

THE NEXUS

Presbyterian Church
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January 2018

From Our Pastor

Dear Friends,

A New Year! 2018! What are you going to do with it and in it? One of the significant persons in my life was my father-in-Law, Harold Avery Oakes. He was a lifelong Presbyterian Christian and Elder. In World War II he enlisted in the Navy. The Navy chose him for a special program and sent him to M.I.T. for a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Upon completion, he was commissioned and served in the South Pacific. Following the war, he worked in corporate America, married and raised 4 children with his wife. I had the pleasure of having him in my life for approximately 34 years.

Harold also taught the High School Sunday School class in his church for decades. Now if I asked him "what are you going to do with and in the New Year", I know exactly how we'd proceed. He'd answer by using a process (he was an engineer after all) he taught every high school student in his Sunday School class. Ask these 3 questions:

Who am I?
What do I know?
Why am I here?

I am a Christian. I know the opportunities God places before me and the needs of the world he loves. Why am I here, well,.....I'd better get busy!

Happy New Year!

Pastor Freeborn

Sponsor

This issue of the Nexus is being sponsored by **Frank Lanterman**. We thank you or your support. Please let the church office know if you are interested in sponsoring a future issue of the Nexus. The cost is \$35.00.

Adult Education Classes

Join Pastor Ed after worship on Sunday, January 7th and 14th for a class on "Bad Girls of the Bible."

Treasurer and Stewardship Report Through November 30, 2017

Income	\$215,806.00
Expenses	\$217,452.00
Net	\$ -1,646.00
Year-to-Date Giving:	
Pledge Giving:	\$127,978.00
Non-Pledge:	\$ 12,936.00

Nexus Deadline

The Nexus deadline for the February issue is **Monday, January 29th.**

Congregational Meeting

We will hold our annual congregational meeting on Sunday, **January 28th**, following worship services.

Initial Offering Envelope

The first envelope in the packet each year is designated as the Initial Offering. It can be used to include a special start of the year gift to cover two of the overhead expenses that we incur each year.

First is an apportionment assessed by the Presbytery annually, the fee is based on the active membership of the church as of December, two years ago. For the year 2018, we are being assessed for our total active membership at the end of 2016. The apportioned amount is \$30.00 per active member and our total assessment is \$3,750.00. Our total active membership for the assessment is 125. If you wish to help offset that cost, you may choose to pay part or the entire assessment amount for you as a giving unit.

The second overhead cost is for the envelopes themselves. These cost just a few dollars, and any amount you wish to contribute would be greatly appreciated.

Use of the Initial Offering Envelope is optional. If used, you do not have to designate how you want your gift to be applied. Simply include a gift in the Initial Offering Envelope and place it in the offering plate.

Thank you for your past and continuing generosity.

Congrats to Graduates!

Carole Emery graduated Dec. 16th from ESU with a Masters of Education in Professional and Secondary Education with a concentration in Educational Leadership. She also had a 4.0 GPA!

Crista Mehringer graduated Dec. 16th from ESU with a Bachelor's of Science in Criminal Justice and a Bachelor's of Art in Sociology. She also earned Cum Laude!

Women's Circle

The Women's Circle group will meet on Tuesday, **January 9th** at noon. All women are welcome. Please bring your lunch.



Men's Lunch

The Men's lunch group will meet on Wednesday, **January 10th** at noon. All men are welcome to attend. Lunch will be provided.



Missions Update

Once again, our congregation has demonstrated and shared its overwhelming generosity and compassion for others.

A Brighter Christmas was had by four of our local school families, thanks to our congregation. All of the hoped for gifts, of the 12 children, were purchased, wrapped, returned, and ready for pick up. The families were overwhelmed and very appreciative of your compassion and willingness to help their children enjoy a Brighter Christmas.

This year we had unexpected monetary support from both within the congregation and from friends from out of state. This enabled each family to receive an extra \$65.

When the call is made to assist our neighbors in need, our congregation always answers. Thank you, for your continued support and your endless generosity.

The Mission Committee



Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays during **January**:

Sue Ellis, Brenda Bruce, Doris Schoonover, Ed Flory, Bobbie Long, Geraldine Gower, Betty Drescher, Jeff Gibbons, Fred Krach, Keli Butera, Ed West and Lois Swisher



Wedding Anniversaries

Celebrating wedding anniversaries during **January**:

**John and Kathleen Kauderer
Dick and Jo McNally**

Year-End Committee Reports

All committee heads, please have your year-end reports into Jen by **January 10th**. Thank you!

Tentative dates for the upcoming 2nd Sunday Coffee Hours

January 14	Women's Circle/Men's Group
February 11	Personnel & Worship
March 11	Choir
April 8	Congregation (need Coordinator)
May 13	K-Group
June 10	Church picnic - Christian Ed & Fellowship
July 8	Finance & Property
August 11	Congregation (need Coordinator)
September 9	Rally Day Picnic – Fellowship
October 14	Adult Sunday School
November 11	Mission Committee
December 16	Congregation (need coordinator)

Many, Many Thanks . . .

...to our staff, Jen, Mike, Linda, Carole and Sami, for their outstanding service to Christ and his Church during Advent and Christmas and throughout the year.

...to the Choir, Bell Choir, soloists and musicians, for their beautiful music praising God during Advent and Christmas and throughout the year.

...to our Session and Deacons for leading us in the way of Jesus Christ throughout the year.

...to all who are greeters, ushers and lectors, for their service to Christ and his Church.

...to all who serve on the church committees, organizations, events and church office workers, for their dedication to Christ and his Church.

...to Tim Swanson and Chris Dudley for their excellent Adult Education classes throughout the year.

...to Ernie Rydell, Barbara Braithwaite and Sharon Laverdure who completed their terms on Session and Bill Cramer and Judy Schreck who completed their terms on the Deacons. We are blessed by these excellent officers!

Koinonea

The Koinonea group will meet Wednesdays January 10th and 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Nexus Staff

Pastor: Rev. Edmund T. Freeborn

Editor: Jen Carmella

Contributing Editors:

Barbara Braithwaite, Allan Erbe, Judy Schreck



The Church will be closed Monday, January 1

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Church closed Happy New year!	2	3	4	5	6 Special Session Training, 9:00-noon
7 Worship, 10:00 am Installation of new officers Deacon's meeting, 11:15 am Adult Ed., 11:15 TOALC Kickoff	8	9 Women's Circle, noon	10 Men's Lunch, noon	11	12	13
14 Worship, 10:00 am Coffee hour, 11:15 am Adult Ed., 11:15 Finance Meeting, 11:15 am	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Worship, 10:00 am Youth Fellowship, 11:15	22 TOALC classes begin	23	24	25	26	27
28 Worship, 10:00 am Congregational Meeting, 11:15 Session Meeting, 11:30 am Deacon's Coffee Hour, 11:15 am	29 Nexus Deadline	30	31			