

# HERE AND NOW

WHAT'S HAPPENING  
AT PHBC

DECEMBER 10, 2017

## PAN AND ZOOM BY: DAN ADAMS

*Whether it's for a family gathering or a ministry project, I occasionally find myself compiling a video on my computer. It's usually a highlight reel from a youth event or a picture collage for a family gathering.*

One of my favorite video effects to use is the pan and zoom. It's an effect, sometimes called the Ken Burns effect, which allows you to compile snapshot photos in a way that shows the inherent motion captured in the still pictures. I expect this effect to show up in videos and movies, but I was startled to notice this same effect as I was studying Acts 2 this week.

The entire book of Acts gives us various snapshots of the disciples, early church, and Holy Spirit in action. From time to time the author, Luke, zooms in on one particular scene. As he describes this scene, we learn something new and exciting about God's work through His Spirit and church. Then Luke will zoom out and pan to another scene. I was startled by the contrast this effect made in Acts 2.

At the beginning of the chapter, we have the disciples waiting for the promised coming of the Holy Spirit – their power to boldly live the Christian life. This was a slow pan, 10 days of waiting. Suddenly, Luke zooms in on an amazing scene. All of a sudden, the disciples are filled with the Holy Spirit. With the sound of rushing wind and tongues of fire above their heads, they begin to speak in languages they never knew before.



Then Luke pans over and zooms in on Peter. Just a few weeks ago Peter was embarrassed, denying Christ and hiding in fear. Now he's boldly preaching the gospel, calling everyone who hears him to repentance. Luke quickly zooms out, and in verse 41 we see the results: 3,000 people were saved and baptized that day.

The last scene in Acts 2 is a pan across a snapshot of the early church, now infused and empowered by the Holy Spirit. This snapshot has a lot of detail, not to be missed, so Luke takes his time to describe it. It's rich with the character qualities that all believers should strive for. It's full of the kind of actions and living that Christ has called us to. It describes what the community of believers should be.

While this last scene has always been one of my favorite passages of scripture, I found it even richer once I noticed the contrasts imposed by the pan and zoom Luke employs. It's as if Luke was trying to help me see this progression: waiting on God, being filled with the Holy Spirit, and boldly proclaiming the gospel will lead to the kind of Christian community and living that we were called to. As I read and re-read Acts 2:42-47, I long for this kind of community. But we won't get there without going and growing through 2:1-41. I pray that the snapshot of our lives and church, whether zoomed in, or panned over, looks a lot like Acts 2.

## MISSIONS PRAYER FOCUS



Tim and Cara grew up at PHBC, and while they still attend, they also serve as missionaries with ABWE. Tim is an architect who helps with ABWE projects. He and Cara often travel to Kosovo to work with the planning of the Kosovo Leadership Academy. Pray for the work that Tim and Cara are involved with at home and abroad.

## PRAYER THOUGHTS

Gold was given for Jesus, our KING.  
Frankincense was given for Jesus, our HIGH PRIEST.  
Myrrh was given for Jesus, our SAVIOR.  
Our best gift for Jesus is a prayerful life devoted to Him.



## SELFLESS BY: PAM SCOTT

*Recently, I received a call from one of our VBS moms from the community. During our conversation, I was reminded of the soft, impressionable, giving hearts of children.*

Mom shared with me how her 1<sup>st</sup> grader was so deeply touched by the opportunity to give to orphans in need through our VBS missions project. And her son can't wait to do more. He is already asking to do extra chores around the house, maybe find some work in the neighborhood, and he thought of sponsoring a bake sale. This is to raise additional funds to give towards our missions project at VBS in 2018. He wants to begin now so he can help to provide the most he can to children who are in need. Wow, what a heart for others! If we would all have just a little bit of this selfless thinking, and put action to it, what a difference we could make in the lives of those in need. Thank you, God, for using children to help us stay focused on the important things in life. It sure challenged me to go the extra mile for others. How about you?



### SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

*The Senior Adult Holiday Buffet and Christmas Concert will be on Tuesday, December 12 at noon.* Invite some friends to this special event! After our mouth-watering holiday feast and festive dessert, we'll enjoy a Christmas concert by Pastor Chad DeWeerd. The cost is \$4 per person.

*For the safety of our senior adults in inclement weather, we will not have any trips in December and January.*



### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

*What's happening with kids at the 10:00am Christmas Eve service on December 24?*

Grades 1-6 will join their parents and worship together as a family (no regular Sunday School classes). Nursery-toddlers will have childcare, and 2s and 3s through kindergarten will have special Christmas celebrations in their classrooms. We will resume the normal Sunday morning schedule on December 31.

*Save the date: Our Children's Worker Breakfast is on Saturday, January 27.*

All children's workers – weekly, monthly, and yearly – you won't want to miss our special morning together. Besides a scrumptious breakfast, we will review safety drills, connect with each other, and have four opportunities to continue to sharpen our skills as we magnify the light of Jesus with children. It's a great morning together, so reserve the date on your calendar. You are vital in the children's ministry at PHBC.



### YOUTH MINISTRIES

*Students in grades 7-12 are invited to join us for our Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 20*

*from 6:00–9:00pm.* Pick-up and drop-off will be at the church.

We're heading downtown to see the lights, enjoy ice skating in Public Square, and we will be going on a scavenger hunt.

Students should dress to be outside (hats, coats, gloves), and should bring \$10 for skating and hot chocolate. As always, check out

[www.oneeightyone.org](http://www.oneeightyone.org) for all the details.



### YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

*The Young Adult College Students and Singles Christmas party is Saturday, December 16.*

Come on out to the Williams' home at 5:00pm for a fun time celebrating the Christmas season! Bring a gift for exchange (\$15 maximum) and your favorite dip with dip-able food to share.



## PARMA HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

**As you plan your year-end giving, don't forget Parma Heights Christian Academy.** You may drop off a donation for PHCA at the church office or mail it to 8971 W Ridgewood Drive, Parma Heights, OH 44130. Donations must be received in person/dated/postmarked by December 31 to be considered a 2017 donation. Thank you to our PHBC family for your ongoing support for our ministry!



**The PHCA Christmas program is on Friday, December 15 at 7:00pm in the worship center.**

This year's concert includes students traveling around the world to explore the way other countries celebrate Christ at Christmas. The production will include all students in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, the Beginning and Advanced Bands, and the Ukulele Club. Join our students this year as we discover "What is Christmas really about?" and "Who is Christmas really about?"

**Don't forget to stop by the PHCA table in the glass walkway to purchase shopping cards for your Christmas needs.** Simply pick up your cards for Toys R Us, Best Buy, JCPenney,

Kohl's, Macy's, Sears, and Bath & Body Works as well as DOZENS of other stores. Then either go to the store to shop, or give the gift card as a present to a loved one! We have increased our inventory over the holidays. As always, thank you for supporting your Academy.

## COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

**We're currently looking to build teams for our 2018 Co-ed Volleyball League, which runs on Thursdays from January 4 through April 26.** This interchurch league will play at various local churches including PHBC and is available for various skill levels. Participants should be 16 years or older or have at least 2 years of competitive volleyball experience. For more information or to sign up, contact Dan Adams at DAdams@phbaptist.org. League information is available in the church office.



**The Community Hot Meal is Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00pm.** We can always use your help as a table host or a server.

## CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

**On Sunday, December 24, there will be one worship service at 10:00am. Growth Groups will not meet.** Nursery-toddlers will have childcare, and 2s and 3s through kindergarten will have special Christmas celebrations in their classrooms during the worship service. In the evening, we will have two identical Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 3:30 and 5:00pm.



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**The last IMPACT Night of the year will be December 13. We will take a break for 3 weeks and resume on January 10.**

**The church office will be closed December 25 and 26 for Christmas, and January 1 on New Year's Day.**

**On Sunday, December 31, we will have regular Sunday activities (service times, Growth Groups, and children's classes).**

## WHERE WILL YOU SERVE?

**The excitement is growing as teams of people are meeting, praying, brainstorming, and asking God to give us His vision for a new look for our summer 2018 outreach event for kids in grades 1-6.** We will keep the same solid Bible content, rallies, and small group experiences that have been part of our past VBS, but the activities will take on a whole new look. Imagine being a kid and finding out there's a ninja course just for kids, or a room full of Minute to Win It challenges, or you're the moving piece on a life-size board game...well, you get the idea! It will be different than anything we have ever done, and we believe kids will be more excited than ever to be here. So keep watching! It will continue to be unveiled as God shows us the way. But, mark July 16-20, 2018 on your calendar, and plan on joining us for another great opportunity to connect with kids and share the life-changing message of Jesus. There will also be preschool opportunities this same week. Yes, we need YOU to make it happen. Approximately 250 workers will be needed. Again, we are just in the planning stages, so if you have any activity or overall name ideas, please pass them on to Pam Scott, the children's ministry team, or any of the grade 1-6 VBS department leaders. We're excited to see what God will do!

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT PHBC

DECEMBER/JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21		
24	25	26	27	28		
	1		3	4		

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Children's Christmas Service – 11:20am/parlor  
 Creative Christmas – 3:00pm/WC  
 YA Couples Bible Study – 4:30pm/B-5

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

BSF – 6:55pm/WC  
 GriefShare – 7:00pm/B-5

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Senior Adult Meal – 12:00pm/FLC

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

White Cross – 11:30am/parlor  
 IMPACT Night – 7:00pm  
 Pioneer Girls Christmas Event – 7:00pm/FLC

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Open Gym Volleyball – 7:30pm/FLC  
 Fortified Men's Group – 8:00pm/B-5

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

PHCA Christmas Concert – 7:00pm/WC

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

YA Singles Christmas Party – 5:00pm

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

YA Singles Bible Study – 4:30pm

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

Food Pantry – 10:00am  
 GriefShare – 7:00pm/B-5

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Community Meal – 6:00pm/FLC

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Youth Christmas Party – 6:00pm  
 No IMPACT Night

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

Open Gym Volleyball – 7:30pm/FLC  
 Fortified Men's Group – 8:00pm/B-5

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Morning Service – 10:00am  
 Christmas Eve Services – 3:30pm  
 Christmas Eve Services – 5:00pm

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Merry Christmas! – Office Closed

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

Office Closed

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

No IMPACT Night

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

Fortified Men's Group – 8:00pm/B-5

## MONDAY, JANUARY 1

Happy New Year! – Office Closed

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

No IMPACT Night

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

Fortified Men's Group – 8:00pm/B-5

## PHBC LEADERSHIP STAFF

Dan Barfell – Senior Pastor

Kraig Anderson – Executive Pastor

Dan Adams – NextGen Pastor

Pam Scott – Children's Pastor

Tim Hunsicker – Discipleship Pastor

Matt Williams – Young Adults Pastor

Dave Griffey – Christian Schools Administrator

Jen Moench – Preschool Director



### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:15 & 9:30am *Classic* | 11:00am *Contemporary*

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