

The Connection

The Newsletter of Shiloh Church, UCC

February 2020

FROM THE



PASTOR

In the season after Christmas, it seems that things begin to slow down in the church in the new season that we are in which is Epiphany. There is this time period between Christmas and the start of Lent and it also happens to come in the months of January and February. So what is Epiphany? Epiphany is a season that means of the manifestation or showing forth, and it culminates with the baptism of Jesus. In his baptism, Jesus is baptized in the Jordan with John the Baptist present and so on Epiphany Sunday we celebrate baptism. And then comes the next step and we remember it well. The heavens opened and the spirit came descending down upon Jesus like a dove, and then his spiritual baptism comes into focus. This is the start of the ministry for Jesus, to teach, preach, and heal all those he comes across. This day is what Epiphany is all about, then in the church we have

several weeks that we call the season after Epiphany, and this is when I wonder where our focus is during this time. It's by now gotten very cold outside, we tend to see grayer skies, sickness begins to occur a little bit more and maybe we take more naps and just pray that spring will be here before we know it.

This is when I extend a challenge to all of us. Epiphany and the season after Epiphany are focuses on the light, and more importantly how the light extends from the darkness. Because of the weather and cold temps we can find ourselves in a trap where we might feel like the darkness is closing around us. Our schedules or health can also play a big part in feeling this way. But as we approach the season of Lent in 4 more weeks we must embrace this time in the church to focus on the light. As it states in the Gospel of John, "For God so loved the world, that God sent God's Son to be that light." Through the birth of this child, to him growing in stature and knowledge of how his relationship will grow with God, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the light becomes revealed throughout his ministry. When we think of this time in the church in this light, it calls each of us to Breathe, Focus and Act in ways to capture that light and shine into the darkness God's love and grace to all. And with the start of a New Year when we try to make changes to our lives to become better or healthier, may we take this time to discern how the light might transform us to be better in our spiritual journey and that this journey is not to make us perfect but simply faithful in our walk of being the Body of Christ, and how our words and actions can play a part in building and shaping a kingdom to come to the world.

Now we have experienced already as a church many such illnesses and bumps to start this New Year, but let us overcome with one another as ONE SPIRIT to represent the

face, hands and feet of Jesus and live out our call in showing the world what the light of acceptance, equality, justice, grace, love and mercy can show to our fellow brothers and sisters in this world.

May you all be enriched and empowered in the spirit to do this work, and we will see you each Sunday, as our praise and thanksgiving are shared with a loving and gracious God.

Blessings,
Pastor Jay

When a family member or friend within the congregation is ill or in need of assistance, please call the church office and notify us of that need.

**Honored Citizens for
February**

2/2 Betty Brown
2/9 Patt Dellinger
2/16 Linda & Wade Dimmick
2/23 Zelta Fogt

Health Concerns

Dave McMillen, Vicki Holmes, Bud Brown, Mark Barnhill, Bonnie McCarthy, Nancy Nerny, Al Hofstetter, John Parker, Eileen Michael, Sid Manley, Sandi Mastrosimone.

Sympathy

Jim Taylor, Paul Cushwa, Bob Harding

FEBRUARY ACTIONEERS



This month our actioneer are a couple of ladies who continue to do so much life and ministry of Shiloh Church. This month we recognize Tami and Lin Rhoades. Whether it's serving on committees in the church or just jumping in and doing whatever needs to be done, both of these ladies do so with remarkable passion and dedication. Tami who serves on our Finance committee and most recently helped us in the business office while Erica was on maternity leave was invaluable to keep the train moving. Lin has spent time on our Executive Committee, Growth Committee and serves as our Vice President of the congregation. And over the course of the last year or so she has been very helpful in creating the power points with graphics and words to enhance what we see on the screen on Sundays. These two ladies show their commitment to Shiloh through all they do about

which there is even more that I haven't mentioned. Join me in thanking both Lin and Tami for being a part of this family we call Shiloh, in "Living the Word, by Serving the World."

Pastor Jay

ADVENT DONATIONS TO THE HOUSE OF BREAD

During Advent Shiloh collected some winter clothing items needed by patrons of the House of Bread and placed them under the Christmas trees in the Narthex. The Congregation was very, very generous this year. The following were delivered to The House of Bread before and after Christmas:

34 sweatshirts, 1 coat, 6 light-weight sweatshirts, 3 blankets, 12 scarves, 14 hats, 6 t-shirts, 11 pairs of men's gloves, 18 pairs of socks, 23 pairs of children's gloves, and 4 children's hat/mitten sets.

4 women's hat/scarf/mitten sets and 66 men's hat/scarf/mitten sets donated by David's UCC also were delivered to the House of Bread with our clothing. 85 children's hat/scarf/mitten sets donated by David's UCC were sent to Northmont FISH to be included in their Christmas distributions.

The House of Bread and Northmont FISH were thrilled to get these much-needed items. Thanks so much to the Congregation members for their thoughtfulness and generosity.

Chili Cook-off Results are IN!

Thanks everyone for participating in our Chili cook-off. It was appropriate food for the wintery day. Special Thanks to Marilyn Jones, Doris Murph, Terry Neff, & Ed Pettit for providing the tasty chili. Below is the results of the cook off:

Your favorite – Doris Murph Sweetest – Marilyn Jones Best Flavor-Ed Pettit
Hottest – Terry Neff Most Creative Terry Neff

Thanks again,
Growth Committee & Fun Raising team

Shiloh Church will again be a site for **the Day of Caring Pancake Brunch** on Sunday, February 23, 2020. Proceeds from this annual event will benefit the homeless and hunger coalitions throughout the area. Last year over \$30,000 was raised in this one day to help those in need. The menu will include sausage, pancakes and syrup, eggs, applesauce, orange juice, milk, and coffee. The ticket price for adults is just \$6. Those under 12 or over 60 pay only \$4. Brunch will be served from 9 AM until 1 PM. Please help promote this event by inviting family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join you in enjoying a good meal and helping others. We will need lots of help on the day of the Brunch. Please sign up to cook clean, set up or serve on the Day of Caring schedule on the Green Table. Thanks!

Shiloh's Front Porch Ministry

Is hosting the last soup and salad luncheon for this year on Saturday, March 7. Serving time is from 11 – 1 with plenty of time for games and fellowship until 2:00. Please feel free to bring your family and/or a friend or two. All are welcome! As usual, donations are accepted to help cover the cost of this important ministry. Watch for info to come on the startup of the annual Farmer's Market in May. You will find us once again on the Front Porch, serving breakfast sandwiches, coffee and Shiloh's famous hospitality.

Questions? Want to help? Call Jo Anne, 837-7204

3rd Annual Valentine Celebration Vendor's Fair

(sponsored by the Harrison Twp. Community Task Force)

Will be held Saturday, February 8 from 1 – 4. Besides varied vendors sharing their items for your purchase, our cookie-decorating and valentine-making tables will be available. You will also have an opportunity to make a valentine/s for our veterans at the local VA Center. Please bring your family and/or a friend or two to this special event!

Getting to Know YOU, Shiloh! **SAVE the DATE – March 21, 2-4 p.m.**

Come join us in Omega Hall for great fun, snacks, and soft drinks as you learn a bit about your fellow Shiloh Members and Friends!

More details and sign-ups on the Green Table coming next month!

-Shiloh Growth Committee



The Women's Board is making HAM LOAVES, including GLUTEN FREE

It's time to place your orders for delicious ham loaves. **NEW ADDITION** – Gluten Free ham loaves. The price is \$8.00. Order enough to freeze and have last-minute meals ready for months by February 23. Stop at the table in the narthex to place your order or call Becky Cyphers at 572-6429. Ham Loaves will be available for pickup on Sunday, March 1.

Keystone Club Meeting features The Ludlow Band On Sunday, March 1

You asked for and you got it. The popular Ludlow Band is back again for the fifth time. They are a terrific group of friends who enjoy playing and singing folk, bluegrass, Celtic and other popular music. Five talented musicians featuring Acoustic Guitar, Mandolin, Banjo, Harmonica and great vocals. You won't want to miss their rousing musical evening.

Meet and greet starts at 4:30 pm, carry-in dinner at 5 pm and the program at 6 pm. Cost is \$5 per person. If you are not a member of Keystone Club and would like to attend the program please call Charlotte Wolcott (836-3024) for reservations by Thursday February 27.

Remember, everyone is invited!

WOMEN'S BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT 2019

The Board consists of representatives of organizations in the church which include women in their membership. The Board has one representative on Church Council, rather than representatives from each Board member organization.

Throughout the year, we sponsor fund-raising activities and in 2019 distributed them:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Profit</u>
Ham Loaves	\$670.76
Garage Sale	1,773.35
Fellowship Luncheon	115.39
Celebration Dinner	<u>102.50</u>
Profit	Total \$ 2,662.00

<u>Donation</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Business Office Printer	\$89.99
3 Polo Shirts (Stephen Brown)	102.27
Card Tables	473.29
Golf Outing	500.00
Dayton Bar Assn. (Notary License)	75.00
Lamp of Faith	20.00
Celebration Dinner	966.00
Celebration Dinner paper products	23.96
Organ Fund	435.00
Church Staff Christmas Gifts (5@\$75)	375.00
Get Well Cards	<u>33.86</u>
Total Paid	\$3,094.37

Treasury balance as of 12/10/19: \$2,712.99

As you see, your support of our projects helps us to support Shiloh Church in many different ways. Thanks to the Congregation for that support!

Submitted by Marilyn Schmidt, Secretary, Women's Board

WORSHIP WITH US!

February 2, 2020 4th Sunday after Epiphany

I Corinthians 1: 26-31

Matthew 5: 1-12

Topic: "Blessed"

Theme: Be a light unto the world.

February 9, 2020 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 58: 6-10

Matthew 5: 13-16

Topic: "Seasoned"

Theme: Become a light to all.

February 16, 2020 6th Sunday after Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

Matthew 5: 21-26

Topic: "Where Is our Heart?"

Theme: From the heart be enlightened.

February 23, 2020 Transfiguration Sunday

II Peter 1: 16-18

Matthew 17: 1-9

Topic: "Transfigured"

Theme: Be dazzling in your work for God!

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

Shirley Foreman 02/01

Linda Thiele 02/01

Anita Hake 02/02

Teresa Pur Hall 02/02

Roni Sedor 02/02

Michele Waymire 02/02

Annabelle Glanton 02/03

Elaine Johnson 02/03

Lori Rieker 02/03

Matthew Jergens 02/04

Casey Sierschula 02/05

Lorna Weeks 02/05

Marcia Gilleland 02/06

Carol Oldham 02/06

Donna Knab 02/07

Mary Van Tine 02/09

Mallory Woods 02/09

Kathleen Glover 02/11

Douglas Harlow 02/11

Sharon Lundstrom 02/12

Terrence Bradley 02/14

Beverly Warren 02/15

Brad Harvey 02/16

Eileen Michael 02/17

Carol Lawler 02/18

Doris Murph 02/18

Lisa Rice 02/18

Norma Timmerman 02/18

Marcie Adenuga 02/19

Zoe Hittner 02/20

Jennie Eisnaugle 02/22

Jill Jones 02/23

Kim Wachter 02/24

Keith Aukerman 02/25

Molly Skinner 02/25

Ed Crosthwaite 02/29