

## DECEMBER 2024

December 1 - First Sunday of Advent -  
Adult Sunday School Class 8:30 am -  
Worship Service/ Communion & Sunday  
School 9:30 am  
December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent -  
Adult Sunday School Class 8:30 am -  
Worship Service & Sunday School 9:30 am  
December 14 Official Board Meeting  
9:00 am  
December 15 - Third Sunday of Advent -  
Adult Sunday School Class 8:30 am -  
Worship Service & Sunday School 9:30 am  
December 16 2025 JANUARY Call  
Newsletter Deadline  
December 19 Christmas Nativity Program  
at the Thompson Farm - Doors open at  
5:00 pm & Program begins at 6:30 pm -  
See article for more details  
December 22 - Fourth Sunday of Advent -  
Adult Sunday School Class 8:30 am -  
Worship Service/Special UCC Christmas  
Fund Offering & Sunday School 9:30 am  
December 24 *Christmas Eve*  
December 25 *Merry Christmas*  
December 29 First Sunday After Christmas  
Worship Service & Sunday School 9:30 am  
December 31 *New Year's Eve*  
Celebrate Safely

## FINANCIAL

### NEWS .....

*For the month ending*

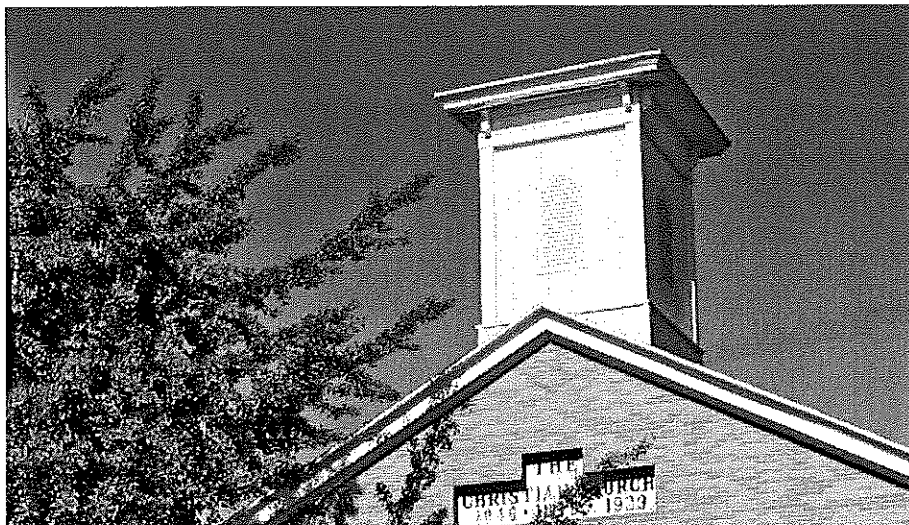
*October 31<sup>st</sup> 2024:*

October Income to expense ratio  
was 109.9% and the January  
through October income to  
expense was 96.3%.

This congregation supports all the  
missions of the church: Financial,  
with donations to benefit all the  
many special projects, and with  
their time and talents. We  
appreciate all the wonderful  
support provided.

A detailed report of the Church  
expenses, by month, is always  
posted on the church bulletin  
board outside of the pastor's office.  
Your generous and regular  
financial support makes it possible  
for our church to do great things  
for our members, our neighbors,  
our community and our world.  
Thank you for all YOU do as we  
walk together loving and serving  
our Lord and Savior.

## PLATTSBURG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST The Church Call



### BOARD OF OUTREACH

2024 Fourth Quarter Mission

The Mission Focus for December

COLLECTION OF HATS, MITTENS, SOCKS  
and ADOPT A FAMILY PROJECT

We are asking for congregation assistance with the food and personal  
items for the families this year.

We will be using the "Spirit of the Giving Trees"  
for the Adopt-A-Families Project.

The Trees will be placed in the hallway area before Thanksgiving.

Tags with suggestions of gifts for the children of the families  
and food and personal items needed  
have been placed on the "Giving Trees".

Please take the green tag from the tree with you and write your name  
on the red tag that you will leave on the tree.

Items purchased for the Adopt-A-Families need to be delivered  
to the church by Sunday, December 15th.

Donations of Hats, Mittens & Socks may be placed on the  
Christmas Tree located in the front hallway area.

Thank you for participating in the Adopt-A-Family Project.

Your generosity will be making the holiday season  
a much brighter and happier time for these families.

The Board of Outreach will be leaving 3 totes in the hallway  
area for the collection of various items throughout the year.

Totes will be labeled as follows:

Soup Kitchen (paper products only) - Toiletries/Hygiene - School  
Supplies

If you are out shopping and find a sale on any of these items, you may  
bring them in to the church at any time.

Thank you.

PLEASE cash any expense-reimbursement checks from the church in a timely  
manner. Checks that have not been cashed for two or three months make record  
keeping more difficult. Thank you.

**Church Contributions:** We understand that there still may be concerns about gatherings and attending worship service. If you are unable to attend worship service in person, you may mail your contributions to - **Mike Judy - 8439 Whitridge Road, South Charleston OH 45368** Your generosity is much needed and very much appreciated.

### **The Plattsburg UCC Contingency Account**

This savings account was established in 2009 for the purpose of funding emergency situations, including, but not limited to a temporary shortfall of the General Fund. The Contingency Account is in control of the Trustees who vote on its use, whether by an emergency meeting, text, or phone communication.

On October 21, 2024, the trustees approved the withdrawal of \$8,500 to be used as the down payment of an emergency roof repair on the church. The remaining \$8,500 balance of the roofing bill is being supplied by "The Young and the Rest of Us" Sunday School class, the Endowment Committee, and the Parsonage Account.

The Contingency Account is to be maintained at \$10,000. After a withdrawal, the Trustees are to plan a way to replenish the account within two years. The Trustees will discuss the potential plans to replace the \$8,500 at the November 10, 2024 meeting after the Church Service.

If you have any questions, please contact Larry Spahr or Debbie Bell. Thank you.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are looking for individuals to volunteer to be Ushers or Greeters on Sunday mornings. The church is also in need of volunteers to teach Sunday School classes and be with the little ones in the Nursery during worship service time. If you are interested, please contact Joanna Rittenhouse. Thank you.

**"The CHRISTMAS FUND for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund"** special offering will be taken on **Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**, during worship service. The Christmas Fund is one of the four Special Mission Offerings of the UCC and provides a means to directly assist those who have so faithfully and selflessly served and now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs. Please prayerfully consider and support this year's appeal, and spread the word so that others will join in this essential ministry.

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

If you would like to provide flowers for the church altar on a Sunday during 2024, a sign-up sheet has been posted in the front hallway for your convenience. In past years, we have had live flowers on the altar nearly every Sunday. You may wish to provide flowers in memory of loved ones, to commemorate a special anniversary or other important date, or just because. When signing up, please add any such information so that it can be included in the Sunday bulletin. Progress Club

### **KIDS HOPE MENTORING PROGRAM**

Volunteers are still needed for the 2024-2025 school year. We are looking for volunteers to be a part of this wonderful mentoring program. If you are interested now is the time to sign up. You would be mentoring a child in the South Vienna Northeastern Elementary School just one hour each week. The impact that you would have on a small child and the memories that this child would have for a live time are truly amazing. What a wonderful feeling you would have knowing that you were helping this child as they learn and grow. If you would like to learn more about this program or become a volunteer, please contact Jeanne Troxell or Mitzi Holloway. Volunteers are greatly needed.



Thank you!

***Plattsburg UCC Presents  
"Christmas On The Farm"  
on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>  
at the Thompson Farm at  
9788 Chenoweth Road,  
South Charleston OH  
Doors Open at 5:00 pm and  
the Program begins at 6:30 pm***

We are very excited to announce this year's "Christmas On The Farm" presented by the good folks of Plattsburg United Church of Christ.

This event combines the spirit of Christmas with the rustic charm of a farm, creating a faith experience that's truly magical. The main event will be our annual live nativity play by the young ones at Plattsburg UCC and hosted by our Pastor, Rev. Faith.

Besides the main show, which is a sight to behold, there will be a plethora of activities to keep everyone entertained. One of the major highlights of the event is the petting zoo. A variety of farm animals will be present for the children (and adults too!) to interact with. But what's a Christmas event without Santa? Of course, the jolly old man himself will be there to spread cheer and entertain the kids. Children will have the chance to meet Santa, and share their Christmas wishes!

"Christmas On The Farm" is more than an event; it's a faith filled experience and an opportunity to create lasting memories, enjoy the company of friends and family, and really get into the Christmas spirit.

So mark your calendars for this spectacular holiday event. We look forward to seeing you there!

## BOARD OF OUTREACH MINUTES November 10, 2024

Those present were: Megan Agle, Peggy Bellows, Kimberley Flax, Rita Hollingsworth, Breanna Rittenhouse, Faith Solon and Jeanne Troxell.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The meeting began with beautiful prayer led by Faith. Following, discussions were unanimously made pertaining to the Adopt-A-Family and Giving Trees.

- The Giving Trees will be placed in the hallway on **November 11, 2024** preceding church services. Committee meeting at 8:00 AM.
- Megan will do the shopping for the groceries.
- Kim will get the sizes and needs for Southeastern families and Jeanne will get the Northeastern families.
- Jeanne will gather the decorations following services on November 17.
- Jeanne Anders will be providing fresh fruits and boxes for packing.
- The committee will sort the collections following services **December 15**. Kim will notify Mitzi of the final donation date for the bulletin.
- Families will be picking up donations **Friday, December 20 at 6:00 PM**. Committee will meet at **4:00 PM** to sort the perishables.
- Breanna will attend the Official Board in Jeanne's absence.
- Live Nativity: Veggie Soup, Meg Agle Chicken Noodle; Peggy Bellows, Chili Bre Rittenhouse.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Spaghetti dinner was a pleasant success.

### The Birth of Jesus Christ Luke 2:1-14

Imagine being Mary and Joseph, traveling miles away from home while Mary was with child. They were faced with many challenges, but they trusted in God's plan and His promise to send the Messiah. Bethlehem, the city of David, was significant as it fulfilled the prophecy that the Savior would be born there. Have you ever noticed how Jesus, the King of kings, was born in a humble manger because there was no room for them in the inn.

This shows us that Jesus came for everyone, regardless of status or wealth. So let us celebrate the true meaning of Christmas this year remembering that although Christ was born of Mary, he was a child of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ was an extraordinary incarnation of God himself.

**Merry Christmas  
from  
Plattsburg United Church of Christ**

## December 2024 Pastor's Article

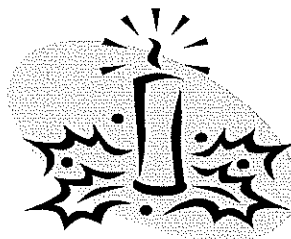
### Finding Faith

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work with the Pork Chop Fundraiser. Not only was it a great fundraiser and great food, it was also great fun!

As December begins, so does Advent. Advent is a season of preparation for the coming Christ child. This year, we will be taking an "Eyewitness" tour of Advent. We will journey through the Christmas story from the perspectives of those who lived the events during an adult Sunday school class. This class will be held on Sunday mornings (December 1, 8, 15, 22) at 8:30am-9:20 am in the Fireside room. There will be a video component as well as Bible study and discussion. While the class is targeted for adults, children and youth are welcome to sit in as well, should families wish to attend together.

We are also looking forward to continuing the tradition of "Christmas on the Farm," which will be held this year at the Thompson's. More information regarding this event can be found in this newsletter, or by chatting with Joanna Rittenhouse. I want to thank everyone in advance for their assistance in putting on this fun family-friendly community outreach event.

Please note that I will be on vacation from December 23 – January 2. I will be available by cell in case of emergency. If you require assistance please feel free to contact Mitzi, Bill Agle, Richard Flax, or Larry Spahr as your "first line of defense."



Pastor Faith Solon

**PLATTSBURG UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1715 S URBANA LISBON ROAD  
P O BOX 699  
SOUTH CHARLESTON OH 45368**

**REETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
DATED MATERIAL MAILED ON 11-22-2024  
Church Phone 937-568-4102  
Church E-Mail [Plattsburgucc@gmail.com](mailto:Plattsburgucc@gmail.com)  
Mitzi Holloway - Church Secretary  
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00-11:00 am**

**DEVOTIONAL LIFE BOOKLETS**

Devotional Life Booklets (The Upper Room) will be placed in a rack in the front hall for anyone who would like one. If you would like one delivered to your home or to someone in a Nursing Facility, please call the Church Office and let us know.  
**(937-568-4102)**

**NOVEMBER 2024 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

October 27	33
November 3	38
November 10	39
November 17	36

***MISSION FOCUS FOR DECEMBER 2024***

**Board of Outreach  
2024 Fourth Quarter Mission**

**Collection of Food Items - Hats, Mittens & Socks - Christmas Adopt-A-Family  
(See Newsletter article for more details)**

**FUTURE INFORMATION FOR THE CHURCH CALL NEEDS TO BE SENT TO THE CHURCH E-MAIL  
ADDRESS AT: [Plattsburgucc@gmail.com](mailto:Plattsburgucc@gmail.com) or you may leave a note in the secretary's mailbox or  
call the church and leave a message**