

Starkdale Evangelical Presbyterian Church Newsletter December 2019/January 2020

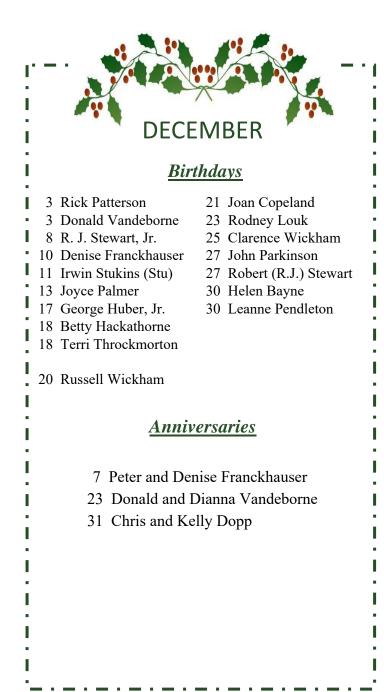
MESSAGE FROM REV. G. CARL MOORE

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

Mat 1:18-23 ESV

The term incarnation is a theological term used to describe the nature and person of Jesus Christ! The word incarnation means to enflesh or give bodily form, literally the act of being made flesh. This is what John 1:14 teaches: "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us." The word flesh means human: God became a human being! The Incarnation teaches two important truths: Jesus is God; Jesus is human!





Have you ever considered the beautiful irony of the birth of Christ—the Eternal Son of God becoming man? During the holy days of Christmas every year, we have the chance to revisit this irony and no matter how many times I revisit this leitmotif in Scripture I always marvel at the profundity of God's love, a great love vouchsafed in such a little package.

In conclusion, during this season of Christmas consider anew this beautiful irony. To help us ponder, listen to St. Augustine's ironic description in two of his sermons from the 4th century:

> Our Lord came down from life to suffer death; the Bread came down, to hunger; the Way came down, on the way to weariness; the Fount came down, to thirst. —Augustine, Sermon 78

He so loved us that, for our sake, He was made man in time, although through him all times were made. He was made man, who made man. He was created of a mother whom he created. He was carried by hands that he formed. He cried in the manger in wordless infancy, he the Word, without whom all human eloquence is mute.

—Augustine, Sermon 188,

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Carl



STARKDALE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON DECEMBER 10, 2019 11:30 A.M.

Starkdale Presbyterian Women (SPW) is a Christian fellowship that meets at Monce a month September through May

11:30 A.M. once a month, September through May (on the 4th Tuesday with the exception of November and December when dates are changed to accommodate holidays).

Every woman in the church is welcome to attend. Meetings consist of fellowship, business, prayer, and Bible study. Membership involves contribution of prayer, service, attendance, or gifts to SPW projects.

If you would like to join us for the Christmas luncheon, bring one of the following: appetizer, covered dish, salad or dessert. We also have a (very exciting) \$5.00 gift exchange!

RSVP to Co-moderators, Mary Beth Allan or Karen Hill. You may also call the church office at (740) 264-5309.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WINTER SCHEDULE



Weekday classes are led by Rev. Carl Moore, studying Romans. Meets in fellowship hall

at 10 a.m. Tuesday 6 p.m. Wednesday

The following Sunday School classes meet at 9 a.m.

The adult class meets in the Adult Sunday School room led by Rev. Carl Moore - studying Galatians.

The Bible From Scratch led by Sandy Conrad, meets in the library - studying - 2 Thessalonians K-5th Grade meets in the children's classroom, Teacher, Miranda Parkinson.

Nursery is also available for younger children during Sunday morning classes.

Please join us. Coffee and donuts are also served.



THANK YOU FOR THE MANY GREAT PICTURES AND ARTICLES WE RECEIVED IN 2019! WE WOULD LOVE TO SHARE YOUR EVENTS IN THE COMING YEAR.

THANK YOU!

WE WISH YOU

A VERY, VERY, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

NEW CHOIR MEMBERS

Our choir is growing! Welcome new members, Sophia Roach and Preston Marker!

If you would like to join others who are using their voices for the glory of God, or you have any questions about joining the choir, please contact the choir director, Carolyn Glaub.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE DECEMBER 24 - 7:00 P.M.



Please join us for the Christmas Eve Candlelight worship service. It is a beautiful and meaningful way to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

For to us a child is born, To us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders, And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace Isaiah 9:6

Advent and Christmas

<u>Advent</u> compels us to live life anticipating the Lord's great day when he returns and eliminates evil and death. We are to <u>look upward</u> to the return of Christ from heaven and forward to a glorious life with him and the saints.

Christmas compels us to live a life of <u>initiative</u>, <u>identification</u>, <u>involvement</u>, and <u>invitation</u>. Jesus took the initiative toward us and identified with us by becoming one of us when he was born. Throughout his life on earth, he <u>involved</u> himself in our basic needs and concerns (including the need to be free from sin and death), and <u>invited</u> and welcomed us to receive his salvation. Likewise, Christmas motivates us to be the same toward each other. We are not to wait for people to inquire of us; we are to take the initiative towards them, identify with them, involve ourselves in their needs and concerns, and invite them to partake of God's saving grace.

Excerpt from: *In Conclusion*, by Dr. Rev. Philip Makari, Pastor Emeritus.

Submitted by Janice Whitaker, Chimes Staff

RUMMAGE SALE UPDATE



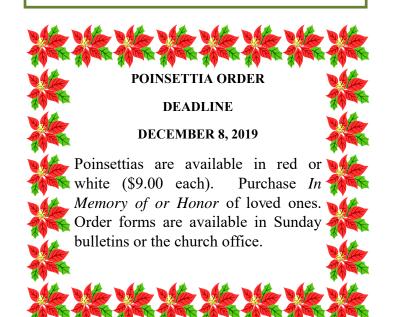
Rummage Sale Team (Left) Terri Throckmorton, Suzanne Brown, Leslie Aftanas, Donna Huff, (center) Ava Aftanas

The Chimes staff missed this beautiful photo of our very hard working rummage sale team in the November issue. Many thanks to Suzanne Brown and Leslie Aftanas for coordinating this huge event. Thank you so much for a terrific job and a lot of fun and fellowship. We have our Chimes staff reporters around who tell us that the congregation is very appreciative! The grand total collected was \$1673.50, which will go toward the paving of the parking lot.



SOUP KITCHEN

On November 14, 2019, soup kitchen volunteers served a hot lunch to 65 people. The menu was turkey, cranberry sauce, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy and desserts from Two Ridges Presbyterian Church. Volunteers were Ella Jane Burns, Bryan Kipsy, Bob Kramer, Pastor Carl, Brad Moore, Sharon and Rick Patterson, and Stu Stukins.





THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

On behalf of Refuge for Women Ohio Valley, thank you for supporting The Night Of Hope Gala on October 19, 2019, with your generous gift of \$200. The event raised more than \$24,000. All funds raised go directly to support women rescued from sexual exploitation. Our passion is to give them a real hope that translates into a new life, and teach them how to build a brighter future beyond their past.

Together with generous friends like you, we're helping one woman at a time complete our program with a vision for her future, equipped to lead a successful life marked with dignity and hope.

Refuge for Women could not do what it does without the generous support of a caring community. Thank you again for your thoughtful gift to these beautiful women.

Sincerely,

Shari Prichard, Board Director (Thank you!) Theresa Golden, City Director





COOKIES NEEDED

Cookie baking time is

here once again. If you are able to donate a dozen or so cookies for this year's Live Nativity, please place them in the freezer marked "Live Nativity" by the morning of December 9th. It will be very greatly appreciated.



9TH LIVE NATIVITY DECEMBER 8, 2019



Take time out of your busy holiday schedule to reflect on the TRUE meaning of Christmas, the Savior who is Christ The Lord. All ages will be blessed by the experience which reminds us that Jesus came as a babe in a manger. His name is called Emmanuel, which means God with us. The Live Nativity is arranged to present the Good News to all. It is a meaningful evangelism opportunity. Your whole family and your friends will be moved by the real Christmas story.

Presentations repeat at:

5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00 & 7:30 P.M