

# the PULSE

December 2015

Monthly Vitals of Parma Heights Baptist Church

## Missions Prayer Focus:



Roger and Amy Schley work with Wycliffe Bible Translators in a sensitive country in Southeast Asia. They and their two sons spend part of their time in a city and then

go to a remote village where they are learning an unwritten language. They need about a week to get to the village where they will live for 3 to 6 months. Two native co-workers work with them in translating the Bible. The Schleys also help the natives learn to count money. The Schleys also help with community health. They and their helpers administer malaria medicine to help save the lives of villagers. Amy also spends time home schooling 12 year old Ryan. Daniel is 14, and stays in town at a small dorm at the international school. He's excited about starting 8<sup>th</sup> grade and staying with some friends. Fortunately, there's a lot of good friends in town who can help out if needed. Pray for Daniel and the rest of the family as they adjust to this new living situation. Pray specifically for Ryan, who'll be in the village without his brother, Daniel.

## Prayer Thoughts:

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11*

Thank you, Lord, for giving the most precious gift, Jesus. The gift of your love, your only Son. Help us to be an example of your love by joyfully giving to others.

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*



## Check It Out:

Join us on Friday, December 11 or Saturday, December 12 at 7:00pm, or Sunday, December 13 at 3:00pm for *Creative Christmas: Joy in the Busy*. When you're in the middle of the Christmas season, are you sad it's halfway over, or just waiting to flip your calendar to January 1 to declare that you've survived another Christmas? Christmas can be hard. It can be busy. May we ask: Can you find joy in the busy? We hope you join us for this truly uplifting version of *Creative Christmas*. Complimentary tickets are available on the literature shelf.



# Events & Classes:

## ADULT MINISTRIES

**The annual church business meeting will be held on Sunday, December 6 after the 11:00am service** to vote on amendments to our constitution and approve the 2016 ministry needs. Copies of the Budget Summary are on the literature shelf. Copies of the Detailed Budget and proposed constitution changes are available in the church office.

**The Marriage Builders Growth Group is hosting their second marriage retreat** from February 12-14, 2016 and would like to extend an invitation to all married couples at PHBC. The retreat offers couples a chance to get away from the hustle and bustle of daily life and focus on improving their relationships with one another, and most importantly, their relationships with God. The retreat will be held at the Berlin Grande Hotel in Berlin, Ohio, which is located in the heart of the Amish country. The cost of the retreat is \$300 and includes dinner on Friday and Saturday, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday and two nights of lodging. Our guest speakers are Steve and Kris Williams of Harvest Baptist Missions and Restore: A Biblical Counseling Ministry. The couple has been married for 27 years and has led dozens of retreats as a part of their ministry to married couples. You will be encouraged and challenged! Please contact Nathan and Sarah Lynix ([thelynixfamily@gmail.com](mailto:thelynixfamily@gmail.com)) or Dan and Jackie Shaffer ([shaffer.dan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shaffer.dan@sbcglobal.net)) with any questions or if you are interested in helping with the retreat. More information is available in the glass walkway through December. We are limited to 35 couples for this retreat, so do not delay in registering. A \$150 deposit will hold your spot with all funds due no later than January 10, 2016. We look forward to a fantastic time together!



**Open Gym for Pickup Volleyball** is on Thursdays from 7:30 to 10:00pm through December 10. Join us for an evening of volleyball exercise. No previous experience required. This is a great opportunity to brush up on your skills in preparation for our competitive league that begins in January.

**Each year we host and participate in a multi-church Outreach Volleyball League.** If you're interested in participating, please contact Dan Adams ([DAdams@phbaptist.org](mailto:DAdams@phbaptist.org)) ASAP for complete details. We are looking to field two 6 person, co-ed teams in the "Intermediate Bracket" (Intermediate = from advanced recreational player to beginning power player who can bump and set well). Participants must be at least 16 years of age. Special consideration may be given to those under 16 with 2 years of competitive volleyball experience. Games are on Thursdays evenings between 6:30-10:45pm in the family life center beginning January 7, 2016 through April 28. The cost is \$20 for the entire season, that includes a team T-shirt.

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

**Please Note: There will no Autumn Fellowship Meal on the fourth Tuesday in December.** Instead, we will have a very special combined Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Buffet on Tuesday, December 8 at noon. After our buffet of ham, parsley potatoes, green beans, hot apples and a brownie parfait, we will enjoy a Christmas concert with Chad DeWeerd. He has been our guest many times and his concert always touches hearts in a powerful way. You won't want to miss it. Be sure to bring a friend! Cost is \$4 per person.



**The Senior Adult Bible study in December is preempted** for the Holiday Buffet. It will resume on January 12 at 1:00pm in B-5. Bring a Bible, a pen, and a friend. Refreshments will follow.

**There are no Senior Adult Trips in December and January due to the possibility of inclement weather.** Look for information about future trips as the weather warms up.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

**Women's Ministries will host a Ladies Christmas Brunch on Saturday, December 5** from 10:00am to noon. Dress comfy and cozy as we slow down to spend a few minutes relishing in the comfort of Christ and the peace that He brings to this time of year. Please bring a pair of pajamas or a blanket to be donated to Laura's Home. They need ladies pajamas in size large and extra large, kids pajamas for boys and girls in all sizes, and gender neutral baby sleepers in 0-24 months. All donations should be unwrapped. You can pick up a complete list in the glass walkway when you sign up. Call Jen Moench at 440.570.1958 with any questions.



## MEN'S MINISTRIES

**Men of PHBC Guys Night Out is Friday, December 4** from 5:30 to 8:00pm at Fox and Hound. Come and unwind with the guys before the busy holiday season hits.

**Men of PHBC breakfast is on Saturday, December 5** from 9:00 to 11:00am. Join us for food, fellowship and worship with our fellow men of Transparent Men. Cost is \$5 at the food line on Saturday.

## Worship Ministries:

When you're in the middle of the Christmas season, are you sad it's halfway over or just waiting to flip your calendar to January 1 to declare you've survived another Christmas? Christmas can be hard. It can be busy. Can you find joy in the busy? We hope you join this truly uplifting and enjoyable version of *Creative Christmas: Joy in the Busy* December 11 and 12 at 7:00pm and December 13 at 3:00pm. Christmas desserts will be served following each performance. And **IT'S FREE**, so bring all your friends!

## Kids & Students:

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**CELEBRATE is an exciting event for all children's workers on Saturday, January 30** from 9:00am to noon in the family life center. We will CELEBRATE God's goodness, our faithful workers, and the children God has entrusted to us. *One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts...they CELEBRATE your abundant goodness (Psalm 145:4, 7)*. Reserve the date on your calendar as we CELEBRATE and sharpen our skills for ministry.



**The Bethlehem Project is the Children's Christmas Service for grades 1-6** on Sunday, December 13. Join us in the parlor, once children are dismissed from the 11:00am service. Do you ever wonder what it might have been like in Bethlehem if the Bethlehem kids and the shepherd kids didn't get along? Of course, everything changes when they find the same Savior. With the use of video, puppets, and a devotional, we will celebrate the birth of Jesus, our King. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend and share God's love.

**Make It Sparkle is the theme of the Pioneer Girl Mom and Daughter Event** on Wednesday, December 16 from 7:00 to 8:30pm in the family life center. In this season

that shimmers and sparkles, we invite each Pioneer Girl along with their mother, grandmother, or special friend to an evening where we can encourage each other to sparkle for Him. Don't miss it!

**Star Trip: Our Faith Awakens is the theme for churchtime for grades 1-4 in December.** The Magi were on a quest, following a star to find the child king foretold in prophecy. Along their journey, they encountered both

the dark and the light, the good and the bad. In the end they met Jesus, the true star of their trip. Come to the youth center once dismissed from the 11:00am service to begin the adventure!

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

**There will be a meeting for Youth Leaders and the SLAM Team** in the youth diner on Sunday, December 6 from 12:30-2:30pm.

**GLOW Gym and Game Night is Wednesday, December 9, from 6:00 to 8:30pm.** Invite your friends and join us for this glow-in-the-dark night of fun.

**All students in grades 7-12 are invited to join us on Friday, December 18** for an evening of caroling and partying from 6:00 to 9:30pm. We'll bring the joy of Christ and Christmas to a local retirement home, followed by snacks, a hot chocolate bar, and plenty of hang time.

**IMPACT Night classes will not meet on Wednesday, December 23 and 30** for Christmas Break.

**One of the best ways to stay up-to-date** on events, announcements and happenings in our student ministry is to subscribe to our blog at the top left corner at [www.oneeightyone.org](http://www.oneeightyone.org). In addition to timely info and updates, you can see pictures of our youth in action.



## Missions Ministries:



**The Parma Height Baptist Church family collected 402 filled shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child this year!** We were also able to send a box of miscellaneous items that can be used in other boxes at the distribution site. Once again, the PHBC family went above and beyond last year's total boxes. What a joy and privilege to reach unsaved children around the world in this way!

**We thank each of you who have taken part in Sewing God's Love, one stitch at a time!** It has been an encouragement to see so many of you get involved in so many different ways! If you'd like to continue sewing throughout the holidays, let

Laura Hamilton know in the next week how many skirt kits you'd like to work on from now until January. We appreciate you making time to sew skirts for the girls who need them the most. Remember to pray for the girls who will be wearing the skirts, for protection and salvation. Pray for their country also, as there is a lot of fighting going on right now. We are blessed to live in such a peaceful country.

## Christian School Ministries:

### PARMA HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

**You are invited to our Christmas program on Thursday, December 17** at 7:00pm in the worship center featuring all students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Following the program, the band will provide festive music in the family life center with a time for refreshments. Artwork by students in kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will also be on display around the school. Please join us for this special evening.

**As you shop for Christmas, remember to pick up gift cards** from the Academy office Monday through Friday or the glass walkway on Sunday mornings. We have increased our inventory, especially for stores like Amazon, JC Penney, Target, Wal-Mart/Sam's Club, Kohl's, Toys R Us and Honey Baked Ham. It's a simple way to do your shopping while supporting the Academy without spending any extra money!

**Don't forget Parma Heights Christian Academy if you are making year-end donations.** You may drop off a donation marked for PHCA at the church office or mail it to 8971 West Ridgewood Drive, Parma Heights, OH 44130. Donations must be received in person, dated, or postmarked by December 31 to be considered a 2015 donation. We are extremely grateful for the support we receive from our PHBC family.  
**PHCA will be closed for Christmas break,** December 20 – January 3. We will reopen on Monday, January 4.

## **Where Will You Serve?:**



**During this time of Christmas celebration, there are many opportunities to point people to Jesus,** our Savior. With these opportunities, caring for the young children is vital so parents can hear the true meaning of Christmas. Childcare will be offered during *Creative Christmas: Joy in the Busy* on Sunday, December 13, at 3:00pm. During the Christmas Eve services at 4:00 or 5:30pm, there will also be childcare for our little ones. But in order for this to happen, we need willing volunteers. Why not attend one service, then serve as a family during the other? Sign up at the sign up center or one of the church nurseries today.

**If you and/or your family will be here for Christmas Eve and would like to sing** in the Christmas Eve Choir just for Christmas Eve services, please join us. The commitment is 3:30 to 6:00pm on Christmas Eve (services are at 4:00 and 5:30pm). The primary rehearsal is Wednesday, December 23 at 7:30pm. Contact Kraig Anderson at the church office or at [KAnderson@phbaptist.org](mailto:KAnderson@phbaptist.org) if you have any questions.

## **FYI:**

**The PHBC Food Pantry is available to those in need within the church family.** Operating hours are Mondays from 10:00am to noon. If you are unable to come on a Monday, contact Barb Shumaker at 440.746.0944 to make an appointment.

**Thanks for all the donations of food and gift cards given to keep the shelves stocked in our food pantry.** Each of us who work in the food pantry have been blessed beyond measure by being able to help in the pantry and share food, prayer and God's love with everyone who comes in. We thank the church for the help you give so that we may do something we love. We have seen God so many times and we are so thankful to everyone.

**In our continuing efforts to meet the needs of our PHBC family,** we are partnering with Matt Williams of Moriah Counseling and Consulting. Matt provides counseling to people from PHBC during the day on Wednesdays at the church and other times at his office in North Royalton. Matt is a clinically trained and licensed counselor and comes to us with many years of ministry experience. Most currently, Matt has served as Director of Grief Counseling at Cornerstone of Hope in Independence. To schedule a Wednesday appointment at the church with Matt, or for more information, please call the church office and ask for Kathy. The cost of each appointment is \$50. We are glad to be able to offer this needed help to our church family.



## Thank You:

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Our Fall Family Festival was a big success:

- Because you prayed, and God blessed.
- Because at least 150 of you showed up to help.
- Because you brought in 600 bags of wrapped candy.
- Because you invited your friends and neighbors, and almost 1,000 people were here.
- Because God gifted us with a beautiful pavilion and land to expand our ideas, and keep the activities and possibilities fresh.
- Because of the generosity and creativity of God's people, the Fall Family Festival – including lunch for the workers, refreshments for the families, and other miscellaneous costs – was carried out for under \$300.

God is good! Thank you for all you do to carry out God's ministry.

Pam Scott

## Stewardship:

Giving Update through November 22, 2015			
	January-November, 2015 Year to Date	January-November, 2015 Per Week Average	Month of November Per Week Average
<b>Actual</b>	\$1,244,713	\$26,483	\$26,400
<b>Budget</b>	\$1,289,465	\$27,435	\$27,435
<b>% of Budget</b>	96.5%	96.5%	96.2%
<b>Variance</b>	(\$44,752)	(\$952)	(\$1,035)

## Our Pastoral Staff:

Dan Barfell – Senior Pastor

Pam Scott – Minister to Children

Dan Adams – Pastor of Student Ministries

Kraig Anderson – Pastor of Worship and Administration

Terry Zerby – Associate Director of Senior Adults

Tim Hunsicker – Associate Director of Discipleship

Dave Griffey – Minister of Christian Schools





**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**

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

8971 West Ridgewood Drive | Parma Heights, OH 44130  
P: 440.886.6100 | E: [info@phbaptist.org](mailto:info@phbaptist.org) | [www.phbaptist.org](http://www.phbaptist.org)