

Memories of a Nativity Set



We had a nativity set that helped teach me the Christmas story. Lost in the sands of time, the stable was dark cardboard. It had a peaked roof over the manger with a flat roof above a side room. The cow generally inhabited the side room. The angel stood atop it. In the gable, shown a foil star. Bits of straw were glued to it.

Most of the figurines were part of a set. They survived young hands without breaking. A plastic camel with green blanket and harness, not part of the original set, was part of ours. We had an aforementioned cow. We did not have a donkey.

Looking back, it was pretty plain, . . . and it's probably exactly like the one a lot of you had in your house in the late 50s and early 60s.

On the one hand, these weren't toys; on the other hand, they weren't sacred, untouchable objects. I remember arranging and rearranging them. We told and retold the story with the various figurines arriving at the stable.

There were times we kids disagreed on the location and the order of the various figurines. Mom called it a "crèche". Dad called it a "critch" just to get mom's goat.

Looking back, it was one of the ways that I learned the Christmas story.

In pre-literate times, St. Frances of Assisi invented the crèche complete with live animals so people could learn the Christmas story. Most of us have one in our home to focus us on the true meaning of Christmas.

During the Christmas season, various persons and families will bring their nativity sets to church. Their stories will evoke some of our own stories. As we look at these crèches, we will look beyond them to the original characters themselves. If they could speak to us, I wonder what they'd say.

I think they'd tell us anew the Good News: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." (Luke 2:10-12 KJV)

Come each Sunday, come to the special events and celebrate this one who was born so long ago. Celebrate this one who has been born again in your heart. Bring your friends and family so they can discover and celebrate the Good News of the new birth.

See you Sunday,

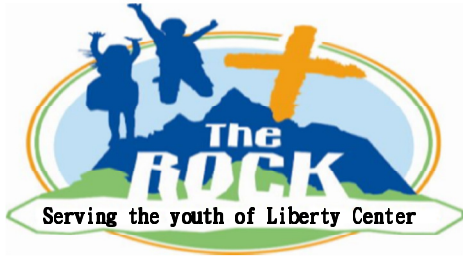
Pastor Brad



“As water reflects a face, so a man’s heart reflects the man.”
Prov. 27:19

UPCOMING EVENTS

12 /10 6:30 pm Caroling (Please let Marci know if you have someone who would enjoy our visit.)
12/17 7:00 pm Sr. YF Christmas Party @ THE ROCK “White Elephant” gift exchange, wear ugly Christmas attire.
That’s all for now-follow us on Facebook/Twitter.



Tues. , Wed. , Thurs. 3:00–5:00 p.m.
Serving Grades 3–12.

Volunteers Are Needed

Please sign up in the Welcome Center Entry to
volunteer for this ministry.

The ROCK will be closed December 22 – January 2

“Broadcasting Christmas!!”

Program – December 14th @ 10:30 am

Revisit the days of 1940s radio drama! Listen to the story, as told by WJOY radio, as "Miss Placed" seeks a gumshoe's help in finding the true meaning of Christmas!

Program Practice Schedule

1st – 6th grades will be practicing:

- 1). during 10:30 service on December 7th
- 2). Wednesday, December 10th 6:15 – 7:30 pm
- 3). Saturday, December 13th 9-10 am (if needed)

3 yrs. – K (Kiddy Klub)

- 1). Wednesday, December 10th 6:15 – 7:30 pm
- 2). Saturday, December 13th 9-10 am (if needed)

For further information call Debbye Hoffman 419-533-6212 or Dawn Sharpe 419-533-4172.

Church-Wide



*Christmas
Dinner*

Sunday, December 14

Please join us for this time of celebration and fellowship
following our 10:30 service.
The meal is being provided.

Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry & Clothing Closet

The Pantry & Closet will be open Monday, December 15, 6-7:30 pm
& Friday, December 19, 9 – 11:00 am.

Days and hours for our new food pantry have been set: 3rd Monday of every month 6:00- 7:30 pm and the following Friday of that week, 9:00– 11:00 am. Six to eight volunteers are needed to help each time to meet and greet, set-up and takedown, help carry out food and to help people in other ways. The Clothing Closet is open at the same times as Bountiful Blessings. This is another much-needed outreach. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact the office.

Sign-up Sheets are now in the Welcome Center for the following ministries:

THE ROCK & Bountiful Blessings/Clothing Closet. Check It Out.

Needs for the Clothing Closet

- ☞ Boys and Girls Long Sleeve Shirts and Pants (all sizes)
- ☞ Infant Sleepers
- ☞ Men's Jeans and Sweatshirts
- ☞ Coats (All Sizes)
- ☞ Outdoor Winter Clothing (Hats, gloves, boots, scarves)



Please place your donations on the tables at the bottom of the basement steps.

The "Project We Care" Christmas

Please return items by December 7.

If you would like to help but are unable to shop, you may give a monetary donation. Please mark your offering envelope "**We Care**" and the amount you wish to donate. If you have any questions, please see or call Carrie Quigley (419) 344-4720.



Reminder to Cookie Bakers for "We Care"

Please have your 2 dozen cookies to the church by December 10.

Bakers: Susie Krugh, Cathy Leatherman, Pat Fetterman, Louise Dalton, Sharon Sharpe, Sherry Martin, Vondra Oberhaus, Teresa Bostelman, DeeAnn Shafer, Kathy Hartford, Viki Mack, Robin Carpenter, Rita Bare, Debbye Hoffman & Dawn Sharpe.

Beginning Jan 6, 6:30-8:00 pm
in Fellowship Hall.

Beth Moore
Bible Study of the Psalms

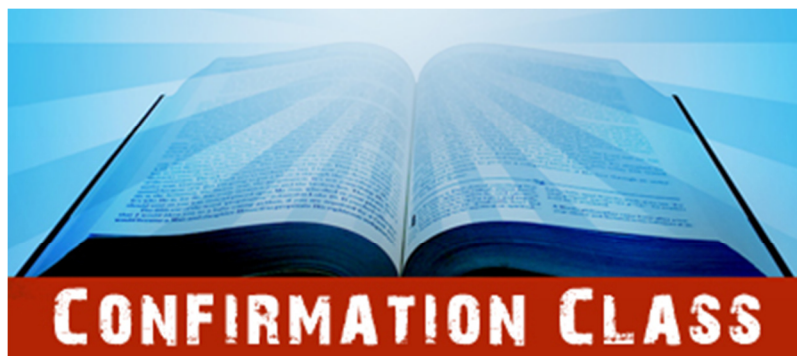
*"Stepping UP: A Journey Through the
Psalms of Ascent"*

See Dawn Sharpe or Susie Krugh to order your book.



Directory Time

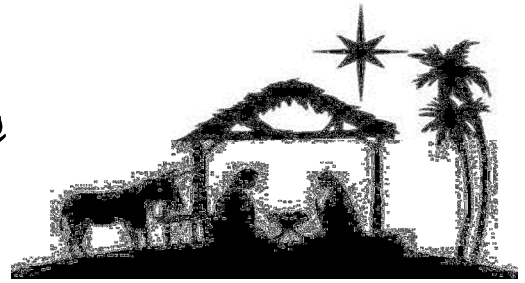
Do we have your correct address, phone number and/or email? Please check your listing in last year's directory and make corrections if needed. New to Chapel? There are registration cards by the secretary's office that you can complete and put in the secretary's mailbox. Call the church office if you have questions 419-533-2881. Last year's information will be used if no corrections are received.



Pastor Brad is forming a Confirmation Class.

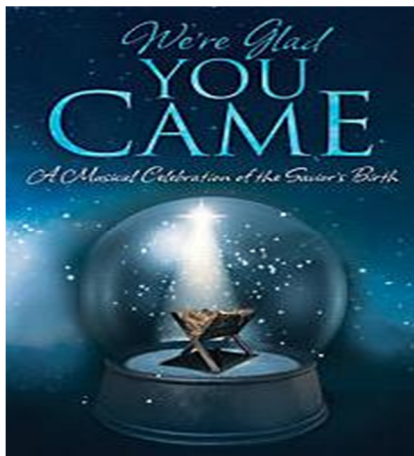
Please contact him if you are in the 7th – 12th grade and are interested in becoming a member of Liberty Chapel.

*Celebrate JESUS With Us
Share with Family and Friends*



Children's Program
Sunday, December 14
"Broadcasting Christmas?"
Performance at the 10:30 Service only

Christmas Meal
(Provided by the SS Classes)
Following the 10:30 service.



Adult Cantata
"We're Glad You Came"
Combined Services
10:30 Service
Sunday, December 21



Candlelight Service
7:00 pm
Wednesday, December 24



- † Family of Steve Goldsmith – (Brother-in-law of Arita Silveus)
Steve passed away Tuesday, November 25
- † Mike Collier – *Recovering at home from Knee Surgery*
- † Maddie Dishop – *pray for upcoming thyroid surgery on Dec. 19.*

† Chris Griteman – *recovering at home from injuries sustained in a car accident.*

† Joyce Schwyn- (Max Fetterman's sister) *Cancer.*

† Pastor Melvin Mozingo – (Father of Boyd Mozingo) *Cancer; prayers for healing and good doctors.*

† Orla Erford – (Grandfather of Trisha Carter) *Cancer that has spread to his bones.*

† Kerry Welch – (Husband of Linda Welch) *Home following removal of brain tumor; beginning chemotherapy soon.*

Please keep the following long-term needs in your prayers:

Ruth Gramling; Winnie Leatherman; Kent Spiess; Billy Sharpe; Ruth Whitman; Leo "Bud" Zenz;

Members of the Military and their Families, Our Missionary Families

Eric Gutierrez, Whitehouse Country Manor, Room #201, 11239 Waterville St., Whitehouse, OH 43571

(visits always welcomed)

[Names remain on the prayer list 4 weeks. For continued prayer listing, please resubmit.]

December Servant Schedule

Nursery Coordinators-Chelsea Howe 419-966-9312 & Joie O'Neal 419-533-3525

Little Lambs Coordinator - Kara Estelle 419-966-0242

	8:15 Service Nursery	Sunday School Nursery	10:30 Service Nursery	Greeters
7	Witte Family	Witte Family	Amstutz Family	Ron Zenz Family
14	Tom Atkinson Family	S. Clapp Family	Steve Bare Family	Jimmy's SS Class
21	Only One Service	Louise Dalton & ????	Gillen Family	Tom Overmier Family
28	Conner Family	Hamlin Family	Jones Family	Howe Family

Door Greeters

	8:15 Classic Worship	Sunday School	10:30 Praise Celebration
7	Andy Miller Family	Ron Saneholtz Family	Ron Saneholtz Family
14	Jim Vollmar Family	Louise Dalton	Louise Dalton
21	Tom Overmier Family	Shadday Family	Shadday Family
28	Laura Case	John Hartford Family	Jennifer & Jillian Clapp

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 – Cheryl Falor
 4 – Kenzy Kern
 8 – Alaina Kessler
 9 – Pat Fetterman
 11 – Brenda Saneholtz
 12 – Scott Slee
 13 – Karl Griteman
 Steve Seagrave
 14 – Allan Starkey
 David Hartford II
 Ken Silveus
 Sara Atkinson
 15 – Tom Tedrow
 18 – Ken Fetterman

20 – Taylor Sharpe
 21 – Zachary Bowers
 Ken Lee
 23 – Ninfa Starkey
 24 – Alexa Frysinger
 Mike Myers
 Cathy Leatherman
 25 – Logan Case
 28 – Linnea Mack
 Hannah (Witte)Kershner
 Ted Mohler
 30 – Lydia Mack
 Logan Mack
 Bill Quigley

31 – Alayna Jones
 Chelsea Howe

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARY'S

1 – Morris & MaryLou Myers
 4 – Zeb & Rachel Orr
 12 – Rick & Cheryl Shadday
 Terry & Sherri Shafer
 18 – Jim & Linda Vollmar
 23 – Mike & Cheryl Collier
 29 – Ken & Arita Silveus
 Ken & Robin Carpenter



Liberty Chapel United Methodist

Pastor Brad Martin

Church Phone 419-533-2881

E-mail: libertychapel@metalink.net

Web site: Libertychapel.net

9474 County Road V, Liberty Center, OH 43532

SUNDAY WORSHIP HOURS - 8:15 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:15 A.M.

*"A body knowing and growing in Christ so deeply that
He is overflowing to others."*

Returned Service Requested

THE *Wonder* OF
CHRISTMAS





Sunday Worship Times: 8:15 a.m. Classic Worship (Nursery Provided)
 10:30 a.m. Praise Celebration (Nursery Provided)
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. Classes for All Ages (Nursery Provided)

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 8:00 am Exercise 6:00 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Finance 8:00 pm Ad. Council	2 6:00 am Men's study @ Liberty Café 3-5 pm "The ROCK"	3 3-5 pm "The ROCK" <i>WNM CrossRoads Café</i> 5: 45 – 6:30 pm 6:15 pm Ages 3- Grade 8 6:45 pm Sr. Hi Youth 7:30 pm Choir	4 3-5 pm "The ROCK"	5 <i>Bell Ringing at Denny's</i>	7 7am Men's P.T. @ church <i>Bell Ringing at Denny's</i>
7 Worship With Us Communion Last Day for "We Care" Collection	8 8:00 am Exercise 6:00 pm UMM 8:00 pm Worship	9 6:00 am Men's study @ Liberty Café 3-5 pm "The ROCK" 7:00 SPRC	10 3-5 pm "The ROCK" <i>WNM</i> 6:15 pm Ages 3- Grade 8 Program Practice 6:30 pm Sr. Hi Youth Caroling 7:30 pm Choir	11 3-5 pm "The ROCK" "We Care" Distribution 7:00 pm THE ROCK team at the ROCK	12	13 7am Men's P.T. @ church
14 Worship With Us Children's Christmas Program 10:30 Christmas Dinner to follow services.	15 8:00 am Exercise 6 – 7:30 pm Bountiful Blessings & Clothing Closet 7:30 pm Evangelism	16 6:00 am Men's study @ Liberty Café 3-5 pm "The ROCK"	17 Noon – Sr. Luncheon 3-5 pm "The ROCK" <i>WNM</i> 6:15 pm Ages 3- Grade 8 7:00 pm Sr. Hi Youth@ROCK 7:30 pm Choir	18 3-5 pm "The ROCK"	19 9-11 am Bountiful Blessings & Clothing Closet	20 7am Men's P.T. @ church
21 Combined Services 10:30 Adult Cantata "We're Glad You Came"	22 7:30 am Exercise	23 6:00 am Men's study @ Liberty Café	24  7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25  Merry Christmas	26 Office Closed	27 7am Men's P.T. @church
28 Worship With Us	29	30 6:00 am Men's study @ Liberty Café	31 No WNM			