
The View

FROM
HOPE RIDGE
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH



Volume 63

December 2013/January 2014

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A Message from Our Pastors...



The season of Advent is a time of preparation. As you gather with friends, family, and others to prepare for and celebrate the arrival of Christ, we invite you to use the *Hope Ridge 2013 Advent Devotions* booklet as a focus (available at the Info Desk and online at hoperidge.com). By engaging in these daily devotions you can discover that God speaks words of hope, love, joy, and peace to you even in the midst of busyness, shopping, and travel.

Within the booklet are stories that are authentic to the community of Hope Ridge UMC. They are genuine insights and real stories that actually happened to people who participate in the life of this church and continue to follow Christ with their whole hearts. Their reflections and insights have made this devotional something organic and real to the community, something that reflects the **heart of this body of Christ and many ways we continue to seek Christ's kingdom.**

Here are some suggestions to using this booklet:

Make time to read the devotions every day. Read in the morning over breakfast, at the dinner table before the meal, or make it a part of the bedtime routine. Every Sunday, there is space to record your reactions, insights, and reflections on the weekly themes heard in worship.

Talk with others **about what you've read. Ask what was heard, thoughts that came to mind, and how to apply these insights.**

Pray, invite others to share a few words that give thanks to God or share what they hope God will do in their lives.

Enjoy time with others, take time to celebrate, create, and rest with friends and family. Each week includes an invitation to host a family movie night and take a time of Sabbath.

At the end of this book you find ways to continue on a path toward Christ. Everyone, including families, is at a different stage of walking with Christ. Take time to look over these opportunities or ask how you and your family can continue discovering the power of Christ to transform your lives.

Praying for a blessed Advent, Christmas and New Year to you all,
Pastors Beth & Jon Wilterdink

WELCOME: "Welcoming others into a relationship..."

Have you every wondered if filling out the orange Connection Card every Sunday is really necessary? The answer is "Yes!" We are going on the second year using the Connection Cards, and having all this information in one place, makes office record-keeping and communication SO much easier. So PLEASE take a few moments to complete the card each week — one per family is fine! On the front we just need your name(s). But if you are new to Hope Ridge or you have had a change in contact information (address, phone number, email) since last year's church directory, please complete the lower portion. On the back of the card, you can sign up for activities and events within the church community, as well as let us know if you need nametags, prayer shawls, or have prayer concerns. We thank you for helping keep our attendance records accurate!

-Diane Hanford, Yvonne Oyler, and Lori Toth

Smile! **It's time start to preparing our 2014 Church Directory updates!** Stop in the Connection Corner after either service in December to have your individual or family picture taken. If you have not had a photo in our Directory, or even if you had a photo last year, we ask that you have a new one taken. All members, friends and frequent guests welcome! Also, please double-check your address, phone, and email in the white "proof book" to be sure we have it correct. If you would like to submit your own recent photo to the church office, please email it to hopeoffice@hoperidge.com.



GETTING TO KNOW NEW MEMBERS...



The Moore Family has been attending Hope Ridge about 2 years and joined earlier this year. Steve and Mary Moore have been

married 10 years. Their son Alex is 7 years old and daughter Lyla is 3 years old.

Steve owns S.A.M. Landscaping in Chardon.

Mary works at All Around Gymnastics in Mentor.

They all enjoy taking family vacations to the beach.

In her spare time, Mary likes to read and scrap-

book, and help out at Alex and Lyla's school. Alex

enjoys playing soccer and basketball, and building

with Legos. Lyla attends Hope Ridge Preschool and

enjoys gymnastics and playing dress-up. We are so

happy to have the Moores in our Hope Ridge faith

family!



Lyla, Mary, Steve, and Alex Moore

WORSHIP: So that they can worship God,...

Sunday Services

8:30am: Traditional Worship with Communion each Sunday in the Chapel

10:30am: Family Service in the Worship & Family Life Center (WFLC), with Sunday School for children

after **Children's Time**. Communion served the first Sunday of the month. DVDs are available at the Info Desk after the 10:30 worship, to share with those who were unable to be here.

"Christmas at the Movies"

Sun Dec 15: "Finding Joy Even in the Chaos"

Movie: *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*

Sun Dec 22: "Being at Peace with How God Made You"

Movie: *Elf*

10:30am Children's Christmas Pageant

Tues Dec 24: Christmas Eve Services

"The Night that Changed Everything"

Movie: *The Santa Clause*

4:30pm Children & Family Service

8:30pm Carols & Candlelight

(Communion will be offered in the Chapel following the 8:30pm service.)



Sermon Series coming in January: *Heart and Soul*

Join us in the new year for our new sermon series, exploring how music makes the soul aware of God.

Jan 5: *Awake My Soul* by Mumford and Sons

Jan 12: *Fireworks* by Katy Perry

Jan 19: *Bridge Over Troubled Water* by Simon and Garfunkel



Christmas Pageant

Sunday, Dec 22...

Children's Christmas Pageant during 10:30am service

Hear the Christmas story through the voices of children. Songs taught in Sunday School throughout December will encourage all children to participate in this celebration of the Story. This is a great time to invite neighbors and grandparents!

- ◆ Your **2014 Offering envelopes** are now available to pick up. If you do not see your name and wish to have envelopes, please sign the sheet on the envelope table, or contact Bill Nahumck, 354-6482 or email him at nahumckbs@yahoo.com.
- ◆ If you have not returned your **2014 Commitment Card**, please do so by December 31, so that the Finance Team has an accurate picture for setting up the church budget for the coming year.
- ◆ Is there a special event or person you would like to recognize with flowers on the altar? Sign up for **2014 Altar Flowers** on the flower chart posted on the Hope Ridge News bulletin board (last on the right) in the hallway connecting WFLC to the Chapel. Price is \$25/week. Please note 'altar flowers' and the date of dedication on your check.



It's a new year!

NURTURE: Be Nurtured by the Holy Spirit and one another,...



Sat Dec 14,
3-5pm

**The Sparkle
Box Event**

Parents and their children are invited to come hear the "Sparkle Box"

story and stay to make their own to take home. Fill the box with notes of what you do this Advent season to shine like Christ. Come anytime from 3-5pm to play games, have a snack and find out how to sparkle this Christmas!

December Community Christmas Events!

Sat Dec 14 @ 2:30pm, Johnnycake Ridge Singers Barbershop Concert, \$10 ticket donation to benefit the Lake County Council on Aging.

Fri Dec 20, Sat Dec 21, Sun Dec 22, 7pm-9pm, The 40th Annual Live Nativity Scene, North Mentor Centenary United Methodist Church, 9290 Lakeshore Blvd at Corduroy Rd, park or drive-thru. Free event.

New in 2014... Family Worship Sundays!

Beginning in January, the 1st Sunday of the month at 10:30am will be Family Worship Sunday, where entire families can worship together through song, prayer, scripture, sermon and communion. The remaining Sundays, Children's Sunday School will resume as normal after Children's Time. More details will be handed out in Sunday School. We are excited for this idea that will nurture a more complete understanding of worship to the younger members of our congregation!



Men's Group Study resumes January 13

The Game Plan Mondays at 6:30pm
in the Conference Room,
followed by watching Monday Night Football.
Come join us!

HOPE RIDGE BOOK CLUB

The new read for January is

The Outliers:

The Story of Success

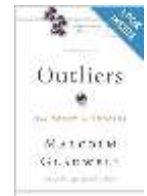
by Malcolm Gladwell

Meet Monday, January 27 @7pm

in the Library to

discuss this fascinating non-fiction work.

All are welcome to join!



FROM THE HOPE RIDGE PRESCHOOL

The preschool children will be performing their annual Christmas Concerts in the WFLC on Tuesday, Dec 17 at 9am and 12:15pm and Wednesday, Dec 18 at 9am. This is such a heartwarming event. Stop by to see one of the performances – I promise that it will get you into the Christmas Spirit!

Openings still remain in the Young 3's class which will run January– May in 2014. Children in this class must be three years old by January 31 and potty-trained. It will meet on Mondays and Fridays, 8:45 – 11:15 am. Please call the preschool office (440-639-8817) for more information.

Our Annual "Preschool Preview" Open House will be held on January 26, 2-3:30 pm. The staff will be present to answer questions about our program and curriculum. Class time offerings and information for the 2014/2015 school year will be available. Please share this information with those who may be seeking a preschool program for their children. Public registration will begin on Saturday, February 8. **Remember – Hope Ridge members and friends can register their children early!**
~Alice Griffith, Director

SEND: **and be sent out to serve others in Christ's name."**

Christmas Caroling and Meal, Sun Dec 22, 3-7pm



Joy to the World!

Like to sing? Any and all ages are welcome to come spread some Christmas cheer to others by caroling. Meet at Hope Ridge at 3pm and carpool to various locations. Song sheets provided. Come back to Hope Ridge at 5:30 for a meal and fellowship! Sign-up on today's orange Connection Card.

Know of someone that may enjoy a visit from our Christmas carolers on Dec 22? Please indicate on the Connection Card, or call the church office with name, address and phone #.

Dillon Shipman's *Christmas Classics* is still available! Dillon so graciously shared his time and piano talents to create ten traditional melodies with his original arrangements. The donation of \$10 per CD will go towards Hope Ridge apportionments. **CD's will be available on Sundays in the Connection Corner and in the church office all of December as well.** Makes a great gift!



Dominican Republic Mission Trip

February 11-20, 2014

The BEST 10 days of your life!!

Cost of \$1200 includes airfare, accommodations, meals.

Going on a mission trip is more satisfying, more enjoyable and more rewarding than any experience you have ever had!

For more info contact Nancy Rattray at rattraynancy@yahoo.com

Thank you!

The Hope Chest in Painesville wants to wish everyone "Happy Holidays" and thank you for your generous support in 2013. Thanks to you, we have helped 1200 families and individuals, including 1578 children through November. As a reminder, our "store" will be closed beginning Dec 19, reopening on Monday Jan 6, 2014. Please do not bring donations or leave anything on the dock during that time. When we reopen, Hope Chest will be glad to take your new and used bedding, small housewares, and clothing, especially men's items. Visit our website <http://hopechest.yolasite.com> or email us at hopechest.Painesville@gmail.com for current needs.



However...Hope Chest does need a strong helper (or two) with a large vehicle on: **Thurs Dec 19 and Mon Dec 30**, from approx. noon-1pm, to transport some unneeded items. Call the church office or indicate on the Connection Card if you are available.

News Around the Church

November Report of Our Financial Support of the Hope Ridge Community & Ministries

<u>Current Month</u>		<u>Year-To-Date</u>	
Nov Operating Expense Needs	\$31,931	YTD Operating Expense Needs	\$338,473
Nov Apportionment Needs	<u>2,774</u>	YTD Apportionment Needs	<u>30,514</u>
Total Offering Needs	<u>\$34,705</u>	Total Offering Needs	<u>\$368,987</u>
<hr/>			
Offerings Nov 1-30, 2013	\$35,679	YTD Offerings thru Nov 30	\$341,036

Great news! Our offering in November exceeded our monthly needs, this is a step in the right direction, as we have a YTD shortfall of \$28,951 below our annual budget. As a result of your generosity in November, we were able to pay a portion of our conference apportionments, which supports the work of the United Methodist church locally and across the world.

Make a Tax-Free Gift to Hope Ridge From Your IRA

Did you know that under the extended charitable IRA legislation, if you are age 70½ or older, you can make a charitable gift to Hope Ridge now using funds from your individual retirement accounts (IRAs) without undesirable tax effects?



Previously you would have had to report any amount taken from your IRA as taxable income. You could then take a charitable deduction for the gift, but only up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. In effect, this caused some donors to pay more in income taxes than they would have if they hadn't made a gift at all.

Fortunately, now these IRA gifts can be accomplished simply and without tax complications. Plus, you can make the gifts now—while you are living and able to witness the benefits of your generosity. This unique opportunity expires at the end of 2013.

You may contribute funds this way if:

- You are age 70½ or older at the time of the gift.
- You transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA. This opportunity applies only to IRAs; not other types of retirement plans.
- You transfer the funds outright to a qualified charity such as Hope Ridge.
- You make your gift by Dec. 31, 2013.

Your Benefits:

- The transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you will receive the benefit even if you do not itemize your tax deductions.
- The transfer may count against your unsatisfied required minimum distribution for 2013.
You'll make an immediate impact on us, allowing you to witness the benefits of your generosity.

How the Extended Law Works

Example: Lois, aged 80, has \$120,000 in an IRA and has pledged to give us \$15,000 this year. If Lois transfers \$15,000 to us directly from the IRA, she will avoid paying income tax on that amount. She cannot, however, claim a charitable deduction—it is a pure wash. Lois has found an easy way to benefit us without tax complications. If Lois's spouse has an IRA and is 70½ or older, he can also give up to \$100,000 tax-free to Hope Ridge.

For More Information

It is wise to consult tax professionals if you are contemplating gifts under the extended law. Please feel free to contact Ed Root, Treasurer or Bill Nahumck, Financial Secretary with any questions.



CELEBRATIONS


BIRTHDAYS*December*

1	Keith Nelson
2	Alivia Davis
5	Emily Egensperger
8	Erin Higgins
9	Bob Bowerman Tom Dingeldein
12	Tony Brunetti Beth Chamberlain Nancy Rattray
13	Jackie Ohmura Karen Sadler
15	Joseph Snyderwine
16	Beth Wilterdink
17	Julie Case
23	Amy Davies Fay Hillegas
24	Ron Balogh
26	Kathy Root
27	Carol Benroth Leighann Carroll
30	Janice Ohmura
31	Marilyn Stankey

January

1	Skip Agnew
2	Haley Newman
3	Sabrina Bogert
4	Bryce Weber
6	Julia Snyderwine Stephenie Thayer
7	Melissa Sullivan
8	Joan Burnfield
9	Melinda Gallagher Jacob Hampton Jim Simer
10	Brad Bauer Makenzie Nelson Steve Schuldt
11	Zacharey Duncan Dale Sawchik
13	David Cusick Linda Daly
14	Jack Olpp Sophia Fleck
16	Mark Hancock
19	Dick Parker
20	Keira Murphy Alex Toth
21	Susanne Goertz

22	Miya Timura
26	Wesley Bova Laura Goodban Alexandra Timura
28	Debbie Frasher Eileen Luhta-McFarlane
29	Robert Wilterdink
30	Peg Marks Maureen Zahn
31	Nathan Duncan Danielle Rodeheaver

ANNIVERSARIES*December*

12	Michael & Janine Zampini
16	Josh & Jessie Duncan Gary & Fran McConnell
17	Gordon & Wynne Bogert
24	Joe & Linda Kallay
27	Jack & Mary Butler

January

3	Jan & Carol Benroth
4	Joe & Mary Wolf
25	Erik & Shannon Schmidt

December Bible Readings

From the *Hope Ridge 2013 Advent Devotions* booklet.

1: Jeremiah 29:11-3	12: Leviticus 19:34	23: 1 John 3:17-18
2: John 14:2-3	13: John 4:7	24: Luke 2:14
3: Psalm 43	14: Proverbs 4:23	25: 2 John 1:3
4: Thessalonians 2:19-20	15: Isaiah 49:12-13	26: 2 Timothy 2:21-23
5: Romans 12:9-21	16: John 15:10-12	27: Matthew 6:25-34
6: Ephesians 6:11	17: Ezra 3:1-12	28: Psalm 62
7: Genesis 2:2	18: 2 Samuel 22:50	29: 1 Corinthians 15:45
8: John 4:7-21	19: Luke 2:10	30: Luke 1:26-38
9: Mark 9:33-34	20: 2 John 1:12	31: Revelation 5:12-14
10: Luke 2:13-14	21: Jeremiah 33:10-12	
11: Matthew 5:46-48	22: Matthew 5:9, Romans 14:17-18	

January Bible Readings

Supporting the theme of the sermon for the previous Sunday.

1: Ephesians 5:1-2	12: 1 Chronicles 15:16-28	23: Revelation 14:1-5
2: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10	13: Nehemiah 12:27-47	24: Revelation 15:1-8
3: Isaiah 9:6	14: Psalm 4	25: Ephesians 5:1-20
4: Revelation 21:5-7	15: Psalm 5	26: Acts 2:40-47
5: Revelation 22:16-17	16: Psalm 8	27: Matthew 25:31-40
6: Genesis 4:16-22	17: Psalm 11	28: Matthew 4:1-11
7: Exodus 15:1-21	18: Psalm 29	29: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
8: Judges 5:1-31	19: Psalm 37	30: Luke 10:1-8
9: 1 Samuel 18:5-9	20: Psalm 75	31: 1 John 1:1-7
10: 2 Samuel 6:1-19	21: Psalm 133	
11: 1 Kings 4:20-32	22: Revelation 5:1-14	

HOPE RIDGE
UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
9870 Johnnycake Ridge Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060

Phone: 440-352-2141
Fax: 440-639-2405
hopeoffice@hoperidge.com

Rev. Beth Wilterdink, pastor
pastorbeth@hoperidge.com
Rev. Jon Wilterdink, pastor
pastorjon@hoperidge.com

OFFICE HOURS
Monday—Thursday: 9am –3pm
Friday: 9am –noon
Office closed Dec 23-Jan 2

Do You Shop Online?

Here's an easy way to go above and beyond your normal giving to Hope Ridge.



What if you could buy the things you need online and give to your church at the same time? At no cost to you or the church?

You're going, **"NO WAY."** But this **truly is** a win/win opportunity! This is the [UMCmarket](http://UMCmarket.org), a shopping portal that pays a commission of 1-9 percent of your online purchase to your church with no increased costs to you.

The United Methodist Church, in partnership with some of the largest online retailers, have built a shopping tool that provides a cash benefit for your church when you purchase through the [UMCmarket](http://UMCmarket.org) -- items you'd probably be buying anyway. The retailer does not mark up the price — you still pay what you'd pay as you did before.

Simply create an account at UMCmarket.org designate "Concord Hope Ridge" and start shopping. It's that simple.



New To Do List

Just like at home, if you can do it yourself, it usually costs less than hiring someone else. Our church home is no different. Look over these building needs; see if there is any item that sparks your interest; contact Fred Dingeldein, 440-725-5598 for more info!

Church Items

- Fix flooring in kitchen
- Clean tile and grout in Café
- Fix door to the janitor's closet in office hallway
- Tuck point the chimneys and replace crown
- Tuck point the extension of the fire wall above the roof line - office wing to Chapel
- Finish the threshold on the emergency exit door in the Chapel
- Clean air duct screens throughout the church, especially Chapel
- Remove dead bushes
- Clean fans in Preschool bathrooms
- Put a light in the church office closet
- Fix carpet by side entrance to the WFLC (near choir room)
- Replace burned-out bulbs in outside fixtures
- Replace burned-out bulb on spot light that hits the cross by the new entrance
- Install child toilet in restroom and between Toddler Room and Nursery
- Paint front sign base
- Paint back door by offices
- Take an inventory of the church contents (several people needed)

Parsonage Items

- Paint living room ceiling
- Replace kitchen sink