

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
Tony Gill, Moderator
Sunday Schedule: Worship Service, 10 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship, 11:15 a.m.
Adult Church School, 11:30 a.m.
Children Church School, 10:10 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 4 & 18, 2018

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



HAZELWOOD LEAVES

December 21, 2017



*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from the Hazelwood Staff*

*Rev. Jason Rev. James
Marianna Stefanie Rhea
Lori Sally
John Judy Randy
Angie*

BUDGET UPDATE

Offerings Received for Week Ending 12/12/17: \$4,940.50
Offerings Received for Week Ending 12/19/17: \$5,874.50

Average Offering for Last Five Weeks: \$5,705.34
Average Weekly Need: \$5,790

Jan.-Oct 2017 Offerings Compared to Budget: (\$8,106.03)*
**Reflects the amount received UNDER Budget*



We pastors are often focused on running things around church, and we don't give ourselves room to experience what's happening. During Sunday morning worship, I'm usually thinking about what needs to happen next and what I need to do to make that thing happen. When that's my focus I don't have a lot of space in my heart to experience the good happening in our worship. I get caught up in what I have to do, and I often miss the beauty happening all around me. There are moments, though, where the power of what we're doing breaks through and my eyes are opened to what God is doing.

On Christmas Eve, a couple of years ago, I had a moment like that. We shared in the lighting of the candles, and we were singing *Silent Night*. I saw the light from my own candle, and the room was filled with the light from all our candles, and the light we shared was lit from the Christ Candle. I thought, "This light is enough." It doesn't matter how dark the world becomes, the light we have and share through Christ is enough. We talk ourselves into a sullen negativity, convincing ourselves the darkness is winning, but I saw on that Christmas Eve the light we know and live and share—the light we see in Christ—is enough.

So I hope you see that light this Christmas. Whether you've had a good year or a not-so-good year, whether you're looking forward to good things in the next year or if what 2018 may bring has you terrified, know what we celebrate at Christmas: Christ's light shines and overcomes the darkness, and that light is enough.

Grace & peace,
Jason Jones



P.S. Thank you so much for the generosity the church has shown in helping my wife and I bring a foster child into our home. We were overwhelmed with the gifts we received from family, friends, and the church that helped us welcome this little guy into our home. Thank you all!

A NOTE FROM OUR BOOKKEEPER



All offerings must be received in the office or postmarked by December 30 in order to be counted toward your 2017 giving.



- ♦ Mauri Mangas is a patient at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital.
- ♦ Andy Rees is back home recovering after a stay in the hospital.
- ♦ Our thanks to Julie Thomas, Rachel Smith, the Hazelwood children, and their families, for bringing us the Living Nativity during the worship service on December 17.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

4 Kara Tucker	15 Brayton Conley	24 Cathy Purtlebaugh
7 Tonya Dunsmore	17 Donna Dye	25 Lori Rhoden
8 Rachel Tucker	18 Linda Roberts	26 Jay Matchett
Alexis Brant	19 Kent Farra	27 Bob Purtlebaugh
9 Stefanie Petty	21 Zachary Foster	29 Josh Clary
10 Evan Conley	22 Bill Moser	Andrew Glaze
14 Michael Heavilon	23 Lois Gross	30 Andrew Rowe



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

CHRISTMAS BOX PROJECT

The Christmas Box Project was a great success again! This year, Hazelwood adopted 30 families, with 39 children among them, through the Salvation Army.

It takes a lot of volunteers and donations to help so many families: the Salvation Army screened and sent us the information for families who truly needed assistance this Christmas; Meijer donated a \$500.00 gift card to help with the Secret Santa Shopping; Aldi helped us to order food for the families.

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 this 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 these families.

Special thanks to Kent, Stephanie, Ashlyn, & Jaxon Farra, who helped not only with bringing the food from Aldi to the church on both Thursday and Saturday (no small task!), but also helped to coordinate the packing of the non-perishable food on Thursday. They had a great group of hard-working volunteers to help them along the way: Dennis Holmes; Jay & Mary Ann Matchett; Carolyn McShurley; Stefanie & Logan Petty; Bill Ritchie; Bob & Sue Weller along with their grandchildren, Cameron, Reid, & Molly Webber; and Ann Wolfe.

On Saturday, the perishable food was packaged up, and everything was delivered by Shirley Bookout & her grandchildren, Haley & Austin Herr; Don & Cheryl Cruse; Kent, Stephanie, Ashlyn, & Jaxon Farra; Daniel, Heather, & Emma Kruger; Jay Matchett; Yeno Matuka; Rev. James Petty; Jason, Bethany, Landon, & Maggie Ratts; Jim & Nancy Reece; and Bob & Sue Weller with their grandsons, Cameron & Reid Webber. This fine group not only delivered food and toys to these families, they also brought with them some much-needed Christmas hope and cheer.

With the loss of Marsh Supermarkets, the Christmas Box Project was a little different this year, and we weren't quite sure what to expect in working with Aldi for the first time. It turns out the amazing staff and low prices at Aldi, coupled with Meijer's very generous donation of a \$500 gift card to apply to the toy purchases, allowed us to accomplish our task of bringing Christmas to all 30 of our families this year UNDER budget! This means that next year we will be able to plan on helping to provide some much-needed help to even more local families. What a great Christmas Blessing!

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

"Thank you for your kindness in sending me the lovely poinsettia. I shall enjoy it every day."

~Sue Gaylor

"Dear Hazelwood Family,

Thank you very much for the Christmas poinsettia. It brightens our room nicely, and it is such a thoughtful gift to receive this special season. Merry Christmas and Blessings to you all."

~Bill & Pat Patterson

NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP & BRUNCH!

What better way to welcome the New Year than to worship together on New Year's Eve! We will have our worship service in Cartwright Hall at 10 a.m. on December 31.

You are invited to bring your favorite brunch item to share, but you do not NEED to provide anything. Let us ring in the New Year and give thanks for the past year! God is good.

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! When snow falls on a Sunday morning, it is simply not within the power of two people (despite a pre-dawn start) 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 clearing the parking lot and the more frequently used entrances at Sulanke Commons and the north side of Cartwright Hall. That means when there is fresh snow on Sunday morning, the southeast entrance to the Sanctuary (red double doors) will be blocked off, and a sign will be posted directing those arriving to use the Sulanke Commons 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.

Preschool

“At 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! 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!”

~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 for those of you who brought cookies for our program.

Thank you

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

Looking Ahead

January 4	Classes Resume
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day– No School
January 22	Chapel, 9:10 a.m. & 12:40 p.m., 4-5 Year-Old Classes
January 25	Chapel, 9:10 a.m. & 12:40 p.m., 3-4 Year-Old Classes
February 9	Teacher Work Day



YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY & OVERNIGHT

Plans are well underway for our annual Youth Christmas Party and Overnight on Friday, January 5. 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 31 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 Summer Missions Projects. Mariangella Glaze, Andy Rees, and Wendy Rees have been our long-time Youth Sponsors, helping in all areas of youth ministry, and their help is invaluable to me and to the success of the Youth Ministry.

As we move into 2018, 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 Sulanke Commons and on our website. Applicants, or their parents, must be a church member for at least two years. Deadline for submission is **March 1, 2018**. For more information, contact Mary Ann Matchett at mrsstiky@comcast.net.



HAZELWOOD ANGELS

STUFF-A-BUS

Volunteers for Stuff-A-Bus at *Payless* on Friday, December 15 and Saturday, December 16 included Shirley Bookout, Cheryl Crose, and Dee Moser.

NURSING HOME GIFT LIFT

Thanks to everyone who participated, we were able to provide gifts for 45 nursing home residents who otherwise may not have received anything for Christmas. A true blessing!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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 14-20, 2018. 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. Financial help is always welcome.

Sign-up begins Sunday, December 31. Please prayerfully consider where you can help. For more information, contact Shirley Bookout at (765) 744-1207.

WALK-A-MILE IN MY SHOES

Muncie Mission's 14th Annual Walk-a-Mile in My Shoes will be Saturday, February 10, 2018 (inclement weather date February 17, 2018). ALL PROCEEDS support the Muncie Mission. The purpose of the walk is to take a step into the struggles facing the homeless.

Sign-up to walk, or to support a walker with your contribution, begins Sunday, January 14, 2018 in Sulanke Commons.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES' FOOD PANTRY

February 28, March 1, & March 2, 2018 are Hazelwood's days to work at the Food Pantry from 8:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to help with a worthy community project. If you are able to help, or would like more information, please contact Jim Warrner at (765) 717-0544.

~Blessings from the Missions & Benevolence Team



December 24-30, 2017

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| SUNDAY | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worship Service, 10 a.m., Sanctuary• Christmas Eve Worship Service, 7 p.m., Sanctuary |
| MONDAY | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Merry Christmas! Church Office Closed |
| WEDNESDAY | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Praise Band Rehearsal• No Bell or Choir Rehearsal |

December 31, 2017 - January 6, 2018

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| SUNDAY | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worship Service and Brunch, 10 a.m., Cartwright Hall |
| MONDAY | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Happy New Year! Church Office Closed |
| WEDNESDAY | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Praise Band Rehearsal, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary• Elders, 5:30 p.m., Chapel• Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m., Choir Room• Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m., Choir Loft |
| FRIDAY | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth Christmas Party & Overnight, 5 p.m.-8 a.m. |



Looking Ahead...

January 15, 2018

Church Office Closed– Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 16, 2018

Trustees, 5:30 p.m., Chapel
Board, 7 p.m., Cartwright Hall

January 19, 2018

Men's Lunch, Noon, Cartwright Hall
(Host: Gene Dobson)