

# THE VOICE

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 11-26-17

## THE WELCOME

- ◇ Celebrate individual unique gifts, talents & strengths
- ◇ Recognizing Christ in everyone! Celebrating Difference!
- ◇ Diversity is a gift from our Creative God!
- ◇ Leading to reflect God's forgiving and unconditional love!
- ◇ Reaching out as a life-giving faith community!

## THE VISION

Becoming...

- ◇ A home where every person BELONGS to God, and so to one another.
- ◇ A transforming community of faith where each DISCOVERS and RESPONDS to God's call.

## THE MISSION

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

### WORSHIP EXPERIENCES

8:00am "The Table" (Chapel)  
9:00am "The Gathering" (Sanctuary)  
10:45am "The Journey" (Sanctuary)

### PORTAGE CHAPEL HILL

Pastor - Barry Petrucci

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am - 2pm  
(269) 327-6643 [www.pchum.org](http://www.pchum.org)

## DID YOU KNOW? ADVENT

On December 3rd we begin a 4 week journey that the Christian tradition has called "Advent". The word has its roots in the Latin, *adventus* which can mean "coming" or "visit". In these weeks we center our hearts in preparation for the birth of Jesus, the Christ. So, as the world goes crazy in commercial preparation, the Church calls us to wait in meaningful preparation. Our worship Advent series this year is called "Begin...End...Repeat". We will use the prophets to consider this cycle of life and relationship that is the essence of faith. A fun-fact reminder: the fourth Sunday in Advent is December 24th...we will have advent worship in one service at 9am, then celebrate Christmas in worship at 4:00pm and 8:00pm later that day!

## FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the food bank. The commitment is about once a month and training is provided. Please contact Carolyn Pesheck at 269-598-9474 for more information.

## HANGING OF THE GREENS TODAY!

Join us today at 3pm as we decorate the Lobby and Sanctuary for the Christmas season. No experience necessary. There will be a craft for children to participate in hosted by Children's Ministry.

## BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

December 17 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary  
Presented by Stephen Ministry and the PCHUM  
Pastoral Staff  
Chad Schumacher on piano

Seems strange for the season of joy, right? Blue Christmas? Yes, blue as in sad. As in "the blues". Christmas is a tough time for many of us. Dealing with the passing of a loved one, figuring out life after the break-up of a relationship, finding that the family holiday stereotype does not fit you, being out of work, living with some disease that puts a question mark on the future, loneliness, depression, etc., all bring on the blues at Christmastime. Blue Christmas is Chapel Hill's annual service of prayerful meditation and candlelight, of scripture and real-life reflections, of blues improvisation and gentle carols. All in need of a place to be real with the blues during Christmas are invited into sacred space created for all of us living through dark times, as we wait for the Light of the World.

## OPEN CLASSES~ JOIN ANYTIME

### SUNDAYS @ 10:05

- FaithLink: This week's topic "Freedom of the Press" Next Week's topic "Finding Hope", Room #218
- Upper Room Bible Study Room #209
- LiFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) meeting in the Fellowship Hall

### TUESDAYS

Lectionary Bible Study Room#108 at 7:00pm

## OVER THE CHAPEL HILL GANG

### A MONTHLY GATHERING OF RETIRED PERSONS

- Wednesday, December 6 11:45am
- Fieldstone Grill 3970 W Centre. Portage, MI  
Need a ride? Call: Dorothy Harrington (269-327-0303)  
Doris Mettler (269-327-8272)

### Other Information:

- Bring personal care items for the food pantry, if able
- Join us!

## FREE STORE DONATIONS

The Free Store of Kalamazoo continues to witness a world in abundance! Because of your help, last year during our Christmas Big Give celebration, we were able to reach our goal by offering EVERY child a toy! Here are a couple ways to share in the experience again this year-

- Donate new toys to Sunnyside UMC at 2800 Gull Rd,
- Tuesdays from 4 pm to 7:30 pm
- Thursdays from 5 pm to 6:30 pm
- Chapel Hill is also donation drop off location
- Volunteer with your family.

Wednesday thru Friday (12/13-12/15) from 5 pm to 8 pm  
During the celebration on Saturday (12/16) from 9:30 am to 3 pm.

## STAFFING CHANGES

### NEW OFFICE MANAGER-LISA DRZICK

Lisa Drzick is very happy to begin working in the Chapel Hill office as Office Manager. Lisa has spent the past two decades (!) waking up at 3:00am to go to work as the Director for WWMT News channel 3's morning news, but now she has decided it's time for a change. She looks forward to this new career opportunity, learning from Sue Dueweke, annoying the rest of the office staff with her singing and Golden Girls references, and to getting a full 8 hours' sleep!

## YOU COUNT!

In so many ways...but right now we are looking for folks willing to be trained to count the weekly offerings to God through Chapel Hill. Counter Coordinator, Shannon Ringer, is looking for a few people willing to be trained to join the Counters Team! Counters are on duty once per month (with enough new counters less than that)! Gathering following worship on Sundays, a team of no-fewer-than 3 persons counts and deposits weekly financial gifts. This is an essential function that requires only a willingness to be trained, attention to detail, and a heart for service. There is also an opportunity on Monday mornings to count the Sunday offerings that include "Buckets of Love for Haiti"! Please contact Shannon at [shannonringer@yahoo.com](mailto:shannonringer@yahoo.com) if you have questions or would like to serve in this way.

## GIVING TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 28

It is time for Black Friday, Cyber Monday and Giving Tuesday. United Methodists will once again come together to support the work of Advance projects and missionaries on UMC Giving Tuesday. This year all monies collected through will go to support Chapel Hill sponsored seminary students. Go to [pchum.org/give](http://pchum.org/give) to donate.

## CHURCH CONFERENCE

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10, 4PM, SANCTUARY

All members of Chapel Hill are expected, and all others are invited, to our Fall Membership meeting. There will be gathering worship, a message from our District Superintendent, Rev. Dwayne Bagley, time for questions, and a great spirit of God's gathered community! All are welcome. Members present are counted in items requiring vote.

## GINGERBREAD HOUSE EVENT

Our annual Gingerbread House event is right around the holiday corner! Please join us on Sunday December 10th at 2pm in the church fellowship hall. We will have an afternoon of gingerbread house decorating with yummy cookies and hot chocolate to enjoy. The cost is only \$4.00 per child to cover all costs. It's a wonderful church family tradition, so you don't want to miss out. All ages are invited. If you have any questions, please contact Deanne Austin at [deannaustin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deannaustin@sbcglobal.net). Or Sign up at [pchum.org/gingerbread](http://pchum.org/gingerbread)

## CALLING ALL LONELY AND UNDERUTILIZED PCs

If you might have an extra computer available for donating to the church, we might be able to put it to good and continuing use. We have an ongoing periodic need for new computers at the church. Repurposing any existing system that might be available for use at Portage Chapel Hill would certainly be received with much appreciation! We are limited to using and are most interested in systems that are running either Window 7 or Windows 10, which are around five years old or newer. Monitors are also appreciated. Once we have an opportunity to review the system components, if the PC can be used at the church, we would wipe the hard drive clean and install all new software on it. If it cannot be used at the church, we will wipe all data and donate the system to another nonprofit. Systems can be dropped off at the church office. Thank you for your continuing support of the IT infrastructure at the church.

## CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CHOIR CHRISTMAS EVE PERFORMANCE

Today is the last day to sign ups for the Christmas Eve performance for preschool-12th grade. Please contact Andrea Trantham ([andreatrantham@pchum.org](mailto:andreatrantham@pchum.org)) to sign up and for more information. The performance will be December 24 at 4:00pm

## YE (YOUTH EXPERIENCE) GRADES 6-12TH

### YE SUNDAY SCHOOL

- 10am - 10:45am Drop In Youth Group:
  - \* ALL Youth in Grades 6-12 meet together in Room 108
- 10:45 - 11:45am Youth Sunday School Begins:
  - \* Sr. High (9-12) in Room 108
  - \* Middle School (6-8) in Rooms 114/115
- **1st Sunday of every month (Communion)**
  - \* Both Sr. High and Middle School classes will attend 10:45am worship in Sanctuary as a class.

## SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group meets Sundays @ 7-8:30pm. Grades 5th grade-12th grade are invited for food, fellowship and fun! Join us this (or any) Sunday downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Contact [larryfrench@pchum.org](mailto:larryfrench@pchum.org) with questions.

# COMING SOON!

## Christmas Worship Schedule

### Christmas Eve

9:00am Worship Service~ Childcare available

4:00pm Family Candlelight Worship Service Program by the children/youth of Chapel Hill and  
Meditation by Pastor Barry ~Childcare available

8:00pm Lessons and Carols

### New Years' Eve 9:00am

Worship Service~ Childcare available

\*Please note no Children or Youth Sunday School on December 24 or December 31

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT-CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

As many of you know or have sweetly asked, Andrea Trantham will be on maternity leave for 10 weeks to have her baby boy and recover this winter. Andrea expects to leave shortly after Thanksgiving and return sometime during the middle of January. The Children's Ministry WMU intern, Jessica Folkert, will be taking over Sunday School while Andrea is away. She has been here since the beginning of the school year and has been learning and teaching along the way. Andrea feels very comfortable leaving our kids in her capable hands. If you have any concerns or questions about children's ministry while Andrea is away, please feel free to contact the office at [office@pchum.org](mailto:office@pchum.org).



Jessica Folkert, Children's Ministry  
Intern

Elaina, Andrea and Brendan  
Trantham



## NEED SOMETHING?

### PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like to be lifted in prayer or added to the prayer chain, contact Shirley Freeman ([shirleytupperfreeman@gmail.com](mailto:shirleytupperfreeman@gmail.com), 269-381- 8208).

Assistive Listening Devices as well as Large Print Hymnals and Bulletins are available. Please see an usher.

### Name Tags for All

Please stop by the self-serve display in the lobby, located near the Welcome Center. Magnetic and stick-on badges are available.

### Weekly Email

Want to find out all the important events at Portage Chapel Hill? Sign Up for our weekly email. [www.pchum.org/home](http://www.pchum.org/home)



Please Check-in on Facebook  
Or check us out



Domain: ChapelHill\_guest  
Password: PCHUMguest