

**Northridge United Methodist Church
January Newsletter 2023**

Happy New Year

For Your Reflection

Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. *They are new every morning. Great is Your Faithfulness.*" (Lamentations 3: 22-23 NKJV)

How many of us make New Year's Resolutions? I can honestly say that I have had the same two resolutions for many years. First, get organized. Second, lose weight. Since I have had the same resolutions for years, I haven't succeeded in keeping them.

What if we take a new approach in the New Year? A co-worker of mine always made a comment when I would sign on to my computer every Friday and wrote "TGIF". Since his name was Alfredo or Freddie as we called him, he would say "Thank God, it's Freddie!" Let's try to approach life in a different way. Instead of wishing our lives away, can we say "TGIF" meaning "Today, God is First!"

God is faithful to us, so let us work on being faithful to God. Let our days begin with praise for another day, a chance to be better than we were yesterday, a day of gratitude for the multitude of blessing that God provides, and a day to spend listening for God's nudges and spotting His Hand in the everyday events of our lives.

"Today, God is First!"

Karen Grube

Lay Leader

Please remember the following church families that have had loved ones pass away in the recently.

December:

Donald Boysel, husband of Karen Boysel, passed away on December 18, 2022

November:

Nancy Brannick passed away November 28, 2022.

Freida Mincer passed away November 20, 2022.

Larry Zerkle passed away November 9, 2022.

Ron Frazier, husband of Marcia Frazier, passed away November 4, 2022.

Altar Guild News

Poinsettias were purchased to adorn the sanctuary with the intention of offering them for sale on Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning. Since those two worship services were canceled, the poinsettias are still available for purchase at \$8.00 each.

If you are interested in one or simply want to assist in helping defray the cost, place the \$8.00 per flower in an envelope marked Poinsettia. Make the check out to Northridge United Methodist Church. They are yours for the taking.

Help, help, help!

Saturday, January 14th, all of the Christmas decorations will need to be taken down and put away. With many hands, this task will not take much time. It will be packing and taking them all to the attic.

Please consider assisting at 8:30 AM.

Thank you.

A Big Thank you.

Northwood Assisted Living Christmas was a success again this year. Your generous giving of gifts for the residents was so appreciated. Each gift we gave and wrapped had a special story behind it for the residents.

Also thanks to those that assisted that day.

This and That

*Men's Breakfast at Studebakers Restaurant is always the first Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM.

*The 2023 offering envelopes are ready for pickup in the Fellowship Hall or at the church anytime between office hours. (10:00 AM to 2:00 PM)

*There will be no Bible Study during the month of January.

*If you need pastoral care from January 4 through the 18th, please call the Lay Leader, Karen Grube, 937 232 1956. Pastor Ken will be out of the office during this time.

*Likewise, there will be no Adult Sunday School following worship during Pastor Ken's absence.

*Walkers meet every Wednesday and Saturday mornings at 9:30 AM. The goal is to walk 1.0 mile which usually takes about 1/2 hour. We have walkers that go at various paces, slow and steady and some moderately faster.

*The new Upper Rooms are available on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

*Show you have a "Caring Heart" by taking a card from the "Take a Card—Send a Card" box in the Fellowship Hall and send it to one of our parishioners that has a particular need. If you want you may sign it, put that person's name on the front and leave it in the office. The address and stamp will be provided and sent.

*On Sunday, January 1st, parishioners were presented a piece of paper to share their thoughts, wishes, dreams and prayers. Each was placed in a jar, sealed that day, and will be opened in December, 2023 during a church service.

Something New

Please be advised that the church is actively being monitored through an alarm/surveillance system as of January 2, 2023. The alarm will be off while there are people in the church for church business.

If you enter the building while the alarm is active, please note that it will need to be disarmed or the Clark County Sheriff's Office will be dispatched. The doors are alarmed. There are motion detectors and fire detectors.

The alarm system was obtained by the trustees upon receipt of a Federal Grant that could be used for security purposes.

Update from Missions

Missions is always very busy during the month of December. As in the past we have provided Christmas for local families. For the 2022 Christmas, we were given the names of 12 families that consisted of 24 children. These names come from local schools and one was from a member of our congregation that knew of the need.

Not only do we provide gifts for the children but also the family is given food items and a gift card for the purchase of a turkey or ham. These food items come from our congregation and from the student body of Kenton Ridge High School. Additionally, the Student Council of Kenton Ridge made stockings for each child.

A "Sincere Thank You" goes to all who donated time and/or money towards this project. And to those that took the name of a child, went shopping and purchased gifts for that boy or girl, thank you so much! This ministry hits home when you consider families that may have a limited holiday.

Once the families were notified they should come to the church and pick up the gifts and foods, numerous expressions of appreciation were conveyed. These moments make this ministry so worthwhile.

Cheryl Hinkle, Co-Chairman

Sheryl Jones, Co-Chairman

Northridge United Methodist Church

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Worship Service: Each Sunday, 10:00 AM