

HERE AND NOW

WHAT'S HAPPENING
AT PHBC

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

FIRST PRIORITY BY: SHANE PREWITT

One day, Jesus was walking down the street and a guy came up to him and asked him this question: "Which is the greatest commandment?" (Matthew 22:36)

This question was asked by a lawyer sent by the religious leaders who were looking for a way to entrap Jesus in his words so that He would condemn Himself and give them a reason to sentence Him to death.

Jesus knew what the lawyer and the religious leaders were up to and answered the question in a way that left them astounded.

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets" (Matthew 22:37-40, emphasis added).

With His answer, Jesus was able to not only leave the religious leaders without accusation, but He gave us a summary of the Law. According to Jesus, the greatest aspirations that any of us could give ourselves is to love God and love one another. Without question, the greatest thing we can give ourselves to is summarized in this small little word, "Love".

The Apostle Paul echoed these words in I Corinthians 13:13, *So now faith, hope and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love* (emphasis added).

As Christians, it's easy for us to get ourselves immersed in a lot of good activity. The church is filled with opportunities to serve and get involved. And make no mistake about it, serving is essential. But good activity and worthwhile action can never match selfless love. A person could serve out of wrong motives.

Perhaps they serve out of duty. They feel like it is their obligation.

Perhaps they serve out of fear. They fear that if they don't serve, God will punish them.

Perhaps they serve out of tradition. They serve today because they have always done it in the past.

But when a person truly loves God, then service is not born out of duty, fear, or tradition, but instead is born out of a heart of worship. To love God and to love one another as Christ calls us to must begin with an understanding of how much we are loved by Him. We will never truly understand how to love unless we know what it means to be loved.

And the place to begin understanding what love is really like, is to look no further than the cross.

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8, emphasis added).

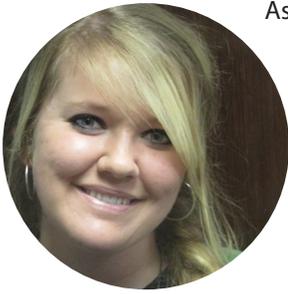
Loving God and loving one another is the greatest commandment that we are called to give ourselves to in this life. To truly be able to do that, we must first understand the depths and riches of His love for us. Only when we truly understand what it means to be loved, will we in turn learn what it means to truly love.



SECURITY TRAINING

On Saturday, March 7 from 12:00 to 5:00pm, PHBC is hosting a security training with Strategos International. This training will cover general security practices as well as lockdown and active shooter protocols. This free-to-you training is specifically designed to help PHBC stay safe and secure when our church family gathers for worship. This training will be of special interest and value for anyone serving in the following ministries: Ushers, Greeters, Connections, Growth Groups, Facilities and Maintenance, Worship Arts, and Children's Ministry teachers. All are welcome. You can RSVP to phbc@phbaptist.org.

MISSIONS PRAYER FOCUS



Ashley Tengler works with youth in the Independence City School District.

Pray for the activities that Youth For Christ (YFC) sponsors. Pray for the students who attend the club meetings. Pray also for more volunteers to help with YFC.

PRAYER THOUGHTS

How great is God's love for us! Excerpts from Psalm 103:

"Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits" (v. 2). "He crowns you with love and compassion" (v. 4). "The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love" (v. 8). "As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear Him" (v. 13). "From everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear Him" (v. 17).



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Ladies, join us for the simulcast conference "IF: Gathering 2020", where we are going to focus completely and entirely on the person of Jesus. That is it. This is our hope and we need hope. Let's come together for two days and ignore our social media feeds, and all of the noise and chaos inside of us and listen to the Word of God. The cost is free, sign up in the glass walkway. The conference will be Friday, February 28 starting at 7:00pm and Saturday, February 29 starting at 8:30am.

YOUTH MINISTRY

All students and parents interested in any of the summer trips (mission trips or backpacking trip) should plan to attend the upcoming informational meeting on Sunday, February 23 at 12:30pm in the Sr. High room. Don't miss it!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Do you need help shaping your son or daughter's Pinewood Derby car? Men from our church will be on hand Wednesday, February 26 during IMPACT Night to help cut and sand cars so that your children in grades 1-6 involved in Wednesday night club programs can compete in the race. We will have all the equipment needed to shape and sand cars. You just need to come with your child and their car any time between 7:00-8:15pm. Pioneer Club/Stockade/Treeclimbers will also be taking place, so kids may return to their rooms when not at the car building area. **Children will not be allowed to go to the car building event without a responsible adult to accompany them.**

New Life classes will begin March 15 for children who are interested in baptism, church membership, or learning about drawing closer to Jesus. This is a 6-8 week class with Miss Pam that meets on Sunday mornings. Children will need to bring a Bible and pencil each week and meet in C-5, once dismissed from the 11:00am service. Kids in grades 1 and 2 need to have a parent attend with them. There will be Bible work for the children to do at home each week to get them in the habit of having daily quiet time with God. If your child seems ready and interested, please sign them up in the church office.

Don't miss the blessing of making impressions that last for eternity in the lives of children. There are many opportunities right now to get involved on a weekly basis during 9:30am Sunday School Treasure Cove, or 11:00am Churchtime with preschoolers or grades 1-4. Maybe you'd like to serve on a rotation in our nursery-toddler area. Stop by the office to pick up a worker screening packet, or talk to Pam about your interest so we can help you find your place. Every worker must be a regular attender for at least 6 months and complete the worker screening process for the protection of the children and you as a worker.

During this cold/flu season, you can help keep our children's area healthy for all. It might be a good idea to keep your child at home if he/she has any of these signs:

- A fever or has had one during the previous 24 hours
- A cold that is less than four days old
- A heavy nasal discharge
- A constant cough
- Symptoms of a possible communicable disease
- Unusual spots or rashes
- Diarrhea or vomiting during the previous 24 hours

These guidelines can help the sick child recover more quickly, as well. Thanks for keeping our children's area healthy and strong!

PARENT RESOURCE

When Pam Scott and members of the Children's Ministry Team attended the Children's Pastors Conference 2020 in January, one of the general session presenters was Keith Ferrin, "speaker, storyteller, and author who strives to help people realize that the living Word of God is a reality – not a phrase." Keith has two resources which guide people in using words of Scripture to pray. The first resource is a book called *Bible Praying for Parents* of which he is co-author with Judy Fetzter. The book has 365 passages of Scripture in more than 20 categories turned into daily prayers. It has a second section with all the prayers from each category combined so that parents can have a concentrated time of prayer on a particular topic such as salvation. The third section is blessings a parent can pray over their children. The book can be purchased on Amazon. There is also an app version of the book for iOS and Android that provides a few added features. One feature is a built-in journal to record prayer requests and answered prayers. The app gives you the ability to copy or share the daily prayer as an image via text, email, or social media. Through the app, you can access additional links to Keith's Bible study resources, blog, and updates being added in the spring. In the email, Keith made the powerful statement: "When we pray God's Word, we pray God's will."

CONNECTIONS MINISTRIES

Are you new to PHBC? Do you have questions about the church and its ministries? We invite you to pick up one of our new Guest Packets located in the welcome center or glass walkway. The packet includes information about PHBC, a small book explaining what it means to follow Christ, and a short survey to learn how we can serve you better.

The City Mission's 9th Annual "Running with a Mission" 5K, 1 Mile Walk, and Kids Dash is back and better than ever! This year we'll be riverside at the East Bank of the Flats and enjoying a beautiful view of the city. As always, this is a family-friendly affair, so we'll have music, kids activities, and more to make it a fun experience for everyone. PHBC will be forming a team to run, walk, and volunteer at this year's event. If you are interested in participating or giving towards the fundraising goal, contact one of our PHBC's captains: Dan Fong, Dan and Jaclyn Shaffer, or Ryan Kraidich. You will also be able to get information about the run this spring through the church. If you want to register with the City Mission and take advantage of an Early Bird Rate, visit www.thecitymission.org/rwam.

Save the date for Tuesday, April 21 at Michaud's Event Center in Strongsville for the Cleveland Pregnancy Center's Annual Banquet. Join hosts Brian and Janelle from WCRF's morning radio show for a night of encouragement and support for the ministry work. You will hear stories of saved lives – babies and souls. There are opportunities to attend, host a table, or donate to a silent auction. Contact the CPC at 216.631.0964 or visit their website at www.clevelandpregnancycenter.org.

Bob Hershey, Executive Director of the Cleveland Pregnancy Center writes, "We are always so grateful for your partnership in so many different ways. We have clients and volunteers that come to us because they heard about us at their church. Thank you for making the message and resource known." To volunteer with the Cleveland Pregnancy Center, call 440.725.8462 or 216.631.0964.

PARMA HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

The Academy will be closed on Monday, February 17 for Presidents' Day.

The new shopping card program is up and running! Stop by the glass walkway table for more information and to purchase your new cards. Thank you for supporting our school through this program!

Kindergarten screening is scheduled for Monday, March 2. Students must be 5 years old before August 1. Interested families, please contact Jen Robinson at 440.845.8668 for information or questions about the application process.

Parma Heights Christian Academy is hiring! If you or someone you know would be interested in applying for a position, please contact Jen Robinson in the PHCA office at 440.845.8668 or office@phcawarriors.com. Teachers are required to have a valid teaching license through the state of Ohio, or the ability to obtain one prior to employment. There is an immediate need for **Substitute Teachers** (half days and full days available). There will also be an opening for a **Physical Education Teacher** (part-time).

Enrollment for Parma Heights Christian Academy is now open for prospective families. PHCA is a Kindergarten through 6th grade school that focuses on academic excellence within Christ-centered classrooms. Our students begin each day in God's Word before beginning their regular curriculum subjects. PHCA also offers a variety of specials classes in conjunction with our core subjects, including physical education, computer, library, art and music/band. A variety of athletic programs are offered for 5th and 6th grade students. We also provide speech and intervention services, as well as a gifted program for advanced learners. The school day is from 8:15am to 2:50pm. PHCA has before school care available for students beginning at 7:00am at no cost and an affordable after school care beginning at 3:15pm. Hot lunch is offered Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for \$3 per meal. For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact Jen Robinson at 440.845.8668, or check out our website at www.phcawarriors.com.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Summer Intern applications are now available for college students who are pursuing ministry, and have preferably finished at least two years of schooling. Our interns gain a lot of experience with youth and children in just 10 weeks on the field. If you know of someone who may be interested, please direct them to our church office or www.oneeightyone.org/summer-internship/ for further information.

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

The prayer warriors at PHBC are amazing. Ten days ago I had hip replacement surgery and I could tell that people were praying. Recovery is progressing well.

A special "thank you" is given to Pastor Jon and George Leshan who came and prayed with me before the surgery and to White Cross for the surgery pillow which was given to me. I would also like to thank all the people who sent cards.

We have a wonderful church family.

Christ's Love,
Julie Orcutt

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
16	17	18	19			
23		25	26		28	29

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Youth Winter Retreat – 7:30pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Youth Game Day – 10:00am/C-8

Russell Funeral – 11:00am/WC

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Senior Adult Trip – 9:15am

Community Hot Meal – 6:00pm/FLC

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

IMPACT Night – 7:00pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Youth Trips Meeting – 12:30pm/C-8

Puppet Team Rehearsal – 4:00pm/B-1

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Senior Adult Meal – 12:00pm/FLC

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

IMPACT Night – 7:00pm

Pinewood Derby Workshop – 7:00pm/FLC

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Women's Simulcast – 7:00pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Women's Simulcast – 8:30am

PHBC LEADERSHIP STAFF

Shane Prewitt – Senior Pastor

Dan Adams – Associate Pastor

Pam Scott – Children's Pastor

Jon Perkins – Discipleship and Senior Adults Pastor

Tim Hunsicker – Connections Pastor

Matt Vince – Youth Director

Sarah Likowski – Interim Christian Schools Administrator

Jen Moench – Preschool Director



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

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

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