

THE CARILLON



SCRIPTURE LESSONS

- November 2 Luke 19: 1-10
 "I Want to See"
- November 9 Luke 20: 27-38
 "Not Dead but Resurrected"
- November 16
 Laura Christian preaching
- November 23 Luke 23: 33-43
 "Reign of God"
 Rev. Michael Howard preaching
- November 30 Matthew 24: 36-44
 "Waiting in Hope"

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CLARIDON

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NOVEMBER 2025

- 2 Remembrance Sunday
- 9 Congregational meeting to vote on the
 2026 proposed budget
- 10 7:00 pm Trustees meeting
- 12 Deacons meeting
- 16 11:30 am Cabinet meeting
- 18 5:00 pm Claridon Community Helps
 dinner
- 30 8am Potluck Breakfast / Advent Workshop
- Each Sunday: Worship 10:00 am
- Each Wednesday: Choir Practice 5:30 pm
 Bell Choir 6:30 pm
- Each Thursday: Bible Study 6:30 pm

DECEMBER SAVE THE DATES:

- 6 COOKIE WALK 9am
- 13 Christmas STAR movie night for kids
 4:30-7pm

"Attitude of Gratitude"

November is typically the month we think of as a time in the calendar year that we are to be thankful. We know this month for the Thanksgiving holiday we celebrated from long ago when the first settlers came over The Pond to settle in the New America frontier. We celebrate our thankfulness with food and gathering together around a table set with foods we have come to know as representing thanksgiving. We have turkey and pumpkin pie and cranberry salad just to name a few. Some of these foods were probably shared because it was the most readily available homegrown edibles back in the day. Nowadays, many homes from different walks of life celebrate thanksgiving with different dishes, but the gathering of loved ones remains. Thank goodness!

Now I know many homes start out with a Thanksgiving dinner to share with loved ones. It is all fine in the beginning (or maybe it is a little strained). Yet, as the conversations go on and the meal comes and goes with the drinks comes the time when attitudes get a little relaxed and personalities become dominant as graciousness and tolerance fade. Many movies have been made about such Shenanigans. And to a comedian's delight, it makes for a fun laugh. However, for most of us this type of encounter doesn't foster attitudes of gratitude within us. It actually promotes anxiety and ungratefulness. In the stress of the commotion of gathering from different walks of life with different preferences we can tend to forget the meaning of unity and gathering for fellowship in the present. So often, we gather carrying along the agendas we harbor. We can be notorious for not forgiving especially when we fear the recurrence of injury again especially when it comes from those near and dear to our hearts. So it is here where I'd like to offer a new perspective for the attitude of gratitude.

When we gather together this year around the fellowship table, let us practice mindfulness for the present. Let us intentionally remind ourselves for a particular time, place and space, we will be safe because nothing has to leave the table. We can fellowship at the table. If it is good, then we can take it with us. If it is not, then we are free to leave it at the table where it remains to finish cooking in the Lord's favor until it is palatable in the future.

As the Lord calls us to share our wealth with all for the building up of God's healing presence among us, may we accept this attitude of gratitude in the most basic way. Let us remember God has given us life. With this life we are called to live in God's Spirit of renewal and generosity. As God has given to us, may we live giving in God's Spirit. November is not the only month we are to live with attitudes that reflect our heart's gratitude. However, it is the month that calls us intentionally into mindful awareness of renewing our actions for this way of life in the Spirit of the Lord whom we follow through Jesus Christ's teachings.

When we sit at the table this Thanksgiving (and at all tables) won't we become mindful of the opportunity to love large and trust in the care of the Lord for all things. In this way of life, Jesus promises us that his love will never end and always redeem when we accept the walk to let our attitudes grow in the walk of gratitude. Happy Thanksgiving! I am thankful to be here serving alongside each of you here at Claridon Church!!

Blessings to all,
Pastor Julie ☺☺



PRAYER LIST

Doris Wilson
Bree Ellis Banks
Julie Webb Hunt
Joyce Vargo
Dale Baptie
Rick Juhasz
Connie & Wayne Streble
Kelly Wagner
Ed Ward
Joe Berninger
Lee McCurry
Tim Engelman
Scott Pricer
Sandra Trotten
Linda Lumadue Watson

August Speziale
Norm Zepp
Sharon Hunter
Beth Christian Sharp
Kevin Playman
Denny Bihary
Thomas Woods
Rheta Crowley
Gary Branstein
Jeffery Przybysz
Dee Hayman Armes
Ben Armstrong
Esther Miller
Kevin Reed



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We will host the **Advent Workshop on Sunday, November 30**. Plan to join us for a potluck breakfast at 8am. We will have some crafts for all ages and gingerbread houses for the children.

We are hosting a **Christmas STAR Movie Night for Kids on Saturday, December 13th at 4:30-7:30pm** at the church. We will have games, snacks/dinner, fun activities and a movie! If you're interested in your kids (or kids in your life) attending, please RSVP to Samantha or Jamie by November 30th so we can plan accordingly.

As always, if you are interested in helping with the children of our church, please let us know!

Samantha Dye & Jamie Peck

MISSIONS

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone for your continued support of our various collection projects. We collected over 40 boxes of Kleenex this past month. During the month of November, we will be providing Thanksgiving dinner to a family of four. This is the same family that we will be sponsoring for Christmas and consists of two little girls ages 3 and 5. The sign-up sheet for the Thanksgiving meal is on the back table in the sanctuary.

Also, during the month of November, we will be collecting canned yams, boxed stuffing mix and canned cranberry sauce. The food pantry has requested these things because these items are not provided by The Cleveland Food Bank and must be purchased. Susan and I toured the pantry today and learned that the pantry spends between \$8,000 - \$10,000 per month. Many items which were previously provided by the Food Bank are no longer available.

One other item which they can always use is plastic bags. If you have extras, you may place them under the bench in the back hall.

Linda McBean
Mission Committee

PRESIDENT

Cabinet Meeting, Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 11:30 am;
Committee reports due to nancyjevnikar@yahoo.com by Nov12.

TRUSTEES

Our new front doors have arrived and are beautiful and are in the process of being installed. Fitted first, then painted and then installed. They are very heavy and will have weatherstripping so they will keep the church warmer. The only hold up has been the weather.....

Proposed budget will get voted on November 9. during the Congregational meeting.

Getting ready for winter. Generator maintenance done, back up snowplower approved.

In other news our Trunk and Treat was very successful. Great creativity and costumes. And even better the weather cooperated. Thank you to all who participated.

Get your recipes out!!! We have a date for the annual Cookie Walk. It will be December 6, 2025. We expect our usual assortment of beautiful and tasty cookies, which we are known for!

Claridon Community Helps made 91 dozen cookies for the prison ministry. They will also be putting Thanksgiving dinners together on the Monday before Thanksgiving.

PASTORAL RELATIONS

The Pastoral Relations Committee and Pastor Julie met October 22 to review the procedures provided by the Living Water Association, for addressing congregational concerns. It was a great opportunity to continue building our relationships together. We will meet at least quarterly or as the need arises.

MUSIC

The Music Committee is pleased to have a new ringer join the hand bell choir and another returned after a brief hiatus. If you would like to join this fun ministry, and try your hand at ringing, join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in the sanctuary.

Heartland Conference and Living Water Association

I attended the **Heartland Conference** Annual Meeting on September 26th at Ohio Wesleyan University, a wonderful gathering where collaboration and unity was emphasized. Although the Templd Hills Camp is being sold, Summer Camp continues at Camp Christian in Marysville.

Living Water Association – I will be attending the Living Water Association meeting on November 1st and will report back regarding that meeting as soon as I have more information.

Anyone interested in learning more about our Association or Conference can go to their websites at <https://heartlanducc.org/> or <https://livingwaterone.org/>. ~ Pam Plott