

Those serving	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Announcements	Jaycob Reynolds	TBD
Song Leader	Bob Mount	Dennis Mount
Opening Prayer	Dennis Mount	Paul Carpenter
Lord's Supper (Prayer)	Paul Carpenter	Bob Mount
Helper	TBD	TBD
Helper	TBD	TBD
Helper	TBD	TBD
Closing Prayer	Jaycob Reynolds	TBD
Greeters	TBD	Paul & Angela
Prayer Room	Dennis Mount	Paul Carpenter
Communion Preparation for December	Betty Mount	

Pearl Street church of Christ

330 Pearl Street, P.O. Box 380
Lynchburg, OH 45142
www.pearlstchurchofchrist.com
Facebook @ Pearl Street church of Christ

Birthdays in December

Wyatt Dean 12/04	Angel Balon 12/26
Eric Balon 12/17	Faith Carpenter 12/28
Gregg Ewing 12/19	Ronald Wise 12/30

Anniversaries in December

Re-Birthdays in December

Eric Balon 12/17/2012
Toni Mount 12/19/1971

Attendance Record

Attendance last Sunday 23
Weekly Budget \$600.00

Sunday Services

Bible class 9:30 AM
AM Worship 10:30 AM
PM Worship and Class 6:00 PM

Wednesday Service

Bible Study 7:00

Minister Paul Carpenter 513-375-9992 (Cell)

December 24, 2017
Why A Baby?
Isaiah 9:6

Paul's Portion

In two great literary masterpieces, Dickens' A Christmas Carol, and Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas, the protagonist undergoes a transformation. In Dickens' work the character Ebenezer Scrooge goes from, "Every idiot who goes about with 'Merry Christmas' on his lips, should be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart," to "I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year." In Seuss' work the character Grinch goes from "The Grinch hated Christmas! The whole Christmas season!" to "Welcome Christmas while we stand heart to heart and hand in hand!" Before their transformation both of these characters suffered from a misconception about Christmas. They failed to realize the reason for Christmas, thus they thought it a nuisance and worthless. Once they learned that Christmas is more than the ribbons, bows, and gifts they were able to see the value of Christmas and the celebration. Looking at the stories of Scrooge and Grinch reminds one of another who underwent a transformation in his opinion of something. In the book of Acts in chapters 9, 22, and 26 Luke records the transformation of Saul the persecutor of Christ and Christianity into Paul the preserver of Christianity. Saul, much like Scrooge and Grinch, suffered under a misconception. Saul's misconception was over who Christ really is and what Christianity is about. In fact Paul said, "I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things in opposing the name of Jesus of Nazareth." (Acts 26:9) As Scrooge felt that Christmas was worthless and even detrimental to man's well being, Saul felt that Christianity was folly and detrimental to man's soul and God's will. As Grinch thought that he could stop Christmas by removing some of its symbols, Saul thought that he could stop Christianity by removing some of its supporters. As Scrooge and Grinch had their eyes opened to what Christmas is really about, Saul had his eyes opened, by having them closed, to what Christianity is really about. There are still some who have misconceptions about Christmas, and there are still some who have misconceptions about Christ and Christianity. It is our responsibility to be the "Marley," "spirit," "Whos," and "bright light" that open people's eyes to the truth about Christ and Christianity.

Welcome

We wish to welcome you to services at the Pearl Street church of Christ. If you are a visitor with us today, know that you are an honored guest. We invite you to join us each time we meet together for worship and Bible study.

Just A Thought

Remember too the Christ-child, grew up to be a man;
to hide him in a cradle, is not our dear Lord's plan.
So keep the Christmas spirit, share it with others far and
near,
from week to week and month to month, throughout the
entire year!

Norman Wesley Brooks

Weekly Memory Verse

Micah 5:2, "2But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days."

Bible Quiz Time

How did the angel appear to Joseph to inform him of Mary's condition?

Today's Bible Passage

Isaiah 9:6, English Standard Version.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Take Note

The current Daily Bread is available in the foyer.
The new Communion preparation sign-up sheet for 2018 has been posted.

Ohio Winter Lecture at Fishinger and Kenny church of Christ, January 26-27.

Couples Marriage Retreat February 14-18.

Traveling

Many family members traveling for the holidays.
Glenn & Mary Brose.

College

Austin Balon: 75 N. Woodward, UBox # 61136;
Brittany Ernst: 75 N. Woodward UBox #6551,
Tallahassee, FL 32313.

Just For Fun

Redneck Nativity Scene

An Outsider in a small Tennessee town around Christmas time, saw a "Nativity Scene" that showed great skill and talent had gone into creating it, but one small feature was all wrong: the three wise men were wearing firemen's helmets.

Totally unable to come up with a reason or explanation, he left. At a "Quick Stop" on the edge of town, he asked the lady behind the counter about the helmets.

She exploded into a rage, yelling, "You darn Yankees never read your Bibles!"

The Outsider assured her that he did, but simply couldn't recall anything about firemen in the Bible.

She jerked her Bible from behind the counter, riffled through some pages, and finally jabbed her finger at a passage.

Sticking it in the guys face she said, "See, it says right here, "The three wise men came from afar."

Quiz Answer: In a dream, Matthew 1:20.

Illness and Prayer Concerns

Ginger Back, health issues.

Linda Fleming, MS.

Morgan Hembree, loss of baby.

Britt Dean's father, spot on lung.

Cindy Cooper, blood clots.

Fay Lamb's cousin Herschel in poor health.

Kennith Armstrong, severe burns.

Expecting: Robin Tholen, Nicole Mount, Heather Mitchell

Carla Cherry, low blood count

Connie Whitmore, diabetes and cirrhosis of liver.

Clyde Wood, depression and health issues.

Kenny Lucas, recovering from a stroke.

COPD: Charlene Wisecup

Broken Hip: Ruth Florence, Gaylord Valentine

Headaches/Migraines: Angel Balon, Tim Slack

Kidney issues: Glenn Bishop, Ben Back,

Edward Michaelson, Dana Mount

Cardiac issues: Jr. Banks, Bob Fleming, David Hoggatt,

Edward Michaelson

General poor health: Charlie Balon, Earl Carpenter, Dylan,

Kay Gillis, Dennis Irwin, Cheryl Irwin, Charlie Kessinger,

Mike Lucas, Dorothy Pfister, Pat Whitacre, Kim Bank's father

Cancer in remission: Maxine Brose, Hayden Cummings,

Keith Mayes, Karen Smith, Roger Turner

Cancer: Goebel Craft, John Dayton, Dottie Dysen,

Regina Feltner, Olivia Furbee, Marilyn Heichelbech,

Mellissa Jenkins, Clifford Kerns, Linda King, Kristen,

Cheryl Lapanese,, Vernon Lucas, Jenna Mount's grandma,

Valerie Powers, Mary Sampson, Diane Spruance,

Shirley Thompson, Dorothy Trent, Mike Turner,

Cheryl Wells

Life Issues: Banach family, Zach Slack

Why A Baby?

Isaiah 9:6

I. FOR SALVATION

A. TO THE WORLD.

John 3:17

Luke 19:10

2 Corinthians 5:19

B. FROM SIN AND DEATH.

Hebrews 2:14-15

John 1:14

II. FOR ASSURANCE.

A. FORCE NOT THE ANSWER.

Luke 1:30

Matthew 1:20

Luke 2:10

B. GLITZ NOT THE ANSWER.

Luke 15:14

2 Corinthians 8:9

Philippians 2:5-7

C. HUMBLENESS IS THE ANSWER.

Matthew 8:20

Psalm 22:18

John 19:23-24

III. FOR LOVE.

A. HIS LOVE FOR US.

Ephesians 2:4-5

B. OUR LOVE FOR HIM.

1 John 4:19

John 14:15