



The Spire

Sunday Worship

Kettering Campus

Traditional 9 & 11:15 a.m.

Contemporary 10 a.m.

Upstairs Café

South Campus

Contemporary 10 a.m.

Connect Café

Inside

Page 2

Church Family News

Page 3

Around Christ Church

Page 4

Spiritual Growth

Christmas Giving Opportunities

Page 5

December Calendar

Page 6

Children's Ministry

Page 7

Student Ministry

www.christumc.org

"Toward a Breakthrough Theology"

"This miraculous sign at Cana in Galilee was [just] the first time Jesus revealed His glory." John 2:11

What's your theology of spiritual breakthrough? Do you have one? When you think about God doing something really special in your life, church, or midst, do you see the occurrence as: Probability or possibility? Normal or abnormal? Daily or rarity? Incarnational or more apparitional? Anytime, all the time, or only at special times? Involving anyone or only those who are really, really special? Well, depending on your answers to the above, you might need to reframe your heart and soul. I confess I've needed to. So, God has been working on me.

In the Gospel of John I've discovered for every breakthrough, the opportunity comes with a significant challenge.

John 2...The Miracle of Water to Wine: It was almost as if God couldn't deny God's-Self. Though not coming in perfect time, it was yet always time. Are you ready at anytime? Or does it have to fit your schedule or current rhythm of life as it stands now? What if God wanted to perform an Easter in the middle of your Christmas, totally messing up your concept of the Christian Year? What if God wanted to use your breakthrough to interrupt your absolute everything?

John 3...Nicodemus' Visit: Jesus met him in the dark of his night. Are you willing to go through a dark night to get to Jesus? And, what if you have to be born again once you do? What if you have to begin to live life a brand new (i.e. completely different) way? How much do you and your church really want a breakthrough? If it took you becoming a completely different leader than what you are now, would you? Could you?

John 4...The Samaritan Woman at the Well: Jesus told her everything she had ever done. He showed her that He knew her at the very core and still loved her, and would make streams of Living Water come forth from her dry and weary soul. But, are you willing to let God reveal all of your stuff out in the open and come completely clean before Christ? It takes getting real and letting go of any comfortable, albeit ineffective charade.

John 5...The Man Waiting for the Stirring of the Waters: God stirred those waters and often. The man had to wait though 38 years for his miracle to come. If that's how long it takes would you still be ready or would you have given up all hope by then? Put another way; are you willing to give up 38 years of your particular way of living to dive in head first to a whole new way? Now that would be a breakthrough.

The Scriptures are so cool, aren't they? What if God wanted to use you and me to remake Methodism for the next 200 years? We still get to keep our pallet or mat if we really want to. The man above did. Jesus, in fact, told him he could take it home, though invited him not to lie on it as much anymore. Maybe, just maybe, the turbulence we feel in our lives and world is just God stirring the pot all over and once again, preparing the waters for whoever wants to jump in and taste the glory. Join me in the anticipation.

The preceding was the content of an eCOURAGEMENT newsletter sent by District Superintendent, Chris Heckaman on November 7, 2011.

Church Family News

Births

Congratulations on the birth of: *Dustin Thomas Smolinski*, born October 24 to Brian and Cheryl Smolinski and grandparents Frank and Carolyn Iozzi; *Samuel Neumann Jessen*, born October 25 to Chris and Katie Jessen and grandparents Curt and Kathleen Neumann; *Lauren Bristol Metivier*, born November 3 to and Ben and Laura Metivier and grandparents Barry and Linda DeShetler; and *Wesley Charles Dickey*, born November 7 to Jarrett and Hannah Dickey and grandparents Jan and Sandy Dickey.

Bereavements

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to: friends and family of *Ruth Greiner*; Bob Hutchinson on the death of his wife, *Edna Hutchinson*; Jody Hirsch, Susan Barnett and family on the death of *William Hirsch*; Mark Pottenger on the death of his wife, *Virginia Pottenger*; Ginny Virtue on the death of her son, *Dean French*; and friends and family of *Anne Cato*.

Thank You Notes

"I wish to thank all of my sisters and brothers in Christ for lifting me up in prayer these past months. My recovery has truly been God's response to your caring concern. Special thanks to Alan, Ann and my faithful "companions." ~ Lillian Beck

"The United Methodist Women wishes to thank all those who helped make the 41st Annual AngelWorks Bazaar a success. The final financial report is not yet compiled, but we will share it at a later date." ~ Christ Church UMW

"Thank you for your recent gift of \$2,100 to the Wesley Community Center. Your gift is used to respond to the needs of those who come to Wesley Center in times of crisis. We are truly grateful for your faithfulness and thank you for each person that is touched by your gift." ~ Harris K. Tay, Executive Director

"On behalf of the Fairmont High School Choral Boosters, we would like to thank you for the use of your kitchen for our A Cappella Festival on November 12. This year we hosted 25 groups from four states and all proceeds will be used to improve the choral programs at Fairmont including our music lesson scholarship program. Thank you again for your generous support." ~ Mary Irby-Jones and Susi Ebersbach, A Cappella Festival Concessions

Dominique Alban Retiring

Effective January 1, 2012, Spiritual Life Coordinator Dominique Alban will retire from the staff of Christ Church. But don't worry...Dominique has promised to remain an active member here and continue her work as an adult spiritual leader.

A reception will be held for Dominique on **Sunday, December 11** in Foster Hall from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Please plan to stop by to thank Dominique for her years of faithful service and perhaps share a story of how she made a difference in your life.

If you would like to contribute to a farewell gift, please mark your envelope "Dominique Retirement" and drop it in the offering plate or in the church office.

Holy Land Pilgrimage

Barry and Linda DeShetler invite you to join them on November 5, 2012 for the trip of a lifetime. The church is once again taking pilgrims on a 10 day trip to the Holy Land. Cost for the trip is \$3096 and includes just about everything – round trip flights from Dayton to Israel, 1st class accommodations, buffet breakfast and suppers each day in Israel, deluxe motor coaches, guided entrance into all sights and much more. You'll cross the Sea of Galilee and stand at the Western (Wailing Wall) in Jerusalem, visit the birthplace of Jesus in Bethlehem, as well as the Garden Tomb. You will indeed walk where Jesus walked with your friends and family from Christ Church. Brochures of the trip with the full itinerary are available in the church office or you can get more information from the DeShetler's. We invite you to come along and find out how the Bible comes alive by being in the land of its origin.

Thank You Kairos Cookie Angels

The November Kairos weekends at Warren Correctional Institution, Lebanon Correctional Institution and The Ohio Reformatory for Women were a wonderful success for God's Kingdom.

Many of the incarcerated men and women who participated on these Kairos weekends made a commitment to the Lord and dedicated their lives to Christ. It was truly a time of spiritual renewal for many of them!

Thank you from Christ Church Kairos team members Dick and Sue Erbaugh, Tom Ray and Petra Steinberger to all of the "Cookie Angels" who provided the gift of agape love by baking hundreds of dozens of cookies for these incarcerated men and women. Your gift was a point of light in a dark place and may have helped them find a new life in Christ Jesus. God bless you.

Memorial Gifts

Contributions were made to Christ United Methodist Church in memory of Virginia Pottenger and Edna Hutchinson by:

Sue Lackey; Janet Adkins; Pauline Ryan; Lucille & Dominico Di Ceglie; Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Meyers; Mr. & Mrs. Victor Johnson; and, Donald & Eva Jean Ferguson.

Around Christ Church

United Methodist Women

The December Unit meeting will be a luncheon on **Wednesday, December 7** at 11 a.m. in Foster Hall. The program will feature the Senior Sensation Dancers. All women of the church are invited and can make a reservation by calling Cathy Clark (937-299-3155).

The Executive Board will meet at 9 a.m.

Chuck and Carol Dickerson Win Kettering Mayor's Award

Christ Church members Chuck and Carol Dickerson will receive the Kettering Mayor's Award on December 6. They were nominated by friends and fellow Christ Church After School Program volunteers Allan and Mary Kay Feller.

The Mayor's Award for Volunteer Service is presented in the fall each year at a City Council meeting. The purpose of the award is to honor outstanding citizens who are making valuable contributions to the community through volunteer service in a wide variety of categories, such as health, recreation, arts, environment, education, public safety, civic service or human service. In order to qualify, the volunteer must be a resident of Kettering or the volunteer service must be performed in Kettering. Please congratulate Chuck and Carol on their award.

GDCC Seeks Executive Director

One of our Church & Society partner organizations, the Greater Dayton Christian Connections (GDCC), is seeking a paid half-time Executive Director. They are looking for a person of faith currently involved in Christian ministry who desires to bring about unity in social action among faith communities throughout the greater Dayton area. Learn more about the position at www.christianconnections.org. The successful candidate will know how to write an email newsletter, be familiar with social media and website maintenance, know how to organize the community and will possess presentation skills. If you are interested, please send a resume detailing how you: have implemented annual ministry plans, are capable of building bridges among faith communities outside your own and communicate effectively on the internet. Send your resume to connection350@yahoo.com or mail it to: Search Committee, Greater Dayton Christian Connections, 915 Salem Ave, Dayton, 45406.

Now Give On-line - It's Easy

We have recently added an on-line giving option to the Christ Church website. When you go to www.christumc.org, click on the "Giving" tab. On the Giving page, you will find a list of all the options for making donations to the church. If you choose on-line giving, you will be taken to a page where you can set up your profile and choose the amount and frequency of your gift. You may also choose to have the withdrawal made from your checking, savings or credit card account. If you have any questions regarding either the use of on-line giving or any of the other giving options, please contact Debi Smith (937-293-3151 ext 107 or debi@christumc.org).

Mexico 2012

Here are some memories from our recent trip to Tijuana, Mexico. Read more on page 7 about how to be part of the March 2012 mission team.



Eco-film Series

The Green Team invites you to join neighbors and concerned citizens on the second Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. - noon in the Holbrooke Peace Hall to view and discuss a variety of films on issues challenging our environment.

Dec 10, 2011: Dirty Business

"Clean Coal" and the Battle for Our Energy Future is a 90-minute documentary produced by the Center for Investigative Reporting that investigates the true cost of our dependence on coal for electricity.

The Dayton International Peace Museum is located at 208 West Monument Avenue (corner of NWilkinson St) and parking is available in the rear next to Holbrooke Peace Hall. To learn more, visit www.daytonpeacemuseum.org.

Little Gallery News

The featured artist for December is Alice Hotopp. She has sung professionally and taught voice for thirty years at the University of Dayton.

Now retired from UD, she has taken courses in watercolor and is "really enjoying the challenges and the chance for another creative outlet." Alice is an exhibiting member of the Miamisburg Art Guild and the Tri-Art Club. Please stop by the Little Gallery this month to see the work of this multi-faceted artist.

Spiritual Growth

Drop in anytime - come for one class or the whole session. To learn more about this or other upcoming studies, please contact Ann Loper (937-293-3151 ext. 102 or ann@christumc.org).

The Journey

Journey with Adam Hamilton as he travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Using historical information, archaeological findings, and personal reflections, Hamilton illuminates this most amazing moment in history. We follow the footsteps of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and others, gaining insight into our own journeys with Christ. Adam Hamilton writes: It is one of Western civilization's best-known stories. For two thousand years it has been told and retold, preached and sung about. And yet, its very familiarity may keep us from fully grasping its riches. The purpose of this book is to explore the story of the birth of Jesus with fresh eyes and ears... in an effort to discover the real meaning of Christmas.

Sundays at 10 a.m. in Room 120 Nov 13 - Dec 18
Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in Room 202 Nov 16 - Dec 21

Small Groups Now Forming

"Whenever two or three of you come together in my name, I am there with you" (Matthew 18:20)

Life is best when we live it together and the Christian life is no different. The depths of relationships and our commitment to one another are so important to God and small groups are where those close relationships can develop. Jesus started the first small group with his 12 disciples and we know well the life change that was experienced in that group.

To learn more about the benefits of small groups, to explore getting connected to a group or starting one of your own, please contact Ann Loper 937-293-3151 ext 102 or ann@christumc.org).

Making Generosity Part of Your Christmas Celebration

Are you looking for ways to add a special or unique sharing experience to your Christmas celebration this year? Consider incorporating one of the following as a new Christmas tradition in your family.

- Match the cost of preparing your Christmas meal with a donation to purchase turkeys/fruit baskets.
- If you have a gift exchange, consider giving an additional \$10 to Adopt-a-Family, the Heifer Project, the Emergency Fund, Red Stocking, etc.
- Ask Christmas party guests to bring canned goods for our food pantries.
- For a child's classroom party, ask kids to bring donations for the Kettering Backpack project or mittens, gloves and hats for the Mitten Tree.

For more suggestions or information, contact Nancy Byrd (937-293-3151 ext 149 or nancy@christumc.org).

Christmas Giving

Kettering Giving Tree Reminder

All 50 tags from the Kettering Giving Tree have been taken and we thank you for your generosity. If you picked up a tag, please remember that your gifts should be returned to the church office no later than the morning of **Monday, December 5.**

Turkeys and Fruit Baskets

Each year, our Christ Church Community Care Commission collects donations to provide food to our United Methodist Centers for the holiday season. Donations are used to purchase turkeys and fresh fruit to provide a good start for a traditional holiday meal to those in need. To participate, mark your envelope "Turkeys/Fruit Baskets" and place it in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office. To learn more, please contact Carolyn Iozzi.

Chickens for Christmas?

It's time to begin thinking about Alternative Giving for the holidays. It's a great way to honor a friend or family member at Christmas. To find out more, visit the Upstairs Café in December or contact Mary Lee Moberg (937-433-5418).

You can give a gift that is just the right size through UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief. And as always, 100% of your gift goes directly to the program of your choice. Visit umcor.org and view the gift catalog for a listing of all the choices.

Or choose a gift through Heifer International and help children and families around the world receive training and animal gifts that help them become self-reliant. A flock of chicks for \$20 can save lives. The protein in just one egg is a nutritious gift for a hungry child.

Red Stocking Christmas Offering

Otterbein Homes has grown to include five retirement living communities in Lebanon, St. Mary's, Cridersville, Portage Valley and Lakeside-Marblehead. Related to the United Methodist Church, Otterbein serves more than 1,600 persons in patio homes, apartments, assisted living, nursing care and Alzheimer's care.

Each year Otterbein needs charitable contributions to help residents who cannot pay for the full cost of their care.

Visit the Upstairs Cafe on Sunday, **December 11 or 18** to learn more. Checks should be made payable to Christ Church UMW and given to Dolores Dunham or Financial Secretary, Debi Smith in the church office.

Mitten Tree

Help keep kids warm this winter by donating mittens, gloves or hats. Book donations are also appreciated. Kids especially love to choose gifts for children their own age. Take advantage of this opportunity to help your children grow in generosity this Christmas.

The Mitten Tree will be in the Upstairs Café beginning **Sunday, December 4.** Simply leave your donations by the tree and volunteers will deliver them to children at the centers.

DECEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 p.m. Building Committee 7 p.m. DivorceCare	2	3 7 a.m. Confirmation Cincinnati Retreat
4 2nd Sunday in Advent 9:30 UMW Cookie Walk 10 a.m. Serendipity, The Journey Intergenerational Choir 11 a.m. Prime Time Choir 11:15 a.m. Middle School Bible Study, High School Small Groups 12:15 p.m. Ignite Singers	5 6 p.m. Board of Trustees 6:30 p.m. Co-ed Volleyball 7 p.m. DARN, Support Ministries	6 12 p.m. MS Bunch 7 p.m. The Eden Diet, Church & Society, World Outreach Committee, Men's 30+ Open Basketball	7 9 a.m. UMW Executive Board 9:15 a.m. Preschool Spirit Day 11 a.m. UMW Luncheon Meeting 12 p.m. Businesspeople Between Jobs 12:30 p.m. Preschool Spirit Day 7 p.m. The Journey	8 9:15 a.m. Preschool Spirit Day 7 p.m. DivorceCare	9	10 10 a.m. Children's Ministry Second Saturday Set-to-Serve
11 3rd Sunday in Advent 9 a.m. Blood Pressure Screenings 9:30 a.m. Dominique Alban Reception 10 a.m. Serendipity, The Journey 11 a.m. Prime Time Choir 11:15 a.m. Middle School Bible Study, High School Youth Group 12:15 p.m. Ignite Singers	12	13 10 a.m. Shawl Ministry 6:30 p.m. Discipleship Commission 7 p.m. Staff Parish, Green Team, Men's 30+ Open Basketball	14 9:30 a.m. Lydia Fellowship 10 a.m. Spirit Seekers 12 p.m. Businesspeople Between Jobs 7 p.m. The Journey	15 6:30 p.m. Building Committee 7 p.m. DivorceCare, Generosity Committee 7:15 p.m. Prayer Service 8 p.m. Order of St. Luke	16	17 9 a.m. Creative Arts Camp
18 4th Sunday in Advent 4:45 a.m. St. Vincent's 10 a.m. Serendipity, The Journey Intergenerational Choir 11 a.m. Prime Time Choir 11:15 a.m. Middle School Bible Study, Confirmation, High School Small Groups 12:15 p.m. Ignite Singers 7 p.m. South Campus Christmas Community Candlelight	19 7 p.m. Community Care	20 7 p.m. The Eden Diet, Men's 30+ Open Basketball	21 12 p.m. Businesspeople Between Jobs 7 p.m. The Journey	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 4 p.m. Family Service 5 p.m. Contemporary Service 7, 9 & 11 p.m. Traditional Services
25 4:45 a.m. St. Vincent's	26 Christmas Holiday Observed Church Offices Closed Preschool-Childcare Closed	27 7 p.m. Men's 30+ Open Basketball	28	29	30	31
Every Sunday 9 & 11:15 a.m. Traditional Services Kettering Campus 10 a.m. Contemporary Services Kettering and South Campus 7 p.m. AA	Every Monday 11:30 a.m. Godly Play 2:30 p.m. Godly Play 3:45 p.m. Middle School/After School Program 7 p.m. Jesus in the Gospels, NAMM Connections, AA 7:30 p.m. ACA	Every Tuesday 11:30 a.m. Godly Play 3:30 p.m. Godly Play Model Airplane Class 7 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 236 7:30 p.m. Men's Small Group	Every Wednesday 9 a.m. Model Airplane Flyers 10 a.m. Companions in Christ, ACA 11:30 a.m. Godly Play 2:30/3:45 p.m. Godly Play 3:45 p.m. Middle School After School PRISM Praise Band	Every Thursday 11:30 a.m. Godly Play 7 p.m. AA/Alanon 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Journey into the Light	Every Friday 7:30 p.m. AA/Alanon	



December 2011

The Word Is: COMPASSION

Message: "Care for others like God cares for you."

Bible Story: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
God knows what the people need

Get Ready-Set-Christmas Creative Arts Camp

Calling all kids in preschool through age 12. Join us on **Saturday, December 17** from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. in The Kid ZONE (Rooms 272-278) to get creative and get ready for Christmas. Part of our time will be spent preparing for the 4 p.m. Family Service on Christmas Eve. Let us know if you will be here on Christmas Eve and want to have a part. Even if you can't be here on Christmas Eve, the preparation time will be fun for all.

- 10:00 Drop-Off in Room 273
- 10:10 Prepare for the Family 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
- 11:00 Creative Christmas Craft Workshop
- 12:00 Pick-Up in Room 273
- 12:05 Special Luncheon for Kids and their Parents in The Deep End

To register, contact Linda Cotrone (937-293-3151 ext 182 or linda@christumc.org)

Second Saturday "Set-to-Serve"

All families are invited to help with a variety of outreach projects on **Saturday, December 10** from 10 a.m. – noon in Foster Hall. We'll prepare food for St. Vincent's Homeless Shelter and pack special bags for the Kettering Backpack Program.

For more information, contact Linda Cotrone (937-293-3151 ext 182 or linda@christumc.org).

Preschool-Childcare News

Anticipation for the upcoming holiday season is beginning to grow as everyone's thoughts turn to planning, preparation, and continuing time-honored family traditions. Traditions nourish our spirit with laughter and memories. Our curriculum highlights the wonder of the season as the children create holiday decorations, make a gift for their family, experience the magic of the talking tree, sing with Fred Chatfield and hear the Christmas Story. We will celebrate Spirit Day. Pastor Deb and her teaching team will introduce the key word of the month; Compassion, "Caring for others like God cares for you"!

Our facility is participating in the Holiday Aid program for the Miami Valley. A food barrel is placed outside the preschool office for any family wishing to assist the hungry in the area.

Registration forms are being accepted from families currently enrolled in a three-year old class who plan to return for the 2012-2013 school year. Children currently using the Toddler 2 childcare and families who have pre-registration forms on file who are not currently attending preschool will receive information concerning the registration process.

The preschool-childcare program is blessed with a caring supportive staff. They provide the talents and relationships that make the program a success. In addition to our dedicated staff, the Preschool Board actively supports our program. We want to thank those members leaving our board for their devoted time and talents. We look forward to the upcoming year as our new board members begin their term.

Kettering Backpack Project

The Kettering Backpack Project is now into its 3rd year of operation. Each week throughout the school year more than 450 bags of kid-friendly food such as Easy Mac and applesauce cups are packed and sent out to the 8 elementary and 2 middle schools in the Kettering City School District. On Fridays the bags are put in the backpacks of kids on the free and reduced lunch program so they have nutritious food over the weekends. This community program is staffed by volunteers of all ages and is operated out of a room in the basement of Christ Church.

This year the program has experienced major growth. The number of students the program serves is up from 400 students last year to 468 students this year. The project has now become an official tax exempt non-profit charity.

Over the summer the distribution rooms were consolidated into a much larger storage room at the bottom of the stairs to the Deep End. This larger room holds all the tubs for the week. More packing shelves allow us to store up to a month's worth of extra food at one time and the larger space allows more room for large groups of volunteers.

Volunteers of all ages can help with the Backpack Project. There are Girl Scout troops, Sunday school classes and families that come in every week to pack bags or restock the shelves. It is truly a group effort to send out all the tubs on time.

Want to get involved?

There is a team of youth that work in the backpack room every Sunday morning at 9:30 before the 10:00 service, and they would love to have you come help!

Or think about bringing your group or family and friends to offer a time of service for the Christmas holiday. We will even provide your group with cookies and punch to add to your Christmas spirit. Contact Deb Egloff (937-293-3151 ext 118 or deb@christumc.org) to schedule your time.

If you would like to donate food items to the project we send out individually packaged food that is easy for kids to open such as: applesauce cups, granola bars, fruit cups, juice boxes, Chef Boyardee or Easy Mac microwavable bowls, individual cereal boxes, and individual cups of corn and green beans.

Children's Ministry and the Kettering Backpack Project thank you for caring for the kids in our community!

Student Ministry

Upcoming Mexico Mission Trips

Check out the pictures from our recent trip on page 3

This spring, the Student Ministry will be sponsoring two mission trips to Tijuana, Mexico. The first trip, **March 16 - March 21**, is designed for college students, young adults, and adults. The second trip, **March 29 - April 3**, is for high school students and parents/adults. The youth group has traveled to Tijuana once or twice a year since 2003 and has built a partnership with Tijuana Christian Mission (TCM), an orphanage just outside the city. TCM will act as our "home base" where we sleep at night and enjoy authentic Mexican breakfasts.

We are also partnering with the Baja Family Outreach Church, located in the former Tijuana City Dump, for our work and outreach projects. The mission team will work along side members of the community where they will build a home for a local family identified by the Baja Family Outreach Church as being in need. Whether you are an experienced home renovator, or you barely know how to swing a hammer, there's a place for you on the team to either share your skills or learn new ones.

In addition to building a house we will be playing and working with the local children, hosting a community movie night, serving breakfast early in the morning to children and families before they go to school, and collaborating with several teens from TCM for passionate night of worship. We will be attending a Sunday morning worship service at the Baja Family Outreach Church, eating authentic Mexican tacos from roadside taco stands, enjoying the Tijuana Beach and local coffee shops, and learning a little Spanish along the way.

This trip is for any adults or high school students looking for a chance to make a difference and who are ready to accept the challenge of growing mentally, spiritually, and physically. The trip will offer a unique perspective on your life back in the United States.

The cost of the trip is \$300 plus airfare. This cost includes luggage fees, transportation, lodging, and food in Mexico. It also helps to cover the cost of the work supplies. Most of the work supplies are paid for by the annual youth fundraiser and donations from the Christ Church World Outreach Commission.

For more information about trip logistics or to find out more about the mission project contact Kate Smith (937-269-6543 or kate@christumc.org) or Adam Williamson (937-902-9336 or adam@christumc.org).

Important Dates

Informational Meeting: **December 11** at 12:30 p.m.
Deposit of \$200 due: January 8 (to purchase airline tickets)
Planning Meetings: Jan 29, Feb 5, 12, 26 & Mar 4, 18, 25
(Participants are asked to attend 5 of the 7 meetings)

The informational meeting on **Sunday, December 11** will be held in the Deep End and is for anyone interested in attending the trip. The meeting will act as an orientation for what to expect, what is expected, and will discuss the safety precautions taken while on the trip. The planning meetings will be a time of team building and time will be spent planning activities in the areas of worship, growth, and service.

Student Ministry December Calendar

6th/7th grade

Middle School Pre-Confirmation class (11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.)
Sundays Dec 4, 11 & 18 in Room 273/275

- Explore the New Testament to prepare for Confirmation

8th grade (9th graders who haven't been confirmed)

Confirmation (11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
Sundays Dec 11 & 18 in Room 202 (Dec 11 is Youth Group)

- Faith exploration that fully engages students in the life of the church through worship, service, and small groups.

Confirmation and High School Students

High School Youth Group (11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
Sunday Dec 11 in The Deep End

- This 5 month series helps teens examine passages and events in the gospel of John that help us see major obstacles to what Jesus means when He says, "Believe".

High School

High School Small Groups (11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
Sundays Dec 4 & 18 in The Deep End

- The Christian faith is built upon community. Teens have the option to join a same gender group or one that is mixed for Bible Study and fellowship.

6th, 7th, & 8th grade

Middle School After School Program (3:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.)
Mondays and Wednesdays, Dec 5, 7, 12 & 14
in the Deep End and Gym

- A safe place for Middle School students to be after school.

Movie Night for 6th -12th grade

Elf rated PG (7 p.m. - 9 p.m.)

Saturday, Dec 10 in the Deep End

- Join us for monthly movie night. Everyone is welcome, so bring a friend. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

8th -12th grade

St. Vincent's Breakfast (4:45 a.m. - 8 a.m.)

Sundays Dec 18 & 25

- Every 3rd & 4th Sunday of the month, students prepare, serve and eat breakfast with the women and families at the St. Vincent's Homeless Shelter. Meet at the north end of the church.

Special Events

Mexico Trip Informational Meeting

Join us on **Sunday, December 11** from 12:30 - 1:15 p.m. in The Deep End to learn about the Mission Trip to Tijuana, Mexico in the spring. This meeting is for teens, parents and any other interested adults.

Confirmation Retreat: Adventure to Cincinnati

On **December 3 and 4** confirmation students will travel to Cincinnati to explore different styles of worship.

2011-2012 Music Series

The next event in the Music Series will be A Candlelight Concerte featuring vocal and instrumental chamber music by candlelight on **Sunday, January 22** at 3 p.m. in the sanctuary. For more information about any Music Series event, contact Fred Chatfield (937-293-3151 ext 111 or fred@christumc.org).

Church Gifts and the IRS

IRS regulations require that all contributions, including gifts of stock, which are to be credited by the church as a contribution for 2011 must either be dated and received or postmarked no later than December 31, 2011. If you have any questions about giving options, please contact Financial Secretary, Debi Smith (937-293-3151 ext 107 or debi@christumc.org).

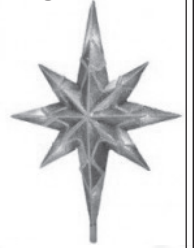
Church Staff - Reach Us at (937) 293-3151

Barry DeShetler, Senior Pastor	barry@christumc.org
Mark Damschroder, Administrative Pastor	mark@christumc.org
Alan Carroll, Pastoral Care Pastor	alan@christumc.org
Wayne Botkin, South Campus Pastor	wayne@christumc.org
Deb Egloff, Children's Pastor	deb@christumc.org
Kate Smith, Director of Student Ministries	kate@christumc.org
Dominique Alban, Spiritual Life Coordinator	dominique@christumc.org
Frederick Chatfield, Director of Music	fred@christumc.org
Nancy Byrd, Community Support Director	nancy@christumc.org
Ann Loper, Director of Adult Discipleship	ann@christumc.org
Debi Smith, Financial Secretary	debi@christumc.org
Wilma Webster, Office Coordinator	wilma@christumc.org

Christmas Celebrations at Christ Church

Christmas Community Candlelight @ South Campus Sunday, December 18

6:30 p.m. Candlelight Service
7:30 p.m. Holiday Refreshments



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services @ the Kettering Campus

4 p.m. Family Service in the sanctuary
5 p.m. Contemporary Service in the Activity Center
7, 9 & 11 p.m. Traditional Services in the sanctuary

The January Spire Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesday, November 30.
Please place information in Debi DeBanto's mailbox in the church office or email her at debi.debanto@christumc.org.

Visit our website! www.christumc.org

December 2011

TIME
VALUE

Paid at Dayton, Ohio
Periodical Postage

Christ United Methodist Church
3440 Shroyer Road, Kettering, Ohio 45429
937.293.3151

Spire