



of Rocky River Presbyterian Church

"Tidings of Comfort and Joy"

Favorite Christmas carols set tone for Advent worship series

When you think of your "First Nowell," what comes to mind? Probably the songs and carols of Advent and Christmas.



Advent and Christmas Eve worship this year will highlight the messages conveyed by some of your most beloved Christmas carols. The worship series, "Tidings of Comfort and Joy," begins Sunday, December 1st (that's the Sunday following Thanksgiving) and runs through Christmas Eve on Tuesday, December 24th.

—Worship Committee

Candlelight Services on Christmas Eve at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

(NOTE: the 7:00 p.m. service has been discontinued.)

Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 29th

Breakfast + Worship + Friends = "Family Room Worship"

Worship takes on a homey, casual feel the Sunday after Christmas. We'll worship sitting around tables in Fellowship Hall. Our Deacons start serving breakfast at 10 a.m.; worship starts, as usual, at 10:30 a.m. We'll sing and hear carols, and listen to an original Christmas story in place of a sermon (see below). No RSVP required. Bring all your houseguests! Wear your pajamas or new Christmas sweater!

Still time to share your Christmas story

Please speak with our pastor—you may be just the person to share that story at our informal "Family Room Worship" service in Fellowship Hall on the Sunday after Christmas this year. Don't be shy. Don't wait for someone else. Contact Jon right away.

—Annette Oberst, Chair
Worship Committee

**Please return your 2020 Stewardship Pledge soon.
Need another form? Just contact the Church Office.**

Sat., Dec. 7 9:30 a.m.

All ages invited to help RRPC "Deck the Halls"

"Deck the Halls" is the morning we decorate the entire church for the Advent/Christmas season. This year "Deck the Halls" happens on December 7th starting at 9:30 a.m. (We usually wrap up around 11-11:30 a.m.) Coffee, juice and donuts will be on hand—make sure you are, too! (Tasks available for all ages.)

1 of 3 nationwide offerings each year

Give "Christmas Joy" Sun., Dec. 22

The Presbyterian Church (USA) collects just a few denomination-wide offerings each year. On Dec. 22 your special gift to the "Christmas Joy" Offering benefits two groups:

- retired ministers (and their families) whose meager salaries left them with small pensions
- students at PC(USA) historically racial ethnic schools and colleges.

Use the special envelope in your offering packet or the Christmas Joy envelopes available at church.



—Mission Committee

Sun., Dec. 1 at 3 p.m.

Former seminary intern Marilyn "MP" Panco to be ordained to ministry

Marilyn Panco will be ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacraments in the Presbyterian Church (USA) on Sun., Dec. 1. The service of ordination will occur at John Knox Presbyterian Church in North Olmsted, MP's previous "home church." The ordination service is open to the public; a reception will follow. Elder Karol Hoeffler and our pastor will participate in the service.

MP graduated from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary this past spring. This fall she received a call to serve as Associate Pastor for St. Mark Presbyterian Church in Ballwin, Missouri in the western suburbs of St. Louis.

As part of her seminary studies MP spent a semester serving as a seminary intern at RRPC in the fall of 2017.

—Human Resources Committee



"Good Shepherd Spirit apparel" orders close Dec. 1st!

See p. 4 for details

From Your Pastor

What a picture is worth

Before I ever knew what a video projector even was, I wished I had access to something like that.

I was a brand-new minister serving as an Associate Pastor for a large church in suburban Detroit. I was teaching a class on Rabbi Harold Kushner's book When Bad Things Happen to Good People. (All these years later I still give the book a "thumb's up.") The point I wanted to make was that experiencing the greatness and majesty of God is simply overwhelming and awe-inspiring. As I planned the lesson, what came to mind was a scene from the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." I decided to describe for the class what the characters seemed to experience as the "mothership" appeared, dwarfing the nearby mountain as it descended upon this colony of now-speechless scientists.

As best I could, I described for the class the scene and the emotions.

But I wish I could have shown them.

~ ~ ~

Few would disagree that today's world is more visually-oriented than ever before. While radio still has great capacity to stir the imagination, the advent of television quickly eclipsed radio's popularity because of TV's added dimension of a visual element. In recent decades, the pleasure of listening to music has been enhanced by the development of music videos. Now kids not only hear but see the music... and often, they feel the music as they quickly learn to mimic the dance moves shown on the latest music video. Research reveals that roughly 75% of what we learn we take in through sight, while hearing accounts for only about 13%. [https://www.streetdirectory.com/etoday/using-the-five-senses-ecofff.html]

Nowadays visual information is ubiquitous. You see visual displays when you buy your groceries, when you get your car washed, when you board an airplane, when you pay your road toll, when you visit the doctor's office, when you do your banking, when you patronize a fast-food restaurant, when you fill your tank with gas, when you work out at the gym, when you make a phone call, when you drive your car and navigate to an unknown destination.

Visual elements are standard in the educational setting today. I know that my wife, who teaches at Rocky River Middle School, incorporates video components into nearly every lesson... and is expected to do so. Elder Eric Watts, who teaches at Avon High School, confirmed that virtually every lesson he presents includes visual components

which are projected on screens or shown on monitors. This is possible because technology today allows it to happen. The flannel board has been replaced by the SMART Board® and the chalkboard has been supplanted by the next-generation CleverTouch® interactive display.

For that matter, I'm writing this column with the use of a video display, and it's likely that you're reading it because of one, too!

We use the helpfulness of video displays everywhere we go... except in church.

Other churches have had video displays for quite some time, of course. Not here. On the few occasions when we saw an especially compelling reason, we would take the church's old, portable, underpowered video projector, plop it onto a card table and aim it at a wood-toned wall or a tiny white screen.

Not exactly state-of-the-art.

But to fulfill one of the goals arising from the work of our Vitality & Renewal Initiative, the Session resolved last month that the time has come for Rocky River Presbyterian Church to add video-projecting capability to our sanctuary.

You'll recall that the Vitality & Renewal Initiative talked with the congregation and its many groups for quite a while. They heard the hopes and desires for our church from everyone and distilled them into five "Desired Outcomes" that, as we strive to fulfill them, will lead us to becoming the church God wants of us now. Our 5 "Desired Outcomes":

- 1) An inclusive, engaging community of faith
- 2) Vibrant participation in worship and mission
- 3) An environment that bridges generations
- 4) Christian voice advocating for justice
- 5) Faithful stewardship of God's resources for future generations.

Taking the step of providing our worship space with video capability will be a part of how we address Outcomes #1 & 2 & 3.

Let's face reality: the sanctuary will look different. We'll see a screen on the front wall. After a few months or even weeks you'll start to think it looks normal, and a while after that you won't even think about it—it will be a natural part of your worship experience.

the time has come for Rocky River Presbyterian Church to add video-projecting capability to our sanctuary

Another reality is that worship will feel a little different sometimes... again, for awhile. Both you as worshiper and those of us who design and lead worship will ease into learning how to incorporate a video dimension into the service. We'll learn about what text should be displayed, and the best way to do that. We'll learn about showing artwork to reinforce a song or story. We'll learn about how to show video clips in an effective way.

I'll say it again: we'll have to ease into it. But based on a comment by my minister friend Elizabeth McLean, I'm confident that we'll soon have trouble remembering what worship was like before

we had this capability.

You may know Elizabeth. She used to be a member and deacon right here at RRPC. Then she went to seminary. Now she's a minister in Maryland. Fifteen years ago when she started at a big church out there she wondered how she was ever going to learn how to incorporate their video screens into her sermons. A few months ago she told me she wonders how she would cope if she didn't have image-projection capability as part of the weekly worship experience.

When will it happen? Soon, we hope. We would enjoy some price breaks if we're able to commit to it by December 31st. But we haven't identified all the funding for the project yet. We have in hand roughly \$8,000 from a generous memorial gift designated for this purpose. **But the project is going to require about \$34,000, and we cannot go forward until we have the assurance of all the funding needed.**

If you'd like technical details of the project, speak with elder Greg Ahren.

If you would like to make a gift in any amount to see this project to fruition, speak with me or simply make your gift with the notation of "sanctuary video" for proper credit.

I look forward to worshipping with you during the Advent and Christmas season.

Jon



December Birthdays

December 1	Barbara Prudhoe
December 2	Mike Matile
December 3	Jim Bennett
December 4	Karen Allport
December 6	Greg Ahren
December 7	Scott Krizman
December 8	Carol Bennett
December 9	Vic Erml
	Sue Chaney
	Ian McGorray
December 10	Christian Kirchner
	Jeanne Frier
	Dennis Gresh
December 13	Karen Dade
	Clay Hoon
December 15	Paul Busby
	Sara Gresh
	Seth Purohit
December 17	Emily St. Pierre
December 18	Christine Wilson
December 19	Holly Pattison
December 22	Heather Daina
	Colin Jones
	Kathryn Urban
December 23	Bridget Hustek
	Cecelia Roche
December 25	Joey Furry
December 26	Hannah Jennings
December 27	Brian Beer
December 29	Will St. Pierre
December 30	Wally Pattison
	Zachariah Carmack
December 31	John Magnus
	Halle McGorray

Birthday Cards...

Since May we have been sending E-Birthday cards thru AmericanGreetings.com to those who have provided the Church with their email address. The subject line identifies the card as coming from RRPC...so please open and....

HAPPY BIRTHDAY 



Join us for **DECK THE HALLS** on **Saturday, Dec 7 at 9:30 am.** We will be serving up lots of holiday cheer - as well as Becker's donuts, coffee, and juice - while we get our church ready for Christmas. Elves of all ages are encouraged to come! We usually "wrap -up" (no pun intended) around 11 - 11:30 a.m. You can find the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by the Parlor, or just stop by as you are out and about on Saturday morning.

Artist Concert Series presents Saturday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Cleveland Orchestra Youth Chorus Daniel Singer, Director

What a privilege to hear some of the finest high school voices from across northeast Ohio! Come to a free concert by the Cleveland Orchestra's famed Youth Chorus on Sat., Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. in our sanctuary. The program is likely to feature sacred and secular selections of general and holiday repertoire. The concert will be under



director Daniel Singer.

Bonus Concert Sun., Dec. 15 at 7:00 p.m. *Rocky River Community Chorus* & Community Band

Our Artist Concert Series is pleased to welcome these community musicians for their holiday concert of instrumental and choral works. The rosters include members of RRPC!

Pick one program, or all of them!

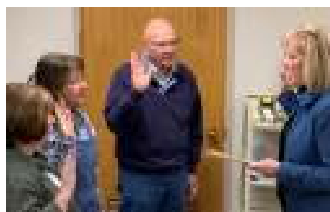
Usher at an Artist Concert Series program this year

Plan now to volunteer as an usher at one of this year's remaining programs in December, February or May. All you need to do is arrive 30 minutes beforehand. Your duties include welcoming guests, handing them programs, directing them to restrooms or drinking fountains, and passing an offering plate at intermission.

To volunteer, contact ACS Artistic Director Nancy McGillicuddy at ncmack@hotmail.com, or the Church Office.

Kudos Corner

Congratulations to **Michael Esdon** for being chosen for the Ohio Music Education Association Districts 4 & 7 High School Honors Choir. This select group of vocalists had two days of rehearsal before presenting their concert at CSU's Waetjen Auditorium on November 16.



Congratulations to **Wally Pattison** for being chosen to serve on the Rocky River Seniors Council for a term starting in January 2020. He was installed to the position on Wed., Nov. 20.

Experience our children's Christmas Program on Christmas Eve at 5 p.m.

It has been a longstanding tradition at RRPC to have our children present their interpretation of the



Christmas story during a Sunday morning during Advent. Last year, we decided to try something new, in an effort to be inclusive of all ages and those who have family and friends visiting from out of town. It was so well-received, that we are going to do it again! At the 5:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve we will be presenting an intergenerational and interactive program. There is no practice for this program—just come to worship at 5:00 and help us tell the story! This is a family-friendly service and all ages are welcome. The children and youth choirs will also be sharing their musical gifts with us. Questions? See Lisa Watts, Hilary Watts, or any member of the Christian Education Committee.

The return of the Mitten Tree



Our combined youth fellowship groups will once again put up their popular mitten tree for Advent. We will be collecting hats, scarves, mittens and gloves for folks of all ages. We are thrilled to accept new store-bought or handmade items.

We will be donating our items to Ohio Guidestone.

The tree will receive your donations from Sun., Dec. 8 through Christmas Eve. Thanks so much for your continued support of our youth groups' mission project!

For boys and girls finishing 6th thru 12th grades

Youth mission trip heads to Wisconsin June 2020

Kids: can you saw a board? Paint a ceiling? Repair a fence? Install a handrail? Cut down a tree? Hammer a nail?

You never know what kind of skills you'll learn on our summer youth mission trip. Led by our pastor and another church chaperone, you'll travel to Sheboygan, Wisconsin ("the Bratwurst Capital of the

World!") from Sun., June 21 until Sat., June 27. You'll stay in an air-conditioned facility (probably a public school or church). You'll have hot showers and sleep on cool floors. You'll enjoy yummy meals served cafeteria-style. Daily devotions. Recreation and free time. Make friends with kids from many kinds of churches from all over the USA.

Each day you'll work with other kids to help elderly residents still living in their homes who are unable (physically or financially) to perform repairs and maintenance. You'll do exterior painting, build porches and wheelchair ramps, and general work on the property. Group Mission Trips does a great job organizing these work camps; that's why we're working with them again.

Sign up your child now. The "list price" is \$475 but fundraising activities will bring that cost *way* down. A \$50 deposit holds a spot for your child.

—Christian Education & Mission Committees

Sunday morning adult education class Advent study

For the four Sundays of Advent (December 1, 8, 15, and 22), our Sunday morning Adult Education class will be working with the book, "*Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes*" by Cynthia M. Campbell. This easy-to-read book reflects on the distinctive perspective of the birth of Jesus offered by each gospel. It creatively reimagines the season and inspires new and exciting reflection for Advent. Books are available from Lisa Watts.

The class will be led by Lee Lohr. After serving on the staff of the Presbytery of the Western Reserve for 16 years, Lee served as Director of Christian Education for three years at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church (ALPC). Lee has been a member at ALPC since 1991, where she taught adult Sunday school for most of those years. She feels that the best part of teaching Sunday school is that she has learned a lot while preparing lessons and from comments by class participants, all the while deepening her faith.

Preschool news

RRPC members "priority registration" for preschool now open for '20-'21 school year

Rocky River Presbyterian Preschool *priority registration* for the 2020-21 school year is open for all members of the church along with any returning families. Any child, ages 2 1/2 through 5, may be enrolled in one of the half-day programs at RRPP.

The priority registration period continues until January 1st when open enrollment will begin. If you have any question or would like to register your child, please call Diana Wolfe, the preschool director, at (440) 895-KIDS (5437).

2 ways to support our preschool

Our preschool is currently holding two fundraisers through Friday, Dec. 6th.

The first fundraiser is the ever-popular and tasty **Butter Braids pastries**. This year's order brochure also features Cookie Dough, Auntie Anne Pretzels, Zap-a-Snack Pizzas and some delicious Pumpkin Rolls, Lemon Crème Cake Rolls, Chocolate Crème Cake Roll and a Carrot Cake Roll.

Orders will be delivered to the church on December 17th and your order will be labeled and in the church freezer for pick-up before Christmas.

The second fundraiser is **Mitchell's Homemade Ice Cream gift cards**. Gift cards are being sold in \$5, \$10, \$20, \$25 and \$50 denominations.

Order forms are in the church office for both fundraisers or you can call Director Diana Wolfe at the preschool: (440) 895-KIDS (5437). Checks should be payable to "RRPP".

Thanks to all church members for supporting your preschool!!



—Diana Wolfe,
director



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Semi-Circle

Semi-Circle will meet on **Monday, December 2nd at 12:00 p.m.** at the Church. If you have questions you may contact Carolyn Watilo 440-799-4779 or Nancy McGillicuddy 440-724-1738. Newcomers are always welcome!

Priscilla Circle

Priscilla Circle will meet on **Thursday, December 19th at 7:00 p.m.** in the West Room. All are welcome! If you have any questions you may contact Gretchen Koch or Sara Gresh.

Expressions of Faith

Our group **will not** be meeting in December and January. Look for our start back date in the bulletin and/or Pulse. For more information contact Mary Murphy (440-785-8614).

Women of Grace

Women of Grace's December meeting will be off-site and the date will be forthcoming, watch your bulletin for details.

Christmas Holiday Office Schedule

- ◆ Tue., Dec. 24—closing at noon
- ◆ Wed. Dec. 25-Thur. Dec. 26—closed
- ◆ Fri., Dec. 27—closing at noon
- ◆ Tue., Dec. 31—closing at noon

Scholastic Book Fair Dec. 15-22 **Give the gift of reading**

Our weekday preschool is pleased to offer a Scholastic Book Fair. You can purchase books and other items for toddlers, children and youth. Your purchases also provide books for our preschool. Cash, check and credit cards accepted. The sale will be open after worship Dec. 15 and 22 as well as during school days.

—Ellen Schickel, Preschool Committee co-chair

Easier for you & RRPC

Can “ACH” make life a little simpler?

How many monthly payments do you make electronically?

Did you know you can add your monthly church offering to the list—you can save the time and trouble of writing your offering check every week or month, and you won't have to wonder, “Did I remember to make that gift?”

Our Financial Secretary Dave Wolfe can assist you with setting up a monthly Electronic Fund Transfer (“EFT,” sometimes called an “ACH” for “automated clearing house”). An EFT gives the church's bank permission to draw your pre-authorized amount from your account on a specific day each month.

It's secure, easy and free:

- ⇒ Only one simple form to fill out at the church
- ⇒ No fees to pay
- ⇒ You can adjust or stop the EFT at any time just by calling the church.

Want to know who else uses the free service? Want to get started? Have other questions? Email or call our Financial Secretary Dave Wolfe at (440) 333-4888 or dwolfe@riverpres.org.

—Finance & Memorials Committee

“We’re sorry—no one told us.”

Unfortunately, sometimes that's what we have to say when the pastor or parish nurse don't make a hospital visit. Due to privacy laws regarding medical information (commonly called “HIPPA”) the church is not notified when someone is having surgery, is hospitalized or faces some other crisis. Please share joys, concerns and sorrows by telling the pastor or by calling or messaging the church office.

**Rocky River
Presbyterian
Church**



**Wear your RRPC
pride!**

**Purchase Rocky River Pres-
byterian “SPIRIT” apparel**

Love supporting your favorite team by wearing a Cleveland Indians T-shirt, a Buckeye fleece jacket, or a hat with your local high school logo? Now you can show your pride in our “RRPC team” by purchasing “**Spirit**” apparel with our church's name and logo. This is not a fundraiser—just a fun way to show the community your pride in our church.

We're working with Hometown Threads and their representative, Jim Mayer (remember “Mayer Sporting Goods”?) to offer several custom embroidered apparel pieces in time for Christmas. You will be able to order fleece vests and jackets (youth and adult), oxford button-down shirts (mens and ladies), knit stocking hats, and zippered tote bags.

The last day for this round of orders will be **Dec. 1**. (Another round featuring summer apparel will happen in the Spring.) You'll see samples of the items, and info on prices, colors, sizes, etc. Payment is due at time of order (only cash, or checks to “RRPC”).

—Nancy Buettner, for the
Evangelism & Membership Committee

DECEMBER 2019 LIBRARY LINGO

Mary Schulz, Librarian

DISPLAYS:

Christmas books/ New books

NEW ITEMS FOR ADULTS:*Merry Christmas***Nonfiction:****Nelson's Illustrated Encyclopedia of the Bible****220.3 DRA**

This book draws on the latest scholarship in archaeology and theology to give you a close-up view of the amazing civilizations where people lived under the perceived protection or punishment of their gods, where day-to-day life was anything but routine.

Grace (eventually): Thoughts on Faith**234.2 LAM**

Wise and irreverent, poignant and funny, the author describes how she copes when challenges seem alternately inconsequential and insurmountable.

Encouragement for Life: Words of Hope and Inspiration**241.4 SWI**

Are you running shy on reinforcement and affirmation? Are you beginning to wonder not *when* relief is coming, but *if* it will ever come? The author wrote this book with people like you in mind.

Having a Mary Spirit: Allowing God to Change Us from the Inside Out**248.843 WEA**

The author of "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" directs your gaze past your own shortcoming to the God who stands ready, willing, and able to make a new woman out of you. She equips you with biblical insights and practical tools to partner with Christ, inviting him into the hidden places of your soul.

It Takes a Village and Other Lessons Children Teach Us**305 CLI**

Advances in technology and the global economy, along with other developments, have strained the fabric of family life. This book chronicles Hillary Clinton's quest to discover how we can make our society into the kind of village that enables children to grow into able, caring, resilient adults.

The Daniel Plan: 40 Days to a Healthier Life**613.2 WAR**

This plan provides eternal wisdom along with the best of modern science, guiding you to your optimum fitness, weight, and overall health. Liberally sprinkled with examples from real people's lives, it educates and inspires.

God Never Blinks: 50 Lessons for Life's Little Detours**646.7 BRE**

This wise, compassionate, and honest book by Regina Brett is a blueprint for living a happy, fulfilling life. Its lessons are timeless and timely.

Where Jesus Walked: Experience the Presence of God**915.694 DUN**

The lens of a renowned photographer and the pens of beloved authors take you where Jesus walked, in beautiful photographs.

Rocky River Ohio: Images of America**977.1 LES**

A unique collection of old photographs for everyone who has ever called Rocky River their home (or church home!)

HAPPY READING AND VIEWING!!

(All descriptions have been taken from book jacket, title page verso, or review article)

Healthy Happenings

... Notes from the Parish Nurse

Dear Friends and Family,

Greetings! Brighten the holidays by making your health and safety a priority. Take steps to keep you and your loved ones safe and healthy and ready to enjoy the holidays.

1. Wash hands often to help prevent the spread of germs. It's flu season. Wash your hands with soap and clean running water for at least 20 seconds.
2. Bundle up to stay dry and warm. Wear appropriate outdoor clothing: light, warm layers, gloves, hats, scarves, and water-proof boots.
3. Manage stress. Give yourself a break if you feel stressed out, overwhelmed, and out of control. Some of the best ways to manage stress are to find support, connect socially, and get plenty of sleep.
4. Don't drink and drive or let others drink and drive. Whenever anyone drives drunk, they put everyone on the road in danger. Choose not to drink and drive and help others do the same.
5. Be smoke-free. Avoid smoking and secondhand smoke. Smokers have greater health risks because of their tobacco use, but nonsmokers also are at risk when exposed to tobacco smoke.
6. Fasten seat belts while driving or riding in a motor vehicle. Always buckle your children in the car using a child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt according to their height, weight, and age. Buckle up every time, no matter how short the trip and encourage passengers to do the same.
7. Get exams and screenings. Ask your health care provider what exams you need and when to get them. Update your personal and family history.
8. Get your vaccinations. Vaccinations help prevent diseases and save lives. Everyone age 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine each year.
9. Monitor children. Keep potentially dangerous toys, food, drinks, household items, and other objects out of children's reach. Protect them from drowning, burns, falls, and other potential accidents.
10. Practice fire safety. Most residential fires occur during the winter months, so don't leave fireplaces, space heaters, food cooking on stoves, or candles unattended. Have an emergency plan and practice it regularly.
11. Prepare food safely. Remember these simple steps: Wash hands and surfaces often, avoid cross-contamination, cook foods to proper temperatures and refrigerate foods promptly.

So remember: eat healthy, stay active. Eat fruits and vegetables which pack nutrients and help lower the risk for certain diseases. Limit your portion sizes and foods high in fat, salt, and sugar. Also, be active for at least 2½ hours a week and help kids and teens be active for at least 1 hour a day.

Have a safe and Merry Christmas with good health in the New Year!

Catherine A. Patton RN, BSN
440-333-4888 ext 105
Parishnurse@riverpres.org



RRPC Member Spotlight

Each month our church randomly puts the spotlight on two members whose birthdays occur during that month. You can see the two of them in the box-frames on the church lobby wall.. Please make a point of greeting these people and wishing them a happy birthday!



Carol Bennett

1. Profession

Advance Practice RN, Clinical Nurse Specialist for the Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital.

2. Hobbies / Interests

Skiing, hiking, coffee and how it tastes and smells - I always look for authentic coffee shops in the places we visit. I would like to try a Vienna coffee which is an Austrian favorite. Also, I also enjoy reading mostly journal articles related to newborns - and being a volunteer at Laura's Home/City Mission.

3. Favorite trip you've taken, or where you'd like to go

Our trips out west skiing. Recently our family went to Big Sky Montana. We stayed in a log cabin with a wood burning stove for heat.

4. Why do you worship here at RRPC?

I choose to worship at RRPC because the Presbyterian Church was part of my growing-up years, so tradition is one reason. The music by Glen is wonderful and so are Jon's sermons. But most of all I feel I am surrounded by God and his holiness. When I look to the cross during worship there is a feeling of trust, majesty and wonderment.

Wally Pattison

1. Profession

Retired. Part-time I am a driver for the Rocky River Senior Center and will be joining Rocky River Senior Council beginning in January 2020.

2. Hobbies / Interests

Hiking, exercise, golfing, gardening, biking and most importantly, spending time with my family.

3. Favorite trip you've taken, or where you'd like to go

Italy...I just loved Rome. Yosemite.

4. Why do you worship here at RRPC?

I enjoy the people and how welcoming our church is. I have also learned much about my faith thru the people and programs at RRPC, especially Christian Education and the Youth Groups.





Christmas Gifts to Your Church: Flowers... In His Name... Endowment

At Christmas time, we like to make a special gift in honor or memory of loved ones. Rocky River Presbyterian Church (RRPC) offers three ways to remember someone special. We print these remembrances in the Christmas Sunday bulletin.

The deadline for Christmas contributions is Dec. 17, 2019.

- 1) *Holiday Flower Fund* - Contributions to the *Holiday Flower Fund* provide plants for our sanctuary (suggested minimum donation \$10 for a plant). The RRPC Deacons' sanctuary decorating group purchases adequate plants for a tasteful display. Following the last Christmas Eve service we encourage donors to pick out a plant (there will be plants of varying sizes and styles) suitable for giving to someone who is sick, shut-in or needing a lift in spirit! (Added bonus: *Flower Fund* money remaining, after buying Christmas flowers, is used for sanctuary flowers on Sundays without flower donations!)
- 2) *In His Name (IHN) Fund* - This is a discretionary fund used by the pastor to address appeals for emergency assistance, special mission support and other unmet needs within or outside of our congregation. Donations to the *IHN* Fund may be in any amount.
- 3) *RRPC General Endowment Fund* - This fund is an *abiding endowment* which is never decreased. All contributions add to the fund and generate increased interest income for the church. Donations to the *RRPC General Endowment Fund* may be in any amount.

Holiday Flower Fund, In His Name and RRPC General Endowment Funds

(Contributors to the RRPC *Holiday Flower Fund* may select a plant after the last Christmas Eve service.)

Name _____ Phone _____
 Include payment with form. Designate: *Holiday Flower, In His Name or RRPC General Endowment Fund* in your check's memo area.


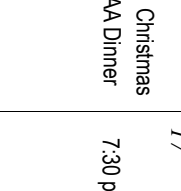

Fund	\$ Amount	Exact wording for bulletin (In honor/memory/celebration of...etc)
<i>Flower Fund</i>		
<i>In His Name</i>		
<i>RRPC General Endowment</i>		

“Outside the Box” High school retreat a meaningful, fun weekend

Our High School fellowship group had an amazing and spirit-filled weekend November 8-10. We travelled to Camp Aldersgate for our annual retreat. It was a frosty weekend, but we spent time in God’s creation, talking about how we can come together as a community of faith to cross generational boundaries and share meaningful worship and fellowship for our current time. Time for us all to unplug a little, hike the beautiful 25-acre camp, play games, cook great food, and share some great discussion. The seeds have been planted for Youth Sunday 2020!



December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 First Sunday of Advent Communion / Food Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship /Nursery 11:30 a.m. Time of Fellowship 11:35 a.m. Youth/Childrens Choir 11:35 a.m. Mission Committee</p>	<p>2 12:00 p.m. Semi-Circle Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Women's AA Mtg.</p>	<p>3 7:00 p.m. Worship Committee 7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg.</p>	<p>4 9:15 a.m. Mommy & Me 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir 7:30 p.m. Men's AA Mtg.</p>	<p>5 9:00 a.m. PWR Vitality & Renewal Mtg. (Pastors)</p>	<p>6 7:00 a.m. Friday morning Men's Group (RR Starbucks)</p>	<p>7 9:30 a.m. "Deck the Halls" for Advent/Christmas 2:00 p.m. COYC arrives 7:00 p.m. Altered Attitudes AA 7:30 a.m. COYC Concert</p>
<p>8 Second Sunday of Advent 10:30 a.m. Worship /Nursery 11:30 a.m. Time of Fellowship 11:35 a.m. Youth/Childrens Choir 11:35 a.m. E & M Committee 7:00 p.m. High School /Middle School Fellowship</p>	<p>9 6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Women's AA Mtg.</p>	<p>10 11:30 a.m. RRPC Staff Christmas Lunch (off-site) 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee 7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg.</p>	<p>11 9:15 a.m. Mommy & Me 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir 7:30 p.m. Men's AA Mtg.</p>	<p>12 8:30 a.m. Senior Men's Bible Study & Breakfast</p>	<p>13 7:00 a.m. Friday morning Men's Group (RR Starbucks) 5:00 p.m. Preschool "Parents Night Out"</p>	<p>14 9:00 a.m. PW "Hug Me Doll" Project 7:00 p.m. Altered Attitudes AA</p>
<p>15 Third Sunday of Advent 10:30 a.m. Worship /Nursery 11:30 a.m. Time of Fellowship Preschool Book Sale 11:35 a.m. Youth/Childrens Choir 12:00 p.m. "Hug Me Doll" Project 7:00 p.m. High School /Middle School Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Rocky River Community Chorus & Band Concert</p>	<p>16 5:00 p.m. Annual Christmas Women's AA Dinner</p>	<p>17 7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg.</p>	<p>18 9:15 a.m. Mommy & Me 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir 7:30 p.m. Men's AA Mtg.</p>	<p>19 5:00 p.m. Preschool Christmas Program 7:00 p.m. PW Priscilla Circle Mtg.</p>	<p>20 7:00 a.m. Friday morning Men's Group (RR Starbucks)</p>	<p>21 8:30 a.m. Poinsettias arrive 7:00 p.m. Altered Attitudes AA</p>
<p>22 Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:30 a.m. Worship /Nursery 11:30 a.m. Time of Fellowship Preschool Book Sale ends 11:35 a.m. Youth/Childrens Choir</p>	<p>23 7:00 p.m. Women's AA Mtg.</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve  5:00 p.m. Candlelight Service 7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg. 10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day  Church office closed</p>	<p>26 Preschool Christmas Break Dec. 23 thru</p>	<p>27 7:00 a.m. Friday morning Men's Group (RR Starbucks)</p>	<p>28 7:00 p.m. Altered Attitudes AA</p>
<p>29 Family Room Worship 10:00 a.m. Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Family Room Worship </p>	<p>30 7:00 p.m. Women's AA Mtg.</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve Church office closes at noon  7:30 p.m. Alanon/Alateen Mtg.</p>	<p>Preschool Christmas Break Dec. 23 thru Jan. 5</p>			

“The Pulse”

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Rocky River Presbyterian Church

December 2019



Merry Christmas

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