five books of the Bible, where we meet Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Jacob, Joseph, Moses and the ancient Israelites, who were liberated by God from slavery in Egypt and chosen to be a light to all nations. The wonder of the Bible, in these first five books as well as the rest of the Old Testament, is that it lays a foundation for the coming of Jesus Christ. We will explore the ways in which Christ is found in each of the books, if we but take the time to understand. In the final class Patsy Gaines will present a dramatic monologue, done in costume, of Fanny Crosby, who, believing her blindness was a special gift from God, used her talents to write thousands of the familiar hymns.

### *Sunday Transportation from Maple Knoll*

**Did you know** that there is bus transportation from Maple Knoll Village to PCW every first and third Sunday? If you are interested in a great ride with church members, call Lamie Engelman for more information. Her number is 782-6435.



### *VBS Just 6 Months Away!*

**Planning for our summer VBS** will begin Mon., Jan. 23rd, at 7 p.m. If you would like to help out in this extremely rewarding endeavor, contact Stephanie Togneri. We will be working with Wyoming Baptist and Ascension and Holy Trinity Church again this year. Dates for VBS will be chosen at that meeting.



## Sunday School Special Project: Heifer International

The Sunday School children are gearing up for their annual Heifer Project. Each Sunday in January and February the children's offering will help provide livestock and/or business and agricultural education to families in developing countries. This enables them to provide for themselves, families, and communities.

Did you know you could buy a heifer for as much as \$500 or a flock of chicks, ducks, or geese for as little as \$20? There are many options and the children will decide how to spend their collection during the annual Congregational Meeting at the end of February. Last year the children raised enough to purchase a whole heifer and a few smaller animals.

The children are learning how their tithes and offerings support the work right here not only in our church and neighborhood but around the world. The children will be collecting all of their change to make a change in our world. If you have any jingling in your pockets please give it to one of our kids because they'll know what to do with it!



Sun., Jan. 1  
Sunday School  
Classes on  
break for the  
holidays

Sun., Jan. 8  
**A Cambodia Story**  
Students and families are  
invited to the Great Room  
to hear stories from the  
Mission Team that visited  
Cambodia in November.

Sun., Jan. 15  
**Heifer Project Kick Off**  
There will be a combined  
class for all children 8th  
grade and under in Old  
Social Hall to begin our  
annual Heifer Project.

Sun. Jan. 22  
Back to normal  
schedule with all  
classes meeting at  
10 a.m.

### Tween News



**Tweens will have a Lock-In** at the church on Fri., Jan. 20-21. They'll get locked in at 8 p.m. and be let out at 9 a.m. Saturday. It might be cold outside, but it will be nice and toasty in PCW as Tweens run the church and enjoy each other's company. Look for signups soon. Chaperones needed!

### Jr. High Happenings

**Jr. High Meetings Resume** Wed., Jan. 18, 6:30-7:30. No dinner will be served, but come for dessert and fellowship. This will be a meeting for parents and youth to discuss the summer mission trip.

**Skiing!** Jr. Highs will go skiing with the Sr. Highs on **Sat., Jan. 7, 1 to 10 p.m.** Contact Anne Fischer if you would like to go.

**Matthew 25 Ministry:** Jr. Highs and friends will head to Matthew 25 Ministry for a morning of service on Saturday, January 28th, from 8:30 to noon. A parent coordinator is needed. Contact Stephanie if you can help.

### Sr. High

**Sat., Jan. 7, 1 - 10 p.m.:** Jr. and Sr. Highs, meet at the church to go skiing at Perfect North. Drivers are still needed. RSVP to [avfischer@aol.com](mailto:avfischer@aol.com).

**Sun., Jan. 8, 7-8:30:** Youth Group meeting

**Sun., Jan. 15, 7-8:30:** Youth group meeting - Topic: *Parents*

**Sun., Jan. 22, 7-8:30:** Youth group meeting - Topic: *Rebellion*

**Sun., Jan. 29, 10 a.m.:** Bake and deliver pies to seniors and shut-ins. If you haven't done the pies with us before, this is one of the best outreaches we do all year. We bake the pies in the kitchen, wrap them and attach notes. Then we pile into cars and deliver the pies to our senior citizens.