

Circuit Rider

DECEMBER 2022



A NOTE FROM PASTOR MESHACH



Greetings!

Last month I wrote about a book called *The Patient Ferment of the Early Church*, written by Church historian Alan Kreider. Guess what? I still have a lot to say about it! It will certainly show up in a few sermons down the road, but I want to use some of this article to share one of

the most impactful parts of it.

There is a word Kreider uses repeatedly in the book that is of the utmost importance to understanding how the early church grew; that word is *Habitus*. *Habitus* is an old Latin word that refers to a way of gaining knowledge through your body as opposed to your brain. Kreider defines it as “a system of dispositions that we carry in our bodies... [It] is formed by repetition, by the sheer physicality of doing things over and over so that they become habitual, reflexive, and borne in our bodies.”

The early church didn’t focus on growing numerically, they focused on growing the people that were part of the faith community. They wanted Christians with large lives more than they wanted many Christians. Since qualitative growth was their aim, they developed a *habitus* that would train disciples, not merely to know about Jesus but, to have Christian reflexes.

I hope that last sentence is as stunning to you as it was to me. To train a person to react without thinking means forming the mind, but also the finger tips and the toes; for there is knowledge throughout our body, not just our brains. We all know this to be true. How many of you have remembered your password only once you sat down and put your fingers to the keyboard. Things like this happen all the time. Our bodily reflexes kick in and we respond before we can think.

Unfortunately much of our corporeal (bodily) knowledge has been shaped by the *habitus* of the world. The early church understood this. Therefore, they made a *habitus* that would not only teach disciples that Jesus said, “Bless those that curse you,” but they would also teach them how to do it, to the point were eventually they were doing it automatically.

This may seem remarkable, but it’s actually a common way of forming people. In fact, intentionally or unintentionally, each of us has been formed by a *habitus*. An example of an intentional *habitus* is how we teach our children to respect others through the *habitus* of table manners. Part of sitting up straight, politely requesting that someone pass the food instead of reaching over them, is teaching

your children how to honor and respect the people around you. The knowledge goes through their bodies to their brains.

As stated earlier, we’ve also been victims of a worldly *habitus* without knowing it. Think of brilliant marketing schemes that form us to be consumers. Consider the layout at the mall or grocery store that encourage us to buy certain things by walking a certain route. They don’t have to say, “buy this candy.” That would be going through the brain were reason and logic might disrupt. The greater path for success is to carry the body along a path that would cultivate a desire to consume — a *habitus*. So they carefully place ads that you see and hear in the right places. Products are intentional placed to be at eyesight. Then, right when we think we’ve beat the machine the peanut M&M’s that we said we wouldn’t get are right at the check-out line. A line that happens to be moving slowly, slowly tempting you to just get some this time. Annnnd the *habitus* of Kroger wins again.

If you sensed an autobiographical tone to that last paragraph you are very discerning.

All of this has me wondering... What is our *habitus*? To be sure, we have one; is it forming us in Christlike ways? Is it training our reflexes so that we respond as Christ would? See, the reason Jesus was able to reflexively bless those who were cursing him while hanging from the cross was because of a Kingdom *habitus* that shaped his entire life. Shouldn’t churches aim at doing the same for those who come through our doors? I think so.

Are you interested in having your reflexes trained for Christlikeness? I know I am. I better understand what Paul meant when he wrote, “I travail again until that Christ shall have been formed in you [and me!]” (Galatians 4:19).

You have my promise that we will take a look at our *habitus* and ensure that, with God’s help, we are practicing the things that will make us more like our big brother Jesus.

Oh yeah, and a happy Advent and Christmas season to you!

Each year I try to grow my Christmas playlist, so next time you see me please share your absolute favorite Christmas song with me.

I’m so thankful to be on the Way with you all.

Peace and Goodness,

Pastor Meshach Kanyion

WELCOME REV. DR. KAREN CRAWFORD!

Dear Congregation of Church of the Saviour,

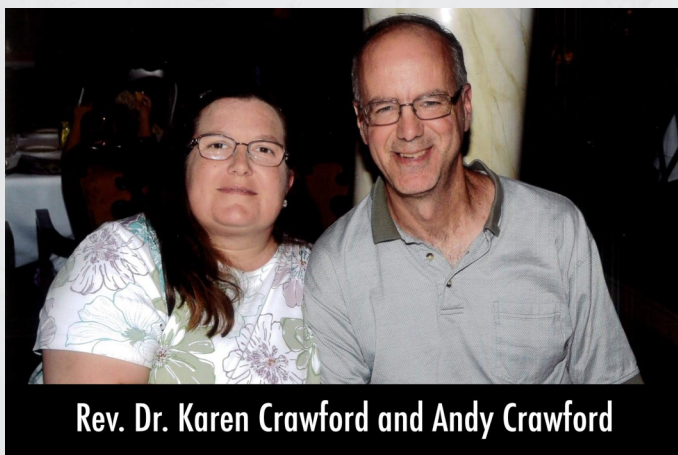
Many of us have been eagerly anticipating the day this announcement would come; well, thanks be to God, today is that day!

We are thrilled to welcome our new Associate Pastor, Rev. Dr. Karen Crawford on Sunday, December 4.

Thanks be to God for hearing and answering all of our prayers. And thank you to all of you who prayed, interviewed, made phone calls, or sat in on Zoom Meetings to make this day become a reality. Please read more about Pastor Karen below.

Peace and Goodness,

Pastor Meshach



Rev. Dr. Karen Crawford and Andy Crawford

Karen Crawford was born and raised in Pontiac, Michigan. She is the youngest of three, with two older brothers. Karen was raised in the United Methodist Church, but never dreamed as a child that God would call her to pastor a church. She had her call to ministry at the age of 17, when she was involved in an All-Terrain Vehicle accident that put her in a coma for three days. There, she had a journey with the Lord where He called her to shepherd His flock. She received her B.A. in religion and pre-theology at Ohio Wesleyan University, where she met her husband, Andy.

Karen attended seminary at United Theological Seminary, in Dayton, OH. Soon after receiving her Masters of Divinity, she was married and received her first church. Karen was called as Senior Pastor to the 2-point charge of Cedar Hill Calvary and Hoy Memorial UMCs, in Fairfield County.

Two years later, she was ordained a Deacon and appointed as the Associate Pastor to Grove City UMC, where she spent four years before being called to Delta, Ohio, to be nearer to her mother, who was succumbing to cancer.

While at Delta, Karen received her Doctor of Ministry degree from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Her DMin is in Parish Ministry, with emphasis in Spiritual Formation.

After seven years, Karen was asked to be an associate a second time, this time to Scioto Ridge UMC in Hilliard, a church very similar to Church of the Saviour.

Karen spent nine years in southeast Ohio, serving as Senior Pastor just two miles south of the Ohio University campus, in Athens. She was blessed to have many professors and administrators from OU in the parish, which provided the church with a great variety of gifts and ministries.

For the past three years, Karen has been serving First UMC in Mt. Sterling, the small village where Andy grew up, so that they could help provide care to Andy's ailing father.

Karen is currently in her 28th year of pastoral ministry, but she has also served as a drop-in center coordinator, worked within the Delaware County juvenile court system, and has been a christian education director and youth pastor in three separate churches during her years in the college and seminary. This gives her a little over 31 years of active ministry under her belt.

Andy has held a variety of interesting occupations as he and Karen have moved around Ohio, but he can most consistently be found coaching high school sports - 33 years total; the last 20 in cross country and track & field - and in writing syndicated sports columns. Andy is also actively involved in community theatre, having performed in over three dozen shows over the past 25 years.

Andy and Karen just celebrated their 28th year of marriage on October 15th. They have no children but have owned a variety of pet rabbits over the years. There is currently one fur baby, a sable colored female named Aurora,

One quirky thing about Andy and Karen is that they are addicted to Disney. They take nearly all of their vacations to Orlando, but they also love Disney movies and stage plays, and they even took a Disney cruise for their 25th Anniversary.

Karen is excited to be coming onto staff at Church of the Saviour. She cannot wait to meet with small groups, to get to visit with people, to preach as Pastor Meshach needs her to, and just to be an asset to both Pastor Meshach and the congregation.

Andy and Karen are excited and ready to worship with all of you on December 4, where Karen will share a little more about her life, ministry, and the Prince of Peace.

Welcome to Church of the Saviour Pastor Karen and Andy!



Finance

UPDATES

Church of the Saviour
Financial Report for October 2022

Income vs. Expense	October 2022		2022 Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	% of Budget
Income					
Tithes & Offerings	\$ 103,195.92	\$ 121,041.87	\$ 1,136,381.35	\$ 1,210,418.70	93.88%
Other Income	\$ 469.60	\$ 207.50	\$ 24,802.69	\$ 2,075.00	1195.31%
Total Income	\$ 103,665.52	\$ 121,249.37	\$ 1,161,184.04	\$ 1,212,493.70	95.77%
Total Expenses	\$ 100,570.31	\$ 121,033.57	\$ 1,046,514.97	\$ 1,210,736.70	86.44%
Net Operating Surplus/(Defecit)	\$ 3,095.21	\$ 215.80	\$ 114,669.07	\$ 1,757.00	
Net Other Income/(Expense)	\$ (38,826.02)		\$ (52,026.02)	\$ -	
Net Surplus/(Defecit)	\$ (35,730.81)		\$ 62,643.05		

KIDS CORNER

Upcoming Events

December 4	Sunday school @ 9:30a Kids Corner @ 11a
December 7	Children's music rehearsals @ 6p
December 9	Parents Night Out @ 5:30p
December 11	Sunday school @ 9:30a Kids Corner @ 11a
December 14	Children's music rehearsals @ 6p
December 17	Gingerbread Bash @ 9:30a
December 18	Sunday school @ 9:30a Kids Corner @ 11a
December 21	Children's music rehearsals @ 6p
December 24	Christmas Eve: 5p Children's Musical; worship at 7p, 9p, and 11p.
December 25	Christmas Day! Worship @ 9:30a--no children's programming.
January 1	New Year's Day! No children's programming.



It's time for **Parents Night Out!** Friday, December 9, from 5:30p -8p is a night where you can drop your kids off at the church for games and activities, and you can enjoy an evening out! Space is limited, so

don't delay registering your kids so you can enjoy an amazing night out! [Register here.](#)

Come join us on Saturday, December 17 @ 9:30a for the **Gingerbread Bash!** It's a super fun, hands-on way for your family to celebrate the real reason for the Christmas season! Together, we're going to build and decorate gingerbread nativities while hearing the Christmas story from the Bible. [Register here.](#)



We are scheduling volunteers for Christmas Eve nursery care at 5p and 7p. If you are available, you can [sign up to serve here.](#) If you have

questions, please contact Frankie.hann@cos-umc.org



Pennies with a Purpose. One of our baptism gifts to families is a jar of **936 pennies**. Each penny represents the approximate number of weeks from the time a child is born until they graduate. Pennies are donated by members of our congregation as a symbol of the investment we are making to partner with parents on their journey. **Want to donate your pennies?** Stop by the office & drop them off!

We are having another **Acolyte training** on **Wednesday, January 11** from **5:30 pm - 6:00 pm** in the sanctuary. It is for 3rd-6th grade children interested in being an acolyte for the first time and a possible refresher for those who attended in the fall. To sign up to serve as an acolyte January-May, please use this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4AA8AF29A2F4C07-acolyte>. If you have any questions, contact Anna Yuhas at annayuhas@gmail.com.



We are piloting the *Pray for Me Campaign* for our 4th-6th graders in January and invite **you** to join us in linking the generations of our church community together through prayer.

What is it? *The Pray for Me Campaign* is rooted in the truths that God uses his Word, his people, and prayer to change the world. This ministry creates a vast web of intergenerational relationships and equips adult believers to pass on a sustainable faith to the next generation.

How it works? One Prayer Champion for every 4th, 5th, & 6th grade student in our church! Each Prayer Champion is given a name, specific prayer requests, and a Prayer Guide—to use daily and pray through from January – May. There is an initial meet & greet on Sunday, January 8, at 10:30a when you can meet the student you'll be praying for and receive your prayer guide.

Will you join us and become a Prayer Champion? [Sign up here.](#)

If you have any questions, contact michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org.



What is Youth Group?

On Sunday nights, students 7th grade through 12th grade meet to eat, worship, share their faith, and learn about God. The schedule looks like this:

4:00-5:00 Youth Ringers (Bell Choir) in the Choir Room

5:00-6:00 Youth Choir in the Choir Room

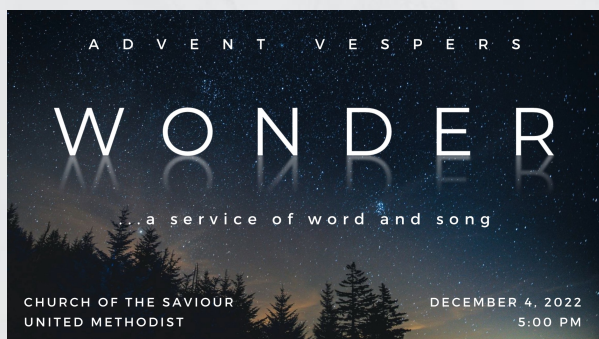
6:00-6:30 Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

6:30-7:00 Worship in the Youth Room

7:00-8:00 Lesson and Small Groups in the Youth Room

Our teaching series for the month of December is Ask Me Anything where the students will have an opportunity to write any question they have on the Bible and ask it in a safe and open environment. We try and do this once a semester so students start getting in the rhythm of asking for help understanding their faith.

December



Vespers

We will be having our annual Vespers service at 5:00 on December 4th. We will still be having our standard youth program starting with dinner at 6:00 and ending at the normal 8:00 time.



Youth Christmas Party

On December 18, we will be having our annual Christmas Party at our normal youth time. This will include a White Elephant Gift Exchange, which means everyone needs to bring a gift for \$15

or less. Be creative with it! I will be bringing a few backup gifts just in case.

January

Confirmation Startup

Confirmation is the recommitment to your faith necessary after infant baptism in which one of our 8th graders (at the youngest) takes the commitment their parents made for them and makes it their own. Any and all unconfirmed students 8th grade or older are free to join. Confirmation is starting up on January 8th at 11:00 in the youth room.

Parent Meeting

We will be hosting a parent meeting on January 8 after the 11:00 service to discuss the future of youth ministry with Church of the Saviour as well as the youth events for the 2023 calendar year. Lunch will be served. Any and all parents, even parents without kids in youth ministry yet and just want to see what's going on, are welcome to attend.

DRIVE THROUGH NATIVITY

What is Drive Through Nativity?

Mark Your Calendar: *This year's Drive Through Nativity will be held on December 11 (5:30-8:00 pm).*

For the past 34 years, Church of the Saviour has hosted the Drive Through Nativity as our Christmas gift to the community! This is the largest multi-generational event our church does each year, and we need many more volunteers to make it a success. Click on the registration links for each area or visit the Drive Through Nativity table on Sunday, December 4 after each service.

We still need:

- 46 Youth Actors (grades 4-12) who stand in positions for 30 minutes at a time and
- 14 Adult "Actors" Travelers to stand in between the youth scenes: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa8af29a2f4c07-youth>
- 15 Traffic Workers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa8af29a2f4c07-traffic>
- 45 Costume Workers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa8af29a2f4c07-costumes>
- 25 Scene Setup and Tear Down Workers; 17 Inside Setup and Clean Up Workers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa8af29a2f4c07-setup>
- 11 Luminary Workers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa8af29a2f4c07-luminary>
- 30 Food Items: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa8af29a2f4c07-food>

The Deadline for signups is Sunday, December 4.

If you have questions or need further details about the 2022 Drive Through Nativity, please contact: Les Sper (513-675-5987), Mary Jane Sper (513-476-7250), Sandy King (513-260-4717), or Samantha Zeisler (513-377-5784).

Drive Through Nativity Leadership Positions are Available

Become part of the leadership team by shadowing in the following areas this year:

- **Event Chairs**—shadow Les Sper/Mary Jane Sper (les.e.sper@gmail.com/ mjsper@gmail.com).
- **Inside Cleanup**—shadow Russ Naber/Pam Senefeld (naberrb@gmail.com)
- **Luminaries**—shadow Mark Hoover/Mary Hoover (mmhoover2001@yahoo.com)
- **Outside Setup/Tear Down**—coordinate outside operations with Mike Brooks (brooksm88@aol.com)



DRIVE THROUGH NATIVITY

Drive Through Nativity
Sunday, December 11
5:30 - 8:00 pm

Church of the
SAVIOUR
UNITED METHODIST

8005 Pfeiffer Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45242
www.cos-umc.org



HOLIDAY HOURS INFORMATION

The church office will be closed the week between Christmas and New Years to give the staff time with their families and to recharge. During this time, if you need a staff member, please reach out to them either by email or phone. Merry Christmas!!

David Anderson david.anderson@cos-umc.org

Karen Crawford karen.crawford@cos-umc.org

Christian Cunningham christian.cunningham@cos-umc.org 513-547-5540

Joe Galyon joe.galyon@cos-umc.org 513-216-1436

Melissa Hagemeyer melissa.hagemeyer@cos-umc.org 513-216-4773

Meshach Kanyion meshach.kanyion@cos-umc.org 513-427-0388

Michelle Shiparski michelle.shiparski@cos-umc.org 513-216-5524

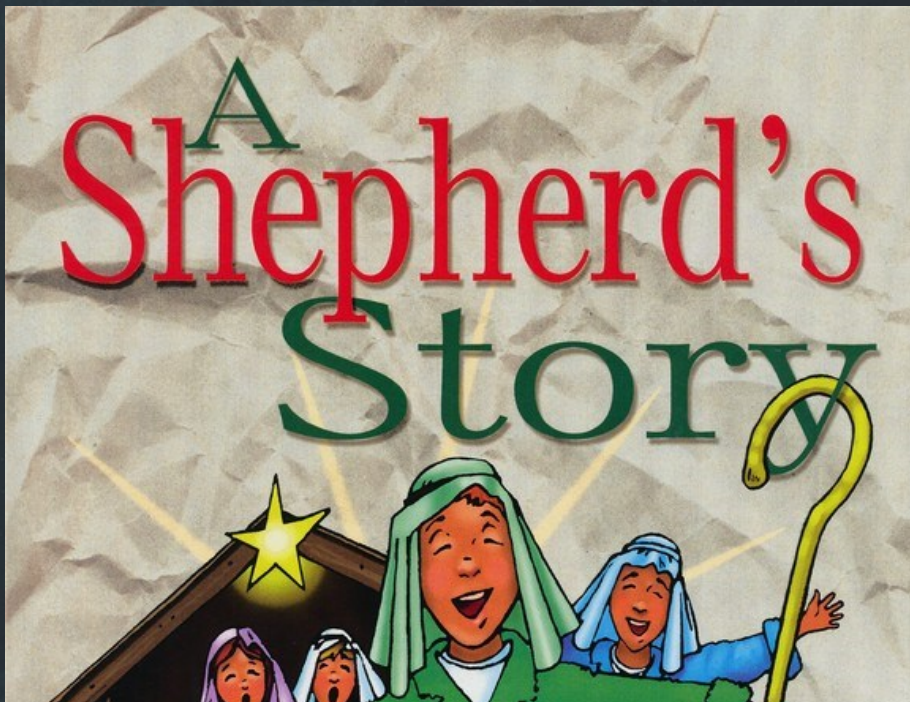
Dorothy Stadelmann dorothy.stadelmann@cos-umc.org 513-427-2176

Len Troy len.troy@cos-umc.org 513-216-1991

Peyton Voline peyton.voline@cos-umc.org 513-712-6218

Jon Yaney jonathan.yaney@cos-umc.org 513-935-1944

Samantha Stanford-Zeisler samantha.stanford@cos-umc.org 513-216-4582



This Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm!

The Kids choirs will be telling the story of Jesus' birth through song and speaking at the 5:00 service on Christmas Eve performing the musical *A Shepherd's Story*. We have 50 kids ages 3-grade 6 who have been working hard every Wednesday evening preparing for this wonderful day! Come let your heart be filled with the spirit of the season!

UPCOMING EVENTS



Advent Vespers - Wonder

December 4, 2022 | 5:00 pm

Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote, "No priest, no theologian stood at the cradle in Bethlehem. And yet all Christian theology has its origins in the wonder of all wonders that God became man." Make your way to Church of the Saviour's Advent Vespers service or word and song on December 4, 2022 at 5:00 pm. The readings and music point to the wonder that we experience when we realize that Christ comes to us in unexpected ways. Life gets wrapped in a lot of distraction, but Advent Vespers brings a time of quiet centering to encounter the Emmanuel, God with us. Wait, watch, and wonder at the advent of our God.

Available in person and on live stream!



New Years Day Worship Service | January 1, 2023 at 9:30 am (9:30 am only)



Winter New Member Class: If you are interested in making a commitment by being a member of Church of the Saviour, sign up for our upcoming new member class! Childcare available upon request. Our class will take place on Saturday, January 21 from 9:00 am to 1 pm. Breakfast and Lunch provided. Sign up by emailing Melissa Hagemeier at melissa.hagemeier@cos-umc.org or by calling Melissa at 513-216-4773.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Eve

5:00 PM - CHILDREN AND CAROLS
7:00 PM - CONTEMPORARY CANDLELIGHT
9:00 PM - TRADITIONAL CANDLELIGHT
11:00 PM - TRADITIONAL CANDLELIGHT AND COMMUNION



Spend Christmas Morning with us! | December 25 Christmas Service at 9:30 am

All are welcome to one service

Join us for a cozy Christmas morning service with Christmas carols. Families are welcome to come in their comfy clothes and the young and young at heart are welcome to bring their favorite stuffed animal. Come early and relax with friends to delicious hot cocoa, coffee, and cookies. We will praise God with traditional Christmas hymns, prayer, and a message.

December 25 we will have ONE SERVICE at 9:30 am

There will not be an 11 am traditional service on December 26.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING: HAITI MISSION PARTNERS



God Is At Work In Haiti!

Servants In Fellowship (SIF) has been the NGO which Church of the Saviour has partnered with for over 17 years to provide Christian ministry in Haiti. From 1999 to 2020 COS sent yearly teams of missionaries to construct a health care clinic, provide short term medical care clinics, build a school (Faith Academy), build a church, build the first HOPE orphanage in 2005, repair damage from the 2010 earthquake to our buildings, build a new HOPE orphanage in 2011 and build hundreds of small homes for people living in tents since the earthquake. SIF continues to support spreading the Gospel through our Community Development coordinator Junior Cineas and support the education, spiritual development and daily nutrition for over 450 children every year at Faith Academy, with Fanfan Janvier as director.

Due to the increasing gang violence in Haiti, SIF has not sent missionary teams to Haiti since 2020. Our in-country missionaries, Greg and Cathie Benson, retired in 2021. The current missionary family, Travis and Erin Brubaker and their 4 children, returned from Haiti permanently and will resign from SIF effective January 1, 2023. This leaves Junior and Fanfan as the current in-country SIF staff. The SIF Board of Directors has been revisioning how the organization will continue, given the change in circumstances.

Through this season of fear and change, God revealed His plan to us. The oldest girls of HOPE Orphanage decided to leave the center and reached out to Tim and Toby Banks, their previous directors and in their minds, Mom and Dad, for help. Raising Hope Ministries (RHM) was established as an 501c3 organization to support the ongoing education and career aspirations of the former HOPE girls and other Haitian students. See www.raisinghopeministries.org for further information and pictures! SIF and RHM have established a partnership to further both organization's formal goals. We share a common origin, beginning in 2005. SIF built the HOPE Center and the Banks served as the first directors, and parents, to the 20 orphaned girls who called it home. In 2012, the buildings (clinic, orphanage and guest house) were illegally taken over by a Haitian national who had power through a corrupt system. All involved were grief-stricken at the sudden loss of contact with Our Girls. SIF continued to serve in Haiti by building small homes and other programs. Fast forward to 2021 and the beginning of the legal exodus of the oldest HOPE Girls. It is a natural evolution and testimony to God's unending love and ability to overcome manmade obstacles to His plans.

A summary of the history of Church of the Saviour's involvement in Haiti:

1999--- First trip by a team of COS missionaries to Haiti. The relationship begins! Large and small teams from COS go to Haiti every year, except 2004, until 2021.

2000 ---Vision of an orphanage to care for Haitian girls is born.

2001---Construction of HOPE Center for Orphaned Girls begins.

2005---Tim and Toby Banks are hired as Directors of HOPE. First 5 girls arrive.

2006-2008---Next 15 girls arrive, reaching our goal of 20. Education of mind and spirit flourishes.

2010---Devastating earthquake rocks entire country. HOPE Center sustains major damage but no injuries or lives lost at HOPE.

2011---New HOPE home is built.

2012---Eviction of all missionaries from organization's properties. New organization, Servants In Fellowship (SIF) established.

2014---Georgianna UMC, FL takes over financial and administrative duties of HOPE.

2021---Oldest girls leave the orphanage and reconnect with Banks. Haiti gang violence rampant. SIF missionaries, Travis and Erin Brubaker, leave for US and briefly return to Haiti. COVID and US State Dept. Level 4 emergence warnings prohibit teams going to Haiti.

2022---Raising Hope Ministries (RHM) established. Brubakers resign from SIF due to violence in-country and educational needs of their children

---SIF work continues with Haitian team members, Junior Cineas leading Community Development and Evangelism and Fanfan Janvier directing Faith Academy.

---Formal partnership of SIF and RHM is established.

As you read the above chronological summary, you hopefully have a sense of God's unending work in Haiti. He never abandoned the HOPE girls, our Haitian missionaries and supporters or the work to bring God's love to His people of Haiti. Those of us who have been involved with Haitian ministries for over 20 years have a sense that the collaboration of SIF and RHM completes a God-driven circle. Care for these orphans was a dream, then reality, then sense of loss after the eviction and take-over, and now we can be intimately involved again. Church of the Saviour's Christmas Eve special offering has been designated once again to support our Haitian ministry partners. As described above, the partnership has expanded to include Raising Hope Ministries, in addition to Servants In Fellowship and Faith Academy. Thank you for prayerfully considering your financial support and your on-going prayers! If you have any questions, please contact Barb Daniel at 891-4564 or barb_daniel@yahoo.com.





POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Order now through December 4

POINSETTIAS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Order now through December 4

You can now place your order for poinsettias. The flowers complete the sanctuary decorations for Advent and Christmas and will enhance our worship in December. As you continue through the online order process, you can choose colors, provide dedications, and pay for your poinsettias. If you have questions about placing your order, call the church office at 513.791.3142. **Poinsettias are \$16 per plant.**

** Payment must be received online or via mail by December 4, 2022 for your order and printed dedication to be included.*

** Those who order may pick up their poinsettias following the 11:00 pm service on Christmas Eve or after worship on Sunday December 25.*

[ORDER NOW](#)

Air Purifiers



With the winter months coming, we've added portable HEPA Air Purifiers to several of our most used meeting rooms (library, parlor, and room 119).

These portable units are designed to circulate and clean the air, and to help control allergens and germs. If you are using one of these rooms, please turn the unit on during your meeting and off when you

are done.

The units work best when the door is shut. If you have any questions, please contact Dorothy at dorothy.stadelmann@cos-umc.org

BUILDERS

Builder's December Events

Friday, Dec 9 at 7:00 pm

Women's Favorite Things Party at the Stapleton's house (7958 Huntersknoll Ct 45242). Bring drinks and a dessert/appetizer to share.

For those new to Favorite Things, it's amazing. Here are the rules:

Pick one of your favorite things around \$ 10 and buy 3 of them (or you can pick a couple of smaller things that total around \$10 for each gift). For example, if you love candles, buy 3 candles, each around \$10. Wrap them separately and bring them to the party. At the party, you will receive favorite things from 3 other people.

Of course, you are welcome to come if you don't want to do the gift exchange. It's fun to watch, and you can still come to eat and hang out with everyone.

Sunday, Dec 18 at 7:00 pm

Bro-Union at Ali's Bar and Grill (7820 Camargo Rd 45243). You won't want to miss this annual tradition of the reading of Die Hard.

Tues, Dec 20 at 5:00 pm

Family Outing to the Cincinnati Zoo's Festival of Lights. We will meet by the big Christmas tree right inside the zoo entrance. Bring snacks for your kiddos, and then we will head to Adriatico's afterwards for dinner.

Builder's Advent Study | Sunday School

Advent study at 11:00 for our adult Sunday School class! We will be reading Adam Hamilton's "Prepare the Way for the Lord." Reminder that there is programming for infants through teens during the 11:00 hour. Order your book from Amazon and join us! For questions, contact Carrie Feldmeyer (benfeldmeyer@yahoo.com or 865-335-7235).

For more details or any questions, please contact Carrie Feldmeyer (benfeldmeyer@yahoo.com or 865-335-7235).

ADVENTURERS



Who are the Adventurers? The mission of this group is to offer several outreach fellowship programs that are not age restricted but are geared to all Baby Boomers, Empty Nesters, and Seniors (or those who will admit to being one). There is no membership – you are invited to come whenever and to whatever tickles your interest or imagination – and it's a great way to meet other Church of the Saviour folks.

Mark your Calendar:



Adventurer's Christmas Party - It's a Magical Christmas!

Friday, December 9th, 5:30 pm, \$10
Blue Ash Summit Park Tower Room North

All COS Babyboomer/Empty Nester/Senior adults are invited to join us for this fun dinner party at a unique venue - the Tower Room (north) at Summit Park. Sign up to bring a dish to share. Our special guest will be Brett Sears, a professional magician who has been performing over 30 years.

Your cost will cover coffee and non alcoholic beverages, paper products, room rental and decorations.

Sign up by mailing a check for \$10 made out to 'COS' to Jane Kieninger at 211 Legacy Lane, Cincinnati, 45249 and please include what dish you want to bring. Or sign up in the Fellowship Hall between services on November 27th or December 4th. You may also sign up by emailing Jane at jkieninger@aol.com and pay at the door.

Deadline for sign up is Monday, December 5th. This is an Adventurers sponsored event.

January, 2023 – Bowling Bash at Crossroads Bowling Alley. Exact date and information to come.

Annie, February 9th, 2023, 1pm Matinee at the Aronoff. I have Loge tickets for \$60.25 each. If you are interested, send me a check made out to "COS" to Jane Kieninger, 211 Legacy Lane, Cincinnati, 45249.



UPCOMING – Other activities that you might enjoy (all ages):



Bridge Group – We are now meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, We welcome any new members who would like to join us. We meet in the Library at the church at 12:45 pm. Please enter through the sanctuary doors. For more information, call Connie Johnson at 513-469-7774 or Nora Moushey at 513-307-5942. Questions can be addressed to Connie Johnson at 513-469-7774 (cjjohnson@gmail.com) or Nora Moushey at 513-307-5942 (noramoushey@cinci.rr.com)

Men's Lunch Group – Every Tuesday at 11:30 – 1pm in room 119. Men's Lunch Group – Starting in September we will meet every Tuesday at 11:30 – 1pm in room 119. Bring a sack lunch. Share stories, views of current events and explore almost any topic. Some weeks we have a video study or book study. All men are welcome. Group Leader is Ed Daniels with help from Les Sper. If you are interested just show up. Call Ed at 513-891-4564 for questions. Enter through the sanctuary door 15 minute or later before 11:30.. No reservations are required



Matthew 25 Mission Opportunity This COS mission will meet the 2nd Friday of every month (with a couple of exceptions) from 9:00 to 11:30 at Matthew 25, 11060 Kenwood Road. Matthew 25 is an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization. Typical jobs could involve sorting clothes, or pill bottles or hospital supplies to send to needy areas in the USA and abroad. Come and see how fun and fulfilling service can be! We meet at Matthew 25 at 9, then lunch together afterwards (optional). Group coordinator is Leslie Bricker. Please sign up by contacting her at mobricker@msn.com or 513 410 2267. Please contact Leslie for the next date (there have been COVID cancelations).



United Women in Faith

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2022

A Message from the Presidents

Jenny Motley (jennymotley71@gmail.com) and
Karen Van Wagenen (Vanwagenen.km@gmail.com)

*But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not
grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.*

Isaiah 40:31

Advent means "coming" and includes the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. It is a time for preparation, anticipation, and celebration. It is a season to pause and consider the miracle of Christ's birth. During this Advent, how are you preparing your heart to receive the gift of Jesus?

United Women in Faith is preparing ourselves for mission. Through the generosity of the people at Church of the Saviour, UWF will give hundreds of gifts to families in need this Christmas. Additionally, United Women in Faith supports various local missions such as First Step Home, Foot Care for the Souls, Life Enriching Communities, Wesley Chapel Mission Center, and Wesley Education Center. Funds raised from cakes sales will enable us to support these organizations in 2022. I am grateful for the generosity of United Women in Faith members and Church of the Saviour.

United Women in Faith is also planning for celebration. Join us on December 12 for our annual Christmas Party. We will enjoy supper, carols, bingo, and fellowship. I am looking with anticipation to this joyful event. It has been 2 years since we gathered in-person for Christmas.

During the busyness of December, I pray that you can welcome God into your lives and focus on the Light of the world, Jesus. May you be filled with hope, peace, joy, and love.

Your Sister in Christ,

Jenny Motley



See page 16 for complete details on how to sign up for the women's Christmas dinner at Five Seasons Sports Club and arrange childcare

Help support UWF mission with the purchase of a **Christmas Cranberry Cake** to enjoy at your holiday celebrations or to give to a friend, hostess, or family in need.

See page 3 for details and a link to order your cake.



The Children's Closet

For the month of December Children's Closet will once again collect **winter gear** for Jack's Closet. Jack's Closet is a free closet for foster and kinship families. It is located in Clough United Methodist Church. Their needs are for **coats, hats, scarves, gloves, and warm winter clothes** for kids sized baby to 18 youth. We of course will also accept donations for our other children's ministries. United Women in Faith thanks you for your generous support. Any questions can be directed to Jean Feldmeyer (Children's Closet Coordinator) at jean.feldmeyer@yahoo.com.



UWF Board Meeting: Our next UWF board meeting is on December 4 (10 am-12 pm) in Room 119 at church. Everyone is welcome to attend. Contact Jenny Motley (jennymotley71@gmail.com) if you have questions.

This
month's
meetings

Last
Month's
Activities

SMALL GROUP MEETINGS FOR DECEMBER

Everyone is welcome at any of our monthly gatherings. Contact the leader/contact person to be sure you have all the details.

WEDNESDAY: Lydia Needlecrafters (1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month) Leader: Donna Steinmetz (513-563-7144)

December 7 and 21: Lydia Needlecrafters meet in the church parlor at 5:30 pm. Prayer Shawls are provided to anyone in need of God's blessings as they go through difficult times (illness, surgery, or suffering one of life's many complicated situations). Baby blankets and hats are knitted for new babies. Prayer Squares are available to be distributed to a group of people. To obtain any of these see any Lydia member, call Donna Steinmetz, or contact Dorothy Stadelmann (513-791-3142) at church.

TUESDAY: Susanna Wesley Women in Mission

Leader: Sandy King (513-260-4717)

Monday, December 12: Everyone is encouraged to attend the United Women in Faith Christmas Dinner on Monday, December 12 (6:00-8:30 pm). See page 3 for details and registration.

TUESDAY: 3rd Tuesday Morning Hannah Group

Leaders: Euphazine Reid-Kendall (678-857-8362) and Dorothy Stadelmann (513-791-3142)

DECEMBER 4: The 3rd Tuesday Morning Hannah Group will work with Gifts from the Heart sorting gifts after the Vespers Service with the youth. Everyone is encouraged to attend the United Women in Faith Christmas Dinner on Monday, December 12 (6:00-8:30 pm). See page 3 for details and registration.

Mothers and Daughters Group

Leaders: Pam Senefeld (maxmuir1@aol.com/513-314-5042)

DECEMBER 4: Happy Holidays! We do not meet at our usual time in late November or December due to the holidays being so busy, but we do like to gather for some fun and festivities! We will meet on Sunday, December 4 (1-2:30 pm) in the dining room to make our annual gingerbread houses. Back by popular demand, we will create individual gingerbread houses to decorate with graham crackers, candy and icing. So bring a bag of your favorite treats to share and a can of white icing to decorate the houses. You will take your creation home that day. You can also bring a canned good for NEEDS—a local food

UWF Bible Study (1st & 3rd Wednesdays) on Zoom

Leader: Teri Ballard (513-313-4169)

Contact Teri Ballard if you have questions about this month's class meetings.

Pastor Meshach met with the Esther Laird women at Twin Lakes



Thanksgiving and Christmas cake sales



Mothers and Daughters met and created together

Gifts from the Heart

Thank you everyone for your gift purchases and donations to support Gifts from the Heart for this year's Christmas Season. We will provide over 400 Christmas gifts to children in need. Children at Wesley



Education Center, York Street United Methodist Church, New Vision United Methodist Church, State Avenue United Methodist Church, Wesley Chapel Mission Center, and our local community will benefit from this mission.

All gifts purchased for the angel ornaments must be wrapped and returned by **NOON on December 4**. Yellow Angel pajamas, socks, hats and gloves, and backpacks for Wesley Chapel Mission Center do not have to be wrapped.

Join United Women in Faith and the Youth Group on the evening of December 4, after Vespers, to sort and prepare the gifts for delivery.

We still NEED VOLUNTEERS to collect gifts between the services and sort gifts with the youth after Vespers.

VOLUNTEER HERE: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080848aea62bab9-gifts3>



**Sign up for the Christmas
Dinner and Childcare**

All are welcome to gather with the United Women in Faith community for the UWF Christmas Celebration dinner.

RSVP and pay by December 4 at <https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=5080848aea62bab9-uwfchristmas&useFullSite=true>

Sign up for childcare by December 7 at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094eaaab2ea1fc1-uwfchristmas>

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CHRISTMAS CAKE SALES

United Women in Faith is selling cakes to raise funds for missions

The Christmas Cranberry Cake is a festive dessert with a delightful balance of buttery sweetness and hints of bright lemon flavor. Fresh plump cranberries give this cake a pop of yumminess, and the addition of sliced almonds provide a subtle tasty texture. It is simply delicious dusted with powdered sugar. Each cake is homemade, wrapped in festive cellophane and tied with a bow.

Orders will be taken on December 4 in fellowship hall. The cost is \$30 payable by cash or check. Cakes will be available for pick up December 18.

Help support UWF mission with the purchase of a **Christmas Cranberry Cake** to enjoy at your holiday celebrations or to give to a friend, hostess, or family in need.

We still need volunteers to take orders for cakes on December 4 and to assist with the distribution of the cakes on December 18. If you are willing to volunteer to assist with cake distribution, please contact Donna Steinmetz at 513-563-7144, email at donna.cincinnati@gmail.com or sign up via link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080848aea62bab9-holiday>



faith

action

sisterhood

**ANOTHER WAY TO SUPPORT OUR United
Women in Faith MISSION**

Kroger Community Rewards Program

Organizer: Melody Overton
(signof4@msn.com/513-446-5651)

Support our UWF fundraising by joining this Kroger program. Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and type **XL812** in the search box for the organization you wish to benefit. For more information contact Melody Overton (513) 446-5651/signof4@msn.com. UWF donates all monies received to charities benefiting women and children.



**NEW TIME for the UWF Monthly
Board Meeting**

Our next UWF board meeting is on **December 4 (10 am-12 pm)** in Room 119 at church. Everyone is welcome to attend. Contact Jenny Motley (jennymotley71@gmail.com) if you have questions.

**MAKE A
NOTE!!**

Cashbook Coupon Books with Digital App are Available!

The United Women in Faith (UWF) are selling Cashbook Coupons for \$20 each. The profits are donated to charities that support women and children locally. Popular restaurants like IHOP, Buffalo Wild Wings, Brixx Pizza, Slatts, Meritage, The Works in Loveland, Joella's, Marco Pizza, Sammy's Burgers, and over 200 more places are included. Don't want to be bothered with a paper coupon book? A *digital book is available*. Just download with the unique book code from your purchase. Easy!! Coupons are valid through 2023.

Books can be purchased at church on Sunday or at any other time directly from Charlotte Locke (call 513-891-4611), Jenny Motley (jennymotley71@gmail.com/text 513-658-0982), and Leah Hondorf (lhondorf@yahoo.com/text 513-304-5224).

The Cashbooks are great if you eat out and like to save money. They are fun gifts and stocking stuffers for friends, family, and teachers at the holidays.



**New from
United
Women in
Faith
response
Podcast**

Tune in to audio versions of some of the top articles from each issue of **response** magazine, the award-winning official magazine of United Women in Faith. Topics cover everything from spiritual growth and living our faith to reports on local, national, and international work.

Use the link below to see the available podcasts.

<https://uwfaith.org/resources/podcasts/>

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/1	Yocheved Ocho		Dick Sprigg	12/18	Eric Neitzke		Hunter Maxfield
	Anne Marie Reinke		Ryan Wessinger	12/19	Doug Kieninger	12/28	Caprice Fogle
	Richard Walker	12/10	Sydney Crane		Andrew Schmidt		Jennifer Grote
12/2	Paisley Hill		Linda Wulff		Katie Staderman		Tonni Jobe
	Vicki Stockmann		Kathryn Yuhas		Mary Stapleton		Mike Keefe
	Whitney Young	12/11	Leah Cagle		Joan Steeves		Connor McClure
12/3	Kathy Raithel		Katherine Ehlers	12/20	Ken Dunning		Steve Reinke
	Maura Sweeney		Beth Madama		Gwen Josche	12/29	Miles Krasen
12/4	Susie Demuth		Nancy Smith		Nick Reuszer		Robin Vanover
	Jonathan Richman		Troy Travis	12/21	Aaron Douglas		Matt Young
	Kathy Rosa	12/12	Kristen Buckey	12/22	Ainslee Davis	12/30	Lucy Jones
	Holly Schmidt	12/13	Grant Brueshaber		Tim Stanford		Remi Margroum
	Dave Smith		Avery Delker	12/23	Pam Berry		Luke Stadelmann
12/5	Ruth Contri	12/14	Suzanne Allen		Craig Maetzold	12/31	Terri Bittner
	Deborah Dunn		Nermine Banke		Tonya Yetter		Mary Brislin
	Rachel Truesdale	12/15	Terri Anderson		Aubrey Willis		Jean Muetzel
12/6	John Starkweather		Eric Luessen	12/24	Molly McKnight		Kay Sadler
12/7	Jeff Lehman		Sherri Maetzold		Amanda Slager		David Sass
	Allen Nathan	12/16	Kathy Harris	12/25	Scott Lindsay		
	Michele Neat		Susan Mhlbachler		Les Sper		
12/8	Afton McClure	12/17	Sue Brooks	12/26	Bri Coggins		
	Holger Stockmann		Mike Ehlers		Cathy Isakson		
12/9	Johnathon Mitchell		Emma Leong		Kate McGrath		
	Heather Sass		Julie Willis	12/27	Lucy Hahn		



Would you prefer to receive the Circuit Rider in the mail? Contact Dorothy Stadelmann (dorothy.stadelmann@cos-umc.org) to request to be added to the list!

THE UPPER ROOM®
WHERE THE WORLD MEETS TO PRAY

The Upper Room magazine's mission is to provide a practical way to listen to scripture, connect with believers around the world, and spend time with God each day.

The Upper Room December Devotional is now available! Stop by church and pick up your copy!

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