

January-February 2022



# *The Perry Scope*

Perry Hall United Methodist Church Newsletter  
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## *A Message from The Pastor*



As we enter the opening days of 2022 many of us are wondering what the new year will bring. Will it bring joy and happiness, or will it bring struggle and Pain? Will we see an end to the COVID pandemic, or will it linger even longer? Where during all that we are experiencing will we find hope?

During the period leading up to WW2 the field of modern psychiatry was beginning to develop under the guidance very different scholars in the field. Two: Sigmund Freud and Alfred Adler were already established and well known in the field.

Most basic drive-in human beings is the drive for pleasure. It's our need for pleasure that explains why we do what we do, how we live.

Adler was convinced that the explanation for human behavior is our desire for power. All of us grow up feeling inferior and powerless. Life then is a drive to gain control, to feel we are important. Victor Frankl was just beginning to establish himself in the field when WW2 begins. Frankl is arrested and thrown into a Nazi concentration camp for four long years.

Ultimately, Frankl is released from the concentration camp and resumes his career. His experience as a prisoner himself and his observations of others who had survived the concentration camps caused him to search for a new understanding of what enabled some people to survive under such a horrific circumstance while others did not.

Frankl quickly realized that both Freud's belief that humans are driven by a need for pleasure and Adlers theory that we are driven by a need for power could not explain how people who could find hope. Frankl came to see that the difference between those who survived and those who perished was hope. Those who survived never gave up their belief that their lives had meaning, that despite everything going on around them it would one day end and they would live meaningful, purposeful lives.

As we enter into this new year filled with possibilities may we find in our faith the source of meaning and hope that will see us through all that may come our way. May that same faith enable us to do all that we can to offer hope to others in the world around us.

Blessings

Pastor Vic



## Food Pantry News

**Happy January!** We hope you are safe from covid and enjoyed the wonderful winter surprise yesterday! While the weather may be 'chilly' and the roads a little slippery, do know that you are seeing the beginning of a new year! Mostly though - you are the beauty! For you see, your kindness and generosity brought a great deal of joy to over 150 families this past holiday season.

While the covid pandemic has made life tough for everyone, it has made life very tough for some! The holiday season from Thanksgiving through the New Year generally brings families together at some point. With these family gatherings it also brings a time to share special dinners and celebrations. But for many people in our community, that is not the case. Due to covid and other hardships, money has been tight and planning holiday celebrations were minimal. But, because of you, families that had very little to spare were able to enjoy Thanksgiving/Christmas dinner celebrations. Just over 150 families were given all the fixings for that 'special dinner' including the means to buy their turkey/ham to complete their meals. This could not have been done, without your kindness, caring, loving donations. As a matter of fact, not only did the Christmas baskets contain all the dinner ingredients, they also contain surprise gifts (such as gloves, hats, toys, Christmas decorations, etc)!

The distributions went very successfully and were covid safe! Both days, the weather cooperated and the 'drive by' distributions went quite smoothly - the volunteers gave each 'car' the love and support and joy that the families so deserved.

The donations you provided not only provided for the special holiday baskets, but also gave the food pantry funds to be able to purchase extra meat and poultry to give out to the clients (as our freezer supply became quite low). The donations also allowed us to 'stock up' on the traditional staples that the clients receive each month (especially the nonfood items like shampoo, soap, tooth paste and even clothing detergent).

There is no way to express the true 'thankfulness' these families feel for your kindness - but we want

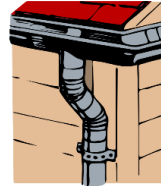
you to know, that your donations (all of your donations) have made and continue to make so many families feel there is still hope, still goodness in the world. Your generosity made the holidays blessed and joyful for many, many people - so we hope you enjoyed the same - a very blessed holiday season!

Stay safe from covid, enjoy the beauty of the snow, and know that your kindness made and continues to make a very positive and major difference in so many lives!

### **\*Facts about the PHUMC Food Pantry\* for 2021**

<b>Days Open</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>Families Served</b>	<b>over 1400</b>
<b>(Individual Served</b>	<b>over 4100)</b>
<b>Bags of Food Given</b>	<b>over 12,000</b>

**Your support helped make these numbers possible! Thank you!**



### **Trustee's Report**

The Trustees have been working on getting quotes to the have altar lighting replaced making it brighter and easier to see when working in that area of the church. We have identified a company we will be using and work should begin soon. Thanks to Barry Creasy for all his hard work on this project.

*(Editor's note – as this edition of the Perry Scope is being written, the workers are IN the sanctuary starting their work. How exciting!)*



### **Adult Ministries**

Adult Ministries is hosting an Adult Game Night on Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 7-9 pm. Games will be there for use, but feel free to bring along your favorite games, as well. Snacks and drinks will be provided. For more information, contact Margaret Hubbard @443-604-7446, or Peggy Whiting @443-257-2874.



## Family Ministries

Family Ministries is hosting a Valentine Craft Day on Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, from 10:45-12:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to join in this fun activity. Refreshments and drinks will be provided.



## Super Bowl Sub Sale is BACK!



Get ready for game day by putting in your order for some of our sensational, 6" overstuffed subs and some of our savory salads (potato and cole slaw). **New this year – order a 12" sub, too!!** Plenty for you AND a friend!

Orders can be placed online by visiting the following web site:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c4da4ae29a57-superbowl>

If you prefer to fill out an order form, you can find them in the Narthex, as well as included with this mailing.

All orders are non-refundable, and MUST be turned in, with payment included, by **Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>**. Orders can be picked up on **Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm.** Any orders not picked up by 12:30 will be discarded. Any questions? Call Denise @ 443-787-8687.



## CALLING NEW ACOLYTES !!!



### Would you like to be an acolyte in 2022?

We are planning our annual Acolyte training session for children who have signed up to begin acolyting this year.

Tentatively scheduled is one hour-long meeting in the sanctuary on a Friday evening in late January/early February.

If your child is at least 8 years old and is interested in becoming a PHUMC acolyte this year, please contact Joyce Ziegler to be included in the training session.

## Operation Christmas Child



Many thanks for your kindness and wonderful generosity again this year during our OCC collection! Thanks to all of you, we collected **124 shoeboxes** full of school supplies, hygiene items, toys and other treasures!



It is truly a blessing to know that these shoeboxes will DELIGHT **124 children** – and prayerfully lead them to Jesus.


We hope you enjoy the pictures of some of the items the kids made themselves. However you helped, whether filling shoeboxes, giving monetary donations or offering prayers for the children, their



shoeboxes and their faith journey, we truly **THANK YOU!**

Your friends in PHUMC Sunday School Grades 5-7:



Trystan, Samantha, Paige, Alexis, Catherine, Layla, Sophia, and Mrs. Joyce 



# 10,000 REASONS




FOR ALL YOUR goodness I WILL KEEP ON SINGING  
**10,000**  
REASONS FOR MY heart TO FIND



The final count of our many blessings was **3,580!**

We hope this challenge gave everyone a chance to really consider the many special blessings God has given us. We are SO very, very blessed! Thank You, God!

Please know that **we are thankful for all of YOU, our PHUMC Church family,** and wish you many more blessings in 2022!

Happy New Year,  
Your Sunday School friends 



## OUR ANNUAL ACOLYTE GINGERBREAD PARTY

Again this Christmas, the acolytes created BEAUTIFUL Gingerbread Houses - and even a Nativity (thanks, Trystan!) After decorating their houses and having some snacks, they moved to the Family Room for many exciting rounds of their Annual Christmas Charades! FUN was had by ALL!

We thank them for their dedication to being the BEST acolytes. Even in the pandemic and our evolving worship practices, they've adapted to changes in our services, happily serving at our in-person worship services from Easter to year-end.

Thank you SO much Trystan, Lily, Alexis, Catherine, and Sophia V. Also, a big thanks to Gabe, Jackson and Sophia P., who stepped down this year. We truly appreciate the many years you served as PHUMC acolytes!

