

Valley Presbyterian Church

17560 Chillicothe Road, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
Telephone (440) 543-1071; Fax (440) 543-4047
Web Site: www.valleypresbychurch.org
Office email: valleypc@netlink.net



Valley's 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off

CHILI
•COOK-OFF•
See page 2 for the winner!



DEC 3 (THU)
7:30AM—MENS PRAYER GP*
5:30PM—CHILDREN'S CHOIR*
6:30PM—ADULT BELL CHOIR*
7:30PM—ADULT CHOIR*

DEC 6 (SUN)
9:15AM—ADULT ED*
10:30AM—WORSHIP SERVICE*
11:45AM—FELLOWSHIP TIME*
12PM—YOUTH CAROLING

DEC 7 (MON)
6PM—HOV COOKIE EXCHANGE
7PM—COMMISSION MEETINGS

DEC 8 (TUE)
12PM—SARAH CIRCLE
2PM—CVCC MEETING

DEC 13 (SUN)
9:15AM—ADULT ED*
10:30AM—SPECIAL
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
11:45PM—CHRISTMAS DINNER
5PM—YOUTH CHRISTMAS
PARTY

DEC 14 (MON)
7PM—SESSION MEETING

* WEEKLY EVENT

The Valley Voice

The monthly newsletter of Valley Presbyterian Church

CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO

DECEMBER, 2015

*Surely God is our salvation. Have faith, and do not be afraid.
(Isaiah 12:2)*

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

Advent means “coming” or “arrival.” During the season of Advent – which begins Sunday, November 29 – we celebrate Christ’s coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again. The four weeks of Advent present an opportunity for communal discernment and personal examination, as the church plans to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and looks with hope for Christ’s return.

At the same time, though, many of us find ourselves busy with other things – shopping and decorating, sending cards and making travel plans. We feel some combination of excitement about the season – its wonder and joy – while also overwhelmed by the commercial extravaganza that Christmas has become!

For some, the sounds of the season ring hollow when



compared to the grief of losing a loved one, or our longing that the homeless find shelter and the hungry be fed; or the fear that we are not far removed from the violence we see around the world.

We hope for restoration for the afflicted and tormented, yet we give praise that healing has come in Christ. While we long for the beating of swords into plowshares, we rejoice that the Prince of Peace has appeared. We yearn for our cities to flourish, yet we honor the child born to lead us into the Promised Land. *Christ has*

come! Christ is risen! Christ will come again! Our Advent hope is for the past, present, and future. The “arrival” we anticipate on Christmas promises that there will be a “coming” again.

And so, let us prepare ourselves to meet Christ through the sharing of our gifts, our hopes, our prayers and our very selves – for to be a Christian is to be like Christ. In him is our salvation, so let us have faith and be not afraid. Merry Christmas to you and yours. In Christ,

Pastor John



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent — Worship at 10:30AM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24 — CHRISTMAS EVE

Family Service at 4:30PM — ‘ABC Journey to the Nativity’
Candlelight & Communion Service at 8:00PM

MAY PEACE & LOVE FILL YOU WITH JOY THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON!



Christmas from the Heart!

COME SEE...
COME HEAR...
COME FEEL
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13
AT 10:30AM

Musical Presentation of "Christmas from the Heart"
 Christmas Dinner following worship service

WE HOPE YOU JOIN US AND FEEL THE SPIRIT AT VALLEY!



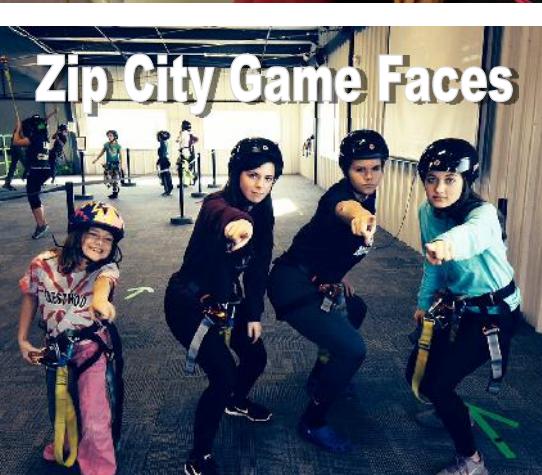
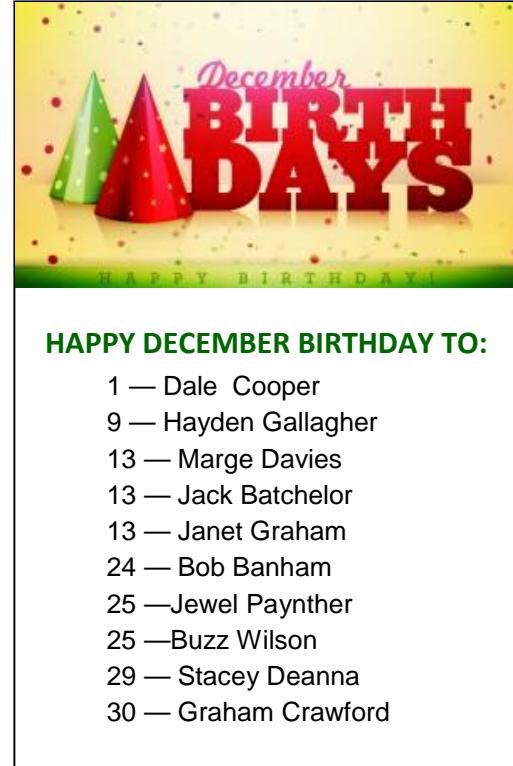
Youth Group
 Everyone Welcome - Grades 7-12

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

December 6 – Christmas Caroling
 For shut-ins and nursing home residents – we will meet after church and conclude about 2PM with hot chocolate. Younger Youth (4th – 6th grade) are invited to attend; all other children are welcome to come with their parents.

December 20 – Christmas Party
 Youth Group (and college-age) – meet at church at 5pm to go shopping for the gift exchange. Pizza dinner to follow.

2016 Montreat Youth Conference – July 16-23 - A World of Difference
 Current 8th – 12th graders are invited to gather with hundreds of other youth from around the country for a week of inspiring worship, music, small groups and recreation in the mountains of North Carolina. We will spend one day working with Asheville Youth Mission and will be staying as a group in a beautiful cabin just minutes from the conference center. The cost is \$175 per participant (scholarships available) and participation in youth fundraising events. Spots will be limited so sign up as soon as you can!

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:

- 1 — Dale Cooper
- 9 — Hayden Gallagher
- 13 — Marge Davies
- 13 — Jack Batchelor
- 13 — Janet Graham
- 24 — Bob Banham
- 25 — Jewel Paynther
- 25 — Buzz Wilson
- 29 — Stacey Deanna
- 30 — Graham Crawford



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH
 Sarah Circle will meet on Tuesday, December 8, at 12:00PM at the home of Sally Rzicznek. Please bring an ingredient for a salad bar. Lettuce will be provided. Donations for gift cards for turkeys for Chagrin Falls Park families will be collected as our Christmas project. We will continue our study of "Come to the Waters" with Christie Frenchie leading lesson 4.



**HEART OF VALLEY'S ANNUAL
BRIGHT
Night**
 ADAM HALL MARCH 5, 2016

Mark your calendars now for Bright Night 2016 — Saturday, March 5th

Because this has become such a popular event we are moving to a new venue: Adam Hall in Auburn Township.



STUDY LEAVE
 Pastor John will be on a personal retreat at Stony Point Center, in the Hudson River Valley, New York from November 29 to December 3.



Valley Presbyterian's Mission Statement
 As disciples of Jesus, we joyously share our faith and grow as a body of Christ through worship, learning, fellowship and service.

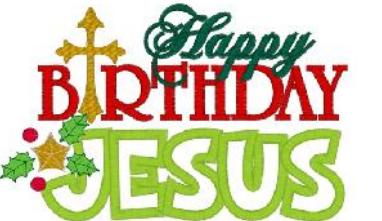


The happy faces at Heart of Valley Preschool

Heart of Valley
 CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

It's the most wonderful time of the year – especially if you are in preschool! The anticipation of Christmas is almost too much for their little minds to contain!

We are so very busy here at HOV – presents to make, cookies to decorate, stories to tell and plenty of anticipation. Amongst all this excitement we remind the children of the 'reason for the season'. The story of Jesus' birth is a favorite. The idea of a baby being born in a barn with sheep and cows all around – that's quite a story! Add to that that Jesus is God's son – that's a lot for a preschooler to comprehend! The biggest part of the story is about love and how much each of us loved by our families, our teachers, our friends and especially by God – what a wonderful Christmas gift!



Merry Christmas from all of us here at the preschool – we wish you joy, happiness and the greatest of all, love.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. John Wahl, Pastor
 Office Phone: (440) 543-1071 Cell Phone: (216) 287-2405
 Email: revjohnwahl@netlink.net
 Office email: valleypc@netlink.net
 Office Hours: M, W, F (10AM-6PM), T, Th (10AM-3:30PM)
 Nancy Sullivan, Director of Music Organist: John Kautzman
 Bell Choir Director: Don Sullivan

Hours & Schedule
 9:15 AM—Adult Christian Education (September-May)
 10:30 AM—Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 11:30 AM—Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall

Church School Schedule September 13 through May 22
 PreK-5th grades: Attend first part of worship at 10:30 AM; excused to class after "Children's Moment." Youth Worship 1st Communion Sunday
 Nursery (child care provided for children, birth through age 3)
 9:00-Noon in Room 129 (child care provided through age 4 for family worship service)

Heart of Valley
 CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL
 Operating within Valley Presbyterian Church
 Director: Heidi Cregar
 Phone: (440) 708-2572 Email: hovcp@netlink.net Web: www.heartofvalley.org

