

THE VOICE

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 12-3-17

FIRST 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

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 Sunday, December 17 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 December 17. Gift cards may be dropped in the offering plate and marked Helping Hands or given to the office during the week.

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 2 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.

HOLIDAY RECITAL

Join us for a winter recital Friday December 15 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. Our very own organist Jared Montgomery and Choral Scholar Clara Stine will be performing.

BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

December 17 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary
Presented by Stephen Ministry and the PCHUM 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.

OPEN CLASSES~ JOIN ANYTIME

SUNDAYS @ 10:05AM

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

TUESDAYS @ 7:00PM

Lectinary Bible Study Room#108

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 4:00pm to 7:30pm
Thursdays from 5:00pm to 6:30pm
- Chapel Hill is also donation drop off location
- Volunteer with your family. Wednesday thru Friday (12/13-12/15) from 5:00pm to 8:00pm
During the celebration on Saturday (12/16) from 9:30am-3:00pm

ACTIVE SHOOTER PRESENTATION

On December 9 at 1:00pm at Saint Catherine of Siena Church (1150 W. Centre Ave.) the Portage Department of Public Safety will be giving a "Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events" presentation. Everyone is invited to attend.

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

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 updated your email address if needed to the office. We would like to keep in touch with you while you are away.

CHURCH CONFERENCE

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10, 4:00PM, 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.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE EVENT

Our annual Gingerbread House event is right around the holiday corner! Please join us on Sunday December 10 at 2:00pm 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. 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 **deanneaustin@sbcglobal.net**. or Sign up at **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.

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 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** with questions.

BEGIN.END.REPEAT.

WAITING
ON GOD
(advent series)

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