

Church Office  
330-925-2651  
Pastor Alex  
404-447-0273



# FEBRUARY 2025

## TIMELY NOTES



Milton Presbyterian  
Church  
250 North Street,  
Rittman, OH 44270  
(330) 925-2651

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### WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 am

WORSHIP 10:30 am

Sunday, March 2, 2025

at the 10:30 am service

**Milton Presbyterian Church**

**250 North St, Rittman**

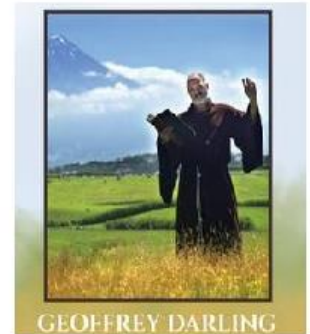
Geoffrey Darling presents *Mark's Gospel*

**A Fundraiser for Flat Rock Homes**

As a prelude to Lent, actor and author Geoffrey Darling performs several chapters of Mark's Gospel.

This year Geoffrey celebrates 25 years of performing Mark's Gospel, with an account of his experiences in *Beautiful Are the Feet*

- Freewill donations will benefit Flat Rock Homes Care Center & Community Services.
- *Beautiful Are the Feet* will be on sale for \$20 with \$5 of that also going to Flat Rock Homes.



GEOFFREY DARLING

For more information: [geoffrose05@yahoo.com](mailto:geoffrose05@yahoo.com)/ 330-819-8109  
[www.flatrockhomes.org](http://www.flatrockhomes.org)



### Congregational Meeting

**Annual Meeting is Sunday,  
January 26th at 9:45 a.m.**

**Please come! The 2024  
Annual Report will be  
presented for approval.**

## Community Meals



COMMUNITY DINNER

Monthly Community Meals restart this month on Monday, January 27th at 6:30 p.m. Our speakers, Doug and Jaquie Jensen, will start at 7:00 p.m. They will be speaking about their experience in international missions. We will be serving chili and salad. Hope to see you there!

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*The tempest comes out from its chamber, the cold from the driving winds.  
The breath of God produces ice, and the broad waters become frozen.  
Job 37:9-10*

“Last winter was so mild. I didn’t even have to shovel the driveway!” These words would come out of my mouth with some degree of frequency over the last couple of years when the topic of weather came up in the conversation. Well, I won’t be saying these words this year! This winter has been a real one indeed. Even as far south as Louisiana and the Florida panhandle they have gotten 8 inches of snow in some places. I hope you didn’t plan your January trip to Destin this year! Which means that at home, the temperature is in the negatives ...

When I went to wake the kids up on our second straight ‘cold’ day of cancelled school, I saw snowy frost crusted on the inside seam of our new, barely 6 year-old windows. Every little pocket where the cold air could come through found its way into the home. So inviting!

Really, I was grateful behind the pane of the window. Just a couple generations ago, I would have felt this a lot different. In our everyday lives, God’s power is often on greatest display through weather. When God chose to reveal his true power and scope to the mortal Job, it is written quite poetically how the tempest comes out from its chamber, and the breath of God produces ice. So described, I can see clearly in my minds eye an invisible hand behind the polar vortex reaching down to freeze the great lakes solid and cover the northern beaches on the gulf with snow.

Looking out of that window and seeing the cold only barely creeping in, I was reminded about how blessed many of us have been in this time and place to be shielded from this weather. It is not something I ever want to take for granted. It is also something that I am acutely aware of as I think about the suffering of others who do have to endure not just the cold weather, but a number of painful things. The cold creeping in the window reminds me of the calamities that Christ warns us of, creeping into the safety of our homes when we turn our trust away from God. God’s creation, so untameable and powerful, still includes the most powerful creature of all - humankind - and that is why our rebellion has wrought such dire consequences.

That is why, when school was called off and the world stood still, I took God’s cue to cherish the time that I have in the warmth, knowing that it was finite. I took time to think of my blessings as a glimpse of the relief to come, knowing that the greatest blessing lay beyond the chambers and storehouses of the tempests. The greatest blessing is a salvation that brings us comfort not simply here and now, but with the assurance of eternal life. This allows us to bear discomfort and pain and weakness most fully in this life, as Job had so experienced, and the frost on the window framed a small momentary picture of God’s eternal glory and salvation through Christ Jesus. Amen.

-Rev. Alex Barnes

***If you wish to contact Pastor Alex please give him a call, email or text. If unable to reach him at the office, please call him at cell phone number 404-447-0273.***

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## Officer Installation

**On January 12th, the following people were installed for 2 years to serve on church Session: Rich and Vickie Schumacher, Portia Haller, Ken and Cindy Mann. Thank you to all who agreed to serve the congregation.**



## BAPTISM IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD

**It was a blessing to be able to celebrate the baptism of Eli Hodges with his family on January 19th. Eli has been attending Milton Church over the last year when home from college. He helped with our vacation Bible school this summer. Please welcome Eli the next time you see him!**



I just want to take a moment to personally thank you for the generous donation of funds (\$800) as well as your help with this project that you gave to the Community Christmas Basket Project in conjunction with the Rittman United Methodist Church and the Milton Presbyterian Church. Without your donation, it would not have been possible for us to help the over 125 needy families in Rittman.

We were able to give a large box of food and a few small gifts to every child under the age of twelve for Christmas. The teens from ages twelve to eighteen were given clothes and something to enjoy. Your contribution was more than just a donation; it is an outreach of Christian love to those in need.

Thank you for all that you do for the community. Sincerely, Betty Winchell, Chairperson, Rittman Community Christmas Basket Project

## **FOOD PANTRY UPDATE**



It's the holidays so budgets are tight. Children are on winter break. Your help is crucial!

ITEMS are always needed for the pantry. Staples are needed. Usage has been very high! Currently personal items are needed as are pasta or noodles, instant potatoes, cereal, pasta sauce, canned fruit, peanut butter, canned meat, quick foods like canned stew, and personal hygiene items (especially shampoo and bar soap, and feminine hygiene products. )



Adult Sunday School begins at 9:15 a.m. Students are studying the book of Proverbs.

Tuesday Bible Study will continue to meet and discuss the book of Isaiah. It meets at 12:30 p.m.

During Junior Church, the children will be learning more about "Who I Am in Jesus".



**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Thank you for your continued support!  
Summary of Dec. Revenue & Expenses

Financial Update – Budgeted Accounts Only:

Income from month of Dec.	\$ 8,863
HeadStart Fees	<u>+2,400</u>
	\$ 11,263
Expenses from Dec.	<u>\$ 12,336</u>
Dec. Net Income/Expense	\$ <b>-1,073</b>
<u>2024</u> Net Income/Expense	\$ <b>-4,488</b>
Transferred In from svgs.	\$ 1,980

**Dec. 2024 Boiler Donations: \$290**  
**Total donations to date: \$ 51,660**  
**Balance of Lance Fund loan: \$ 13,211**  
**Dec. 2024 Roof Donations: \$150**  
**Total donations to date: \$ 3,650**  
**Balance of Lance Fund loan: \$ 32,500**

*Thank you for all your donations!*

Electronic giving services powered by Presbyterian Foundation.



**MILTON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

MPW Circle will meet on **Thursday, February 13 at 7:00 p.m.** If you are interested in coming to the meeting, please let Kim Hart know. Her telephone number is 330-612-3302.

Circle will continue their studies in The Presbyterian Women Study Book "*Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*" by Patricia K. Tull. This month's lesson is Chapter 5 "Air Quality".



A spring rummage sale is under discussion. Please stay tuned!

**Please consider donating to the repayment of the loan from the Lance Fund for the flat roof of the church. Payments to the Lance Fund started in January. Thank you!**



The next Youth JAM will be on Sunday, March 2 at Wayne Presbyterian Church at 6:00 p.m.

The Youth JAM (Jesus Alive Ministry) - our combined youth group with other Presbyterian Churches in the area, is open to all middle school and high school age kids.

**Muskingum Valley Presbytery has set the Per Capita for 2025 at \$39.60. The breakdown for their collection is:**

<b>MVP</b>	<b>\$25.36</b>
<b>General Assembly</b>	<b>\$10.84</b>
<b>Synod</b>	<b>\$ 3.40</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$39.60</b>



**FEBRUARY 2025****TIMELY NOTES**

*We Believe*

**Our Mission Statement:**

*Believing in one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, the Milton Presbyterian Church, as the Body of Christ, will carry out the ministry of Jesus within the congregation, within our community, and to the world.*

**To accomplish this mission we will:**

**\*Experience God's presence through worship, prayer, Bible study, the sacraments, fellowship, and service;**

**\*Demonstrate our Savior's compassion through our daily lives to those in need;**

**\*Give our time, our talents, and our material possessions to serve and glorify God .**

**\*Share the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed to all the world.**

*Moved by the Holy Spirit, our mission as a congregation of forgiven and loved disciples will be carried out in the Name of Christ.*



Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of Lois Middleton who passed away on Saturday, January 18. Lois had been a member of Milton Presbyterian Church since 2012 and had been active in the bell choir until they stopped practicing during the pandemic. Please remember her husband Ron during his loss.

Thank you for your donation to the WH Hauenstein Fund. Your Thanksgiving collection directly benefitted students in the Rittman Schools by Funding the purchase of clothing, medication, eyeglasses, food, and other basic needs. Thank you for your generosity!

Sincerely, Shawna DeVoe, RES Principal



**\*Please remember our church family members who are in our local area nursing homes:**

**Dorothy Johnson, Ron Steele - Apostolic Christian Homes, (10680 Steiner Rd., Rittman, OH)**

**Sally Barnes - Village of St. Edwards, (880 Main St., Wadsworth, OH 44281)**

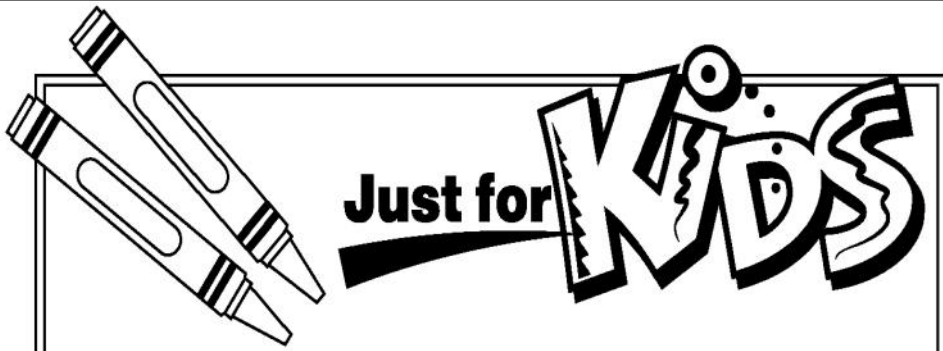
**Judy Twinem - Heritage Crossing Assisted Living (251 Cleveland-Massillon Rd., Montrose, OH 44333)**

**Jim Davis, Jim Roberts - Autumnwood Nursing & Rehab (275 E. Sunset Ave., Rittman, OH 44270)**

Karen Aberegg, Pam Ahrens, Brenda Arnett, Shawn Aronhalt, Dawn Bauman, Leigh Ann Berkley, Jen Bishop, Jonathan Bonilla, Josue Bonilla, Charlie Brandes, Boyd Breece, Levi Buxman, Jan Champa, Thelma Chapman, Marie Cole, Tanya Coleman, Mike & Mandii Cramer, *Bill Crawford*, Stanley Crawford, Michael Crawford, Lesa Crawford, Megan Crawford, Jamie Culler, Jim Davis, Nicholas Dras, Deb Easterday, Jordan Edgar, Scott Erwin, Darla Fletcher, Maria Fortner, Donnie Foutty, Patrick Gable, Robert Gardner, Marcia Geyer, Chris Goodman, Reed Heggie, Dwayne Hopton, Veronica Hughes, Madi Jackson, Lori Johnson, Debbie Keel, *Alexis Labo*, Kevin and Linda Lampar, Abbey Lentine, Chad Lightner, Lisa Lipscond, Bill Loebick, Bob Ludolph, Lauren Mackie, Laurel Mader, Helen Mann, Keith Marsden, Lisa Martin, Gemma Matthews, PJ Miller, Kristen Morris, Corey Mullinax, Denise Neeley, Frances & Joyce Nichols, Dale Owen, Ethan Porter, Sally Porter, Ron and Sue Price, Linda and Geoff Pyle, John Ramsier, Roger Ramsier, Sue Ramsey, Toby Rinaldo, Jim Roberts, Karl Rohrer, Pat Rossmiller, Haylee Rufener, Jay Russell, Linda Rutter, Betty Santmyer, Sheryl Saunders, Colleen Sheppard, Betty Shreve, Sarah Shreve, Lavonne Silva, Rick Singleton, Paul Sparkman, Verns Steele, Todd Stephan, David Stewart, John Swarzentrubler, Ella Thomas, Kelly and Holly Thomas, Bill Timmons, Luke Truman, Alice Widmer, Sue Wilson

*God Answers Prayers*

*\*Italicized are recent additions.*



*But the Greatest of These Is LOVE!*

God shows love to us every day and in many ways. Fill in the blanks below with the missing letters to see how God loves us perfectly!

“For God so lo \_ \_ ed the world,

that he g \_ ve

his on \_ y

begott \_ n

So \_ ,

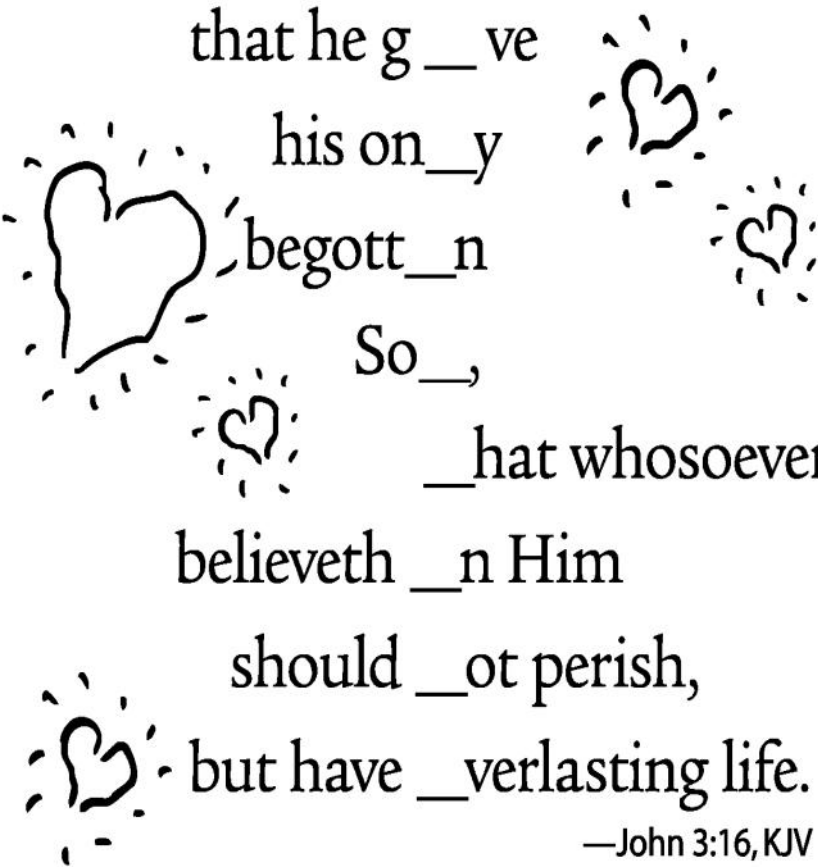
\_ \_ hat whosoever

believeth \_ n Him

should \_ ot perish,

but have \_ \_ verlasting life.

—John 3:16, KJV

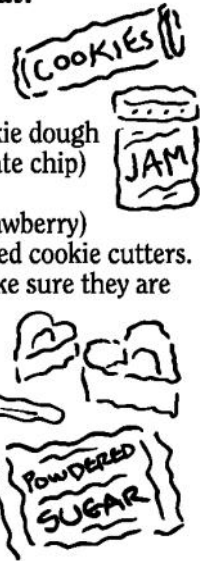


**LOVE TREATS**

Show others love by baking them a lovely treat!

What you need:

- ♥ An adult to help
- ♥ Refrigerated cookie dough (sugar or chocolate chip)
- ♥ Jar of red jam (raspberry or strawberry)
- ♥ 1 or 2 heart-shaped cookie cutters. (If you use 2, make sure they are different sizes.)
- ♥ Powdered sugar
- ♥ Sifter
- ♥ Knife



What you do:

1. Follow the cookie dough directions for rolling out the dough.
2. If you are using one cookie cutter, cut out the heart-shaped cookies and transfer to a baking sheet. Try to have an even number of hearts when finished.
3. If you are using two cookie cutters, cut out the large hearts. Take half of the hearts, and cut out a small heart window in the center with the smaller cookie cutter. Now you have a heart inside another heart.
4. Have an adult help you bake the cookies according to the dough directions.
5. After baking, place the cookies on a cooling rack.
6. When the cookies are cooled, make cookie sandwiches by spreading jam onto the flat side of half the cookies, and then placing another cookie on top of each one. (If you made cookie windows, use those for the tops.)
7. Sprinkle powdered sugar over your heart sandwiches with a sifter.
8. Share the cookies with the people you love.



Answer: valentine

# February 2025

## BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Adyson Cristino
- 6th Laurie Watson
- 7th Lincoln Boggs
- 10th Bob Bowden, Cheri Hall,  
Ken Mann, Mitchell Shreve
- 11th Bill Timmons
- 13th Christopher Schar,  
Ron Steele
- 14th Vallorie Farlow
- 15th Lindsey Millan
- 17th Rich Schumacher
- 18th Kim Rigas
- 20th Kyle Fetter
- 21st Emma Goodman,  
Alexis Labo
- 23rd Amy Phillips
- 25th Doug Schar
- 26th Dana Stanger
- 28th Cindy Vaughn



## ANNIVERSARIES

- 17th Gerald & Karen Aberegg - 52st
- 23rd Dave & Lori Rue - 6th

## JR. CHURCH SCHEDULE

- 2 Renee Basic & Lindsey Millan
- 9 Tammy Wilson
- 16 Vickie Schumacher
- 23 Angel Mackey

## FLOWER SCHEDULE

- 2 Nancy & Hal Leach
- 9 Marge & Larry Boggs
- 16 Christie & Jeff Yoho
- 23

## LITURGIST SCHEDULE

- 2 Ken Mann
- 9 Lindsey Millan
- 16 Sarah Knight
- 23 Cindy Mann

## MEETING DATES

First Annual Congregational Meeting - Sun., Jan. 26  
before worship at 9:45 a.m.

Worship & Music - Mon., Feb. 3 at 10:00 a.m.

Building & Grounds - Thurs., Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

MPW Circle - Thurs., Feb. 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Session Meeting - Wed., Mar. 12 at 6:30 p.m.

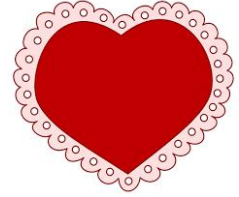
Hospitality Team - TBD

## COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

- 2
- 9 Renee Basic
- 16 Ron & Chris White
- 23 Cindy & Ken Mann



# February 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship  <b>SCOUT SUNDAY</b>  	3 <b>10:00 am Worship &amp; Music Comm. (Library)</b>	4 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library) 1:30 pm - Prayer Group	5 7:00 pm Pack Leaders (Parlor)	6 <b>6:30 pm Bldg. &amp; Grounds (Library)</b>	7	8
9 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	10 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	11 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library) 1:30 pm - Prayer Group	12	13 <b>7:00 pm MPW Circle (Parlor)</b>	14 <b>HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY</b>  	15
16 9:15am Sunday Sch. 10:30 am Worship  1-5 pm Eagle Court of Honor (Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall)	17	18 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library) 1:30 pm - Prayer Group	19 6:00 to 8:00 pm Free Laundry Day 6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting (FH)	20	21	22
23 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	24 6:30 pm Community Meal 7:00 pm Speaker 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	25 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library) 1:30 pm - Prayer Group	26 5:00 pm Cub Scout Blue & Gold (Fellowship Hall)	27	28	

**Milton Presbyterian Church**  
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