

Lincoln Park Church of Christ

The Best Things Aren't Things

I want to take a moment and thank the people who have recently given me a gift. You know who you are and you didn't have to do that. But thank you. (That bread - yum). And of course, others have given me gifts too, gifts they might not even think about. Gifts that they passed along from God. "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights" (James 1:17). I'm telling you, every time I come to church I receive many gifts. When you smile, when we shake hands, that is a gift. When I can sit next to you and there is nothing but peace between us, that is a gift. When Carol Leimstoll runs up and says "I need my Doug hug!" that is definitely a gift. It even rhymes. Isn't it wonderful to come together as a body and share all these gifts? I think God has this in mind. He blesses us so that we can share with others. "But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. . . [He] gave gifts to men" (Ephesians 4:7-8).

I'm old enough to have come to the conclusion that some of the best gifts don't get gift wrapped. Being able to laugh together. Being able to genuinely be happy for someone's success without being envious. Being put into the Carol barrel. Get it? Because when you hug someone your arms make a circle like a barrel? It's the best rhyme I could come up with on short notice! My wife will be rolling her eyes when she reads this. Speaking of . . . she is another gift. "He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the Lord" (Proverbs 18:22). The more I think about these things the more I realize that even if there was NOTHING under the Christmas tree I would still be tremendously blessed. I'm blessed to have a family and a church family. Both of them are wonderful. Both of them, like every other good gift, are from God.

So when you come to church I want you to realize that there are a multitude of gifts that you can give that cost no money. Be sure to give freely, just as Christ freely gave to you. Encouraging words, a hand up, a word of instruction, a look that says "I'm here for you" - these are all wonderful gifts! I look forward to giving and receiving many of these gifts every time we come together.

AM Sermon: Keep the Family Together (Ephesians 4).

Reading: Ephesians 4:2-3.

PM Sermon: How to be a Good Member #1: Love One Another

Sunday

	<u>Dec. 25, 2016</u>	<u>Jan. 1, 2017</u>
Song Leader	Chu. Middleton	N. Middleton
Prayer	D. Smith	E. Stewart
Communion	D. Thomas	P. VanHorn
Assist	Z. Thomas	J. Fussell
Pass	D. Boze	C. Fussell
Pass	T. Brooks	R. Castillo
Scripture	M. Perry	T. Raupp
Usher	B. Samu	D. Clay
Usher	R. Alexander	B. Castleman
Prayer	P. Danz	S. Danz

Evening Worship

Prayer	S. Lance	Chu. Middleton
Communion	R. Coss	R. Bone
Prayer	R. Alt	S. Fiori
Bible Time	No Bible Time	C. & A. Middleton

Wednesday Midweek Bible Study

	<u>Dec. 28, 2016</u>	<u>Jan. 4, 2017</u>
Prayer	R. Bone	M. Perry
Song Leader	L. Montgomery	D. Smith

ON THE CALENDAR AND CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

SAMARITAN LADIES: Every Wednesday at 10 am in room # 5.

MEN'S GROUP: Every Thursday at the Tim Horton's on Allen Rd. / Goddard Rd. in Taylor at 7:00 am AND 4:00 pm.

ORPHANS LIFELINE: Donations are due on Sunday, December 25 to R. Alt.

FYI: Our service times for December 25 and January 1 will remain the same as usual for both am and pm services.

LADIES' LUNCHEON: NO Ladies' luncheon for December.

SHOES NEEDED: We are collecting gently used shoes for women and children in Nicaragua. Please have your donations back by Sunday, January 4 for Javier & Isabel to take on their trip.



MDYC CONCERT: Sunday, January 8. Our evening service will begin at 5:30 pm and the concert at approximately 6:00 pm. See Barb Raupp if you would like to help with the meal to feed the chorus.

MCYC WINTER CAMP: January 27-29th. Students are \$64 & Adults are \$29 Pricing includes all meals, lodging, leather craft, arts and crafts, and most activities. Sign the list at the back of the auditorium.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The 2017 lists for communion prep, baptismal clothing care, and closing of the building are posted at the back of the auditorium.

WINTER QUARTER CLASSES**Sunday**

Auditorium: Adults
Building Character (study of Proverbs)
Teacher: Doug Wells

Fellowship room: Adults
"Thinking How God Thinks - The 4:8 Principle" Teacher: Deron Smith

High School: Teachers: Matt Perry

Wednesday

Auditorium: Men's Class
"Distinctiveness of the Church"
Facilitator: Louis Montgomery

Fellowship room: Ladies' class
ABC's of a Godly Heart
Teachers: Diane Middleton, Barb Raupp
High School: Matt Perry

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS



SUZANNE SMITH

VERA DANZ

BETHANY LIVERNOIS

AL PETROVICH

CHERYL WALLACE

BRENDA PROSISE

**CONTINUE TO REMEMBER**

Joe Antio, Virginia Clay, Elena Danz, Mamie Davis, Ramona Douglas, Ryan Douglas, Chris Egan, Corey Eisel, Laura Farr, Margie Frost, Kent Holliday, Ed Ingle, Dennis Johnson, Yolanda Joiner, Candy Lance, Ken Lewis, Pat Longoria, Gil & Glenda Maldonado, Don Mander-nach, Randy Mathews, Landy May, Ben & Peg Morton, Evelyn Mullins, Betty Parsons, Faye Porter, Sheryl Prosise, Margaret Rodriguez, Garry Ruphard, Jim & Val Toby, Maria Tolbert, Rebecca Vaughn, Jerry White



ELDERS' EDIFICATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT CORNER

WE ARE AS WE THINK



All of our actions first originate in our mind. Proverbs 23:7 says, "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he." We are what we think. Those who think on evil things become evil just as those in Noah's day. "Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5). Those who think evil, do evil. "For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be" (Romans 8:5-7). The sinful things that people say and do originate in the mind. "For those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man" (Matthew 15:18).

But how can our thinking be used for us to live a godly life so we can go to heaven? "Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against you" (Psalms 119:11). By studying God's word and making it part of our life we will "sanctify the Lord God in your hearts" (I Peter 3:15). By doing this we will "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33). For us to go to heaven we must, "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth: (Colossians 3:2).

We must purify our hearts for, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8). How do we purify our hearts so we can go to heaven? "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things". (Philippians 4:8). As we think on pure and holy things our lives will be righteous. We will "not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2) as we study God's word. Jesus says, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." (Matthew 22:37). If we do this we will obey all that God commands and one day be with Him in heaven.

Love, Chuck

CALL TO WORSHIP

¹³ Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." ¹⁴ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

James 4:13-15

SCRIPTURE READING

² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:2-3

SERVICES

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am and 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

OFFICE INFORMATION

2957 Fort St.
Lincoln Park, MI 48146
313 928-5810 or 313 928-3398

Office Hours

M - F 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Office email - karen.lpcoc@sbcglobal.net

MINISTER

Doug Wells

ELDERS

Russ Bone Randy Coss
Chuck Middleton Louis Montgomery

THEME

"Surrender to God in 2016"

SERVING THE LORD IN DECEMBER

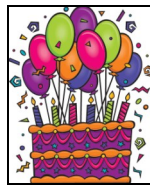


Communion Preparation: Don & Rosie Mandernach

Care of Baptismal Clothing: Sherry Bousho

Closing the Building: Patrick VanHorn

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



Bryanna Williams
Butchie Montgomery
Moirra Clay
Linda Weick
Dick Leimstoll
Tony Jarvis
Judy Stewart
Annalise Middleton
Pat Longoria
Doug Clay



Tom & Barb Raupp

DAILY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

1) 1 Corinthians 12-14
2) 1 Corinthians 15-16
3) 2 Corinthians 1-4
4) 2 Corinthians 5-8
5) 2 Corinthians 9-13
6) Galatians 1-6
7) Ephesians 1-3
8) Ephesians 4-6
9) Philippians 1-4
10) Colossians 1-4
11) 1 Thessalonians 1-5
12) 2 Thessalonians 1-3
13) 1 Timothy 1-4
14) 1 Timothy 5-6
15) 2 Timothy 1-4

16) Titus/ Philemon
17) Hebrews 1-5
18) Hebrews 6-9
19) Hebrews 10-11
20) Hebrews 12-13
21) James 1-5
22) 1 Peter 1-5
23) 2 Peter 1-3
24) 1 John 1-5
25) 2,3 John/Jude
26) Revelation 1-3
27) Revelation 4-8
28) Revelation 9-12
29) Revelation 13-16
30) Revelation 17-19
31) Revelation 20-22

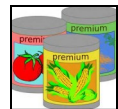
CONTRIBUTION

WEEKLY BUDGET

\$3,400

12-04-16	\$5,030
12-11-16	\$1,851
12-18-16	\$4,073
12-25-16	

FOOD PANTRY



Needed items

- Soup
- Complete meals
- Boxed milk
- Canned meat

We do not need any-more spaghetti! lol