

# Worthington Presbyterian Church

a PCUSA congregation

November-December 2016

Christmas Eve  
Service  
December 24  
7:30 PM





## Photo Directory Update

If you purchased photos, they will be mailed directly to your home in early November. If you only will be receiving the free directory photo those will come to the church and be available for pick up. The directories will take about 6 weeks before they will be distributed, you must have sat for a picture to get a directory. The good news is that if you missed this fall opportunity, we will be keeping a waiting list and schedule a date as soon as we reach 15 sittings. That also means everyone who gets a directory now will get a new one every time a new edition comes out. Very Cool! All the canned goods that were donated during picture time will be donated to the local food pantry.

## Christian Education

Christian Education is dividing the elementary Sunday School class because of the size. The younger class will be taught by Debbie Smith and Jessica Woytowish and the older elementary will continue with Kristen and Paige Wyant.

## Communicant Class Update

The Communicant Class, which meets Sunday mornings at 9:30, began on September 25 and will have its final class on November 13. The class will be meeting with the session on Tuesday, November 8 to set a date for the members of the class to join the church. The members are Lauren Bowser, Allie Cramer, Alyza Smith, and Ethan Totin. Additionally, Cera Cochran and Hannah Walker are the senior high class members who have been participating and lending their insights. Throughout its course, the class has covered topics such as "God - What is He like?", "God, the three in One", "Sin", "Jesus Christ - His Person and Work", "The Holy Spirit", and "The Sacraments". If time permits, they are hoping to also discuss "The Church - How It Works".

## Women's Fellowship Group

The Women's Fellowship Group has been very busy with many projects. In September we hosted a craft show. We had 20+ vendors, sold items for the group, and also sold food and baked goods. We had an after church luncheon on Oct 9. After matching donations from the luncheon, we donated \$500 toward the new sound system.

In November we are doing a project to benefit the veterans at the Mechling Shakley Veterans Center in Cowansville.

**Thank you to the Worthington Garden Club for filling the new planters this summer. We are anxious to see what they will do for the Christmas season!**

## Ladies Christmas Tea

The Ladies Christmas Tea will be held Friday, December 9, and Saturday, December 10, starting each night at 6 PM. It will include a meal of fruit, soup, scones, tea sandwiches and lots of desserts for only \$10 per person. The tea is an opportunity for women to set aside the hustle and bustle of holiday preparation and focus their minds and hearts on the birth of Christ. Beautiful table decorations and fellowship provide a delightful atmosphere for the ladies to enjoy music, devotions and music. We are looking for both past and new table hosts. A 10 minute meeting after worship on Nov 6 will be held to go over the changes for the hosts. If you cannot stay, please ask for an informational brochure. If you choose to host a table you will be responsible for some tableware, centerpieces and a small favor for each person you invite to your table. You can sign up to host or attend any Sunday in November but reservations will close after Sunday worship on November 27 for attendance. Get your tickets early.

**Do you love to decorate for the holidays?**

**The property committee can always use some extra hands getting the church ready for the holidays. If you can spare an hour on Friday, November 25 at 9 am, they would greatly appreciate your help.**

## Advent Wreath Night

Looking for a fun family activity? Join us for the Advent wreath party on **Saturday, November 26!** The fun starts at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck followed by the wreath building and a kids' activity. Each wreath is crafted from a log and live greens which will stay green throughout Advent. Candles, devotionals, and logs are all provided, and anyone who wants can contribute holly, pine, pine cones, etc. for the wreaths. If interested, please sign up for a log. (Or, if you have a log from a past year, you can bring it and re-use it.) Hope to see you there!

## Breakfast and Stories and Crafts, Oh My!

Calling all kids, Nursery through 6th grade! Be sure to come to Sunday School on Sunday, December 18th at 9:30AM. You won't want to miss the annual Christmas Breakfast. Bring a friend and enjoy a delicious breakfast with a craft and the Christmas story to follow. Let us all celebrate Jesus' birthday together!

## Fruit Baskets are Back

Back by popular demand, the Youth Group will be holding their annual fruit basket sale. Small baskets will be \$12.00 and large baskets will be \$18.00. If you have never ordered, the Youth Group makes these on their own every year and they are a hit at holiday get-togethers and make wonderful gifts. Sign up in the Narthex or see a Youth Group member to order! Baskets will be made and ready for pick up on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. Orders are due Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

## GOD'S PROMISE: Angels To Watch Over You

Angels minister to God's people. God has put his angels in charge of you to watch over you wherever you go. (*Ps 91:11*)

There are over three hundred scriptural references that these celestial servants occupy an unquestionable role in the Bible. If you believe in God's Word, you have to believe in angels. Angels surface just long enough to give a glimpse and raise questions but then disappear before we have a full view.

The biblical image of angels is that they are MANY (*Heb 12:22; Jude 1:14; Deut 33:2; Matt 26:53; Rev 5:11; 2 Kings 6:17*). Hundreds of years ago John Milton wrote, "Millions of spiritual creatures walk the Earth unseen, both when we wake and when we sleep."

Another adjective to describe angels is MIGHTY. God's angels are marked by indescribable strength (*2 Thess 1:7; Ps 103:20*).

We can't talk to angels. Their ears only hear God's voice (*Heb 1:14; Matt 18:10*) and only worship God (*Heb 1:6; Rev 7:11-12*) and protect us (*Heb 1:14; Dan 3:25; Acts 12:7*).

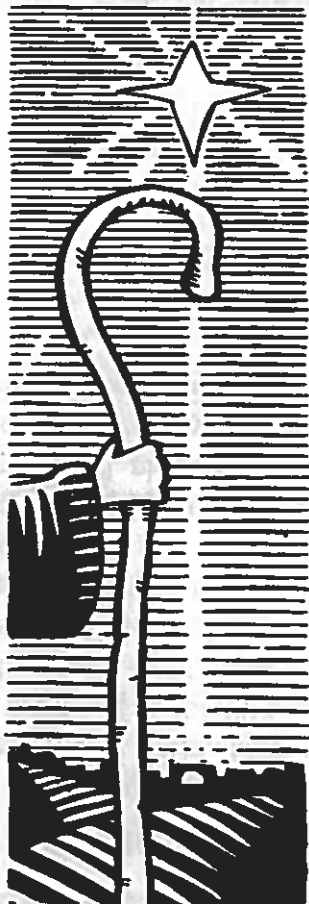
Angels only minister to God's people (*Ps 91:11*). Billy Graham reminds us, "If you are a believer, expect powerful angels to accompany you in your life experience." The promise of angelic protection is limited to those who trust God (*Ps 34:7*).

God sends his best troops to oversee your life. You are not alone. Receive God's lordship over your life and Heaven's mighty angels watch over you. And when you cross the goal line (of repentance), they'll be the first to applaud (*Lk 15:10*).

*(Excerpt from Max Lucado's book COME THIRSTY)*

## Prayer Vigil: A Time of Reflection..

We know all too well that the holidays are a wonderful, yet chaotic and sometimes stressful time of year. Many of us do not have time to reflect during the Christmas season but as Christians, we really should recognize the reason for the season and make it a priority to unwind and make time with the Lord. The annual prayer vigil is the ideal opportunity to do so. The vigil will be held from **Friday December 16 at 10 AM until Saturday December 17 at 10 AM**. Time slots are only a half an hour so there will be plenty of options that could easily fit into your schedule. Sign up for one or as many as you would like. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Kristen Wyant for more details.



## **Looking Ahead-Mark Your Calendar!**

**November 9-Community Awareness Meeting**

**November 12, 10 AM-WPC hosting Kiskiminitas Presbytery Meeting**

**November 20 at 7 PM-Worthington Ministerium Thanksgiving Service at Furnace Run Chapel**

**November 25 at 9 AM-Property Committee decorating for the Christmas season, helpers welcome!**

**November 26 at 6 PM-Advent Wreath Night for families**

**November 27-Congregational Meeting following worship**

**December 3-Community Light-Up Night**

**December 4 at 6 PM-A Holiday Memorial Service at Worthington Presbyterian Church**

**December 6-Worthington Ministerium Bell Ringing for Salvation Army at Walmart, WPC will ring 5-6 PM.**

**December 9 & 10 at 6 PM-Ladies Christmas Tea**

**December 16 & 17-Annual 24 hour Prayer Vigil**

**December 24 at 7:30 PM-Christmas Eve Service**