

# Monthly Prayer



Faithful God,

As we enter February, we seek Your guidance and truth. Like the psalmist in Psalm 25, we lift our souls to You, trusting in Your ways. Lead us in righteousness, surround us with Your steadfast love, and shape our hearts to reflect Your mercy.

Strengthen our church and all who seek You. For those burdened with fear or sorrow, be their refuge and hope. Protect us from discouragement and remind us of Your goodness. May we worship You with trust and love, embodying Christ's light in all we do.

In Your Loving name we pray,  
Amen.

## For Your Information

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**THE NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2025**

**THE OUTVILLE CHURCH**

6463 Outville Road SW

Pataskala, OH. 43062

# GOOD NEWS



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## New Mission Statement:

Outville Presbyterian strives to be a Christ centered growing and giving church by proclaiming *Jesus's love for all through our service to the community and the world.*



## *A word from our Pastor*

My dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is hard to believe that January is already over. It seems to have flown by, perhaps in part to the extended football season that kept many of us on the edge of our seats. So here we are in February continuing our journey in the season after Epiphany, slowing heading towards Lent which begins in March.

Our Wednesday Bible study is exploring the Psalms, and my recent class sparked many ideas. We studied the richness of Psalm 95, traditionally linked to the Festival of the Booths, which commemorates Israel's exodus from Egypt—a theme I touched on in last week's sermon.

Psalm 95 declares the one true living God, highlighting His faithfulness and His people's unfaithfulness. Recognizing this, we see our Creator as worthy of worship. Our Bible study's author noted that "worship" was first a noun before becoming a verb—implying a constant state of worship. This perspective deepens God's call for us to be Christ's light in all we do. Imagine being in a constant state of worship. At day's end, could you say your thoughts, words, and actions reflected joyful, triumphant worship of our sovereign Creator?

Read the Psalm and then consider these other questions from the author:

- When was a time you withheld worship from God?
- What has been one of your greatest moments of worship?
- What do you find encouraging, timely or convicting about this Psalm?
- Based on this Psalm, what are some different expressions of worship that we could incorporate into our worship?
- Do we have to be on knees to worship? What is the significance of kneeling? What does this gesture reveal about our hearts?
- How would you describe a harden heart? How does a hardened heart interfere with the worship of God?
- What else does this Psalm teach us about God? About ourselves?

So much depth in just 11 verses—what good stuff! If you're intrigued, join us next week for Psalm 51 as we explore forgiveness and reconciliation. Meanwhile, take time to sit with God and try being worship for a day. I'd love to hear how it goes!

*Blessings,  
Pastor Amy*



## *Psalm 95*

*1 O come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*

*2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*

*3 For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods.*

*4 In his hand are the depths of the earth;  
the heights of the mountains are his also.*

*5 The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands  
have formed.*

*6 O come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!*

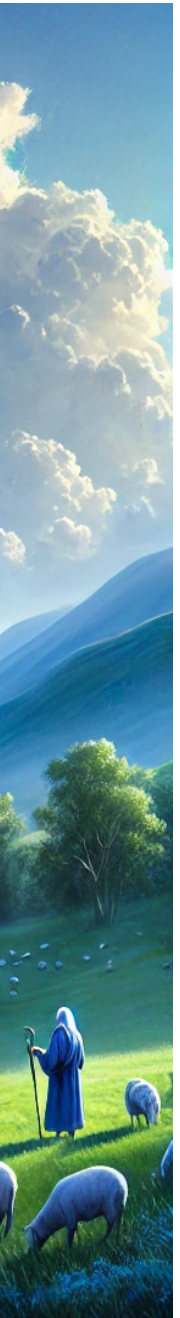
*7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the  
sheep of his hand.  
O that today you would listen to his voice!*

*8 Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at  
Massah in the wilderness,*

*9 when your ancestors tested me and put me to the proof, though  
they had seen my work.*

*10 For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a  
people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways."*

*11 Therefore in my anger I swore, "They shall not enter my rest."*





# ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

01/23/2025

## Highlights



Printed reports were provided by all leadership and committee leaders.

The following individuals were elected:

**Elders:** Jane Tudor (1<sup>st</sup> 3-year term)  
Lisa Mitchell (2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term)

**Deacons:** Rose Sanders (1<sup>st</sup> 3-year term)  
Vonda Morrow ((2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term)

**Financial Secretary:** Melissa Lightle

**Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC):**  
Debbie Schiller, Steve Rauch, Shanda Rader, Rory Utt, Carol Hite, Tim Lightle, and Alice Karen Hite

The following individuals were elected at the Corporate Meeting:

**Trustees:** Melissa Lightle (1<sup>st</sup> 3-year term)  
Glenn Ritchie (2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term)

If you would like a copy of the Annual Meeting Packet, you may call to arrange pickup or stop by on Saturday from 10:00 AM – noon. The Mission Study Report is included in the packet, with additional copies available separately.

### Key Activities in 2024

- Backpack Packing
- Bible Studies
- Blessing Box
- Bread Ministry
- Designated Missions
- Educational Support
- Families Helping Families
- Good News Club
- Hats, Scarves, and Mittens
- Helping the Unhoused
- Jacob's Porch Meals
- Lay Pulpit Supply
- Local Food Donations
- Mission Awareness Day
- Mission Study Committee
- Missionaries
- Operation Christmas Child
- Presbytery Committees
- Rummage Sale
- Special Music



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT MISSION STUDY

Within the Presbyterian church, mission studies are typically conducted when a church is in transition, such as before calling a new pastor, to provide clarity on the congregation's mission and vision. The study helps inform the search for a new pastor by identifying the leadership qualities that best fit the church's needs.

Not only does it provide a comprehensive assessment of the congregation, its history, its strengths, and challenges, its demographics and its ministry areas, it also helps discern where God is calling the church in its community and beyond.

For the last several months, our Mission Study Committee worked extremely hard to gather information about our congregation, our membership, our financial position, and our community demographics. It evaluated current programs and opportunities for growth. Through this, an updated mission statement was created as well as possibilities for the future.

We are pleased to report that the Mission Study is now complete. The Session approved the 2024 Mission Study and the Scioto Valley Presbytery Commission on Ministry approved the study as submitted on January 27, 2025.



The Mission Study Committee was Elder Rory Utt, Chairperson, Shanda Rader Co-chairperson, Debbie Schiller, Melissa Lightle, and Elder Lisa Mitchell. Transitional Pastor Rev. Amy E. House guided the committee as a key focus of her transitional ministry. Thank you all!!

### NEW MISSION STATEMENT

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strives to be a Christ  
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world.*



# OUTVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTHLY CALENDAR

February 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 10:00 – Noon Breads Distributed 
<b>2</b> COMMUNION 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 am Worship – H 11:30 am Choral Croup 11:30 am Fellowship – Celebrate	<b>3</b> 11:30 am Men's Lunch 	<b>4</b> <b>NO Food Packing Party</b>	<b>5</b> 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Study – H 2:30 pm Food Packing 3:15 pm Good News Club Mtg	<b>6</b> 3:30 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Trombones 	<b>7</b> 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	<b>8</b> 10:00 – Noon Breads Distributed 
<b>9</b> 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 am Worship – H 11:30 am Choral Croup 11:30 am Fellowship <b>11:30 am Town Hall Meeting</b>	<b>10</b> 10:30 am Deacon Meeting 7:00 pm Crochet Group 	<b>11</b> 10:00 am Missions 6:30 pm CEOFE	<b>12</b> 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Study – H 2:30 pm Food Packing 3:15 pm Good News Club	<b>13</b> 7:00 pm Trombones 	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day 4:30 pm Woodside Dinner 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	<b>15</b> 10:00 – Noon Breads Distributed 
<b>16</b> 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 am Worship – H 11:30 am Choral Croup 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>17</b> Presidents Day 	<b>18</b> 3:30 Presbytery, Grove City	<b>19</b> 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Study – H 2:30 pm Food Packing 3:15 pm Good News Club	<b>20</b> 7:00 pm Trombones 	<b>21</b> 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	<b>22</b> 10:00 – Noon Breads Distributed  10 – 3 “The Future of Faith & Finance” Broad St, Cols.
<b>23</b> INVITE A FRIEND 9:30 am Bible Study – H 10:30 am Worship – H 11:30 am Choral Croup 11:30 am Fellowship Lunch	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 11:00 am Bell Choir 12:30 pm Bible Study – H 2:30 pm Food Packing 3:15 pm Good News Club	<b>27</b> 7:00 pm Trombones 	<b>28</b> Noon – 2 pm “Good Futures Accelerator” also 6-8 pm Repeat, Overbrook 9:00 pm Bread Pick Up	



# MISSION POSSIBLE

## You are making a Difference

### *Where Your Offerings Go*

The February offerings will go to support ministries in the Scioto Valley Presbytery (67%), Synod of the Covenant (1%), and the PCUSA General Assembly (32%). The efforts of our connectional church are supported by local congregations in this way.

### *Hands-On Mission for February Blessing Box*



The Hands-On Mission for February, March, April, and May will be the gatherings of non-perishable products like paper towels and toilet paper for the Blessing Box. Items of great need are peanut butter, jelly, bread, soups, ramen noodles, mac and cheese meals, canned fruits, canned vegetables, canned pastas and similar. When possible, select cans with pop tops.

### *A Special Thank You*

Our scarf tree overflowed with generosity! A total of **210 warm items** adorned the tree in December, including **89 scarves, 14 hats, 85 pairs of gloves/mittens, and 22 pairs of socks**. These were delivered to the Salvation Army just in time for the extreme cold. Thank you for your kindness and support!



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

## Announcements



### **Bell Choir**

The Bell Choir will begin weekly rehearsals February 5, 2025 on Wednesdays at 11:00 am. All are welcome.



### **Weekly Bible Study**

The Wednesday Bible Study time continues at 12:30 pm on Wednesdays. The study is available in a hybrid format. Bible Study for Lent begins 3/5.

### **Good News Club**

We plan to offer two sessions of the **Good News Club** at Kirkersville School on Wednesday afternoons this semester. The program will feature **high-energy scripture teaching**, with a focus on deeper engagement with parents. There are opportunities to assist with specific parts of the club experience. Do you feel called to be part of this outreach? If so, see Alice Karen Hite.



### **Mission Awareness**

Throughout the year, you may come across faith-based agencies that would be valuable candidates for financial support. If so, please inform Cathy Ritchie so they can be invited to our Mission Awareness Day, typically held in August.





### ANNIVERSARIES

2/12 Glenn & Cathy Ritchie  
2/14 Tom & Sharon McCray  
2/20 Dave & Tracy King

### BIRTHDAYS

2/5 Charlene Foor  
2/8 Erin Morgan  
2/8 Jonathan Glaub Jr.  
2/10 Sheila Rodgers  
2/11 Lisa Mitchell  
2/16 Mary Ramey  
2/16 Melissa Brown  
2/18 John DuBoe  
2/18 Kevin Nixon  
2/22 Bob Foor  
2/23 Jannetta Davis  
2/25 Mary K. Franz  
2/26 Dean Woodyard  
2/27 Melvin Darst  
2/27 Eleanor Glaub

### Thank you for your Leadership in 2024!

Thanks to all who have served church leadership roles in 2024. Class of 2024 Elders were Lisa Mitchell and Laura Brown; Class of 2024 Deacons were Vonda Morrow and Charlene Foor; Class of 2024 Trustees were Gene Hite and Glenn Ritchie. Carol Glaub was recognized for having served as Church Financial Secretary for 20 years. Thank you, Carol!!



### Thank you for Serving on the Nominating Committee

Thank you to the 2025 Church Officer Nominating Committee, which also nominated the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). Members included Elder co-chairs Mary Ramey & Lisa Mitchell, Deacon Rep. Debbi Utt, and congregational reps Mamie Long, Melissa Harriss, Shanda Rader, Dwight Hite, Steve Rauch, and Jill Darst.

## Save the Date

**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. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board.



### Shrove Tuesday, March 4th

Mark your calendar for a Pancake Supper plus Family Fun with a Madri Gras flair.



### Ash Wednesday, March 5th

Worship on Ash Wednesday is at noon.



### Vacation Bible School, June 8-12 (evenings)

The theme is Camp Firelight: A summer camp adventure with God. We will be looking for volunteers. We will need camp counselors and assistants to lead: music, crafts, mess hall, story time, and recreation. See Lisa Mitchell for details.