



# January 2022 Timely Notes

Milton Presbyterian Church  
250 North Street, Rittman, OH 44270 (330) 925-2651  
miltonpreschurch@gmail.com  
miltonpreschurch.org

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# Happy New Year

### NOTICE!

THE FIRST ANNUAL  
STATED MEETING OF  
THE CONGREGATIONAL  
IS SUNDAY, JANUARY  
30, 2022 AFTER  
SERVICES. PLEASE  
ATTEND.



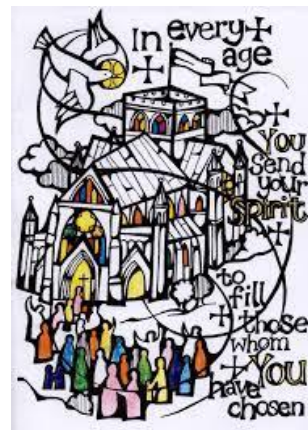
### **WORSHIP TIMES**

Sunday School 9:15 am  
Worship 10:30 am  
Available on Zoom,  
Facebook or YouTube

## **CHURCH LEADERSHIP FOR 2022**

A big thank you to our out-going Elders and Deacons. Elders Bill Crawford, Karen Aberegg, and Kim Hart and Deacons Linda Crawford, Linda LaBo, and Matt Cristino have ended their terms at the end of 2021. Our incoming Elders will be Linda Crawford, Donna Robertson, and Dave Rue. Incoming Deacons are Bill Crawford, Lindsey Millan, and Linda Lampar. We appreciate their dedication to the church for serving the next two years. Please pray for our church leaders this coming year.

Ordination services will be held Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. Please join us!



### **SONNENBERG STATION CONCERT**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> IN THE AFTERNOON WE ENJOYED THE UPLIFTING SOUNDS OF THE SONNENBERG STATION MEN'S CHORUS. THANK YOU TO THEM, INCLUDING OUR OWN PASTOR ALEX, FOR BRINGING US JOYFUL MUSIC TO START OUR CHRISTMAS SEASON.

### **VISIT FROM MUSKINGHAM VALLEY GENERAL PRESBYTER MATT SKOLNIK**

On Tuesday evening, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, Executive Matt Skolnik will be speaking from the Presbytery about the reasoning behind a pastor's sabbatical leave. The meeting will be both in-person in the sanctuary and over zoom. Rev. Barnes' sabbatical proposal will be voted on during our congregational meeting after worship on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

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*The LORD said to Moses at Mount Sinai,*

*"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When you enter the land I am going to give you, the land itself must observe a Sabbath to the LORD.*

Leviticus 25:1-2

Every time the calendar turns, we are afforded an opportunity to view the new year as a fresh start. All over our society, our romanticized hope that we will establish new discipline and dedication to self-improvement finds renewed purpose. We can *turn the page* on the troubles and difficulties of the *last* year and make the most of the next. Often, we see opportunities to take on new things and commitments, but in order to do this and to see new life, we often need to either change or take a break from other things in our lives.

Pending the congregation's permission, this year I hope to take a 3-month sabbatical leave during July through September of 2022. This time apart is encouraged by the Presbyterian church and is available to take after six years of ministry at one church. The purpose of this time away is both for the minister's growth and the growth of the congregation in different ways. Ever since I started ministry at the church 9 years back, I have been growing closer to the congregation in my role as minister. I hope that this is the year to take a step away from tending this *field* for a few months both to rest and more importantly see how we fit into the bigger picture.

The Lord, when directing the ancient people of Israel, spoke of the importance of Sabbath both in their own lives and in the lives of the land. Every seventh day, the people were *commanded* to rest, and to prepare for that time of rest ahead of time. Every seventh year, the people were *commanded* to stop farming the land for a year and let it lay fallow to produce naturally. When we look at this practice of Sabbath, we can immediately see the Sabbath as a time of needed rest. If we take a longer look into the command and its origins, an important element of the Sabbath is to see the *rest* as a wider perspective is established. After all, God focused on creating different aspects of the world in each of the six days of creation, but on the seventh day, he rested from work so that they *all* could be enjoyed and appreciated in how everything came together. Often, only when we get a break from working in our field can we appreciate how many different fields make up the landscape. Only when we get a chance to do something else can we understand how everything fits together in a natural sort of way.

In a certain way, this is true with fields that are tilled as well. Crop rotation has been an important understanding of the agricultural world since the beginning of the practice, and this aspect is present in a Holy way as part of the Hebrew law referenced above. For seven years, most plots of land are owned by someone and produces crop that the people want ... but for one year, that owner is to let that land rest as it naturally produces – renewing the land as part of God's larger creation. If the Sabbath time is granted, I hope to use that time to explore how other branches of Christianity and other churches worship, while also developing writing and reflecting in a poetic way.

It is important for us that each new year, we have a sign of this new beginning, because sometimes it can be hard to start afresh when so many of our surrounding circumstances stay the same. We get into the same rhythms dictated by the seasons, and if nothing changes, we can quickly become tired without even knowing it. That is why I also encourage you to look at your lives and commit to taking a Sabbath from something in your life, for the purposes of intentionally living in a more holistic way. I know that this is easier said than done, and often needs great preparation and support to do so – even if it is planning for a getaway or vacation or enlightening trip for a small period of time. Take the time to communicate and prepare, returning to your commitments with renewed perspective, dedicating both the work and the rest to God. I hope and pray that everyone commits to being healthy in 2022, and that the next year is one filled with great purpose and love – and hopefully a bit of rest that widens our perspective of God's presence and deepens our trust in God's amazing grace.

- Rev. Alex Barnes

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## MILTON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN MEETINGS

Thursday, January 20, 7:00 p.m.

Contact Kim Hart for information. Meetings are open to everyone. December's lesson will be chapter 5, "Ruth and Redemption" of Horizons' *"What My Grandmothers Taught Me"* by Merryl Blair. This study covers women in the Bible. Please join us for an uplifting study and fellowship time. Contact the church office or Kim to join on Zoom.



## EAGLE PROJECT



Brady Wachter, Life Scout, with Troop 405 is working on his Eagle project. He has chosen to create a nature walk on the church's wooded ravine. He will be removing trash and brush then laying out walking paths, one specifically for children. He plans to build a new bridge over the creek. Brady is working with Pastor Barnes and Ken Mann on the details. If you wish to donate money, materials, or time please contact Pastor Alex.

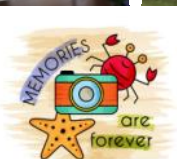


Thank you for all the support of the church in supporting the Milton Presbyterian Women's fund raisers. The MPW were fortunate to be able in turn to send donations for the following missions:

Louisville Seminar  
One-Eighty  
Living Waters for the World  
Hauenstein Fund

Rittman Cares  
Presby. USA Disaster Relief  
Habitat for Humanity  
CAMO

2021



**Annual Reports** are due in the church office by Sunday, January 9, 2021. If you are responsible for compiling a report for your Committee or Board within the Church, please email a report to [miltonpreschurch@gmail.com](mailto:miltonpreschurch@gmail.com) or bring in a hard copy to the Church office.





# Christian Education

## Tuesday Book Study and Sunday School

The Book Study group and the adult Sunday School class will be switching to a new study book beginning in January. The book "Start Here" by David Dwight and Nicole Unice is a view of what saying yes to following Jesus actually means.

If you'd like to join either group call or email the office - [rev.alex.barnes@gmail.com](mailto:rev.alex.barnes@gmail.com) or [miltonpreshchurch@gmail.com](mailto:miltonpreshchurch@gmail.com).



## YOUTH CHRISTMAS PLAY

Thank you for everyone who participated in the youths' Christmas pageant. Our young actors entertained us all.



## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for keeping up the donations! Everyone has been so generous.

### Summary of November Revenue & Expenses

#### Financial Update – Budgeted Accounts Only:

Income from month of Nov.	\$	9,808
HeadStart Deposit		3,400
	\$	13,208
Expenses from Nov.	-\$	9,636
Net Income/Expense	\$	3,572

#### Boiler Donation Update:

**Nov. 2021: \$ 720**

**Total donations to date: \$40,734**

**Balance of Lance Fund loan: \$30,786**

*Thank you* for all your donations!

## THANK YOU JR. CHURCH LEADERS AND HELPERS!



Offering envelopes are available now. Muskingham Valley Presbytery has announced the Per Capita amount for 2022 will be \$30.59. (This is the same as 2021.)

**January 2022****Timely Notes****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 according to God's gifts of them;*

*\*Share the Good New 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.*



Scott Kammer has a new address. Please update your directory to reflect: 139 Timberfield Dr. N, Lima, OH, 45807-9469.

In January, Bill and Sue Timmons will be moving to: 245 Heatherwood Drive, Barberton, OH 44203. They plan to be moved by January 14th.



**Milton Church would like to extend our sympathies to the family of Ed Sims after the passing of his wife.**

**Our thoughts and prayers also go to the family Karen and Art Oppy who both passed away in one month.**

**Friend of the church Rickey Wood passed away in December also. Please remember his family in prayer.**

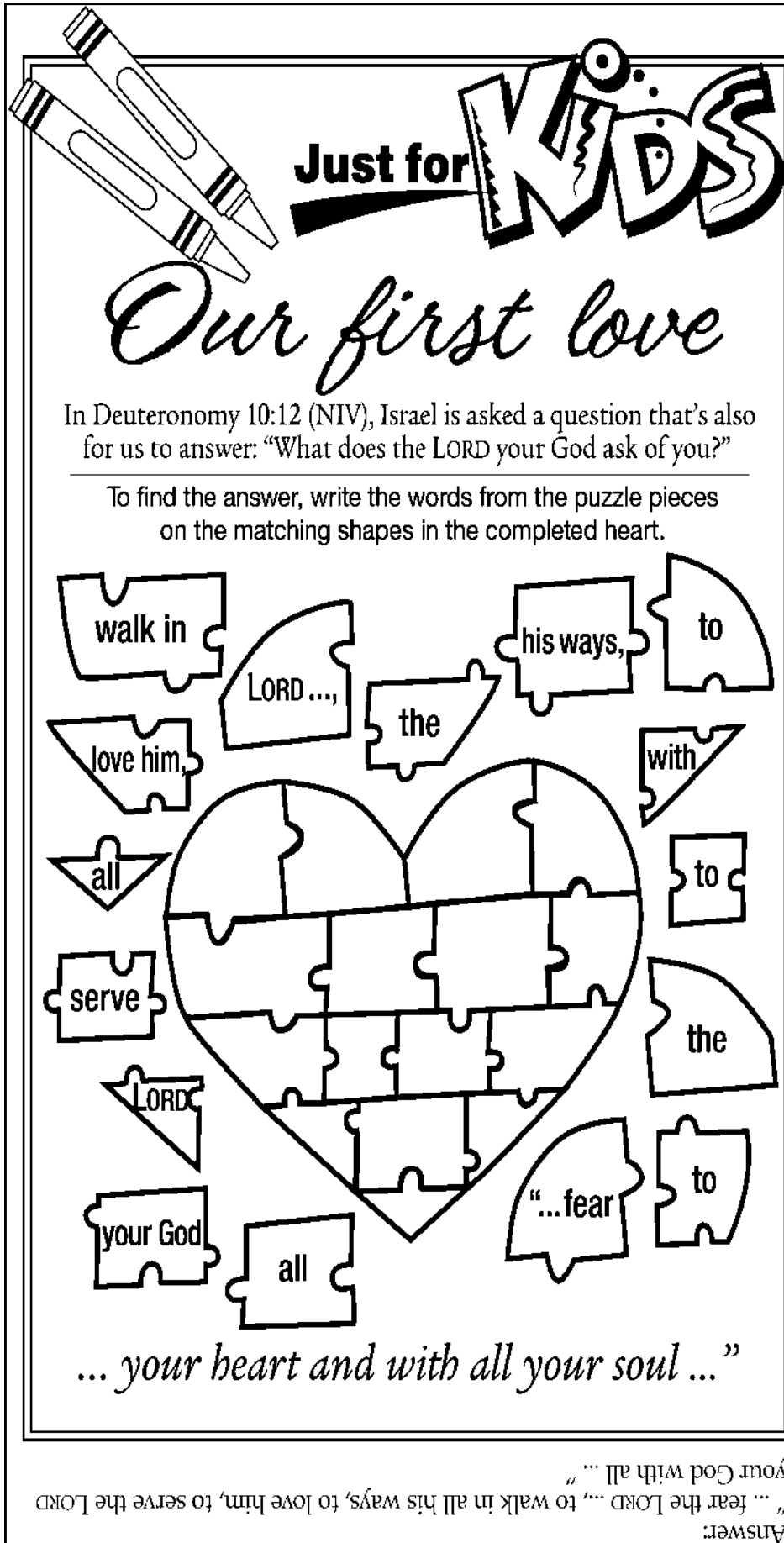


**\*Please remember our church family members who are in our local area nursing homes:**

Inn at Coal Ridge , (1300 Coalridge Rd., Wadsworth, 44281): Elsie Richards  
Apostolic Christian Homes, (10680 Steiner Rd., Rittman, OH) - Barbara Ramsier  
(10710 Steiner Rd, Apt. 14, Rittman, OH) Dorothy Johnson  
Oak Point Nursing & Rehab (130 Buena Vista, Baltic, OH 43804): Gus Brandes

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Dale Alexander, Shawn Aronhalt, Jessica Austin, Sally Barnes, Linda Beddow, James Bennett, Bill & Judy Beuth, Jane Bishop, Bill & Jackie Boak, Charlie Brandes, Gracelyn Burgess family, Pam Burres, Tanya Coleman, Mike & Mandii Cramer, Linda Crawford, Megan Crawford, Jim Davis, Dan Denino, Lonnie Fletcher, Donnie Foutty, Vickie Fox, Shawn Gammell, Marcia Geyer, Chris Goodman, Laurie Halliwell, Dwayne Hopton, Debbie Keel, Larry Kollert, Kevin Lampar, Tom Langton, Abbey Lentine, Bob Ludolph, Helen (Grubb) Mann, Lisa Martin, Gemma Matthews, Linda Melenbacker, Frances Nichols, Karen Peters, Barbara Ramsier, John Ramsier, Jim Roberts, David Robey (Debbie Russell's brother), Sancy Robey (Debbie Russell's sister-in-law), Bill & Donna Robertson, Pat Rossmiller, Haylee Rufener, Jay Russell, Kati Russell, Linda Rutter, Ed Schendel, Anne Schumacher, Tina Simcox, Rick Singleton, Ed Steele, Todd Stephan, Patti Stuart, Bill Timmons, Anita Vohar, Amy Wilson



**Just for KIDS**

*Our first love*

In Deuteronomy 10:12 (NIV), Israel is asked a question that's also for us to answer: "What does the LORD your God ask of you?"

To find the answer, write the words from the puzzle pieces on the matching shapes in the completed heart.

... your heart and with all your soul ...

Answer: " ... fear the LORD ..., to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all ... "

**\* A JAR OF \***

# Love and Appreciation



Sometimes we forget to show love and appreciation to people who are closest to us. Use this fun craft to let everyone in your family know how much you care.

### What you need:

- Plastic jar with lid
- Heart-shaped foam pieces
- Heart-shaped stickers
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil or crayons

### What you do:

1. Decorate the jar and lid with heart-shaped foam pieces and stickers.
2. Cut out 2" or 3" heart shapes from the construction paper.
3. On each paper heart, write what you appreciate and love about your family and each member. Have all family members do this, too.
4. Place the heart messages inside the jar. Fold them in half, if necessary.
5. On each day in February, pull out one heart and read the message aloud to the family.
6. Notice the changes in your family when everyone feels loved and appreciated!

# JANUARY 2022



## ***BIRTHDAYS***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Allan Mackey
- 4<sup>th</sup> Nick Cristino
- 7<sup>th</sup> Lori Williams
- 10<sup>th</sup> Chris Robertson
- 14<sup>th</sup> Judy Beuth
- 15<sup>th</sup> Karen Dodrill
- 19<sup>th</sup> Lockie Bodager
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Carter Shreve
- 22<sup>th</sup> Kim Stanger
- 25<sup>th</sup> Gabriel Shreve

## ***ANNIVERSARIES***

23<sup>rd</sup> Bill & Sue Timmons– 41 yrs.

Junior Church and nursery workers are always needed! Please contact Cindy Mann to help at  
(330) 925-2651.

## ***FLOWER SCHEDULE***

- 2 - Linda & Bill Crawford
- 9 - Cindy & Ken Mann
- 16 - Bill & Sue Timmons
- 23 - Open
- 30 - Open

Please let the church office know of address or telephone number changes. If your birthday or anniversary was missed or is incorrect we will gladly update our records.

**THANK YOU!!**

## ***JUNIOR CHURCH SCHEDULE***

- 2 - Tammy Wilson
- 9 - Vickie Schumacher
- 16 - Cindy Mann
- 23 - Angel Mackey
- 30 - Andrea Barnes



# January 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 
2 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	3	4 Noon - Book Study (Library)	5	6 10:00 am Worship & Music Committee	7	8
9 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship - Ordination & Communion 11:45 am Deacons (Library)	10	11 Noon -Book Study (Library)	12	13	14	15
16 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Session (Library)	17 	18 Noon -Book Study (Library)	19	20 7:00 pm MPW Circle (Library)	21	22
23 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 30 11:30 am Congreg. Meeting	24/31 31st-6:30 pm - Community Meal	25 Noon - Book Study (Library) 7:00 pm Matt Skolnik	26	27	28	29

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