

THE COMMUNICATOR
JANUARY 18, 2026



**Sunday, January 18, 2026
Traditional Service 9:00 am**

**Prelude – Look, Ye Saints! The Sight is Glorious - Dr. Kim
Acolyte: Fynlee Griffin
Welcome/Announcements**

Come, Thou Almighty King – UMH 61 vs. 1, 2, 4

Greeting – Alice Chester

Opening Prayer – Todd Smith

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me – UMH 521 vs. all

Children's Message – Julie Scherer

Almighty, Unchangeable God – Mixed Vocal Ensemble

Isaiah 49: 1-7 – Todd Smith

"Give You As A Light" – Rev. Marie Smith

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Something Beautiful – UMH 394

Offering

Offertory: Gifted Moments – Dr. Kim

Glory Be to the Father – UMH 70

Jesus Is All the World to Me – UMH 469 vs. 1,2,4

Benediction

Postlude – God of Grace and God of Glory - Dr. Kim

Being God's Light Bearers

Rev Marie Smith

January 18, 2026

Please use these sermon notes as a jumping off point for your own spiritual journey. We know everyone is on their own pathway. We hope you will find this useful. Please see Pastor Marie if you have questions or if you want to take the next step in your faith journey.

Isaiah 49:1-7

What's in a name?

Israel was once named Jacob.

Isaiah 49: 6b "I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

Matthew 5: 14-16 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

God has a vision that needs to be brought forward.

Jesus warns us not to hide our lights under a bowl.

We always need people to be welcoming and inviting.

Action Steps:

1. God is not waiting to call someone else; God is calling your name.
2. What can you say 'yes' to today?
3. Take the invitation card and pray over it.

**Sunday, January 18, 2026
Contemporary Service**

Welcome – Levi Graf

***Mighty To Save
We Fall Down
Christ Be Magnified***

Announcements

Offering Song

Isaiah 49: 1-7

Give You As A Light – Rev. Marie Smith

Lighting Candles

***Way Maker*
Benediction**

White rose on the altar is in memory of C. Dale Gifford.

Prayer List for Jan. 15, 2025

**Doug Sweazy
Marci Pheister
Pete Cherrington
Melissa Matz
Jo Shappard**

**Jason & Emma
John Gleespen**

**Cooke Family – Passing of Tom Cooke
Stethem Family – Passing of Samatha Stethem
Wolfe Family - Passing of Neal Wolfe
Johnson Family – Passing of Rosalyn Johnson**



Lent is quickly approaching and we want to celebrate the music that speaks to your heart. Please submit your 3 favorite hymns (if you attend the 9:00 service) or 3 favorite contemporary songs(if you attend The Point), by January 25 and we will do our best to sing them over the Lenten season. You may submit by email or through the form in the bulletin. Let us rejoice! Alice Chester, Music Director



Thanks to everyone who contributed in many ways this year to assist with providing clothing needs to people of our county thru the Corner Closet. A special thanks to Becky Stevens for monitoring the volunteers schedule. She does a great job making sure we have enough people working for the hours we are open. To those of you who volunteer to work, we sincerely appreciate you giving your time to sort, hang, organize and do the many other needed tasks to make this store a friendly, pleasant place for our shoppers. To those who contribute clothes, please continue to bring your slightly used items to us. We hear many heart warming stories about how we are meeting the needs of people.

Our number of shoppers have increased since we opened.

2022 - 6,300 (first year)

2025 - 10,051

Betty Wolford



Super Soups & Sweets

Get prepared for the Super Bowl by coming to the 'super soups & sweets' luncheon on Saturday, Feb. 7 from 1-3 pm at the church. Bring your favorite soup or dessert to share with others. Everyone will get a chance to taste all the soups and then have dessert to top off the meal. After lunch there will be games and great conversation. Sign up sheets will be available at both services. Come and enjoy the activities and get ready for Super Bowl Sunday.

We are grateful for the Community UMC – Barr Fund that has funded many projects and organizations this past year. We also funded some of the ministries of Community UMC. Some of those ministries are: Compassion Office,(helping people in our community with utilities and rent assistance), Ministries of our church like; Youth, Childrens, Missions, Outreach, Hospitality, Events and The Corner Closet. Children and Youth are growing because of the focus, priority and funding we have received from the Barr Funds. We also help to fund salaries for several staff positions within the Children’s Ministry. This is new this year, as we are in a unique position where we are growing and changing. Most of our teachers are older and unable to commit to long term teaching and because of the age and stage of our congregation, we needed to think outside of the box. This is expected to be a temporary solution and we are hoping to get back to volunteer positions in the near future. The changes we have made and the financial focus shifts have been positive. We have had an increase in children and families who have begun to attend, our youth group attendance has increased and our missional focus has gotten more defined. Please see the following list of all the organizations and projects we helped in 2025. If you have additional questions, please see a member of the Barr Committee or Pastor Marie.

Barr Committee Members:

Betty Wolford(Chair)
Patty Manson
Dick Patrick
Joyce Sedlak

Dave Stevens
Julie Scherer
Fred Kennedy

Barr Report 2025

Please find below a list of the organizations and churches that were provided funding:

Circle of Faith Ministries	\$ 10,000.00	youth camp
Presbyterian Church	\$ 10,000.00	community cupboards
Inspiration Station	\$ 50,000.00	community source for family activities
Ohio Health Foundation	\$ 2,000.00	Jack McGuire nurse scholarship fund 2025
	\$ 10,000.00	5 year support for Jack McGuire nurse scholarship fund
	\$ 25,000.00	Mammography modernization project
Swauger Valley Misssions	\$ 500.00	scholarship for mission trip
The Covering	\$ 100,000.00	program redeeming women's lives
		property purchase assistance
PCCF	\$ 2,000.00	Imagination Library
		free books for children
Roundtown As One	\$ 10,000.00	support of program for fostering children & staff training
		scholarships
National Child Safety Council	\$ 900.00	child safety education program
Faith Fellowship Street Ministry	\$ 3,000.00	purchase of meat for distribution
Scioto Valley Habitat for Humanity	\$ 50,000.00	home being built in Circleville
Hope House	\$ 40,000.00	annual support
Haven House	\$ 50,000.00	annual support
Church for All People	\$ 1,000.00	free store Christmas shop for children
Total	\$ 364,400.00	