



# The Chimes

Starting our  
**202nd year**  
doing  
Christ's

**Jan/Feb 2023**  
Volume 9, Issue 1

## CRANSTON MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A faithful community of Christ-followers,  
seeking to show God's love in our community!

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**Got an article, an announcement or some info for the next CHIMES? Please submit by Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> to Michael Findlan .**

**Call (513) 623-8272 or E-mail to: findlanmike@yahoo.com**

Thank you to all who have hosted our fabulous **Sunday Coffee Hour and Fellowship Time** events during the last part of 2022. Now we need volunteers to sign up for the months in 2023.



A change though from the past Coffee Hours is that we plan to have coffee (beverage) and some sweet snacks every Sunday after services. Then once a month (third Sunday) we will be asking for a volunteer to host a pot luck type luncheon offering a little more substantial spread of foods similar to what we used to do before Covid. Look for a sign up sheet on the Bulletin board or a Fellowship Hall table.

Now you are able to freely linger after church every Sunday, grab a coffee or beverage, a donut, pastry or cookie and talk to with your friends.

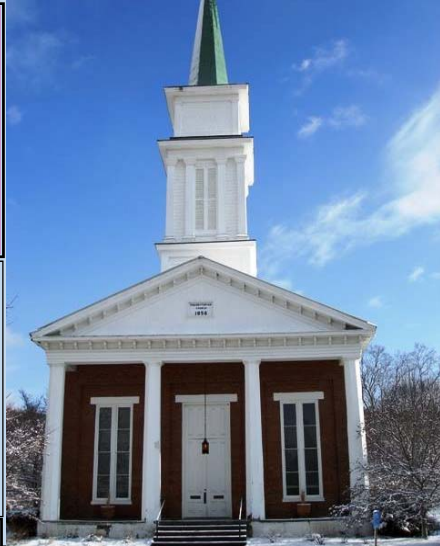
### **Liturgists! NEEDED**

The Session recently established having a liturgist present for worship most Sundays. The liturgist assists the worship leader, usually by leading the Call to Worship and reading the Scriptures. The specifics can change from week to week, having been decided by that week's liturgist and preacher.



The word liturgist comes from the word liturgy, which means "*work of the people*." The liturgy is the order of worship: the prayers and Scriptures and all that's involved in a service of worship. If you would like to be one of the liturgists, check with David Annett, or speak to any of the liturgists you see from week to week.

**We enter 2023 without a list of volunteers as Liturgists. Please volunteer!**



### The Art of Prayer

Recently I read a thoughtful reflection by the Rev. Timothy Jones about prayer. That led me to his recent book, *The Art of Prayer: A Simple Guide to Conversation with God*. That led me to <https://www.revtimothyjones.com/> where there is much more of his writing and his personal story. In what I was reading, he reflected on how children pray, perhaps not intimidated by a too-sophisticated expectation of what it means to speak to God. Searching for ways to encourage prayer in all, he turned to biblical images. One of his sentences caught my eye: "*Scripture abounds in images that awaken an expectation for relationship.*" Looking to restart your prayer life? Read a Bible story you enjoy, or any Psalm, and then sit in silence reflecting. When the urge comes: pray. That may be the best way to do it. Enjoy!

-Chris Torrey



The GIVING TREE was set up and decorated again this year by Jim Gibson. Having selected tags that specified various age ranges and gender the congregation stepped forward with approximately 80 appropriate gifts. These were passed along to St. Vincent de Paul by Mary Campbell for distribution. Many thanks and blessings to all who participated!!!

### **New Richmond Area Ministries News**

The Community THANKSGIVING DINNER was held Nov. 15th at the VFW HALL on George Street. NRAM served a very traditional Thanksgiving menu to over 80 people They enjoyed a really great turkey dinner and had a good time with fellow neighbors and friends. The VFW Auxiliary helped with set-up, serving and clean up. Various entities of NRAM along with volunteers provided all the food stuffs including a big array of desserts.

New Richmond Area Ministries then hosted the Community CHRISTMAS DINNER at the NR VFW Hall on Dec. 15th. This complete dinner was free to all that attended and featured turkey and roast pork loin along with mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetables, rolls, etc.. We again served just over 80 people. NRAM also distributed school supplies, which we have collected during the past year.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming **Community Valentine's Day Dinner** to be held on **Thursday, Feb. 16th**. This will be a complete spaghetti dinner served in the main hall of the VFW building on George Street. There will be a couple of sauces to go on the spaghetti noodles supplied by Gold Star along with rolls, salad, dressing, beverages and desserts. We will serve from **6-7pm** and close around 8pm. NRAM is sponsoring this free community dinner with Cranston Mission graciously donating some of the necessary dinner supplies.



Your donations of loose change to the Noisy Offering cans during November were most generous. More than



**\$190.00** was collected by the children! These monies will go into the yearly donation made by Cranston Mission to the Heifer International program that provides farm type livestock and crops, along with training, to very needy families and communities throughout the world.

**Don't forget to pick up your box of 2023 Offering Envelopes.** They will be found on the pew at the back of the church. They make offer-tory accounting easier for those who make the bank deposits each week. **Plus, at the end of the year you will receive a record of all of your contributions suitable for use when preparing your taxes.**



If you watch our services on-line you can make a donation by way of the tab at the top marked "Give to Cranston". Our on-line services are available by going to "[www.cranstonchurch.org](http://www.cranstonchurch.org)"

**CRANSTON MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Corner of Washington and Union St.  
200 Union Street  
New Richmond, Ohio 45157

Place  
stamp  
here

# January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>David Annett</b> Presiding	2 Barbara Pettigrew	3 Fruitcake Toss Day	4	5	6	7
8 <b>David Fisher</b> Presiding <b>Communion</b>	9	10	11 Step in a Puddle and Splash Your Friend's Day	12	13 Tammy Deweese	14 June McClure
15 <b>David Annett</b> Presiding <b>Potluck Lunch</b>	16 <b>Martin Luther King Day</b>	17	18	19 National Popcorn Day	20	21 Micheall Reed
22 <b>Chris Torrey</b> Presiding	23	24 Global Belly Laugh Day	25	26	27 Amanda Tompkins	28
29 <b>Jackie Pinkowski</b> Presiding	30 Bubble Wrap Ap- preciation Day	31	Feb 1st	2 <b>GROUND HOG DAY</b> 	3	4

# February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 <b>David Annett</b> Presiding <b>Communion</b> Tom Nelson	6	7 Wave All you Fingers at Your Neighbor Day	8 Steven Binder	9	10	11 Alyssa Honaker
12 <b>Chris Torrey</b> Presiding	13	14  Jim Price	15 Veronica Binder Audrey Jones	16 <b>Community VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER, serving 6-7pm at VFW HALL Free to all !</b> Bob Lees	17	18 Elizabeth Hill
19 <b>David Annett</b> Presiding <b>Congregational Meeting Potluck Lunch</b> Jamie Kidd	20	21 Lily Abbott's birthday is on the 22nd	22 <b>Lent Begins</b> 	23 Greg Roberts	24	25
26 <b>David Fisher</b> Presiding	27	28 National Chili Day	<b>March 1st</b> Nolan Kuhn	2	3 <u>World Day of Prayer</u>	4
5 <b>Chris Torrey</b> Presiding <b>Communion</b>	6 Meredith Lindsey	7	8	9 Jo Schroeder	10 John Bantjes	11 Kevin Murphy Pete Schroeder

Individual's name is their Birthday - - Church Events are underlined - - Couple's named are their Anniversary

Some "events" are spur of the moment or pending. Thus special music, a guest, a special event may not be listed here. Attend Church to know what is going on!

### More About Matthew

The lectionary readings this year are shaped by the Gospel of Matthew. Each week the lectionary has an Old Testament, Psalm, and Epistle reading, along with a Gospel lesson. As Dr. David Fisher explained recently from our pulpit, the preacher will choose one or more of these readings when crafting a sermon. There are many sources which will help you see the flow of the lectionary. One of the best is from the Divinity School at Vanderbilt: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/> The particular lectionary which guides many Presbyterian Churches (including Cranston Memorial most Sundays) is called the Revised Common Lectionary. Want a personal Bible reading program? Try reading the lectionary readings each week all year and then come to church to see what the preacher does with these texts!  
-Chris Torrey

Halloween is always fun at Cranston as it attracts well over a hundred kids each year. Mary Campbell puts in a lot of work setting this up and decorating the Fellowship Hall. Along with some helpers (Martha Misheff and Amy Heekin) she has a number of games for the kids along with plenty of treats and beverages!

Costumed Halloween kids enjoy Cranston's goodies and games




Mary Campbell hosts the always popular Cranston Halloween Party




Session and committee members! Please note that your year end reports are due in to Rev. Annett by Feb 5th.


The **Annual Congregational Meeting** is scheduled for February 19th after our normal Sunday services. The congregation will vote on a number of issues at that time. All will receive a copy of the **2022 Annual Report** which includes the 2023 Cranston Budget along with all of the end of year committee reports.



A very large selection of poinsettias were set out throughout the Sanctuary for Christmas. Many of which were donated as memorial flowers honoring loved ones. Thanks to all who donated!



The Lunchbox Program continues as a very successful and ongoing effort to collect and distribute food stuff to needy school children. There are many children in the New Richmond district who are in need of easy to fix snacks and meals that they can do on their own over the weekends. Cranston's Mission Committee automatically funds the purchase of food items on a monthly basis along with the efforts of NRAM. However the need is great and on going (150 bags X 52 weeks) so please contribute. Best way is by a monetary donation made directly to the Cranston MISSION.



**Don't let your worries get the best of you: remember, Moses started out as a basket case**

**Visit us on FACEBOOK ! Lots of other photos of our events. Like us on FACEBOOK !**