

Welcome to the Church of Christ at **SUNSHINE**

20 Barklow Road, Portsmouth, OH 45662 740-820-3415

Sunday, December 1, 2013
Volume 48, Issue 48

Elders

Rich Book - 820-3213
Don Coriell - 776-6346
Jon Coriell - 776-3248
Wayne Gampp - 820-3444
Tom Kelley - 259-2258

Deacons

Dewey Cordle - 820-4624
Gabe Coriell - 820-8652
Jason Coriell - 820-4739
Nick Davis - 776-0191
Gary Glispie - 776-4279
Alan Graff - 574-2859
Shawn Gragg - 820-5346
Aaron Kallner - 574-2083
Aaron McCray - 820-5678
Shaun McCray - 776-7738
Eugene Risner - 820-2256
Mark Risner - 820-2948

sunshinedeacons@sunshine-church.org

Pulpit Minister

Steve Miller - 820-4379
Cell - 285-1598

Associate Minister

Jamie Riley - 820-3348
Cell - 935-7812

Youth Minister

Tim Gampp - 250-9460

Sunshine Church of Christ

20 Barklow Road
Portsmouth, OH 45662

Church Building - 820-3415
Building Fax - 820-5450
Campus Ministry - 355-3186

Being Thankful in All Things

The next footsteps in the corridor, he knew, might be those of the guards taking him away to his execution. His only bed was the hard, cold stone floor of the dank, cramped prison cell. Not an hour passed when he was free from the constant irritation of the chains and the pain of the iron manacles cutting into his wrists and legs.

Separated from friends, unjustly accused, brutally treated—if ever a person had a right to complain, it was this man, languishing almost forgotten in a harsh Roman prison. But instead of complaints, his lips rang with words of praise and thanksgiving!

The man was the Apostle Paul—a man who had learned the meaning of true thanksgiving, even in the midst of great adversity. Earlier, when he had been imprisoned in Rome, Paul wrote, “Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Ephesians 5:19-20, NIV).

Think of it: Always giving thanks for everything—no matter the circumstances! Thanksgiving for the Apostle Paul was not a once-a-year celebration, but a daily reality that changed his life and made him a joyful person in every situation.

Thanksgiving—the giving of thanks—to God for all His blessings should be one of the most distinctive marks of the believer in Jesus Christ. We must not allow a spirit of ingratitude to harden our heart and chill our relationship with God and with others.

Nothing turns us into bitter, selfish, dissatisfied people more quickly than an ungrateful heart. And nothing will do more to restore contentment and the joy of our salvation than a true spirit of thankfulness.

Ingratitude is a sin, just as surely as is lying or stealing or immorality or any other sin condemned by the Bible. One of the Bible’s indictments against rebellious humanity is that “although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him” (Romans 1:21, NIV). An ungrateful heart is a heart that is cold toward God and indifferent to His mercy and love. It is a heart that has forgotten how dependent we are on God for everything.

From one end of the Bible to the other, we are commanded to be thankful. In fact, thankfulness is the natural outflowing of a heart that is attuned to God. The psalmist declared, “Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving” (Psalm 147:7, NIV). Paul wrote, “Be thankful” (Colossians 3:15, NIV). A spirit of thanksgiving is always the mark of a joyous Christian.

Why should we be thankful? Because God has blessed us, and we should be thankful for each blessing.

Please Pray For:

For our nation as we are going through troubled times

For our national leaders and world leaders as they lead their respective nations.

For our troops in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Haiti and other places.

For the innocent who are suffering in the midst of war.

For the "people in the box"-- the lost in our families and community.

For those who are being martyred and persecuted for Christ in our own time.

For marriage to stand in our laws as God ordained it.

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chhetri and Ashok Basfor.

For the churches in Honduras and Haiti who partner with us in the gospel.

For the people in the Philippines affected by the typhoon.

Gregg Ferrell came home Wednesday evening. Had to go back to the ER on Thursday with low blood pressure, now home.

Henry Mason (Gene and Esther Crisp's son) No further treatments scheduled at this time. Cards and prayers needed.

Matthew Gampp in the Philippines working to deliver water to people affected by the typhoon.

Angie Arnett (friend of Laryssa Grashel, mother of 2 children) fighting cancer.

Eldon Conkel (former member now living in Atlanta) cancer of the bladder. Starting his chemo on November 27.

Jim Young (Terri Young's husband) back to chemo this week. Tolerating chemo fairly well.

Paul Hagen (Donnie Coriell's friend) cranial tumor.

Jeff Hayward in the ER Thursday night, heart catheterization on Friday, all clear. More tests coming.

Doris Wallace (Kandy Cooper's sister) is back at Bristol Village in Waverly.

Dylan Remy (5th grade classmate of Kelsey Isley) fighting cancer of the brain.

Debbie Krumpleman (Stephanie Copas' friend in Cincinnati) diagnosed with cancer, facing chemo and radiation.

Ruth Miller admitted to SOMC on Wednesday with congestive heart problems. Home on Friday.

Praise Reports



Brayden Zoellner (2 yr old son of Jessica Gahm's coworker) in ICU at Nationwide Children's Hospital on Friday, big improvement on Saturday. Thanks Sunshine for praying!

All the Crams made it to China to pick up Ana Mei. Actual pick up today.



Coming Events

12/2	Sweet Monday
12/8	Soup Fellowship
12/15	Christmas Caroling
12/21	Christmas Lights in Ashland
1/8	PG Men begins

No Children's Bible Time Today

We apologize for not getting this in the bulletin last week. Today we keep all of our children in the auditorium throughout the entire service. We want to them to see their fathers, uncles, and cousins, etc., up front giving thanks and praise to the Lord.

Soup Fellowship

We will be having a soup fellowship meal after our worship services next Sunday, December 8th. The church will provide drinks and crackers. Be thinking of your favorite soup to bring and share with everyone. You can also bring a dessert along with you also. Any questions see Aaron McCray.

Welcome to the World!

Christopher Hayes Rase arrived safely in our world on Wednesday, November 27, 2013, weighing 7 lbs, 14 oz and measuring 21 inches. Christopher is the son of Melissa Hayward and Kyle Rase and is the grandson of Jeff and Teresa Hayward. Congratulations to the whole family upon Christopher's birth.

Special Thanksgiving Service Today

On Thanksgiving Sunday for many years we have had four of our men take a few minutes to give their personal thanks and praise to the Lord for His blessings. This year our four guys are **Greg Shepherd, Wes Lyon, David Deacon and P J McGaughey**. They will be standing before us this morning giving their thanks and praise to the Father. A big thank you to these men for being willing to do this today.



Added to the Church

John Lemon, nephew to Ellen and Mike Lemon and Ann Gampp, was baptized into Christ here at Sunshine on Thursday morning. John lives in the Rockville, Maryland area. His mother and father are Jeff and Dawn Lemon. Congratulations to John as he has been added to the Lord's church. Be sure and give him the Sunshine welcome this morning before he returns to Maryland.

Budget Requests for 2014

Soon we will be preparing our budget for 2014. If you anticipate a need for funding for a ministry in 2014, please get that request ASAP to one of our deacons, preferably the one who is over the area of ministry where your idea would fit.

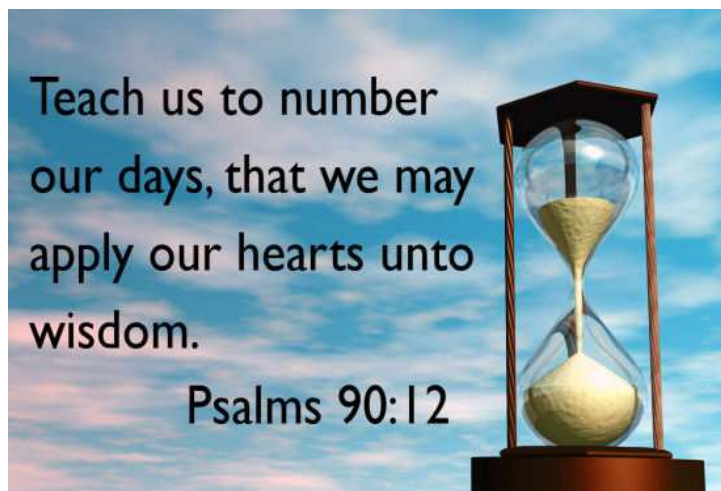
Sweet Christmas Tea

December Sweet Monday will be Dec. 2 at 6:30 PM in order to give time for all the fun we have planned! We are going to have a "tea" format--serving cookies and hot beverages, enjoy playing our ornament swapping game (bring ornament that is \$5 or less), make a great craft ornament, and listen to a special guest speaker--Steve Williams! Feel free to bring a friend and your little sweeties to have a great time kicking off the holiday season! I hope to see each of you at this event--I know it's a busy time of year, but if you come I know you will be blessed! Heather.



Notes of Encouragement

Our shepherds serve the congregation on a daily basis. They handle a myriad of problems (spiritual, financial, emotional, physical) that come to them from individual Christians and families. They set the direction for the congregation as we move forward. They oversee the work of the deacons and the ministers and advise them in the specific areas of work they may be involved in. None of them are paid. All is done on a voluntary basis and some of our shepherds have been serving in this capacity for 20, 30 and more than 30 years. This work is the highest work to which a man can be called in the Lord's kingdom and it is the most difficult work in the kingdom when it is done conscientiously. Our shepherds have been faithful in their work and for the next few weeks we invite you to write your own note of thanks and encouragement to the men in our present eldership. There are manila envelopes on the window in the foyer. Write your note and drop it in the appropriate envelope. Let them know how much you love, respect and appreciate them.



PG Men Starting Soon

About 15 of our men so far (18 and older) will begin meeting soon on Wednesday evenings during class time (plus 15 minutes) to view the DVD series **The Mousetrap** and to have a few minutes of discussion each time. There are 18 sessions in all. We hope to begin this special class January 8, 2014. If you would like to join the class or have other questions, see Steve Miller. This is a follow up to the presentations made by Lou Butterfield a few weeks ago.

Christmas Caroling

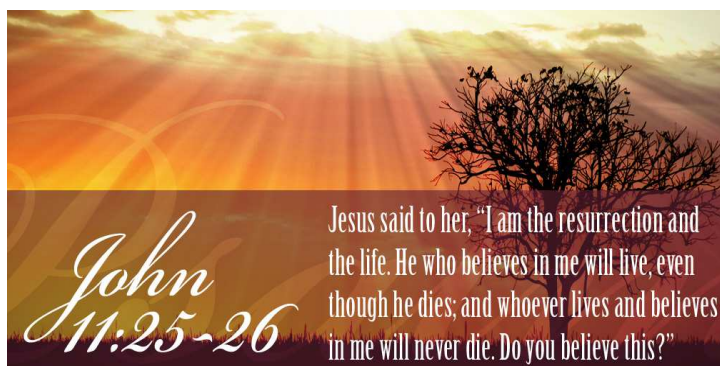
Youth Group, look! Sunday, December 15th! Be at Sunshine at 1:00 p.m. to stuff bags and practice singing carols with other groups involved.



We will be visiting the Concord nursing home from 3:00-4:30. The youth group will be making cookies and cards for 125 residents between two different nursing homes (Concord and Fountainhead). Fountainhead is very small and will be visited some time later by a small group.

Food and Lights

Youth Group, look! Saturday, December 21, 4:30-10 PM. We're headed to Ashland to see the Christmas lights and to eat at a "sit down" restaurant (not fast food). Sign up on the sheet in the foyer.



Sing praises to Jehovah, O you saints of His, and give thanks at the memory of His holiness. — Psalm 30:4



Sunday Morning

Welcome & Prayer
Song Director
Worship Leaders

Message

December 1

Don Coriell
Shaun McCray
Shawn Gragg
Jason Foster
Guest Speakers

December 8

Jon Coriell
Ralph Gampp
Jacob Miller
Josh Coriell
Steve Miller

Sunday Evening

Song Director
Scripture Reading
Lord's Supper
Assist
Prayer

Gabe Coriell
Steve Williams
Mark Gampp
Tim Coriell
Mark Villinger

Don Ramey
Caleb Miller
Jason Coriell
Troy Gahm
Greg Shepherd

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
Prayer

Zach Coriell
Josh Coriell

Mark Gampp
Aaron Kallner

Regular Service Times

Sunday

Worship - 10:00 am
Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

This bulletin is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover. Deadline for each issue is 3 p.m. Saturday. Content should be emailed to info@sunshine-church.org

Visit us on the web:

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Many of our members also keep in contact via Facebook. Ask about joining one of our church related groups there.



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