

Monthly Prayer



Dear Heavenly Father,

As we enter this new year, we turn to You with hearts full of hope and gratitude. Inspired by the teachings in Colossians, we ask that You fill us with the knowledge of Your will and grant us wisdom and understanding through Your Spirit.

Help us to live lives worthy of You, bearing fruit in every good work and growing in the knowledge of Your truth. Strengthen us with Your power, that we may endure challenges with patience and joy, always giving thanks for the inheritance we share in Christ.

As Your chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe us with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Teach us to forgive as You forgive and to let love, the bond of perfection, guide all we do.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts and the word of Christ dwell richly within us, inspiring us to worship, serve, and give thanks in every moment. Bless our church community, our committees, and our ministries, that all we do may glorify You and bring hope to the world.

In Jesus' name, we pray,

Amen.

THE NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2025

THE OUTVILLE CHURCH

6463 Outville Road SW

Pataskala, OH. 43062

GOOD NEWS



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Our Mission Statement:

Share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with All

*A word from
Pastor Amy House*



My dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we begin 2025, I want to commend you for all the spiritual work that you have done over the past year. You have been asked some really challenging and sometimes difficult questions. You may not have always liked the questions but your willingness to engage them is commendable. I am very proud of you.

As we continue the work of being church, of being the hands and feet of Christ, I invite you to consider the advice offered in the epistle to the Colossians. Colossians is a letter written to the people of Colossae, a once thriving town on the Lycus River in Asia. The focus of the letter is the change of a believer's spiritual existence which was achieved by Christ's death and resurrection. The author makes several contrasts between old and new, past and present. This change includes directions for the moral reorientation for followers of Christ.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

~Col 3:12-17

I invite you to read the whole letter, it is only four chapters and is quite lovely. It serves as a beautiful reminder to us of the regular practice of stripping off our old selves and rededicating ourselves to Christ and His Mission. To further this dedication, we will affirm our baptism on January 12th, Baptism of Lord Sunday. This pastoral rite of the church is a sacred event and will be a powerful spiritual reminder that we belong only and completely to our God.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Amy



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Annual Congregation Meeting

The practice of holding our annual congregation meeting is rooted in the governance structure of the Presbyterian Church. Our form of church government is known as a representative or connectional system, and it emphasizes the participation of both clergy and the congregation in decision-making processes.

Here's why we do this:

- **Choose Leaders:** Presbyterians believe in a representative form of church governance, where elected elders and other church leaders represent the congregation. Annual meetings include the election of new elders, deacons, and other leaders within the congregation. This process allows the members to have a say in choosing individuals to serve in leadership roles and contribute to the overall direction of the church.
- **Discuss Financial Matters:** The annual meeting provides an opportunity to review and discuss financial priorities to ensure transparency in the handling of church funds.
- **Share Information:** Church committee leaders typically provide reports on various aspects of the church's life, including ministries, outreach efforts, and other important activities. This helps keep you informed about the overall health and functioning of the church.
- **Make Policy Decisions:** Important policy decisions may be brought to the congregation for discussion and approval. This ensures that major decisions align with the collective will of the congregation.
- **Ensure Accountability:** Holding annual meetings fosters accountability within the church community. Members can hold leaders accountable for their actions and decisions, and leaders can be transparent about their stewardship of the church's resources.

In summary, our annual congregation meeting serves as a mechanism for inclusive decision-making, accountability, and the active participation of all members in the life and governance of our church.

MISSION POSSIBLE

You are making a Difference

Where Your Offerings Go

In January, Sunday offerings will support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and the Board of Pensions (BOP) Assistance Program.

PDA responds swiftly to disasters worldwide, as seen in our recent efforts for Hurricane Helene victims, including gathering supplies, funding delivery, and filling 25 clean-up buckets. PDA representatives are still helping with cleanup.

The BOP Assistance Program provides need-based grants to support active and retired plan members and their families.

100% of your offerings support missions locally, nationally, and globally.



Hands-On Mission for January

The January "Hands-On Mission" focuses on collecting new undergarments and socks for those in need.

Known as "Undie Sunday," this effort continues throughout the month. Donations will support the homeless in Licking County and will be distributed by the Salvation Army in Newark.

Announcements

PIE 2025

PIE 2025 – Partners in Education Training Day: March 1, 2025

Plan to attend the PIE Event at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Columbus. Registration opens at 9:00 AM, and the event runs until 2:30 PM. The \$20 fee, covered by the church, includes lunch. Dr. Corey Schlosser-Hall, from the Presbyterian Mission Agency, is the keynote. Enjoy workshops on topics like children and youth ministry, church visibility, chair yoga, Lenten prayer practices, Matthew 25, and more. All are encouraged to attend!



Weekly Bible Study Day Change

Bible Study will now be held on Wednesdays at 12:30 pm. The session will be held both in person and by teleconference. The first week is January 8, at 12:30 pm. If you are in the Bell Choir, please bring your own lunch.

The book, "Explore the Bible: Psalms, Bible Study" will be used. Your copy will be provided after you sign up to participate. The sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board.



Our Deepest Condolences

Rob Murray passed away December 7, 2024. We had prayed for Rob as he fought his cancer for a long time. We especially extend thoughts of sympathy to his wife Audrey and children Stephanie, Tim and Fabi.

Richard Bond the uncle of Sherrie Royer who passed away on December 12, 2024 at the age of 86.

SAVE the DATE



Men's Lunch – January 6th

At 11:30 a.m. on January 6th, the men in our church community will meet at Denny's Restaurant located in the Flying J Travel Center at 10480 Outville Road. All are welcome.



Steak Dinner – Friday, January 10th, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy good food at the Woodside Presbyterian Church Baked Steak Dinner located at 295 Woods Avenue, Newark. The meal is served 4:30 – 6:30 pm. A donation of \$11.00 requested.



Church Officer Training January 11th

Elders, Deacons, leadership nominees, and those interested in becoming a leader of the church are invited to Church Officer Training on Saturday, January 11, at Mifflin Presbyterian Church, Gahanna. Registration starts at 9:00 AM, and the event ends by 11:30 AM. Sign up on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board. A bus trip may be arranged if enough participants sign up.



Outville Annual Congregation Meeting Sunday, January 26, 2024, 12:15 pm

Our Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, January 26, 2025, at 12:15 PM, after worship and a potluck lunch. Members are urged to attend; others are welcome to observe. Bring a dish to share; beverages will be provided.

Church officers for 2025 will be elected, including two elders, two deacons, two trustees, the financial secretary, and the congregational members for the 2026 Church Officer Nominating Committee. Reports from Church Leadership and Committees will be distributed January 19th and presented at the meeting.

LEADERSHIP UPDATES

Mission Study Committee

The committee reports that they are finishing up the final stages of their work. It will be submitted to the Session and to the Presbytery for input. Once approved, it will be presented to the Congregation.

Trustees

New windows have been installed in the sanctuary.

2025 Committee Planning

The ministries of our congregation are wide and varied. Planning is underway and volunteers are always needed to help.

- The Music and Worship Committee plans, coordinates, and enhances the musical and liturgical elements of our worship services to create meaningful and spiritually engaging experiences for our services.
- The Christian Education Outreach, Fellowship, and Evangelism Committee (CEOFE) organizes events to raise community awareness of our church and our mission while fostering deeper relationships among members of our church community.
- The Missions Committee allocates and oversees donations of your offerings to organizations and hands-on activities that support local and global outreach, service, and advocacy, reflecting Christ's call to generosity and compassion.

2024 Committee Chairs & Liasons

- Clerk of Session: AK Hite
- Deacons: Mary Ramey
- Education Grant: Mary Ramey
- Endowment: Mary Ramey
- Christian Education, Outreach, Fellowship and Evangelism – Carol Glaub and Alice Karen Hite
- Missions: Rory Utt & Cathy Ritchie
- Music & Worship: Lisa Mitchell
- Technology: Laura Brown
- Trustees: Alice Karen Hite

Would You Like to Get More Involved?

Our committees welcome greater participation from our congregation! While meeting times for 2025 are not yet finalized, we strive to make it possible for everyone to join!

If you are interested or unsure which committee would be best for you, see Pastor Amy or an elder for guidance.

Outville Presbyterian Church Monthly Calendar

January 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day 	2 7: 00 pm Trombones Rehearse 	3 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	4 10 – Noon Breads Distributed
5 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 am Worship – H Communion 11:30 am Choral Group 11:30 am Fellowship – Celebrate	6 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 11:30 am Men's Lunch	7 NO Food Packing Party	8 12:30 pm Bible Study – H 2:30 pm Food Packing 6:00 pm Session	9 7: 00 pm Trombones Rehearse 	10 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up 4:30 pm Woodside Steak Dinner	11 9:00 AM Presbytery Church Officer Training 10 – Noon Breads Distributed
12 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 am Worship – H 11:30 am Choral Group 11:30 am Fellowship 12:00 Music & Worship	13 7:00 pm Crochet Club 	14 10:00 am Missions 6:30 pm CEOFE	15 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 am Bible Study – H 2:30 pm Food Packing	16 7: 00 pm Trombones Rehearse 	17 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	18 10 – Noon Breads Distributed
19 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 am Worship – H 11:30 am Choral Group 11:30 am Fellowship	20 Martin Luther King Jr. 	21	22 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 am Bible Study – H 2:30 pm Food Packing	23 7: 00 pm Trombones Rehearse 	24 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	25 10 – Noon Breads Distributed
26 INVITE A FRIEND 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 am Worship – H 11:30 am Choral Group 11:30 am Fellowship – Potluck Lunch 12:15 pm Congregational Meeting - H	27 10:30 am Deacon Meeting	28	29 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 am Bible Study – H 2:30 pm Food Packing	30 7: 00 pm Trombones Rehearse 	31 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

PASTOR: Rev. Amy House (614) 203-0518

PASTOR e-mail: outvillepastor@gmail.com

PASTOR ADDRESS: 651 Streamwater Dr.
Blacklick, OH. 43004

CHURCH PHONE NUMBER: (740) 927-7925

CHURCH ADDRESS: 6463 Outville Road SW
Pataskala, OH 43062

CHURCH WEBSITE: <http://www.outvillechurch.org>

CHURCH TELECONFERENCE NUMBER:
TOLL-FREE 1 (617) 793-8569

The Board of Session is the overseeing board of the church and is made up of Elders who are elected by the members of the congregation. The Board of Deacons support the mission of the church through caregiving ministries. The Trustees take care of the property and its contents.

2024 Board of Session

Laura Brown, Carol Glaub, Lisa Mitchell, Mary Ramey, Alice Karen Hite, Rory Utt

2024 Board of Deacons

Carol Hite, Debbi Utt, Charlene Foor, Vonda Morrow, Carolyn Leach, Debbie Schiller

Clerk of Session: Alice Karen Hite

Treasurer: Mary Ramey

Financial Secretary: Carol Glaub

2024 Trustees

Bob Foor, Gene Hite, Glenn Ritchie, Steve Rauch, Tim Lightle, Jill Darst

2024 Congregation Nominating Committee for 2025 Officers

Shanda Rader, Mamie Long, Dwight Hite, Steve Rauch, Melissa Lightle, Jill Darst

Organist & Music Director: Mary K. Franz

Custodian: Rory Utt



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays

01/06 Dottie Hite
01/16 Cathy Ritchie
01/18 Melissa Brown

01/22 Alec Hamilton
01/24 Lindsey Bean
01/25 Emerson Beaumont

01/29 Phyllis Welsh
01/31 Mark Abbott

Anniversaries

Ryan & Marie Utt

Please let us know of any birthdays or anniversaries we may have missed.
Send to Alice Karen Hite at akhite@roadrunner.com.



My Dear Friends,

"Thank you, Outville Presbyterian, for the many Christmas cards, tasty goodies, gifts, and especially for the many prayers and well wishes for Bruce and myself. They are greatly appreciated. It's a joy and pleasure to serve as your organist."

Mary K. Franz

Another Huge Winner!

Our church activities on Saturday, December 14th, including the Hot Chocolate Party, Walk About, Open House, and Parade, were a wonderful success! Around 100 people connected with one another and experienced the warmth of the Outville Presbyterian Church community. A heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated, with special gratitude to those who built the float. Your creativity and dedication, even in the cold, made the event truly memorable!

