

THE VOICE

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 12-17-17

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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

2017 YEAR-END GIVING:

Here is a reminder on the various ways you can give through Portage Chapel Hill:

- Weekly Offering via cash or checks
- Online: Set up 1-time or recurring giving on www.pchum.org/give
- Stock Donations
- Legacy Giving

Checks must be dated 2017 and received or post-marked no later than December 31, 2017 to receive such deductions this year.

Thank you for making a difference in countless lives in this community and around the world.

COMPANIONS IN CHRIST PART DEUX!

Part Two of Companions in Christ will begin on Tuesday, January 2 from noon to 1:30 downstairs in room 108.

There is no need to purchase a book; we have extras here.

Bring your lunch, a friend and be prepared to encounter Christ in new and different ways. Questions? Contact

PatCatellier@pchum.org

SNOWBIRDS

If you are heading for warmer climates through the winter months, please notify the church office so that we can send you any correspondence. To set this up, all you need to do is send an email to office@pchum.org. Also please update your email address if needed. We would like to keep in touch with you while you are away.

WEATHER CLOSING POLICY

WEEKDAYS: When Portage Public Schools are closed due to weather, the church building will also be closed and daytime events will be cancelled. For evening events please check with your group leader.

SUNDAYS: In the event of inclement weather, Chapel Hill will post closings on WWMT Channel 3, on the PCHUM Voicemail at 327-6643, and on the homepage at www.pchum.org. An email will also be sent to you. Worship would only be cancelled in an absolute weather emergency.

OPEN CLASSES~ JOIN ANYTIME

SUNDAYS @ 10:05AM

- FaithLink: This week's topic "Longing for Joy" Room #218
- Upper Room Bible Study Room #209
- LiFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) meeting in the Fellowship Hall
- *REMINDER: No classes December 24*

TUESDAYS @ 7:00PM

- Lectionary Bible Study Room#108

JOIN THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR!

We are always open to having new kids join us on Wednesday evenings for Children's Choir! We have opportunities for kids of all ages, from preschool through high school. And even if your child is not a singer we do other fun things like chimes, drums, and games (ask any member of our Disciples Choir how to play "Kitty Wants A Corner" or "Zap!"). A new season of Wednesday Night Children's Choir will begin January 10. The Angels Choir (Pre-K and K) and Sanctuary Choir (6th-12th grades) meet from 6:00pm-7:00pm. The Disciples Choir (1st-5th grades) meets from 5:45pm-7:15pm. For more information please contact Lisa Drzick at lisadrzick@pchum.org.

The Naked Church: Conversations on Faith and Sexuality January 14, 3:00pm in Fellowship Hall

The United Methodist Church continues to struggle with a consistent teaching, message and policy on human sexuality. Pastor Barry is inviting Chapel Hill to an afternoon of conversation on where we are as a local church and as a denomination in understanding sexuality as it relates to a faith community with "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors" as its marketing tag line. It has been 20 years since Chapel Hill adopted a welcoming statement that includes "homosexual persons" in the list those who are embraced and welcomed. Much has happened and is happening in our understanding of human sexuality since that document was debated and affirmed. So, Pastor Barry and some members of the community who are working on matters of faith and sexuality will lead a discussion on where we are going as a culture, congregation, community and global church on matters most basic to us as human beings seeking to be in faithful relationship with others and with God.

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 Year's Eve

9:00am Worship Service ~ Childcare available

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Interested in helping feed hungry folks?

We need more volunteers to help with 3 ministries:

- Ministry with Community - Serve lunch to those in need the 3rd Sunday of the month.
- Food Pantry - Help folks obtain food at one of two food pantries. Spots available during the day or evening, commitment usually once per month.
- Meals on Wheels - Help deliver a hot lunch to the homebound on weekdays, usually once every 6 weeks.

Contact Carolyn Pesheck at 269-598-9474, and she can tell you more about these opportunities, and refer you to the person in charge of scheduling for your interest.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT CATALOG

Give a donation to a charity of your choice in someone's honor or memory this year. The Faith In Action Team's catalog is available with a number of opportunities for you to choose. You may look at the alternative gift catalog in the lobby between services by the "Alternative Gift Catalog" sign on the bulletin board. The catalog is also available on the website.

www.pchum.org/alternativegift

ANGEL TREE

This year our Angel Tree has tags that list gifts for students at Haverhill Elementary School or Meijer Gift Cards for Chapel Hill's Helping Hand Fund. Please consider taking a tag and giving a gift. Unwrapped Haverhill gifts, with the tree tag taped to it, are due today and may be placed directly under the tree. Gift cards will be given by the pastor to people experiencing need and connected with Chapel Hill. Gift cards are also due today. Gift cards may be dropped in the offering plate and marked Helping Hands.

BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Tonight at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary

Presented by Stephen Ministry and the Pastoral Staff
with 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 an illness 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.

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE

The church office will be closed December 25th through January 1st. Voicemail and email messages will be checked regularly. The building will be open on a limited basis during the week for community groups.

YE (YOUTH EXPERIENCE) GRADES 6-12TH

Winter Jam 2018: January 7

at the Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids

Event available to Grades 9-12

Concert starts at 6pm, but as experienced Jammers will tell you, we need to get there early!

Meet at Youth House @ 2pm

Event cost \$20 (\$15 ticket + food before show)

Contact larryfrench@pchum.org for more info

YOUTH GROUP OVERNIGHT

January 3-4

Starts 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall

Pick up 11:00am

Open to Grades 6-12

Friends are always welcome

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 with questions.

No Sunday Night Youth Group December 24 or
December 31

MUSIC MINISTRY

9:00AM THE GATHERING CHANCEL CHOIR

Led by Fred Sang

Organist Jared Montgomery

Choral Scholars Clara Stine and Maria Molter

Chancel Choir Members: Wendy Asmus, Gary Bigelow, Sheila Bigelow, Sidney Block, Bob Eschliman, George Granger, Sharon Herzog, Mary Holliday, Paul Holliday, Nancy Howells, Diane Keivit, Jim Loomis, Terri Loomis, Mark Miller, Sheryl Miller, Alan Moerdyk, Carolyn Pesheck, Lesa Petrucci, Shannon Rininger, Carol Schaus, TJ Seiwert, Bob Spradling, and Neal Turner

10:45 THE JOURNEY NEW LIFE TEAM

Led by Chad Schumacher

New Life Team Members: Joe Badalamenti, Angela Brcka, Ryan Casanova, Dave Drzick, Lisa Drzick, Paul Franklin, Brent Holt, Mark Kuepfer, Autumn McDaniel and Mary Thompson

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, 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



Please Check-in on Facebook
Or check us out



Domain: ChapelHill_guest
Password: PCHUMguest