

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Donna Burdick
- 4 Cindy Thompson
- 5 Leslie Klein
- 9 Ken & Cindy Hicks
- 11 Gerry Piscola , Marty & Sally Belfi
- 12 Randy Kuhn, Diana Tyler, Buz Bokman, Robin Galvin, and Brandy Burdick
- 13 Sandy & Jim Hales
- 14 Nicholas Rodak , Antonia Spector
- 15 Ralph Thompson
- 17 Glen Thompson, Helen Waldken
- 18 Jeff Brunger, Doug Blaine
- 20 Holly Hill
- 21 Stephanie Szuch
- 24 Barry Daniels
- 25 Jan Brooks
- 29 Debbie Cihla

Send your birthday corrections and additions to the secretary at [neaton175@outlook.com](mailto:neaton175@outlook.com)

**CELEBRATE!**

## Serving at the Lord's Table December 2018

**8 a.m. Jim Galvin and Dean Galvin**

**10:30 a.m. TBA  
ELDERS: Jeff Hensley, Robin Galvin, Diana Tyler, Melissa Folk, Stu Hicks.**



To all my church friends: Thank you for all the prayers, cards, food and visits during my recovery time after surgery. I hope you know how much your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Mary Ann Daugherty

Thank you to Barb Galvin and the food basket team! We were blessed with two large donations of nonperishable food items recently through Can the Cruiser at IGA and a Midview East Student Council-led food drive. Barb and the team sorted through all the food, making sure everything had good dates and solid packaging, so it would be ready to share with families in need. They got it all to fit into the pantry. Then they spent time making up several food baskets on short notice to give back to Midview school families in time for Thanksgiving.

*Christmas caroling is Friday, Dec. 14. Meet at the church at 5 p.m. We will visit Life Care and Abbewood.*

## A View From the Kitchen

Praise God and thank Him for joyful hearts. The success of the 2018 Bazaar wasn't the dollar amount raised for the roof, but in the cheerful countenances and fellowship I observed. Greetings were sweet, people lingered and browsed to share bargains acquired and news updates after long absences. Lively conversations unfolded around the luncheon tables. Laughter abounded. Santas mingled with patrons and made "old ladies feel young again."

"Happy Birthday" was sung and a cupcake topped with a votive candle was shared. Children stopped for loved ones and enjoyed the artistic techniques shared by one of the vendors.

My heart is full of gratitude for those who planned and spent long hours collecting, setting up, baking, cleaning and who knows what else to assure success for this annual event. It's wonderful to see folks putting forth their best efforts and using the gifts and talents God gave them to serve God in the ways they know how.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. It's not about us. It's about Him. Let us revel in the blessings shown us. Now gear up for the next event!

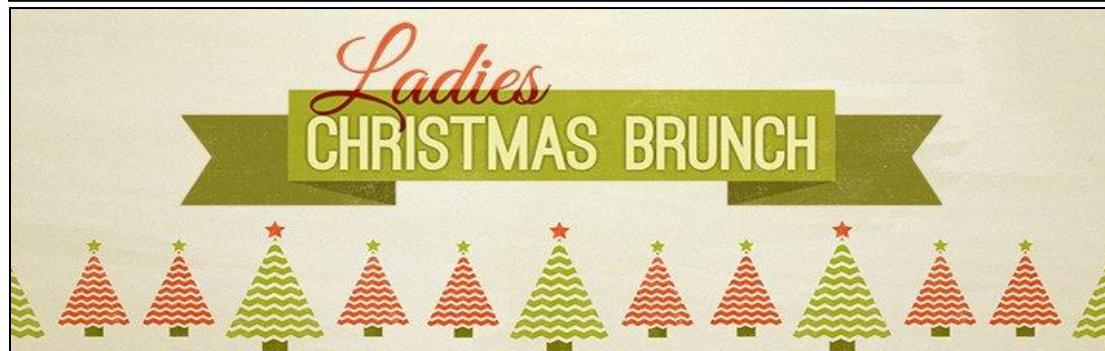
Pat Ables

### **Bazaar Profit: \$2,019.40**

<b>Kitchen:</b>	<b>\$579.05</b>
<b>Bakery:</b>	<b>\$406.50</b>
<b>Raffle:</b>	<b>\$555.00</b>
<b>Trash to Treasure:</b>	<b>\$483.35</b>
<b>Kids:</b>	<b>\$44.50</b>
<b>Table rental:</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>

*How ugly is your Christmas sweater? Show it off at services on Sunday, Dec. 23!*

IGA's 60-year celebration was a successful event. About six or seven grocery carts were filled with food and our food pantry. Thank you to everyone who donated food, came down and supported the event, and to those who moved food from IGA to NEEC. God has truly blessed us!



*A Ladies Christmas Tea will be held Saturday,  
Dec. 8 at 11 a.m.*

Ladies from the other churches in the Midview Area Association of Churches are invited and will be helping. The program will be presented by those involved in prison ministry. A \$10 donation will help families in need who live in the area.

## **NANCY'S MAIN STREET DINER**

**426 MAIN STREET, GAFTON**

Nancy's Main Street Diner is having a Christmas fundraiser on the evening of Friday, Dec. 7. There will be food specials, raffles, Christmas characters and general festivities.

The diner will donate 50 percent of the proceeds to North Eaton Christian Church for us to use to help local children have a very Merry Christmas.

Please support Nancy's so that we can support families who need help this holiday season!

Advent comes to us with promises of God's dream fulfilled on earth. None of us have a crystal ball by which to know where we might each fit in to fulfilling that dream, we know that in the coming of Christ at Bethlehem, all things were made ready for us. We rejoice in this opportunity to engage once again with Advent's promises of hope, peace, joy, and love, and to celebrate once more the song the Angels sang. Indeed we have much to celebrate, as we reflect on the Thanksgiving season that, for many, renewed our commitments to God's work at NECC, and renewed for our church the reminder of God's abundant faithfulness to all of us who have entered into Christ's mission through Baptism.

In the meanwhile, take in the wonder of the season of light, and pray toward the dawning of that light among us in the months to come. Rejoice in the signs of life among us—even as new disciples are received into the life of the church in Holy Baptism, and we reach out to serve through Angel Tree Ministries and our Christmas offering for regional ministries. Pray for those who will gather from across the community for prayer and blessing at our Blue Christmas observance, and those who may wander into our midst for one of the three Christmas Eve services. Embrace in prayer those who are assuming new responsibilities among us in leadership, and bless and thank those who have served well during an arduous few years. Rejoice with us that we have the potential for a more balanced budget and are now positioned to confidently take on the roof project.

In the early months of 2019, we will be discovering in new ways how we believe God would guide us. We may not see a great star in the sky, but we have the promise of the guidance of the Holy Spirit to see us through...to the *beginning* of a journey. We will be working to seek a vision for a new future that reflects God's dream for our community. In the meanwhile, as Advent begins, let's lean into a new year with a sense of trust that God's love for us is all-embracing, and that God rejoices in our preparations and celebrations of the Coming One today, just as in the generations past.

**Your Joy Is at the Top of my Christmas Wish List,  
Pastor David**

## **Community Christmas Tree Lighting**

North Eaton Christian Church will be hosting a Community Christmas Tree Lighting on Sunday, Dec. 2 at 5 p.m. Meet at the church at 4:45 p.m. We will step outside at 5 p.m. to gather around our decorated tree. There will be music, lights, cookies, and hot beverages.

Please invite your friends, family and neighbors.

## THANK YOU FROM EL CENTRO

As you will remember, a few months ago we made a donation to El Centro in Lorain County to aid in their Hurricane Maria efforts. El Centro sent us a thank-you letter for the donation. Your funds will go to support more than 250 families who moved to Lorain after their homes were destroyed by the hurricane. As always, thank you for supporting Christ's work through your outreach donations and suggestions. When we help others, we are performing God's work on earth. Thank you.

Stephanie Tyler

On behalf of El Centro de Servicios Sociales, Inc., I would like to express our gratitude to the North Eaton Christian Church for your support and generous donation.

El Centro de Servicios Sociales is a non-profit social services agency founded in 1974. The agency's mission is to enhance the socio-economic status of the greater Lorain County community by providing essential social, educational, cultural and community development services. Services offered include: meeting basic human needs, providing information and referrals, community health initiatives, representative payee services, and special services for seniors and youth.

The agency is celebrating its 44<sup>th</sup> year of service to Lorain County. In the last few years, we have added additional services thanks to the partnerships and collaborations with other organizations in the community such as ESOL classes with Lorain County Community College, citizenship exam prep classes with volunteers from Oberlin College, free legal aid consultations in collaboration with Legal Aid Society, Food Pantry and Summer Farmers Market in collaboration with Second Harvest, and bilingual mental health navigation offered in partnership with Lorain County Board of Mental Health, among others.

Your donation of \$2,000 will help support the more than 250 families from Puerto Rico who have moved to Lorain seeking a new beginning after they were displaced by Hurricane Maria.

If your organization would like to learn more about El Centro's services or volunteer opportunities, please contact us at 440-277-8235.

Thank you,  
Victor Leandry  
Executive director

Blue Christmas, a service of contemplation and hope for those struggling with grief or loss during the holidays, will be offered on Sunday, Dec. 16, at 5 p.m. Please share this with loved ones who may find it helpful.

On Sunday, Dec. 16, there will be a congregational meeting at 10 a.m. with a vote on the new budget. Council will consider and vote on the proposed budget on Dec. 9 at noon. Committee chair people should submit their written reports to Pat Ables before the council meeting on Dec. 9, and submit the same report to Paula Krasnevich

*Christmas Eve services will be held at 5, 7, and 11 p.m. Each service will be a little different in tone, but all will feature special music, the gathering around the table of Christ, and, of course, the lighting of candles. This is the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of "Silent Night." Don't miss the opportunity to invite family and neighbors to join you in God's Christmas Feast!*

We are in need of several artificial trees to adorn the fellowship hall. Please let Pat Ables or Sally Botson know if you have one (any size) to donate and bring to the church.

This Christmas, NECC is participating in the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree ministry, to deliver Christmas gifts to children of incarcerated parents. The program is designed to bring love and comfort to children who are lonely or missing their parent, and is an example of Jesus's mercy to those who need them the most. There are two trees outside the sanctuary with gift tags and gift suggestions for those children; the gifts should be wrapped and returned by Dec. 16. See Stephanie Tyler for more information. Volunteers will be needed to help with delivery of the gifts.

Thank you to Schild's IGA, Ohio State Troopers, Midview High Key Club (all those Teddy Troopers) for a very successful food drive. Thank you Robin, you did a great job in making it all happen.

And then, thank you to Midview East Elementary and Tammy Hammond for the many, many boxes of food from their food drive. Thanks to Polly for picking it up, and to Randy, Norma, Mary Ann, Laura and all the others for moving and sorting it all. We prepared boxes for 11 families.

We want to share what God has provided and especially want that no child or senior citizen be hungry. Bags of food will be available in the narthex for the congregation to take to friends, families and neighbors who may be in need.

**Barb Galvin**

*Thank you to everyone who supported the Youth Group's Election Day bake sale and bazaar candy sale. Your support with baked goods, as well as purchasing items, is greatly appreciated. Between the two events, we raised just over \$800. A portion of the proceeds will go to the roof fund. The rest will be used for youth mission and ministries.*

The Prunty and Haynes families would like to thank North Eaton Christian Church of the use of the Fellowship Hall in the memory of Robert C. Haynes of Dallas, Texas. Our families were able to share in the memory of Robert and have good fellowship time together. Thank you so much!

*DeDe Prunty*

Thank you for all the prayers, and for sending cards. It makes me feel much better.

**Hope Humphrey**

**Grandparents (grandfriends)**

and their grandchildren are invited to join us on Sunday, Dec. 2 for an afternoon of Christmas games, crafts, stories, and service project.

We will celebrate the Gift that is Jesus and how we can be gifts to those around us.



We are happy to announce that NECC now offers online giving for one-time or "subscription style" scheduled giving using your debit/credit card or PayPal. Watch for an announcement this month.

**North Eaton Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

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**DECEMBER 2018**

**Interim Minister: Rev. David Chafin**

**Christian Ed. & Youth Director: Polly Tallos**

**Secretary & Bookkeeper: Kathleen Willbond**

**Music Director: Miki Saito**

**NECC is a partner with Pathways Counseling & Growing Center** «NumberN3ZIP»

# The VOICE

*"Working together to make the difference that matters."*

**TO WIN TO COMMIT TO GROW TO UNITE**

**(440)748-2230**

Visit us at: [www.neccdisciples.com](http://www.neccdisciples.com)

**Sunday Worship: 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.**