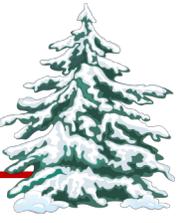




# The Fairgreen Leaves



Fairgreen Presbyterian Church, 3220 W. Laskey Rd., Toledo, Ohio 43623  
Telephone: 419.475.4436 Fax: 419.475.6404 Email: fairgreen.church@sbcglobal.net

## January & February 2014

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### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.  
419.475.4436  
www.fairgreenchurch.net

### PASTORAL & LEADERSHIP STAFF

Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer  
419.215.2939  
revpat44@sbcglobal.net

Dr. Mike Roadruck, CRE  
419.536.1231  
mroadruck@accesstoledo.com

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.  
Coffee Hour 11:15 a.m.



### FAIRGREEN PRESCHOOL

3220 W. Laskey Rd.  
Toledo, Ohio 43613  
Children ages 3 & 4  
419.475.5367  
Director: Terri Turner

## From the Pastors Desk...

When we were snowed in, I spent the day cleaning drawers, cupboards and files. I found this and I think it’s good and worth repeating. Enjoy!

Like many of you I love the Christmas story yet I think that we just rush through it so quickly to get on to the very next thing. For example, I began receiving Lent and Easter promotional materials the very first week of Advent! You would think at least the church folks would follow Mary’s advice and spend some time “pondering all these things in our hearts.”

I found this wonderful reflection called the **Hinge of History** which I think invites us to ponder to wonder as we pack away another Christmas and journey into a new year full of possibilities and second chances.

Living Christ, hinge of history, center of hope, human face of holiness, executed by the powers of this world, raised beyond mortality, alive among us:

with heart and mind and voice we praise you! **“Hallelujah!”**

Before all worlds, before time and space exploded into being, before there was a “before,” you shine, offspring of the Origin, expression of eternity:

with heart and mind and voice we praise you! **“Hallelujah!”**

Before we were born, you grew inside your mother’s womb, were delivered, cradled, nursed, experienced childhood and youth, were baptized, filled with the Spirit, and proclaimed the good news of God’s world:

with heart and mind and voice we praise you! **“Hallelujah!”**

Before we were schooled in dominance and submission, you washed your disciples’ feet. Before we absorbed the worship of force and the praise of revenge, you practiced forgiveness and peace. Before we learned the way of the world, you walked in the light of creation:

and so with heart and mind and voice we praise you!  
**“Hallelujah!”**

Continued on the next page

### Fairgreen Publication Deadlines:

**Newsletter—Articles due by February 16th for the March Newsletter.**





Before we knew your name, your Spirit sighed through our longings,  
moved us to seek you, and guided our search:  
with heart and mind and voice we praise you! **"Hallelujah!"**

Somewhere on our journey you met us. With a whisper or a shout you call us.  
You are our hope and our joy, and nothing in death or life, in the world as it or the world  
as it shall be, nothing in all of creation can separate us from your love.  
And so, with heart and mind and voice we praise you! **"Hallelujah!"**

As we walk into 2014, let us live fully into our relations with Christ, the hinge of history. Let us  
be guided by the past, trusting our future to God as we live fully in the present.

Blessings, Rev. Pat



## **THE CROSS IN THE MANAGER By Ann Weems**

Several people have asked why we placed the cross made out of the trunk of a recycled  
Christmas tree in the manger. This is why!

*If there is no cross in the manger, there is no Christmas*

*If the Babe doesn't become the Adult, there is no Bethlehem star.*

*If there is no commitment in us, there are no Wise Men searching.*

*If we offer no cup of cold water, there is no gold, no frankincense, no myrrh.*

*If there is no praising God's name, there are no angels singing.*

*If there is no spirit of alleluia, there are no shepherds watching.*

*If there is no standing up, no speaking out, no risk, there is no Herod, no flight into Egypt.*

*If there is no room in our inn, then "Merry Christmas" mocks the Christ Child, and the Holy  
Family is just a holiday card, and God will loathe our feasts and festivals.*

*For if there is no reconciliation, we cannot call Christ "Prince of Peace."*

*If there is no goodwill toward others, it can all be packed away in boxes for another year.*

*If there is no forgiveness in us, there is no cause for celebration.*

*If we cannot go now even unto Golgotha, there is no Christmas in us.*

*If Christmas is not now, if Christ is not born into the everyday present, then what is all the noise  
about?*

*Taken from "Kneeling in Bethlehem" by Ann Weems*



## INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are called in Romans 12:2 to be transformed by the renewing of our mind. 2nd Timothy 3:16 tells us that all scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. And again in 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:15 we are urged to present ourselves to God as approved,... [as one] who correctly handles the word of truth. To these ends we offer our Intentional Faith Development ministries several formal opportunities to study God's word and learn to apply it to our lives this day.



One Bible Study meets on **Mondays at 3 to 4 pm** at the **Hickory Ridge Healthcare** facility on Jackman Road in Temperance, Michigan. We call it "Mondays with Michael." This group is currently in the Gospel of John. The group is gradually expanding to include in the study more residents at the facility. Our ministry there has also grown to extending Christ's love to a growing circle of new friends through our presence and conversations.

A second Bible Study meets on **Tuesdays at 2 to 3 pm** at **Fairgreen**. This group has completed a lively study of Leviticus and now is digging into Numbers. So far we've learned that it is not about the numbers. God continues to mold His people as they make their way through the desert. God's instructions and the activities of His people inform us today. Come see how you too are addressed in Numbers.

We are also continuing to offer studies after church on **Sundays** in the **library**. In January Pat Gibson will examine favorite Bible stories we heard as children but now as adults they may have something new to say to us. Get a clue with studies in the library with a Bible.

**Saturdays** from **8:30 am** men from many different congregations and walks of life gather at various churches, including Fairgreen, to study the Bible. Breakfast is always served at these meetings. After the Bible study many continue to engage in fellowship and a time of sharing. The group has been involved in several service projects as well. One recent project was the hanging of the greens in Fairgreen's sanctuary and in providing Christmas presents for a needy family. Contact Mike Roadruck for the location for each Saturday.



## HELL By Dr. Michael Roadruck

Our recent after church study lead by John Adams on Heaven got me thinking about heaven's opposite – hell. What do we as Presbyterians believe about hell? In my research to answer this question I ran across an article in *Presbyterians Today* from March 2000 by Alexa Smith called "What do Presbyterians believe about hell?"

The actual words hell or Hades appear only about 25 times, and they offer different views of what goes on there. Sometimes hell is a place where those who oppose God reside, with much weeping and gnashing of teeth — depicting separation from God as intolerable in and of itself. At other times hell is seen as more dire, and definitely penal. There are angels in chains in 2 Peter, and the lake of fire in Revelation, where sinners may either writhe in flames forever or be destroyed by the fire itself.

Paul is not much help either. While he is clear about there being behaviors that keep people out of the Kingdom, he is not very precise about what happens next. He talks much more about the life of the blessed than any kind of punishment — teetering, his critics say, on a kind of universalism that calls for the reconciliation of all things.

Augustine created a view of hell that became the standard for the Roman Catholic Church and just about everyone else — a penal hell, where sinners are justly punished, not destroyed, and where repentance no longer does any good. There was also a literal heaven and a purgatory, where sins may be expiated through penance.

Calvin and Luther both adhered to a strong view of hell, but Calvin at least was no literalist. He wrote: "Many persons ... have entered into ingenious debates about the eternal fire by which the wicked will be tormented after judgment. But we may conclude from many passages of Scripture that it is a metaphorical expression ... Let us lay aside the speculations, by which foolish men weary themselves to no purpose, and satisfy ourselves with believing that these forms of speech denote, in a manner suited to our feeble capacity, a dreadful torment, which no man can now comprehend and no language can express."

The one consistent theme tucked inside all these centuries of theories and Scriptural metaphors is that hell is separation from God, whether you think of it as an actual place or as a state of being. This is how Pope John Paul II interpreted the Roman Catholic Church's catechism. Foremost, hell is estrangement and alienation of the worst kind.

The problem theologian William Placher, who teaches at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana, worries about is that people today do not take seriously the idea of either hell or sin. "We've fallen into the modern heresy," he says, "that we're all basically pretty good people who don't need comeuppance. If we really thought more about our sin--if we really thought about people starving around the world while we're living in the midst of plenty — we'd worry more about God's grace to forgive us."

The only official Presbyterian statement that includes any comment on hell since the 1930s is a 1974 paper on universalism adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. It warns of judgment and promises hope, acknowledging that these two ideas seem to be "in tension or even in paradox." In the end, the statement concedes, how God works redemption and judgment is a mystery.

The Bible does not give clear and detailed answers to our questions about what happens after death. What we can know for certain is that God's grace is as real as God's judgment--and just as incomprehensible.

# January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Elders of the Month ~ Tim Eichenauer &amp; Dick Schroeder</b> <b>Worship Service ~ 10:00 AM Coffee Hour ~ 11:15 AM</b> <b>Denotes "Monday's with Michael" Bible Study at Hickory Ridge Healthcare from 3-4pm</b> <b>*Rev. Pat away January 15-21st</b>			<b>1</b> <b>Happy New Years</b> <b>Church Office</b> <b>Closed</b>	<b>2</b> <b>No Lectionary Bible</b> <b>Study</b>  <b>Ken Campbell</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  <b>Dr. Mike &amp; Barb</b> <b>Roadruck</b> <b>Aggie Burtch</b>
<b>5</b>  11:30am Bible Class in the library	<b>6</b>  <b>Ken &amp; Pat Close</b>	<b>7</b> 2pm Bible Study in Lounge	<b>8</b> 11:30am Staff Mtg.  1:00pm 1st Wed. Worship	<b>9</b> <b>No Lectionary Bible</b> <b>Study</b>  <b>Anna Jones</b>	<b>10</b> 10-12pm Food Pantry & Distribution	<b>11</b>
<b>12 Epiphany</b>  <b>Communion served</b> 11:30am Bible Class in the library	<b>13</b> 6pm Prayer of Discernment 6:30pm Deacons Mtg.  7-9pm Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Commons	<b>14</b> 11:30am Staff Mtg. 2pm Bible Study in Lounge 3:15pm Preschool Staff Mtg. rm 106  <b>Darlene Hughes</b>  	<b>15</b>  <b>Nancy Ahrens</b>	<b>16</b> 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study in lounge  <b>Gina Beauregard</b>	<b>17</b> 10-12pm Food Pantry	<b>18</b> <b>9-5pm Family Prom-</b> <b>ise using Geneva</b> <b>Room</b>
<b>19 2nd Sunday in</b> <b>Ordinary Time</b> <b>4pm GB Brd. Mtg.</b> <b>6pm Gathering</b>  11:30am Bible Class in the library	<b>20</b> 3:00pm Alpha Omega Circle in lounge 7-9pm Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Commons <b>Racheal Harris</b>	<b>21</b> 2pm Bible Study in Lounge  <b>Samantha Small</b>	<b>22 Rev. Pat back in</b> <b>office</b> 11:30am Staff Mtg.	<b>23</b> 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study in lounge	<b>24</b> 10-12pm Food Pantry	<b>25</b> <b>9-3pm Elder Retreat</b> <b>at Fairgreen Church</b>  <b>Tim Ott</b>
<b>26 3rd Sunday in</b> <b>Ordinary Time</b> <b>Communion</b> <b>Ordination &amp; Installa-</b> <b>tion of Officers</b> 11:30am Bible Class in the library  <b>Rick Amendola</b> <b>Jesse Murray</b>	<b>27</b> 7-9pm Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Commons	<b>28</b> 10am Worship Planning Mtg.  2pm Bible Study in Lounge	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study in lounge	<b>31</b> 10-12pm Food Pantry	

## Ushers & Greeters & Coffee Hour Hosts

**Jan. 5** Ushers: Kay Amendola & Dick Schroeder, Sharon Durrant,  
 Charlene Ravenscraft  
 Greeter: Louise Hughes  
 Coffee Hour Hosts: Joyce Koback & Tammy O'Dwyer

**Jan. 19** Ushers: Ken & Nan Bennett, Linda Hoover, Scott Strayer  
 Greeter: Maud Pearson  
 Coffee Hour Hosts: Jim Eaton & Jesse Murray

**Jan. 12** Ushers: Gina Beauregard & Marilyn McAfee, Betty Geniac, Barb Roadruck  
 Greeter: Dolores Tippin  
 Coffee Hour Hosts: William & Michael Henning

**Jan. 26** Ushers: Joyce Koback & Judy Stuart, Michael & William Henning  
 Greeter: Bonnie Buehrer  
 Coffee Hours Hosts: Fred Nordhoff & Marilyn McAfee

# February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Elders of the Month ~</b> <b>Worship Service ~ 10:00 AM    Coffee Hour ~ 11:15 AM</b> <b>Denotes "Monday's with Michael" Bible Study at Hickory Ridge Healthcare from 3-4pm</b> <b>*Rev. Pat away February 11-17</b>						<b>1</b> <b>1-6pm Jodi Swartz rented the Commons</b>
<b>2</b> <b>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <b>Annual Business Mtg. after worship</b> 11:30am Bible Class in the library <b>Dick Schroeder</b>	<b>3</b> 7-9pm Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Commons <b>Bill Henning</b>	<b>4</b> 11am Worship Planning Mtg. 2pm Bible Study in Lounge	<b>5</b> 11:30am Staff Mtg. 1:00pm 1st Wed. Worship	<b>6</b> 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study in lounge	<b>7</b> 10-12pm Food Pantry	<b>8</b> <b>1-6pm Jodi Swartz rented the Commons</b>
<b>9</b> <b>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 11:30am Bible Class in the library	<b>10</b> 7-9pm Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Commons	<b>11</b> 2pm Bible Study in Lounge <b>7pm Mission Com. Mtg. on Medicare</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Marilyn McAfee</b>	<b>13</b> 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study in lounge	<b>14</b> 10-12pm Food Pantry & Distribution	<b>15</b> <b>Ron &amp; Isabella Wu</b> <b>Ken Close</b> <b>Fred Minkowski</b> <b>Judy Stuart</b> <b>Charlene Ravenscraft</b>
<b>16</b> <b>6th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 11:30am Bible Class in the library <b>4pm GB Brd. Mtg.</b> <b>6pm Gathering</b> <b>Don &amp; Barb Gorrell</b>	<b>17</b> 3:00pm Alpha Omega Circle in lounge 7-9pm Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Commons <b>Alberta Bailey</b>	<b>18</b> <b>10am Presbytery Mtg. at First Presbyterian in Findlay</b> 2pm Bible Study in Lounge <b>7pm Mission Com. Mtg. on Medicaid</b> <b>Ed &amp; Betty Wolff</b> <b>Art Sattler</b> <b>Betty Wolff</b> <b>Kay Seidowsky</b>	<b>19</b> 11:30am Staff Mtg.	<b>20</b> 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study in lounge <b>Jodi Swartz</b>	<b>21</b> 10-12pm Food Pantry	<b>22</b> <b>Flo McKenzie</b>
<b>23</b> <b>7th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 11:30am Bible Class in the library	<b>24</b> 7-9pm Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Commons	<b>25</b> 2pm Bible Study in Lounge	<b>26</b> <b>Betty Geniac</b>	<b>27</b> 11am Worship Planning Mtg. 1:00pm Lectionary Bible Study in lounge	<b>28</b> 10-12pm Food Pantry 7pm Women's Retreat at the Lial Center <b>Fred &amp; Nancy Ahrens</b> <b>Kendy Edinger</b> <b>Patty Reiter</b>	<b>March 1</b> Women's Retreat at the Lial Center

## Ushers & Greeters & Coffee Hour Hosts

**Feb. 2** Ushers: Kay Amendola & Linda Hoover, Tammy O'Dwyer, Tim Eichenauer  
 Greeter: Connie Winslow  
 Coffee Hour Hosts: Karen Herren & Charlene Ravenscraft

**Feb. 16** Ushers: Bonnie Buehrer & Scott Strayer, Agnes McKinstry, Chris Roebuck  
 Greeter: Sally Kille  
 Coffee Hours Hosts: Ken & Nan Bennett

**Feb. 9** Ushers: Dan Yeager & John MacPherson, Jim Eaton, Jesse Murray  
 Greeter: Erika Dunn  
 Coffee Hour Hosts: Judy Stuart & Dolores Tippin

**Feb. 23** Ushers: Joyce Koback & Barb Roadruck, William & Michael Henning  
 Greeter: Alberta Bailey  
 Coffee Hours Hosts: Linda Hoover & Connie Winslow



# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

This is scheduled for Sunday, February 2nd right after the service..



# ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Ordination and Installation of Officers, will take place during the worship service on Sunday, January 26, 2014.



## We Love Our Shut-Ins

We do not want to ignore our shut-ins or have them think we have forgotten them...so we are listing two of our shut-ins and we are asking everyone to send a card (or two), or even a phone call to them. We will list two names every newsletter with their addresses for your convenience so they will know that we are thinking and praying for them.

**Mary Maeder**  
2425 McKivett Dr.  
Toledo, Ohio 43615  
419-841-8420

**Kay Monroe**  
70 Moss Creek  
Toledo, Ohio 43612  
419-277-2673



## Great Banquet Meetings & Gatherings

Sunday, Jan. 19 ~ Board Meeting at 4pm  
Gathering at 6pm  
Sunday, Feb. 16 ~ Board Meeting at 4pm  
Gathering at 6pm





## FAIRGREEN WOMEN'S RETREAT By Pat Gibson

### Eucharisteo "Giving Thanks"



As I write we are in the midst of January snow and deep freeze. This is a good time to plan ahead to attend our annual Fairgreen Women's overnight retreat which will be at the end of February. You will have your own room and bathroom in the Lial Renewal and Retreat Center near Oak Openings at Whitehouse. You'll have time to yourself and time with others as we discover and ponder the language of Eucharisteo:

- ~naming the thanks,
- ~praying the thanks,
- ~living the thanks.

We will do this through music, Bible Study, discussion, inner-reflection and prayer.

Our retreat will start at 7pm on Friday, February 28 although you may come as early as 5pm!! Saturday, March 1 at 3pm is the ending time.

The cost is \$40.00. Towels and bedding are provided but you will be asked to bring a food item for breakfast or lunch. Registration will begin on Sunday, February 9 and will go through Monday, February 24.

There will be sign-up sheets on the Welcome Center.

If scholarships are needed and/ or if you have questions about the retreat, contact Pat Gibson.

For some it is difficult to come for the full retreat time. Please talk with Pat G., if that is your situation, as to when to expect you!!

And one more thing!...As you think about coming to the retreat, think also about a cup or container, to bring with you, that you associate with a reason for giving thanks. (I am thinking of the baby bottle we received as the announcement that Chuck and I were going to be grandparents!!)





## **SESSION ACTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2014 By Pat Gibson**

- MOTION #1 ~ Approved the 2014 Operating Fund Budget as presented by the Finance Committee.**
- MOTION #2 ~ Approved Mike Roadruck to submit the balance of his 2013 Continuing Education allowance to help pay for his Holy Land trip in 2014.**
- MOTION #3 ~ Approved Pastor Pat Shafer to submit the balance of her 2013 Continuing Education allowance to help pay for her Holy Land trip in 2014.**
- MOTION #4 ~ Approved the Session Meeting minutes of November 5, 2013.**
- MOTION #5 ~ Approved the Congregational meeting minutes of December 8, 2013.**
- MOTION #6 ~ Approved the reinstatement of Desiree SeEVERS as an active member per her written request.**
- MOTION #7 ~ Approved the removal from the church rolls those who did not respond to the membership letter (sent to non-active members) by the given date plus those who did ask to be removed.**
- MOTION #8 ~ Approved all session committee reports.**
- MOTION #9 ~ Approved adjournment**



## **PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT FOR 2014**

The year 2014 Per Capita apportionment is \$28.10 per person. You have received a Per Capita giving envelope in your 2014 Offering Envelope Packet that you received. Members of our church body are expected to pay their Per Capita each year. If you have any questions please see Marilyn McAfee. Thank you.



## **FINANCIAL SUMMARY By Peg Winslow**

<b>Year To Date Income as of 11/30/13</b>	<b>\$142,555.37</b>
<b>Year To Date Expense as of 11/30/13</b>	<b><u>(\$160,039.95)</u></b>
<b>Operating Loss as of 11/30/13</b>	<b><u>(\$17,484.58)</u></b>



Fairgreen Presbyterian Church  
3220 W. Laskey Rd.  
Toledo, Ohio 43613

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

