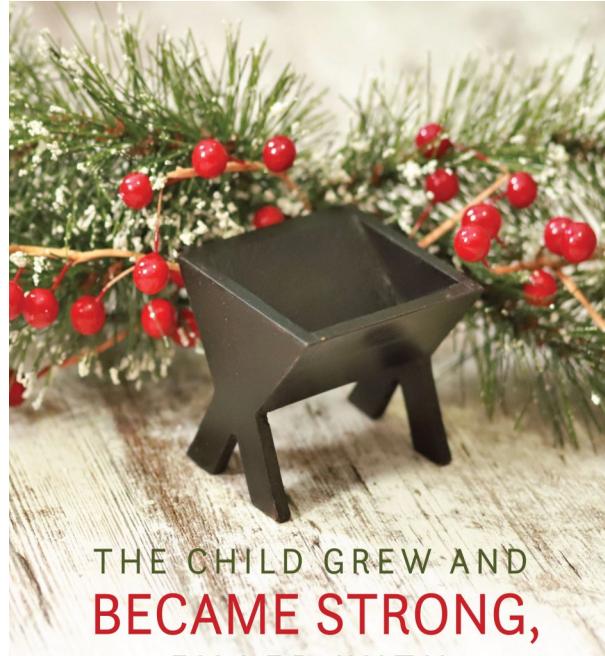
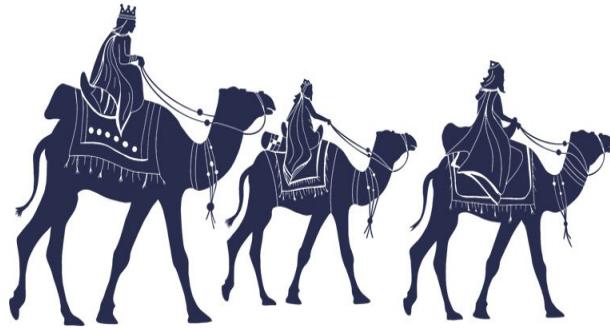


**Stewardship Sunday**  
**Please bring, mail or email**  
**your Pledges for 2022 to be**  
**dedicated on**  
**December 26th, 2021**



**New  
 Offering  
 Envelopes**

**Also, on your pledge cards,**  
**please let us know how**  
**many donation**  
**Envelopes you would**  
**like this year.**



THE CHILD GREW AND  
**BECAME STRONG,**  
 FILLED WITH  
**WISDOM;**  
 AND THE FAVOR OF GOD  
**WAS UPON HIM.**

Luke 2:40



# Circuit Rider

Saybrook United Methodist Church  
*"People trying to live like Jesus"*  
 7900 S. Depot Rd., Ashtabula, OH 44004  
 Website: [www.saybrookumc.com](http://www.saybrookumc.com)  
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E-mail: [saybrookumc1@gmail.com](mailto:saybrookumc1@gmail.com) **December 2021** Volume 21 Issue 12



[Isaiah 41:10](#) Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand

[John 14:27](#) Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

[Psalm 27:1](#) Of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

[Revelation 1:17](#) When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last,

[2 Timothy 1:7](#) For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

[1 Peter 5:6-7](#) Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

\*\*\*\*\*

It is December..... Or as I write this, November 30, and as I filled my one pill box this morning I asked Katie you know what tomorrow is.... December, and a month from now it will be 2022. And this morning I listened to the news for a few minutes and heard a report from the president that with the new variant that it is a "cause for concern, not a cause for panic". And I went to my email and I see that it is not too late to get deals for cyber Monday. And there are Blue Mountain" reminders. Blue Mountain is an online card company that I have subscribed to for many years that I do love (free plug) and they will send reminders a week ahead when a holiday or a birthday is coming up so you can send those special persons an online card. And it seems that in November and December I have a lot birthday reminders coming to my e-box. Which brings me back to my topic.... Reminders..... It does seem that our lives are flooded with reminders, or at least mine is..... Oh by the way, don't forget, at the end of this month we will be dedicating our 2022 Intention of Giving cards concerning your ministry of Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness. Back to reminders, So while I was thinking of reminders I thought I would go to my favorite office assistant (next to Betty) Google, and see what the Bible might say about Reminders..... Here is a short list of what I found:

[8 Bible Verses To Remind You That God Has Your Back](#)

[0 Bible Verses to Remind You God Is In Control](#)

- [8 Scriptures To Remind You That God Sees You](#)
- [15 Bible Verses That Remind You Of Your Worth](#)
- [7 Scriptures That Remind Us to Keep Going](#)
- [99 Bible Verses that Will Remind You](#)
- [Important Daily Bible Reminders](#)
- [10 Scriptures to Remind You of Your True Identity](#)

Now this is just the short list, at the top of the page it said *About 28,300,000 results (0.58 seconds)*. Now I figured you didn't want the whole list 28,300,000 results, and truthfully we probably don't have space for all of them, but the opening scriptures for this message were the first six from the 99 verses that will remind you....

Reminders, They are all around us. Sometimes they are blatant, sometimes they are snuck into other messages. Sometimes they are important, like a loved one's birthday.... Or your anniversary. Sometimes they are annoying, or nerve racking, or bring excitement or joy.... Remember as a kid and you would remind everyone how many days until Christmas or your Birthday..... And as a parent, when your child would come and remind you how many days until Christmas or their Birthday....

And then in this Advent / Christmas Season, A great Reminder:

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. *John 3*

<sup>2</sup>The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

<sup>6</sup>For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *Isa 9*

<sup>8</sup>And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup>Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

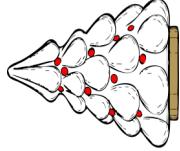
<sup>13</sup>Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Peace,  
Jeff

Jeff and Katie would like to thank everyone who participated in the Pastor Appreciation gift this year, and to all of you for your continued Love and support in this past year!!



## December 2021

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9-5 Taize 6:00pm WOW <b>7:00 Choir Practice</b>	2	3	4 8:30am Men's Group 10:15am Worship & Music
5	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> 8:15 & 10:45am Worship Service	6	7	8 9-5 Taize 6:00pm WOW	9	10	11
12	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> 8:15am & 10:45am Worship Service	13	14 <b>Deadline for Wrapped Gifts &amp; Canned Goods</b>	15 9-5 Taize 6:00pm WOW <b>7:00 Choir Practice</b>	16	17	18 <b>Christmas Family Distribution 8-Noon</b>
19	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> 8:15am & 10:45am Worship Service	20	21	22 9-5 Taize 6:00pm WOW	23	24 <b>3-5pm Open Communion</b> <b>5:00pm Christmas Eve Service</b> <b>11:00pm Cantata Candlelight Service</b>	25 <b>Merry Christmas</b>
26	<b>Dedicating Pledges</b> 8:15am & 10:45am Worship Service	27	28	29 9-5 Taize 6:00pm WOW <b>7:00 Choir</b>	30	31 <b>3-5 pm Open Communion</b> <b>5:00pm Watchnight Service</b>	



2021 CHRISTMAS FAMILY ADOPTION PROGRAM  
IS UNDERWAY  
HERE ARE SOME DATES AND INFORMATION  
PLEASE PRAY

Prayer throughout this entire project is most important since we are a church family doing our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ's work. We will also be giving each of the 20 families a Bible.

- NOW** Sock mitten hat tree is in the hallway across from the small nursery waiting for your donations
- Nov 7-Dec 7** Food and personal items are being accepted in room 4 (Or just outside the door if the room is locked)
- Nov 8-Dec 7** Sign -up sheets for Turkeys and paper and cleaning products are On the bulletin board across from the large nursery.
- Nov 15 -Dec 13** Donations of sheets, blankets and toys can be place on the table In the gift room. We are also taking monetary donations marked "Christmas Needy Families"
- Nov 21 -Dec 13** Gift suggestion ornaments will be appearing on the gift tree. The sign-up sheet for any ornament you take will be on the bulletin board also.
- Dec 15** Deadline for all purchased and wrapped gifts need to be placed on the first table in the gift room. Also any sheets, blankets and toys need to be placed on the table so marked by this date.

**DECEMBER 18 2021 DISTRIBUTION DAY FROM 8AM TO NOON**

Our Lord has Blessed this program for over 30 years through your service to Him. Thank you for all your help and generosity.

If you have any questions please contact Betty Cochran at the church (440) 969-1562



- 11 Betty Cochran
- 11 Roy L. Stiltner II
- 15 Jerry Richmond
- 15 Rev. Donna Van Trees
- 15 Seraphina Cadence Colvin
- 21 Betty Hansen
- 21 Cheryl Wakeman
- 22 Ed Hawk
- 23 Sue Miklos
- 27 Lindsey Stoneman



- 9 Harold & Susan Miller
- 11 Hal & Audrey Loudermilk
- 16 Jerry & Amy Richmond
- 31 Shane & Sara Butler
- 31 Denis & Sandra Wolff

*It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends"*

Cor. 13:4-8a

*People come into our life disguised as angels, and sometimes angels come into our life disguised as people. It is possible to see God anywhere. All it takes are open eyes and ears and the willingness to see miracles. They are everywhere. God is as available as we are. Having friends that inspire us to rise to higher and greater levels is an awesome gift. Surround yourself with people that inspire you to do better and inspire your friends as well. It is a profound truth that the people we spend time with shape the path that we travel.*

Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/>



*As a local United Methodist Congregation we promise to honor God with:*

### On Going Prayer Concerns

Our Churches, Our Shut Ins, Our Military, Our College, Students,  
Our Pastor & Family, Missionaries, Dee Ann Rich, Ethan & Ashley Batschelet,  
Ed & Linda Gray, Richard Clugh, Don & Mary Clugh Family, MaryLee Verdi,  
River, Betty Hansen, Richard & Grace Arnold, Jim & Phyllis Wright,  
Dean Moore, Howard Hewitt, Erik Pimentel, Kurt Brindley, Eva DeCamillo,  
Roy Stiltner II, Linda Johnson, Marilyn Lundquist, Sarrah Brown, Mary Lewis,  
Stoneman Family, Harold & Lou Buck, Janet Renard, Jackie McKee, Jim McKee,  
Keith Youngberg, Louise Ebetino, Ruth Falcione, Becky Reese, Karen Klimek,  
Nancy Garbo, Barb Swiger, Karen May, Kelly Forren, Tom & Donna Orr,  
Sandra Wolff, Michele Verdi, Debby Hood, Monna O'Connor, Lexi Leavitt,  
Justin Nelson, Rick Arnold, Bonnie Pillars, Bob Josson, Lisa Buck,  
Virgil & Carol Hammonds, Pete Teston, Rick Hopkins, Debbie Eckart, Bill,  
Tricia, Becky & Bill, Christopher, Gary & Debbie Munson, Jeff & Sue Nelson,  
Carol & Virgil Hammonds, Kim, Diane, Stacey, Don Smith, Walt, Denise, Ron  
Mclivaine, Charlene Hopkins, Vicky, Jo Dennis, Vickie, Mike Greenwood,  
Marilyn Wenner, Alexis, Albert, Cheryl, Becky, Paul Gynn, Kathy Feiler,

For God  
so loved the world,  
that he gave  
his only son,  
that whoever  
believes in *him*  
should not perish  
but have *eternal life*.

The Family of Harold Buck,  
&  
The Family of Betty Harting

For God  
so loved the world,  
that he gave  
his only son,  
that whoever  
believes in *him*  
should not perish  
but have *eternal life*.

*Our Service*

#### We now have two services again!

Sunday Worship Service is now at 8:15am and 10:45am  
With Emery Colvin on the Piano and Cyndi Lemke on the Organ!  
Worship on Wednesday is still at 6:00pm on Wednesday nights!  
With Jimmy Fuller on the Piano!

*Our Gifts*

Year to Date Income & Expense (October 30, 2021)  
Income \$124,355.42 Expenses \$151,793.18 Deficit-\$27,437.76

## Christmas Family Food Drive

**Donations of food items, cleaning supplies and personal hygiene products can be placed on the cart located inside the church rear entrance.**

### Canned Vegetables (Pull top lids preferred)

Corn  
Peas  
Green Beans  
Baked Beans  
Tuna

### Canned Fruit (Pull top lids preferred)

Mixed fruit  
Pineapple  
Peaches  
Pears

### Easy Meal Prep Items

Hamburger Helper  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Spaghetti  
Spaghetti Sauce  
Noodles  
Spaghetti 'O's (Pull top lids preferred)  
**Soup (Pull top lids preferred)**

Tomato  
Chicken Noodle  
Mushroom

### Children Snack Items

Ritz Cracker packs  
Peanut butter 4 pk  
Cheese 4 pk  
Fruit & Nut Snack Packs  
Pudding Cups 4 pk  
Jello Cups 4 pk  
Fruit Cups 4 pk  
Peanut Butter

### Christmas Dinner Items

Stuffing Mix  
Gravy  
Chicken Broth/Beef Broth  
Cranberry Sauce (Pull top lids preferred)  
Cake/Brownie Mix  
Frosting

### Other Items

Pancake Mix  
Pancake Syrup  
Cereal

### Household Cleaning Products

Laundry Detergent  
Household Cleaner  
Cleanser  
Dish Detergent  
Paper Towels (2 pk or larger)  
Spray Sanitizer (Lysol)  
Disinfecting Wipes

### Personal Hygiene

Bar Soap  
Shampoo  
Deodorant  
Toothbrush (Individually sealed)  
Toothpaste  
Kleenex  
Toilet Paper (4 pk or larger)  
Hand Sanitizer



**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



## NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD FROM DEE ANN RICH

Five years ago, Bayron Escalante from the Roca Fuerte church in Tegucigalpa, applied and was accepted into the 7th grade at El Sembrador. Today, he graduated with his high school degree and with academic excellence. It was a special occasion for his parents to witness this, and a privilege for me to be able to present him with his diploma in the ceremony. I have been blessed to encourage him in this journey and see all God is doing in his life.



A warm and sincere **Thank you** to all who contributed there time at the Saybrook Giant Eagle to help raise money for the Salvation Army!

A Heartfelt thank you to all who donated to the Samaritan Purse Shoe Boxes this year! Because of the kind and generous souls of the congregations we have received \$1,149.00 in monetary donations this year, plus 25 shoeboxes to send in. You are a blessing to those children that will receive the Christmas shoeboxes this year. For a year of many trials, you can still see the love of God in serving worthwhile causes that make this world a better place. Thank you and God Bless,  
*The Mission Committee*



## *and Our Witness*

### Some Thoughts

from *Betty Cochran*

Good People!

Yes, there are still a lot of good people in this world. I know that everyone isn't good all the time. We can't be. We're all sinners! But we are blessed because we have each other to lean on and to brighten our days together as we walk in Gods care.

All through the Bible, God talks how man should interaction with others.

**Proverbs 27:17** ESV

“Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” —

**Luke 6:31** ESV

And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

**John 15:13** ESV

And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them  
Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends

**1 Samuel 16:7** ESV

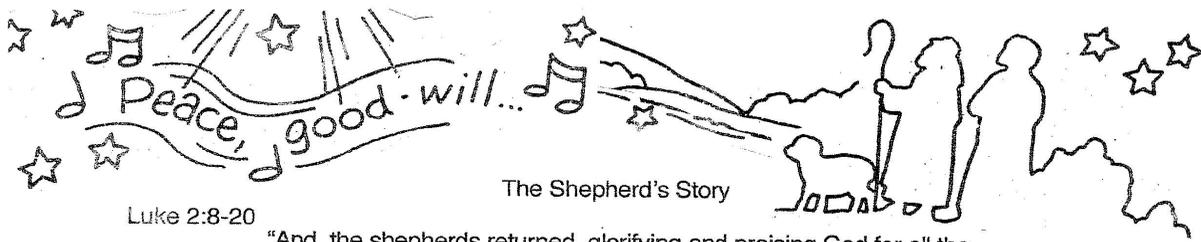
But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.

The World has changed, but if your heart stays true in Gods word, you can be a beacon of light to others in a dark world.

*Gods word rings true today as it did in ancient days.*

*Prayer:*

Thank you Lord for your wisdom and guidance through the days of our lives.



Luke 2:8-20

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

The lowly shepherds were given the fresh and exciting news of the birth of a baby which they would find lying in a manger. When the angel appeared to them in the fields at night, a glory shown all around! This is a profound thought...light abounding all around them...they could see each other as well as the Angel! The light had to catch their attention...as well as the voice of the Angel! In fact they were scared!!

Somehow, we skip over that part of the story...showing the baby in the manger where cows are chewing their cud, sheep are huddling and there is a general shuffling movement all around the stable. Mary and Joseph must have had a lot to talk about...having this prophesy fulfilled in such humble surroundings. Even the animals were hushed as they moved about. An awareness of the power of God had them awed...knowing this was not a natural experience....wondering what else might come about!

Unless we put ourselves into the story...hear the sounds, smell the hay, sense the divine light overshadowing their space in the stable and ponder the scene with sincere humility...how can we really experience Christmas? A baby boy is lying there in the manger...An Angel had told Mary the baby would be named Jesus and Scripture tells us that Mary kept all these things in her heart!

When we stand near the creche...looking at the scene of Mary, Joseph and the baby...what are our thoughts? How long will we stay there...pondering the issue? Would we be mesmerized...unable to move while we explain this part of the story to others who are nearby? Or are we unable to discuss the story...walking away...leaving the story untold.

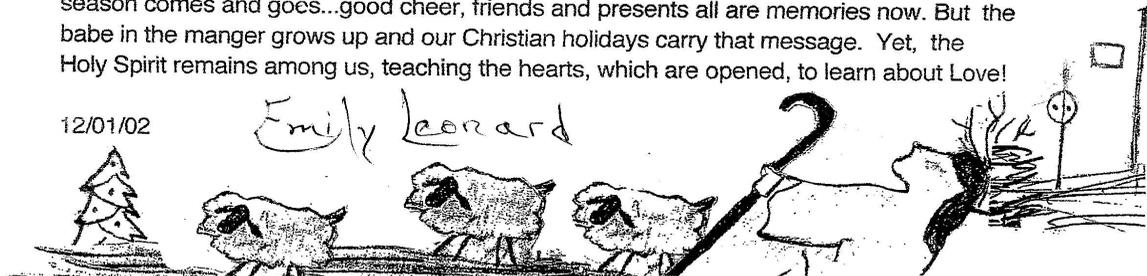
In some crèches the shepherds are standing within the light of heaven shining down upon the scene. If no one tells the story about shepherds, of what it all means, how can Christmas be of any significance? We would be buying, giving and enjoying the holiday music without any depth of interpretation of how God works among the people.

The good feelings about Christmas are all tied up with ribbons and bows...the pageants are seen and the children go to bed (having been good all year). They put out milk and cookies for Santa and then, hurriedly, slip into bed...hoping they might hear the reindeer hooves on the roof.

Blessed are the homes where Christ is the center of thought during this season. The season comes and goes...good cheer, friends and presents all are memories now. But the babe in the manger grows up and our Christian holidays carry that message. Yet, the Holy Spirit remains among us, teaching the hearts, which are opened, to learn about Love!

12/01/02

Emily Leonard



What's red, white, pink, speckled, or a variety of other colors?

**Why, poinsettias, of course!**

Anyone who would like to bring in their own poinsettia on or after December 12 to help beautify our sanctuary is welcome to. Please ask for a tag to put your name on it so you be sure to get yours back. You may pick them up after a Christmas Eve service or after that.

Thank you and God Bless, *Bobbi Heil*



Our Pianist, Emery Colvin, is planning a Cantata for our late night Christmas Eve service so he may also have practices between Sunday services in addition to our regular choir practice every other Wednesday after WOW at 7pm. Please check the newsletter calendar for Wednesday dates. **If you'd like to sing with us on Christmas Eve, our songs are all from the hymnal so you're no doubt familiar with them already. We'd love to have you!**

**Christmas Eve Watch Night  
Open communion is 3-5pm  
with the service at 5pm.  
& Cantata with  
Candlelight at 11:00**



Christmas  
Eve  
Worship

