



# SMITHVILLE BRETHREN CHURCH

“Introducing people to Christ - together becoming completely committed Christians.”



## FEBRUARY

# Forward Look

Issue 2

[www.smithville.church](http://www.smithville.church)

February 2025

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## FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR ... INVESTING IN YOUR FAMILY FEBRUARY 2025

Just because love can be freely given doesn't mean it doesn't cost.

A mother extends her love to her children in countless ways throughout the day. She never charges them for cooking meals, cleaning rooms, washing clothes, or transporting them to school. But each of these activities costs her time, money, and energy.

A friend expresses love in numerous ways throughout the year – a birthday card, a timely phone call, a warm hug, and a helping hand. There is no price tag attached to any of these. It would be easy to assume that love really is free. But then we would have a difficult time explaining what we mean when we say that friendship requires work.

God paints the world with His affection for us. Sunsets which take our breath away, food in abundance, good health (for most of us), and His power available through prayer. God never submits a bill for His kindnesses. But just because His love is free, doesn't mean that it didn't dearly cost Him.

I like how the Living Bible puts it - “But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.” (Romans 5:8) Jesus literally had to die experiencing God's anger so that you and I could live experiencing God's love.

So far, so good. This is a story that most of us have heard since we were children. But now comes the kicker. If love always costs, even though it's always free, then you and I can't love anything or anybody without having to pay a price.

I love my wife, and she loves me, but that love costs. Some days it means putting up with “morning breath”, “bed head”, and a certain outlook on life that doesn't seem to be cured until the first cup of coffee.

I love my children, and they love me. But some days that love means having to forgive harsh words, hot tempers, and broken promises.

Our church is no different. Smithville Brethren has been designed by God as a “laboratory of love” – a place where we learn what it means to love each other freely, deeply, and completely. Some days we're on the receiving end of love (I really like those days!) Other days require us to be on the giving end (Not quite as fun!)

I like how John put it - “Dear friends, if God loved us in this way, we also must love one another.” (1 John 4:11 - Holman Christian Bible)

Love is a trait of the family of God. We never look more like our Father than when we love.

Until next month,

Pastor Scott

*This is my commandment,  
that you love one another  
as I have loved you.*





### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY

In 2024, 11,927,439 shoeboxes were packed around the world. Of those, 10,574,805 were packed here in the United States. If you packed a shoebox, you are a vital part of this ministry. All these shoeboxes are being sent to children around the world. Continue to pray for these shoeboxes and the children who will receive them. And pray for those who hand out the boxes, present the gospel message to the children, and teach the follow up discipleship program, "The Greatest Journey."

SBC received \$4,140 in designated offerings to go towards the shoebox ministry and a check for that amount was sent to Samaritan's Purse for Operation Christmas Child. It is amazing what God can do with a simple shoebox!

#### FEBRUARY: FASHION ACCESSORIES



Just a reminder that Operation Christmas Child collection goes all year with featured items every month. Note that any item can be donated at any time, especially as you come across good sales. This is just a guideline. Donations can be placed in the box under the OCC table in the entryway.

## A Note from Your Librarian

I have a few new books I would like to share with you to hopefully entice you to pick up a new book and check it out of the library.

- ***Serenity's Secret*** by Lisa Jones Baker  
This book is full of faith and romance. This new series takes you into the heart of Amish Country of Arthur, Illinois.
- ***Who is Mary? An Amish Romance*** by Linda Byler  
Book #1 of the Stepping Stone Series. Caught between her very conservative upbringing and her drive for a different kind of life, will Mary ever feel like she belongs?
- ***Finding You*** by Amy Clipston  
Both of them want a relationship—but is beginning it a Big Mistake?
- ***Before We Were Us*** by Denise Hunter  
She can't remember. He can't forget.
- ***The Color of Home*** by Kit Tosello  
The life she's designing may not be the life she's meant to live.
- ***The Thing About Home: A Lowcountry Novel***  
by Rhonda McKnight  
"Home is not a place—it is a feeling."
- ***Bitter and Sweet: A Lowcountry Novel***  
by Rhonda McKnight  
A dual timeline tale of family, grief, secrets, and the sweet redemption that lies within the bonds of sisterhood.

Find all these new books on the back wall of the library.

Happy Reading!

Your Librarian,  
Rachel Krabill

Quote: "It matters more how one gives than what one gives."  
—Pierre Corneille



**February 13**  
Craig & Gwen  
Zimmerly  
9th anniversary

**February 16**  
Jeff & Diane Borah  
34th anniversary

**February 18**  
Don & Deb Tkacz  
47th anniversary

**February 28**  
Don & Cheryl Mast  
43rd anniversary



**ELEMENT 412 EVENTS**  
**(6th-12th GRADE)**

**~SUPER BOWL PARTY~**

**Sunday, February 9th**

**5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (or halftime)**

1763 Morgan Street, Wooster OH 44691

Sign up on the church website, smithville.church



**~Breakfast with Levi & Anna~**

**Saturday, February 22nd 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.**

Come if you can, no need to RSVP.

Levi and Anna will host breakfast once a month.

Their address is 1534 Jones Avenue, Wooster OH 44691

**~REGULAR MEETING~**

**Sunday, February 23rd 6:00-7:30 p.m.**

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**FRIENDS' CLUB**  
**(AGE 5-5TH GRADE)**

**~SERVICE PROJECTS~**

**Sunday, February 23rd 2-4 p.m.**

We will be putting together kits for CAMO and knotting fleece blankets for Akron Children's Hospital.

We will also play games and make a snack together.

Drop off and pick up at the lower doors

▲ on the bank side of the building.

If you have questions, please contact

Jessie Dravenstott at 330-936-0141.



# Thank You!

## Dear Smithville Brethren Church Family,

We would like to thank all of you for your support over the past few months. The flowers, cards, meal, and prayers are all appreciated. The decorations at the meal were perfect! Words can't express how much we appreciate this family of believers. It is a blessing to know all of you!

Your kind expressions of sympathy are deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.

Joyce Zimmerly & Family

## Smithville Brethren Church,

We want to thank everyone at SBC who has shared support and prayer for the family of my brother, Dick, and Joyce Zimmerly, the past year or more as Dick struggled with heart health issues. Many of you have prayed for God's timing and perfect will. Wooster Hospital staff, and LifeCare Hospice of Wayne County are also a gift of comfort and loving care in times of end of life. We are blessed to know Chris and Mitch at McIntire's and all of the SBC family who helped with the service: parking lot attendants, janitorial staff, greeters, video and sound team, musicians, nursery care, the many relatives and friends who attended, the Pastors, the music and memories shared, God's word and prayers, the flowers and cards, those who prepared, served, and cleaned up after the meal, and out-of-state relatives and those who were ill who watched the service online. To God be the glory! We are so blessed. Joshua 1:9—"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

In His Love,

Doris and Don Dravenstott

## Dear SBC Family,

Our sincere thanks for all your prayers, phone calls and cards during Walter's recent heart attack and loss of his sister. Thank you Pastor Art for your phone calls, and Pastor Scott and Wendy for

your visit. We are so blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring church family!

Also, a big Thank You from Eileen to the Hospitality Committee and ladies that helped with the Soup and Sandwich luncheon and funeral meals in my absence.

Love and faithfulness,

Walter and Eileen Vincent

## Thank you . . .

I'd like to say a special "Thank you" to the Choir and Bell Choir for the thoughtful gifts given to me at Christmas. The candy has been eaten, the hot chocolate has warmed Bill and I up during the super cold weather, the candle scent still reminds me of Christmas, and the gift cards are especially appreciated. It's such a blessing to be part of the Music Ministry at SBC. I'm looking forward to another good year of singing, ringing and playing praises to our Lord!

Blessings!

Phyllis Snyder

**Smithville  
Brethren Church**

# Chili Cook Off

**February 22 @ 6pm**

**ALL LEVELS OF CHILI MASTER WELCOME**

TO SIGN UP, SCAN THE QR CODE

OR SIGN UP @ THE INFORMATION TABLE  
BY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 16th  
DOORS OPEN @ 5  
JOIN US FOR FAMILY, FUN, AND FOOD!

**QUESTIONS?**

SBC Church Office:  
sbrethren@earthlink.net ~ (330) 669-2267  
Jake Cline:  
clinejakeoh@gmail.com ~ (330) 464-1140



# FEBRUARY

## BIRTHDAYS

**February 1**

Cindy Cline  
Bo Maibach  
Hannah Burns

**February 2**

Denise Snyder  
Florinda Cuixtla

**February 3**

Rex McConahay  
Ella Hostettler  
Judy Martin

**February 6**

Jeff Chittenden  
Charla Zutavern

**February 7**

Zoe Riggenbach

**February 8**

Sharon Hamsher

**February 9**

Bev Kail  
Edith Rowsey  
Pat Patt  
Ben Mahas

**February 15**

Makayla Dravenstott

**February 17**

Emily Chenevey

**February 19**

Valerie Farst

**February 23**

Marla Miller  
Bruce Graber

**February 25**

Jane Mason

**February 26**

Ida James

**February 27**

Amber Grimm

**February 28**

Preston Cline

## THIS AND THAT

**The February Ladies Luncheon** will be held on Wednesday, February 19th at 11:30 a.m. at The Barn Restaurant. No need to RSVP. We order off the menu, and each pays their own way. If you have any questions or need a ride, please reach out to Louise Liebhart at 330-347-8544. In case of inclement weather, Louise will cancel if the roads are bad; a text message chain has been organized for this purpose.

**Calling all crafters: Plan to attend the next Craft Day** on Saturday, March 1st from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the upper fellowship hall. Bring your latest craft project, your mending basket, or just come to hang out! We enjoy a carry-in lunch, so bring a dish to share. Please RSVP to Dee Sillman by Wednesday, February 26th at 330-466-2287.

**The March Primetime Lunch** will be held on Monday, March 10th at noon in the upper fellowship hall; if you are 55 or over and would like to join us for breakfast at lunch, please sign up on the church website, smithville.church, or call the church office at 330-669-2267. Katie and her team have a fantastic menu planned; invite a friend and introduce them to the Primetime gang!

### **Mark Your Calendar:**

**Spring Communion Service**—Thursday, April 17th

**Easter**—Sunday, April 20th, including the sunrise service and breakfast

**Future Primetime meals**—April 7th; May 5th; June 9th; July 21st; August 11th; September 22nd; October 20th; and December 15th.



**SBC CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR 2025!  
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS  
AND COLLEGE STUDENTS—  
THERE'S STILL TIME TO APPLY!**



Thanks to another generous donation, 2025 scholarship award amounts have been increased from \$2,000 to **\$3,000** for full-time students, and from \$1,000 to **\$2,000** for part-time students taking a minimum of 8 credit hours. The fund is also in a position to award **multiple scholarships** this year.

If you are interested in applying, please pick up an application form in the church office or at the Information table. The form lists other items that must be submitted with the application. **Applications must be received by February 15th** and will be kept confidential. Awards will be announced by March 1st.

**Cameron Carr  
2024**



**PREVIOUS  
SBC SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENTS**



**Clara Zemancik  
2023**

# February 2025

						<b>1</b> 9:00 Bell Choir Practice
<b>2</b>  9:00 T Worship Service 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 C Worship Service	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:30 Time of Prayer 7:30 Choir Practice	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:00 Bell Choir Practice
<b>9</b> 9:00 T Worship Service 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 C Worship Service 5-8:30 Element 412 Super Bowl Party at Boyes'	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6:30 CE Board Meeting	<b>12</b> 6:30 Time of Prayer 7:30 Choir Practice	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 	<b>15</b> 9:00 Bell Choir Practice
<b>16</b> 9:00 T Worship Service 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 C Worship Service	<b>17</b> 6:30 Official Board Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 11:30 Ladies Luncheon @ The Barn Restaurant 6:30 Time of Prayer 7:30 Choir Practice	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9:00 Bell Choir Practice 9:30-11 Element 412 Breakfast w/ Levi & Anna 6:00 Chili Cook Off
<b>23</b> 9:00 T Worship Service 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 C Worship Service 2:00 Friends' Club LFH 6-7:30 Element 412 Regular Meeting	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:30 Time of Prayer 7:30 Choir Practice	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	

## Nursery/Jr Church Schedule

	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23
9:00 Nursery Traditional Service	Beth/April Pearce Jennifer Carr	Nina Hart Susan Dilyard	Beth/April Pearce Erica Dilyard	Nina Hart Kelly/Ronan White
10:15 Nursery Sunday School	Beth/April Pearce Sylvia King	Beth/April Pearce Sylvia King	Beth/April Pearce Sylvia King	Beth/April Pearce Sylvia King
11:30 Nursery Contemporary Service	Sarah Bozsik Rochelle Shane	Bridgett Collins Melissa Underwood	Anna Sprowls Lori Cline	Julie Hostettler Gwen Zimmerly
9:00 Jr. Church Traditional Service	Emily Chenevey Jessie Dravenstott	Debbie Rinehart Chin-Chin Frantz	Susan Dilyard Bridgett Collins	Susan Boyes April Pearce
11:30 Jr. Church Contemporary Service	Deb Cline Sabrina Brandenburg	Chet Underwood Kylie Hostettler	Russ King Cassandra Gasser	Kim Chittenden Ashley Burns

## Ministry Statistics: Attendance & Giving

Date	Attendance			Weekly
	Sunday School	9:00	11:30	
January 5	138	152	77	\$12,592.07
January 12	132	230		\$12,311.33
January 19	126	160	70	\$11,841.52
January 26	126	170	62	\$7,208.57

## Ministry Statistics: Designated Giving

Camp Bethany	\$800	Hospitality Committee	\$150
Camp Bethany Capital	\$600	Music Committee Fund	\$580
Christmas Challenge	\$1,728	OCC	\$100
Element 412	\$200	Primetime	\$150
Element 412 Outing	\$96	Riverside Christian School	\$310
Flowers	\$480	SBC Scholarship	\$325
Frantz Memorial	\$100	Salt & Light Ministry	\$182
Friends' Club	\$200	Use of Building	\$75
Funeral Meals	\$400	Zimmerly Memorial	\$1,050

## Ohio's Hospice is seeking *volunteers!*



**Volunteers are instrumental in every aspect of our mission.**

Our volunteers provide direct patient care, Veteran to Veteran services, help with maintenance, respite care, animal-assisted therapy, data entry, and more.

### You are invited!

**Training classes begin Monday, February 17.  
6-8:30 pm**

Training will be held at Ohio's Hospice Gustafson Center for Supportive Care  
1900 Akron Rd., Wooster, OH 44691

For questions about training or any volunteer opportunities  
Email [Elisa Stoyle at EStoyle@OhiosHospice.org](mailto:Elisa.Stoyle@OhiosHospice.org)  
or call 330.264.4899



Palliative & Supportive Care

800.884.6547 | [www.OhiosHospice.org/Volunteer](http://www.OhiosHospice.org/Volunteer)

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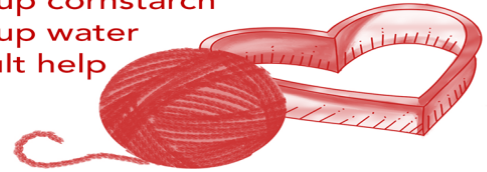
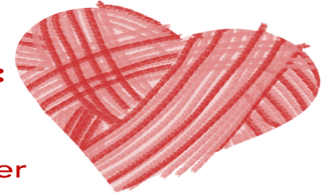
**PASTOR:** Rev. Art Carr - [artcarr@earthlink.net](mailto:artcarr@earthlink.net)  
**ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUTH:**  
Rev. Scott Fetter - [sfetter500@msn.com](mailto:sfetter500@msn.com)  
**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADER:**  
Ted Peplowski - [tpeplowski@aol.com](mailto:tpeplowski@aol.com)

# HEART strings

Make this heartfelt craft as a decoration or gift.

### What you need:

- Yarn
- Scissors
- Parchment paper
- Baking sheet
- Heart-shaped cookie cutters
- ¼ cup cornstarch
- ½ cup water
- Adult help



### What you do:

1. Cut yarn into 12-inch pieces.
2. Place cookie cutters atop a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
3. Combine cornstarch and water in a saucepan. Heat mixture over medium heat, stirring until thick and smooth. Remove from heat and cool to form a "glue."
4. Dip each piece of yarn into the mixture to coat completely. Squeeze off any excess.
5. Place yarn in the cookie cutters, allowing pieces to cross and loop within the heart. Add more until the cookie cutter is filled and the yarn looks like a heart.
6. Remove cookie cutters and bake the sheet for two hours at 150°F, or until hearts are dry and hard.

### CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR:

Wendy Kaufman - [sbrethren@earthlink.net](mailto:sbrethren@earthlink.net)

**CHURCH/OFFICE PHONE:** 330-669-2267

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Mon. - Fri.

**CHURCH WEBSITE:** [www.smithville.church](http://www.smithville.church)