

Hazelwood Christian Church
1400 W University Avenue
Muncie, IN 47303
Ph. (765) 282-5969; Fax (765) 282-5569
Email: hazelwoodchurch@gmail.com
Website: www.hazelwoodchurch.org
Preschool website: www.hazelwoodpreschool.org

Rev. Jason Jones, Senior Minister
Rev. James Petty, Associate Minister
Stefanie Petty, Administrative Assistant & Newsletter Editor
Andy Rees, Moderator
Sunday Schedule: Worship Service, 10 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship, 11:15 a.m.
Children Church School, 10:10 a.m.
Adult Church School, 11:30 a.m.

Hazelwood's Statement of Calling: As members of the body of Christ, we at Hazelwood are called to share God's love by introducing individuals to Christ and nurturing personal spiritual growth for Christ's mission.

Motto: Our **BEST** for Christ



Look for us at:
www.hazelwoodchurch.org
We are constantly building and adding to it, so check back often! You can also contact us through the Website. Check out the home page.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

January 5, 2017
January 19, 2017

Items to be published in the Newsletter are due in the office one week prior to publish date. Thank you!



HAZELWOOD LEAVES

December 22, 2016



BUDGET UPDATE

Offerings Received for Week Ending 12/13/16: \$5,446.42

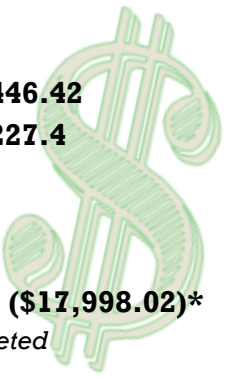
Offerings Received for Week Ending 12/20/16: \$5,227.4

Average Offering for Last Five Weeks: \$6,460.42

Average Weekly Need: \$6,000

January-November Offerings Compared to Budget: (\$17,998.02)*

**Those parentheses mean we have received LESS than budgeted*



A NOTE FROM OUR BOOKKEEPER

All offerings must be received in the office or postmarked by December 31 in order to be counted toward your 2016 giving.



Fran Kirk
9974 Federalist Dr. Apt 311
Fishers, IN 46037

“NOTE”ABLES

“We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Hazelwood for organizing such a beautiful Celebration of Life Service for Jane Jack on December 4, 2016. Thank you especially to Rev. Jason Jones; Administrative Assistant Stefanie Petty; Organist Lori Rhoden; Sound and PowerPoint Masters Dee & Bill Moser; and Servers Susan Cartwright, Carolyn McShurley, and Molly Wantz. We appreciate you!”

~Alyson Madsen & Family

“Congratulations to Bill & Leah Ritchie on your 60th wedding anniversary-December 22. Thank you to your Hazelwood family for all the years of love and support. Hazelwood is a very special place with very special people. Life has triumphs, tragedies, laughter, tears, and times of growing. I want to thank you that the one constant in our lives has been your faith.

Thank you for building your family on a Christian foundation. Thank you for introducing us to God and showing us how important it is to have Him in your life.

May God continue to bless you both for many years to come.”

~Kathy, Jeff, & Josh Clary



My family, in 1985, ate Christmas dinner in a truck stop restaurant. My grandmother had passed away the previous month, and no one was in the mood to cook the dinner that she used to have the largest hand in making, so we all went to the only place that was open, the Tri-County Truck Stop Restaurant (which has been subsequently shut-down for health code violations—really, you can’t make this stuff up). I was only 14 then, and the memories are vague, but I remember my immediate family, along with my grandpa, aunts, uncles, and cousins, all sitting down for Christmas dinner at the truck stop. Grief was still fresh, and we were at a place that certainly didn’t pass for a nice restaurant, but we still had Christmas dinner together.

Jesus came to us, the gospel of Luke tells us, in humble ways. It wasn’t in palaces or swanky surroundings that Jesus came to us. He arrived to a family that didn’t even have a hotel room for the night. I can imagine Mary and Joseph seeing the manger, which would have to substitute for a crib, and saying, “Well, I guess we’ll have to make do.” Most families have a story or two like this, though, of having to make the best when not everything is perfect; there are Christmases spent in hospital rooms, years when not much is under the tree, holiday meals where someone is noticeably absent. We all probably have a story of having to do the best with what we had, substituting a manger for a crib or a truck stop meal for a holiday dinner.

Jesus meets us in those places. The good news we celebrate in Christmas is *Christ came to us*, not when everything was perfect, but in less than perfect surroundings. I heard Disciples preacher, Fred Craddock, often say Jesus flipped the common notion of the time around. People thought, “When the Messiah comes, there will be no more misery.” Instead, Jesus changed it to “Where there is misery, there is the Messiah.” And in the midst of that darkness, he is light. So, whether you are celebrating Christmas in a truck stop or around an overflowing table, whether you’ve got more than enough or you are having to make do with just a manger, I hope this Christmas you’ll meet Jesus, who journeys with us through whatever darkness we find to God’s light.

Grace & peace,
Jason Jones

SNOW DAYS!

As beautiful as newly-fallen snow is, it can result in dangerous conditions if not diligently removed, which is a huge undertaking for our two dedicated grounds keepers! Despite their pre-dawn start, it is simply not within the power of two people to plow the parking lot, clear all of our many walkways and entrances of snow, and get salt down soon enough for it to have a chance to have an impact on the ice, all before people start arriving for worship. With that in mind, we are looking for a few able-bodied volunteers who are willing to come to church early on Sunday mornings when fresh snow has fallen to help clear the walkways, including the steps leading up to the front doors.

If we are unable to find enough volunteers, we will have to prioritize snow removal and focus our efforts on the parking lot and the more frequently used entrances at the Rotunda and the north side of Cartwright Hall. That means when there is fresh snow on Sunday morning, the South-East entrance to the Sanctuary (red double doors) will be blocked off, and a sign will be posted directing those arriving to use the Rotunda doors.

If you would like to help out with this endeavor, please contact Stefanie in the church office at (765) 282-5969, or by email to hccspetty@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP & COFFEE HOUSE

What better way to welcome the Newborn King than to worship together on Christmas Day! We will have a casual worship service in Cartwright Hall at 10 a.m. on December 25. There will be brunch items available, so you might want to come a few minutes early to fill your plate!



The worship team will be hosting the brunch, but several of the team members will not be able to be present that day. If you would like to help coordinate things in the kitchen that morning, or even help to provide food, that would be greatly appreciated! Please talk to Marianna Gill if you can help that day.



"I suspected it was done that way."

CHRISTMAS BOX PROJECT

Thank you to all who helped make this project a success again this year! Hazelwood was able to adopt 30 families through the Salvation Army and purchase Christmas gifts for the 39 children in those families.

It takes a lot of volunteers and donations to help so many families and children: the Salvation Army screened and sent us the information for families who truly needed assistance this Christmas; Meijer donated a \$75.00 gift card to help with the Secret Santa Shopping; Marsh helped us to order food for the families and delivered the food to the church; several of the ladies from Ball State's Women Basketball team helped put boxes together and pack the non-perishable food on Thursday, December 15.

All of those groups were a big help, but the heroes are you, Hazelwood. Without the support you gave throughout the entire process, we would not have been able to adopt these families and provide them with much-needed Christmas help. You volunteered your time to raise money, make phone calls, shop for toys, wrap presents, pack food, and deliver boxes. You donated ribbons, bows, wrapping paper, and special gifts for the children. And you gave financial support to help purchase the food and gifts for our families.

This past Saturday, the boxes were all delivered, along with a little Christmas hope and cheer to our families. But our work is not quite over, and we can still use your help! We are only \$505.32 away from meeting our financial goal for the Christmas Box Project this year. If you would like to donate toward this truly worthy cause, drop your donation in the offering plate or bring it by the church office. Please label your donation, "Christmas Box Project."

CHRISTMAS CARDS

If you would like to distribute Christmas cards to your Hazelwood family without postage, two wooden boxes have been given to us for that purpose. You may drop your greeting cards in the box, using the alphabet dividers. The boxes will be in the Rotunda. This is an easy and economical way to share greetings during the Christmas season. Our thanks to Bill Ritchie for the creation of these beautiful boxes.





Preschool NEWS

In this season of giving thanks and anticipation of the coming of the Christ Child, I would like to thank each and every one of you for allowing me to serve as your Preschool Director. It is a blessing to be part of such tradition here at Hazelwood, and to see the many families that return year after year for quality education for their preschoolers.

We are all called to be the hands and feet of Jesus, and I believe that is exactly what we are striving for at Hazelwood Christian Preschool! You see, Jesus is at work here at Hazelwood each and every day as the children learn and grow in the love of Jesus! Thanks to each one of the teachers and assistants for loving these precious children and the families we serve. God has chosen you specially for a very important role—to share the good news of Jesus Christ!

God Bless you,
Angela Lopez, Preschool Director

Christmas Program

I would like to thank everyone who attended our Christmas Program on December 15. We had a wonderful time sharing our songs and celebrating the Christmas Season together! Thank you so much to those of you who brought cookies for our program.

Thank you

Thank you to all of those who have so generously donated your time, supplies, financial support, and, most of all, your prayers. It is because of you that our Preschool has grown so much this year. We are eternally grateful for your love of this ministry.

Looking Ahead

Dec. 22– Jan. 4	Christmas Break
Jan. 5	Classes Resume
Jan. 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School
Jan. 23	Chapel, 9:10 a.m. & 12:40 p.m., 4-5 Year Old Classes
Jan. 26	Chapel, 9:10 a.m. & 12:40 p.m., 3-4 Year Old Classes



YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY & OVERNIGHT

Plans are well underway for our annual Youth Christmas Party and Overnight on Friday, December 30. We'll jump-start the night with a trip to the Sky Zone. When we return to the church, we'll have a gift exchange, watch movies, play games, and so much more! Don't forget to invite a friend or two—the more the merrier!

RSVP by Sunday, December 24 by email or text to Rev. James so we can plan for the rides and reservations for Sky Zone... and have enough snacks to last the night!!

YOUTH SPONSORS

I want to thank our dedicated Youth Sponsors who have helped me over this past year with youth activities, All-Youth Fellowships, bible studies, fundraisers, and the Youth Mission Trip. John and Jill Clark joined us and were a great help in planning, raising money for, and leading parts of the Youth Mission Trip. Mariangella Glaze, Andy Rees, and Wendy Rees have been our long-time Youth Sponsors, helping in all areas of youth ministry. They have also been very important as I am away completing my student pastoring for seminary and ordination.

As we move into 2017, I want to invite any in our congregation who may have a desire to serve as a Youth Sponsor to contact me. As our youth ministry grows, it takes many hands and many minds to plan, coordinate, and implement our many activities.

Our youth are the future of the church. What better way to shape that future for the better than to invest our time today!

~James Petty

JONES SCHOLARSHIP

C. Darrell and Edith Jones Scholarship applications are now available in the Rotunda and Fellowship House. Applicants, or their parents, must be a church member for at least two years. Deadline for submission is **March 1, 2017**. For more information, contact Mary Ann Matchett at mrsstiky@comcast.net.



Missions Update continued...

Volunteer Opportunities



DISBURSEMENTS

- ♦ Christian Ministries, \$200
- ♦ Christmas Box Project, \$200

HAZELWOOD ANGELS

Thanks to the Hazlewood “Ding-a-Lings” - those who will ring bells on Christmas Eve for the Salvation Army: Shirley Bookout, Donna Browne, Jay & Mary Ann Matchett, Glen Sulanke, Andy, Wendy, Brynmar, & Jairen Rees, Bob & Sue Weller, and Ann Wolfe.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES' SLEEPING ROOM

The Missions & Benevolence Team is sponsoring a week of meals for the Men's Sleeping Room of Christian Ministries during the week of **January 15-21, 2017**. Each day, we will provide two meals: breakfast from 6-7:30 a.m., and supper from 6-7:30 p.m. Participants are encouraged to bring food already prepared, or you may fix what is available at the shelter. We will need to know when you sign up if you are providing food for your meal. Also, financial help is always welcome.

Sign-up begins **Sunday, January 1, 2017**. Please prayerfully consider where you can help. For more information, contact Shirley Bookout at (765) 744-1207.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW:

MUNCIE MISSION'S 13TH ANNUAL WALK-A-MILE IN MY SHOES

Saturday, **February 11, 2017** (inclement weather date: February 18): All proceeds support the Muncie Mission. The purpose of the Walk is to take a step into the struggles facing the homeless. It also serves to extend the purpose of the Muncie Mission, which is to provide compassionate rescue services on an immediate and/or long-term basis to the poor and needy in East Central Indiana.

Sign-up begins **Sunday, January 15, 2017**. You can sign up to walk or to support a walker with your contribution. Their hope depends on us. Prayerfully consider where you can help.



Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure, it will be measured for you in return.

Luke 6:38

~Blessings from the Missions & Benevolence Team

Continued on next page...



December 25-31, 2016

- SUNDAY • Christmas Brunch and Worship, 10 a.m., Cartwright Hall
- MONDAY • Church Office Closed
- TUESDAY • Praise Band Rehearsal, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary
- WEDNESDAY • No Bell or Choir Rehearsals
- FRIDAY • Youth Overnight Begins, 5:30 p.m.
- SATURDAY • Youth Overnight Ends, 8 a.m.

January 1-7, 2017

- SUNDAY • Worship Service, 10 a.m., Sanctuary
- MONDAY • Church Office Closed
- TUESDAY • Praise Band Rehearsal, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary
- WEDNESDAY • Elders, 5:30 p.m.
• Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m., Choir Room
• Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m., Choir Loft
- THURSDAY • Preschool Classes Resume

All events held at Sulanke Fellowship House, unless otherwise noted.



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat broccoli.
If I can't stand it, I'll give it up for Lent."



Looking Ahead...

January 15-21, 2017

Hazelwood's provides meals to Christian Ministries' Sleeping Room
(See *Missions Update* for more information)

January 16, 2017

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Church Office Closed

January 20, 2017

Men's Lunch, Noon, Cartwright Hall
Host: Charles Retherford

February 11, 2017

Walk-a-Mile in My Shoes

February 17, 2017

Men's Lunch, Noon, Cartwright Hall
Host: David Cartwright

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 4 Kara Tucker | 15 Brayton Conley | 25 Lori Rhoden |
| 7 Tonya Dunsmore | 17 Donna Dye | 26 Jay Matchett |
| 8 Rachel Tucker | 18 Linda Roberts | 27 Bob Purtlebaugh |
| Alexis Brant | 21 Zachary Foster | 29 Josh Clary |
| 9 Stefanie Petty | 22 Bill Moser | Andrew Glaze |
| 10 Evan Conley | 23 Lois Gross | 30 Andrew Rowe |
| 14 Michael Heavilon | 24 Cathy Purtlebaugh | |

If your name has been inadvertently left off, call the church office at 282-5969.

