

THE VOICE

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 12-9-18

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

WELCOME TO PORTAGE CHAPEL HILL

“Not the presents, not the carols, but
the humble heart that receives the
wondrous gift of Christ.”

PORTAGE CHAPEL HILL
Lead Pastor - Barry Petrucci

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

COMING SOON...NEW SMALL GROUPS

As we approach the New Year, I am looking for ideas for new small groups. I want to know what you like to do, how you like to learn new things, what you might like in a small group, what is the best time for you to meet? Easy info, but info that will help me get you connected to a small group that will be meaningful to you so that you can grow your faith while making friends and having fun. Coming soon is a personal survey to help you convey all your ideas to me! I want to use this survey to form new small groups around you and the things you like to do. Be sure to look for it after the New Year! Any questions please contact me at tonyaboot@pchum.org. Merry Christmas!



Tonya Boot,
Director of Discipleship

BLUE CHRISTMAS

- Sunday December 16 ~ 6:00pm ~ Sanctuary

Presented by Chapel Hill's Stephen Ministry
Blue? Yes, blue as in the blues. As in "I am feeling blue." Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other diagnosis that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations that make parties and joviality painful for many people in our congregation and communities. This Blue Christmas service is a time to gather in community for reflection, and holding out healing and hope.

YEAR END GIVING

As we move into the close of 2018, the Finance Team reminds you of the benefits of giving toward the general fund for all of the ministries at Chapel Hill. Extravagant generosity is one of the cornerstones of our faith. As we give in so many ways through Christmas, you are encouraged to remember the needs of the faith community we value and love.

DROP-IN CLASSES AND GROUPS

SUNDAYS @ 10:00AM

Upper Room ~ Room #209

Traditional Bible study

FaithLink ~ Room #218

Discussion of current events

FERMENTING FAITH WILL BE ON HIATUS
UNTIL JANUARY 8 DUE TO THE
BUSY HOLIDAY SEASON.

FREE STORE DONATIONS

The Free Store of Kalamazoo offers free clothing and household items to those in need. Each year the Free Store does a Big Give celebration which gives new toys to children. Chapel Hill once again will be collecting donations of new unwrapped toys for children of all ages. Donations for the Christmas Big Give Celebration are due Wednesday December 12 and can be dropped off under the tree in the sanctuary.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING

- Sunday December 16 ~ 2:00pm ~ Fellowship Hall

At this family fun holiday event your child will receive a mini gingerbread house, a tray full of treats to decorate it with, cookies and hot chocolate. The cost is \$4. Don't miss out on this family fellowship time! Your payment will be collected upon arrival, please make sure you have exact change. When you RSVP please include how many children (with ages) and adults will be attending. You can sign up at pchum.org/gingerbread.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MEETING

- Tuesday December 11 ~ 1:00pm ~ Chapel

Everyone is invited to the December meeting of the United Methodist Women (UMW). Cookies and punch will be served. Berrienne Provost and Adele Paxson will be reading their favorite Christmas stories.

WEATHER CLOSING POLICY

WEEKDAYS: When Portage Public Schools are closed due to weather, the church building will also be closed.

Daytime and evening events will be cancelled. **SUNDAYS:** In the event of inclement weather, Chapel Hill will post closings on WWMT Channel 3, on the Chapel Hill 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.

"TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING - THE ANGEL TREE IS UP!

Once again, the Angel Tree is supporting Haverhill Elementary School. But this year, instead of buying presents for individual students, Haverhill staff has requested some much needed school supplies. Please feel free to snag a tag off the tree, or simply donate any of the following much needed items: Lysol wipes, Lysol spray, Expo markers, post-It Notes, small stuffed animals, fidget toys, cute pencils stickers/paper pads etc, small toys for the prize bin, mittens and, as always, Haverhill is in need of books for all grades and reading levels. Please place your donation under the Angel Tree by Sunday, January 6. All donated items will be taken to the school the first week after winter break.

AND ALSO ON THE ANGEL TREE...

Along with the tags for gifts for the students at Haverhill Elementary, you will also find on the Angel Tree tags for gift cards. Gift cards to Meijer or Walmart are always welcome in the Chapel Hill office and are used as part of our Helping Hands fund. Gifts from this fund are distributed at the discretion of Pastor Barry or Deacon Pat, to assist families in need throughout the year. Your generosity helps Chapel Hill respond to the needs of our community. Please leave gift cards under the Angel Tree in the lobby or in the church office.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAYS @ 10:00AM & 11:00AM

Pre-K-4th Grade ~ Room #109
Club 56 (5th-6th Grade) ~ Room #121

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAYS @ 10:00AM

Confirmation Class (7th-8th Grade) ~ Room #114
9th Grade-12th Grade ~ Room #108

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

7:00pm ~ Fellowship Hall
6th-12th Graders are invited for food, fun and fellowship.

PAJAMA PARTY

All kids (Pre-K-4th Grade) are invited to come to 11:00am Sunday School on December 30 for a Pajama party. We will be eating snacks, watching a fun video, and chilling together after a busy holiday. (There will be no 10:00am kids Sunday School on December 30).

A NEW WAY TO STAY CONNECTED

Chapel Hill is moving to a new kind of church record keeping solution called Realm which will offer some exciting opportunities to support the way you are involved in our church. Many Chapel Hill groups are currently using Realm, so you may have heard of it already. Starting in January, the office staff will be encouraging everyone to participate in a congregational rollout. We are working hard to ensure this will be a smooth transition. Keep checking the Voice for more information.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5:00pm Candlelight Family Christmas

8:00pm Service of Lessons and carols

SMALL GROUP SPOTLIGHT

SACRED SPACE DESIGN TEAM

This week's spotlight is the Sacred Space Design team. This small group decorates and designs the worship spaces like the altar, the sanctuary, the chapel, and the lobby. The Sacred Space Design team uses Pastor Barry's themes, and the scriptures to help them decorate and design in such a way that people can connect to the message using colors, fabrics, and art in a visual way. This team has a lot of fun connecting with each other as well!

"I love the weekly time in the sanctuary to just enjoy the space. Sunday is such a busy church day sometimes, that to have this extra time to reflect and help plan a part of worship is so fulfilling. I love connecting with this group, it is supportive, and inspiring!" Tonya Boot

"I enjoy working with Sacred Space because it allows me to connect the Scripture and theme through visual imagery. I enjoy the contemplative time in reading scripture and brain storming with the team on how to represent the themes. Working together with the team is a fun hour of fellowship and being creative. It is also good to hear feedback from our church family on how they view and connect with the space we created. There are times where we get started with a rough idea and what we finish is truly spiritual and I am humbled and reminded that I am an instrument of God and He is present in this space always." Meredith Kerr

"I enjoy my time in the sacred space small group because of the lovely folks and the opportunity to be in connection with the more in-depth concepts of the weekly message. There are many types of learning styles and I enjoy the creativity and the challenge to bring concepts to a visible place. Working with sacred space offers more opportunity to explore how the message connects to each other and our daily lives." Jenn Luitje

Sacred Space Design Team meets every Monday night from 6:30-8:30pm...New people are welcome to join! Questions? Contact Meredith Kerr at mmkerr@parker.com.

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 across from the Coffee Bar. Magnetic 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