|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ANNOUNCEMENTS DECEMBER 3 &4, 2016** **PRAY FOR THESE**All those we name in our hearts.  **RESURRECTION PROMISES**We offer our prayers and support to the family of Robert Ansted who passed away this past week.   As Easter people we hold onto the promises of our loving and living Savior! **AT THE FONT**Cole Allen Shackelford, son of Ryan and Carolyn Shackelford, will be baptized at the 11:00 a.m. service. As he becomes a member of God's family of grace, he also becomes a member of the royal priesthood of Christ through his baptism. God bless him as he grows up in this identity and serves in Jesus name. **SPECIAL GIFTS**To Stained Glass Repair in honor of George Williams, from Becky & Doug Williams.Special Thank Offering to Zoar from Bill and Pegge Brooks in memory of our parents and also in honor of our wonderful church family at Zoar who ministered to and supported our family for 53 years. We miss you and have many great memories. God Bless all of you.    **SPECIAL OFFERING**The special offering for **December is Pastor's Discretionary Fund.** Please use your special offering envelope or a pew envelope marked "special offering". **HAWAIIAN LUAU**ALOHA!! Ready for a Hawaiian Get-Away? Fresh flower leis! Poi, Shoyu Chicken, Oven Roasted Kalua Pork, Pork Lau Lau and Tropical Dessert Bar!   You're invited to sample the tastes and traditions of Hawaii at a Zoar Luau on **Saturday, January 28, at 7:00 p.m.**  The $15 adult ticket will benefit PCU Food Bank. Learn the hula from our guest instructor visiting from Hawaii and enjoy fruity mocktails for a night of great fun, games, prizes and authentic food. Guests are encouraged to wear their favorite Hawaiian shirt and flip-flops. Chase the winter blues away while supporting PCU. Tickets will be sold in early January or reservations can be made through the church office.   For now . . . SAVE THE DATE!! **NEW MEMBER CLASSES**If you, a friend, or loved one has considered making Zoar your church home, then here is some good news! Please join Pastor Mike on **January 22 and February 12 at 7:00 p.m.**in the Conference Room. **PCU FOOD PROGRAM/COUPONS FOR WOOD LANE** Zoar's item **for the month of December is hamburger, tuna and/or chicken helper type meals.** Please place it in the cupboard by the elevator. Also, save for Wood Lane, your coupons and labels from Campbell Soup, Franco-American, Pepperidge Farm, Prego, Swanson, and V8 Juice & Splash. Put the items in the cabinet near the elevator. **PRAYER PARTNERS INVITE YOU TO PRAY**Each week the Prayer Partners invite you to pray with us for a specific concern.  Please pray this week for all who have been affected by the fires in Tennessee and the surrounding area.  Many have lost not only their homes but also their livelihood.  Pray that they will have the resources and strength to recover their lives.  Pray that in the midst of their trauma, they will know God's love. **MUSIC NOTE FOR WORSHIP**The lovely hymn *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* (ELW 241), along with its accompanying tune, WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, was written and composed by the writer/composer duo Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676) and Johann Crüger (1598-1662). In the words of church music scholar Paul Westermeyer, "the text is about welcoming the incarnate God who sets us free from our gloom, rejoicing." First published in 1653, this hymn exemplifies the next level in the evolution of Lutheran hymnody-a process begun by Martin Luther and Johann Walter back in the sixteen century. Namely, an emphasis on divine love (third verse) and a gentler, step-wise melodic contour (notice also how the last two lines in the melody echo the first two). Even though the ELW translation is based on the work done by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), the text has been substantially altered to reflect our modern understanding of divine grace.

|  |
| --- |
| **CHRISTMAS TOY PROJECT**Next Sunday is the last day to bring new toys, games and clothing to the annual Christmas Toy Project. This is a cooperative community effort led by the Perrysburg Township Fire Department and Perrysburg Christians United. Please put the items in the collection box in the Gathering Area. Cash donations are also welcome. Checks should be made payable to Perrysburg Christians United, marked for "toy project", and placed in the offering plate. The money will be used to purchase toys and gifts for older children and teenagers. |

|  |
| --- |
| **GLORIA: MUSICAL PORTRAITS OF THE NATIVITY** Zoar's Chancel Choir, Agape Bells, instrumentalists and soloists will present a program of Christmas music and narration on**Friday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m.** in Zoar's sanctuary. A reception will follow in the Family Life Center.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **KITCHEN OF HOPE CHRISTMAS DINNER** We will have our Christmas Dinner on **December 16, at 12:00 noon.** RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY!  |

|  |
| --- |
| **FEED OUR FAMILIES: SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER** Feed Our Families is hosting our first annual Christmas distribution **Saturday, December 17, 2016.**We have invited 49 families with a total of 135 children, which we serve during our summer distribution. Each family will be given a bag of groceries, personal items and a gift card for each child. However, we would also like to give the parents an opportunity to do additional shopping for their children, as well as give the children an opportunity to shop for their parents. This is where FOF is asking for your help. We are looking for the following donations:\*new or gently used toys for children of all ages, \*handmade scarves, \*like new jewelry that could be given from a child to a parent, and\*any other items that may make nice gifts from a child to a parent. We would like to have these donations no later than **Wednesday, December 14, 2016**, so that we can organize them for the distribution. Please place your items in the marked bin in the Gathering Space. If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact Tracy Rickman at 419-206-7927 or Cynthia Blubaugh at 419-376-1851.  |

|  |
| --- |
| **YOUNG FAMILY OVER THE TABLE UGLY SWEATER CHRISTMAS PARTY** **Sunday, December 18th 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.** Held at Czech's home26756 Green Ville Dr. Perrysburg, OH 43551Visit [www.zoarlutheran.com](https://deref-mail.com/mail/client/PhXsRJehFQo/dereferrer/?redirectUrl=http%3A%2F%2Fr20.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D001ye2rmZX1BDBL30RLneV6ioSfRNv6P_oTWs-p_VOG2Si4WWRUVOXu-CzTRAYEsuhEtss_a4vn0ZzOkE3PNLO7-LOElDKiKvMcXAlBZ-RS4lTOQfpx5dF5tv-dxOpCZXhBERXVRLMglaCziB5cuYrLAMXnb14UdHkxyrseH1KNonk%3D%26c%3DDL23F8Zbuwz_6w_QmPrIX-RDS9Q-bI6wk6wOiNAuH7V4mjrh1-aCmw%3D%3D%26ch%3DkyegUZnxlfMeoa8P3An1ExH-RXlgPsAJjieQvaijIYD5SMxmtwYV-Q%3D%3D) for more details.  Babysitting (by Zoar Youth Group), food, and fun will be provided, including a craft activity for children. If you are interested, a Facebook event has been created in the Zoar Young Married w/Kids Facebook Group or contact Heidi Meyer at 567-277-0269 or heidi.a.meyer54@gmail.com . RSVP by December 16th. |

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**It's that time of year!! Men's basketball will start up this **Monday, December 5, from 7:30-9:30 p.m.** For more information, contact Chris Reamsnyder at 419-450-6991 or chris.reamsnyder@champlabs.com**CSI (Christian Seniors Interacting)**We will meet at Abundant Life #2 on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. The schedule for our **next meeting on December 13, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** is:White Elephant, lunch by Toledo Family Pharmacy, Program: Music by Cindy Slu and Friend. There is a $1.00 charge for misc. expenses. For additional information or to make reservations, please call Phyllis Morton at 419-872-0846. The deadline is the Thursday prior to each meeting **ALTAR GUILD**The sign-up sheet for January, February and March 2017 is posted in the Sacristy. Please sign-up by **December 11, 2016**. Please remember to check your email later that week for the completed schedule. **CHRISTMAS FAIR TRADE**Next week Social Ministry will be selling chocolate bars after services. All proceeds will go to Sunshine Community. Thank you for your support!  **ZOAR BOOK CLUB**Looking ahead, for our **January 6** meeting the book will be "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Kruger. For more information contact Roger or Pam Shoffner at 419-931-4999. **PCU BLOOD DRIVE**Perrysburg Christians United (PCU) will sponsor a blood drive at Zoar on **Friday, January 11, from noon to 5:45 p.m.** for appointments and until 6:00 p.m. for walk-ins. **YEAR-END OFFERINGS**Your year-end offering needs to be in to the office by December 23rd. Thank you! **BIBLE STUDY READINGS for DECEMBER 7 @ 7:15 a.m.**Isaiah 35:1-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11 **Weekly Calendar****Sunday, December 4****7:15 a.m. Worship****8:30 a.m. Worship****9:45 a.m. Sunday School - All ages**9:45 a.m. Vision for Mission Mtg - FLC**11:00 a.m. Worship**1:00 p.m. Bowling at Rossford Lanes4:30 p.m. Rainbow Choir5:00 p.m. High School Youth Group - Top Floor5:30 p.m. Cantorei Jr. Choir  **Monday, December 5**8:30-4:00 a.m. LSS Meeting - FLC6:00 p.m. Flute Choir - M27:00 p.m. Social Ministry - Conf. Room7:00 p.m. Property Committee - L37:30 p.m. Men's Basketball - FLC **Tuesday, December 6**9:00 a.m. Quilters - FLC7:00 p.m. LLL Meeting - Conf. Room  **Wednesday, December 7**7:15 a.m. Breakfast Bible Study - FLC1:00 p.m. Rachel Circle at Abundant Life - Cookie Recp.1:30 p.m. Abundant Life II2:30 p.m. Heartland   6:00 p.m. Confirmation7:30 p.m. YAYA Meeting - Conf. Room   **Thursday, December 8**12:30 p.m. Men's Bridge6:00 p.m. Agape Bells - M27:30 p.m. Chancel Choir **Friday, December 9** **Saturday, December 10**10:00 a.m. Yarns of Love - L1 **6:00 p.m. Worship** **Sunday, December 11****7:15 a.m. Worship****8:30 a.m. Worship****9:45 a.m. Sunday School-All ages****11:00 a.m. Worship****11:00 a.m. "Just a Little Christmas" Children's Program**2:00 p.m. Pack 209 Christmas Party - FLC 4:30 p.m. Rainbow Choir5:00 p.m. High School Youth Group - Top Floor5:30 p.m. Cantorei Jr. Choir |