

# The Livingston Letter

WE LOVE WHO JESUS LOVES

DECEMBER 2011



## Keys of the Kingdom

*"Just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."  
Matthew 20:28*

On my key ring are keys for the house, 2 cars, 1 church van, my father-in-law's house, and the church, along with the Kroger loyalty card and the AAA information card. The trick is for to find the right key to open the right lock.

Jesus gives us the master key to open the kind of kingdom He brings at Christmas. When the mother of two disciples begged that her sons be first in Jesus' Kingdom, He reversed all expectations and told them that to be "great" in God's Kingdom, we must become a servant. Even as Jesus Himself came not to be served but to serve and sacrifice His life for us.

This unlocks for us the way to the Kingdom. God's method isn't by force. God wins our trust and invites us to follow Him. That's how Jesus saves us.

Jesus shows us that suffering love describes what God looks like. We can see God in action by washing the feet of His disciples.

As Jesus is kneeling, He looks over His shoulder at us and says, "I have set an example that you should do as I have done for you!" Sacrificial service defines life in the Kingdom of God and the life into which we are called. Friends the key to the Kingdom of God is sacrificial love.

It's my prayer that you will ask God to help you grasp this Kingdom reversal and that you will use the key of sacrificial love to unlock God's holy rule in your life today.

*Affectionately,  
Pastor Jim*



### Sunday

G.V. Al-Anon meeting 5:30 PM (Chapel)  
Haus AA meeting 6:30 PM (Fellowship Hall)

### Monday

Charitable Pharmacy open, 9 AM-4 PM  
Following Jesus Bible Study, 7 PM

### Tuesday

AA 7-8 PM (Fellowship Hall)

### Wednesday

AMSPIRIT, 7:30 AM (Chapel)  
Charitable Pharmacy open, 9-4 PM  
Weight Watchers, 6 PM (Chapel)

### Thursday

Bell Choir, 6:30 PM  
Chancel choir, 7:15 PM

### Friday

Charitable Pharmacy open, 9 AM-1 PM

### Ladies Christian Friendship Group

Meets monthly (watch for announcement)

**Food Pantry** December 13, 15, 17

**Faith Mission** December 25



- 12/03 Decorate the church
- 12/04 Ladies Christian Fellowship Bible study, 9 AM Lesson 3  
Christmas Caroling, 6 PM
- 12/05 Van Goes, 11 AM
- 12/07 Mid-Ohio Food Bank pick-up, 9 AM
- 12/10 Ladies Christian Fellowship Breakfast
- 12/11 Ladies Christian Fellowship Bible study, 9 AM Lesson 3  
Ad Co, 11:45 AM
- 12/14 Men's Group, 6 PM (Wendy's)
- 12/24 **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5 PM**
- 12/25 Christmas Day  
No Sunday School  
Worship, 10:30 AM
- 12/28 Men's Group. 6 PM
- 12/31 New Year's Eve



Let's Decorate the Church for Advent. You are invited to decorate the church on Saturday, December 3, 9:00 AM. Please see Karen Cook or Pastor Jim for more information.

## CAROLING



### Christmas Caroling on December 4<sup>th</sup>

Please join us at 6 PM at the church as we stroll singing through German Village.



The Ladies Christian Friendship Group will have lessons 3 and 4 on December 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM in the pharmacy waiting room. Please bring your journals.

The Ladies Christian Friendship Breakfast will be at the home of Bonnie O'Grady, 288 Acton Road, on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. Each lady is asked to bring a toy for the Christmas Free Store toy drive. All ladies of the church are welcome and you are welcome to bring a guest. Please RSVP by December 7<sup>th</sup> to Lisa Godfrey 519-9651 or [lisapcolumbus@yahoo.com](mailto:lisapcolumbus@yahoo.com) so the appropriate amount of food can be prepared.



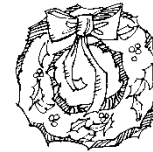
Tuesday Meeting God Bible Study will not meet in December.

## Administrative Board

Ad Co meets in the chapel Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> after worship service.



The Men's Group will meet on Wednesday, December 14 and 28 @6:00 PM at Wendy's on S. High St.



### Free Store Christmas Shop

The Christmas Free Store will be Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. This delightful holiday party provides Free Store families an opportunity to select, free of charge, new toys and clothing for their children. The hope again this year is to serve 500 children. There will be a box in the narthex starting the middle of November for your donations. We also need wrapping paper, tape, ribbon, and boxes. If you are unable to shop you can give cash donations. If anyone is interested in helping work the Christmas Shop on December 17<sup>th</sup> please call Colleen Barta, 614-746-5222 or e-mail at [colleen.barta@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.barta@gmail.com).



Christmas Eve, December 24, "Celebration of Song and Light Worship Service" at 5 PM.



**No Sunday School  
Worship, 10:30 AM**  
Singing of Christmas Carols



Monday, December 5, the Van Goes will meet at the church at 11:00 to go to the Berwick Party House for a buffet lunch. A large buffet with several entrees, wonderful salad bars and fantastic deep fried mushrooms. (Mushrooms are on the salad bar.) Of course, there are desserts. Cost of the meal is \$8.00 plus drink, tax and tip.

Please sign up in the church office. Reservations need to be made.

**New Address**

Gavin Stubbins  
380 Mountain Rd  
Union City, NJ 09087

**October Financial Report**

**General Fund Expenses**

Apportionments	\$ 1,697.76
Discipleship	32.73
Worship	136.25
Clergy Support	5,167.30
Lay Employees	3,953.33
Operating Expenses	3,137.70
Office Expense	118.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 14,243.07</b>

**Receipts \$ 14,208.48**

**Missions**

Receipts	\$ 867.40
Expenses	\$ 864.24



**Our Mission Christmas Tree**

Each Year Livingston Church responds Generously to our Christmas Tree Project. Instead of sending Cards to friends, a mission project is chosen to support. The money that would be spent on cards and postage is given in a signed Christmas card and dropped in our Christmas mailbox and are then displayed on a beautiful bulletin board to inspire each of our hearts as we read them. This year our Christmas Tree Project is going to be unique. We wish to present a Love Gift to Dr. Mary Hermiz who we have supported for twenty-four years. Last month, you read her letter in the Newsletter about her retirement from Tenwick Hospital. Mary said, "Teaching the students how to give spiritual care has been a highlight of my twenty-four years at Tenwick." Through personal experience and the news media, we know the challenges of retirement. Our Christmas Love gift and the cards from the bulletin board will let Mary know we love and appreciate her service to our Lord Jesus Christ who was born a babe in a manger to save us for Eternity.

**A Christmas Miracle  
Hallelujah  
A-men! A-men! A-Men!  
God Bless You**



Soon we will be celebrating Christmas and the New Year. This is good time for us to remember our homebound members and those who have moved away. Why don't you drop them a line or two.

Jack Botley  
3126 Townhouse Drive  
Grove City, OH 43123

Mrs. Evelyn Ewing  
5113 Winter Creek Dr  
Grove City, 43123

Ruby Jones  
524 Young St  
Longview, TX 75602

Mrs. Frances Moffitt,  
4211 E. Broad St. #208, 43213

Olga Mae Perkins  
87 Knights Bridge Dr W  
Pickerington, OH 43147

Eileen Hoover  
202 River Oak Circle, #21  
Mills River, NC 28759

Barbara Staten  
167 N. Stygler Rd, #211  
Gahanna, OH 43230

If you know of someone else who should be included in this list, please contact the church office, 224-2006.



12/01 COOK, GABBY  
12/02 DONNAN, JAMES  
BAILEY, LAUREN  
12/04 O'GRADY, BONNIE  
12/06 MORTON, SUSAN  
COOPER, JENNIFER  
12/09 BAILEY, JACOB  
12/11 O'GRADY, KEVIN  
12/14 COOPER, SAMANTHA  
12/26 MILLER, CHRISTINA  
12/31 ARCHER, BARBARA

#### MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS:

12/12 Neil Hicks  
12/18 Jonah Miller  
12/19 Laura Henry  
12/20 Brian O'Herin

## McCurdy School *Charter status approved*

While celebrating its first 100 years, McCurdy is planning for the next 100 years to strengthen the school and our United Methodist ministries. Our plan includes McCurdy School's charter school application which was approved by the State of New Mexico on September 15. Starting Aug. 1, 2012, McCurdy Charter School will begin operation on the 40 acres owned by the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) of the United Methodist Church. McCurdy Schools of Northern New Mexico will be renamed to McCurdy Ministries, will act as the landlord for McCurdy Charter School and will continue doing non-profit ministry on the campus. McCurdy Ministries will remain a ministry of the Women's Division of GBGM of the United Methodist Church and will seek to strengthen our ministries to and with the school and the Española Valley.

## Celebrating 100 years of mission in New Mexico

In 2012 New Mexico celebrates becoming the 47th state and McCurdy School will celebrate 100 years of mission to the families of northern New Mexico. Could United Brethren Missionary and Deaconess Mellie Perkins, who started the mission school in Velarde, New Mexico in 1912, have *dreamed* her work would continue into the next century? Could she have imagined how many lives would be affected by her decision to be God's hands and feet in a small village? Every year with each new student and graduate we honor Mellie Perkins' vision and dedication.

(Dennis and Dee Heffner, who are with the McCurdy School, are supported by our Advance Specials Mission giving.)