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Calendar

December 12, 7 p.m.
“Love Came Down”

December 13, 10:30 a.m.
Children’s Pageant

December 20, 7:30 p.m.
The Greene Street United Methodist Church will host a free concert by the Tippecanoe Community Band.

December 24, 7 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service
Carols and Candlelight

December 24, 11 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service
Carols, Candlelight, and Communion

December 27, 11:45 a.m.
“What goes up, must come down”
We will be removing the Christmas decorations following the 10:30 service. Please join us for 30 minutes of your time.

January 10, 2015
Come learn where we’ve been and where we’re going
Combined worship 10:30 a.m.
Join us for a banquet following the worship service.
Look for more information to follow

Hanging of the Greens

For Electronic Giving

415 W. Greene Street,
Piqua, Ohio 45356
(937) 773-5313
Fax (937) 773-5397
office@greenestreetumc.org
www.greenestreetumc.org
Rev. Kenneth A. Stewart

More pictures can be found at www.greenestreetumc.org
A Gift for the Whole Town

During this season of gift-giving, gift-receiving, gift-exchange, re-gifting, and gift-return, I'd like you to consider what gift we're giving our city this Christmas. If I want to give a gift to my wife, children, family, and friends, I take an inventory of what they want/need, and I go shopping. It's never been easier to shop with all the world’s products, merchandise, goodies and treats right at my fingertips. Amazon is a close companion during this season when I finally realize the perfect gift for the perfect person.

But what can I give my city? What can I give my neighbors? What can I give my fellow citizens? I cannot afford to purchase gifts for all 20,000 fellow Piqua residents. I cannot invite them all to my house. I cannot help everyone decorate their Christmas trees.

What I can do is share the story in song. I can lift my voice to the heavens and, along with fellow worshipers, tell the amazing story of how God’s love came down to us with the advent of Jesus. I can invite everyone to share in a beautiful time where we catch a glimpse of God’s heart again as he sends his Son, born in a cave, swaddled by scraps of cloth, and coddled by teenage parents.

On Saturday, December 12 at 7 P.M., we have the distinct honor and privilege of hosting the entire town for a Christmas gathering to remember. The whole city will be our honored guests as we welcome them into the story of the great miracle of Christ’s birth. There’ll be singing, laughter, joy, wonder, and...cookies. What could be better?

Come and celebrate the coming of our King on this night as we offer this gift to all. There is no charge for the event, and we’d love for you to invite as many people as you can. We expect God to show up in big ways, touching those who may have never considered the God who came down so that we could be lifted up! I cannot wait to share in this wonderful gift!

Together with you in Christ,

Rev. Kenneth A. Stewart

Shoes for H.O.P.E!

Shoes for H.O.P.E. is an exciting project making a positive impact around the world. Businesses, schools, organizations, and individuals are getting involved and so is Greene Street. We will be collecting new and used shoes until January 6th. Your generous donation of new and used shoes can make a difference in the lives of people everywhere, and can possibly save lives. Approximately two billion people worldwide suffer with parasitic diseases that could be prevented by wearing shoes. All donated shoes will be redistributed through microenterprise partners and used in developing nations for impoverished people to start, maintain, and grow an enterprise to feed, clothe, and house their families. Can we count on you? What shoes do we want? We want any shoe, any size, any color, any torn/worn or mismatched shoes! Please bring your donation to the Narthex where a box will be located or feel free to reach out to Kelly Meckstroth, (419) 348-4329 for home pick up. Thank you in advance for your support!
TEEM: What's Going On?

TEEM stands for Teens Engaged, Empowered and Mobilized by the life-changing power of Jesus. Each Sunday students in grades 7 - 12 meet and enjoy a couple hours of fellowship, food, activities, discussion, worship, faith-building, and service. This year we've had a variety of different experiences that have shaped and molded us to become more like Jesus. We've not only taken the crown in our first annual "Kiddie Pool Kickball" competition with Fields of Grace Church, we've also been learning what it means to have a faith that sticks. We've traveled to local nursing homes to sing carols and play "Noodle Ball," where we witnessed several people share the most beautiful expressions of joy. We've blessed our first graduating class and welcomed the first wave of 7th grade students into our fold. We've shared many wonderful moments around the table, thanks to all of you who provided food for our gatherings. God has certainly blessed us!

We would like to keep you updated on some events we're planning and dates to place on your calendar. For December 6 and 13, we will meet at our regular time from 5 - 7 PM to finish out our series on "Sticky Faith." On December 20, we will meet from 4 - 8 PM and travel to local care facilities to sing Christmas carols. There will also be a special, sweet stop along the way! We will not meet December 27 and hope everyone enjoys quality time with families. There may be a special event planned for New Years Eve, so stay tuned!

On Sunday, January 3, we would like to host a parent meeting to discuss some plans our leaders were discerning for 2016. We will host the meeting at 6 PM in the Wall/Wesleyan room. The primary focus will be to discuss a mission trip we'd like to plan for June 12 - 18, 2016. Although the specific location has not yet been determined, we would like to partner with a mission organization specializing in short-term mission trips called "TEAMeffort" (www.teameffort.org). We also want to hear parent feedback so we can ensure we are addressing the needs of your students.

2016 dates to remember are as follows:

February 7: Super Bowl Party at the Stewart residence (6 - 10 PM)
February 27 - 28: 30 Hour Famine Lock-in
June 12 - 18: Mission Trip

I would like to thank our leaders who have invested heavily into this crucial part of our mission and ministry to students: Jason Frazier, Lindsay Lambert, Seth and Nicole Heckaman, Steven and Katie Farris, Stephen Teale, Steve and Val Mulikin, Carol Palmer, and Tanya Stewart. I appreciate those who provide behind-the-scenes prayer and administrative support: Mary Haldeman, Jennifer Sweetman, Jennifer Everett, and Loverna Dilbone. I'd also like to thank our student leaders: Kacey Gambill, Lily Stewart, and Ryan Teale. Without these leaders, more than 15 students would not have a deeper connection with Jesus or his church. Thank you, and we look forward to all God has in store for TEEM in 2016!

With thanks,
Rev. Kenneth A. Stewart

CRAZY ABOUT CONFIRMATION!

Confirmation is a class offered every other year to provide an opportunity for students 6th grade and older to make an informed decision about their personal faith in Christ. With many of us receiving baptism in infancy, Confirmation provides a way for us recognize and respond to God's grace for ourselves. I plan to offer this class on Sundays from 4 - 5:30 PM, beginning February 21 and ending May 1 (with the exception of Easter Sunday, March 27). Confirmands will then enjoy a time of recognition during both worship gatherings Sunday, May 15, 2016 (Pentecost Sunday), along with the opportunity to articulate their own understanding of Christian faith. This class is offered to all students 6th grade and older. If you would like to attend, please contact Jennifer in the church office, either by phone (773-5313) or email (jennifer@greenestreetumc.org). I cannot wait to begin the adventure!

With thanks,
Rev. Kenneth A. Stewart
LOVE CAME DOWN

This event will prove to be a joyous night here at Greene St. Through music, song, and readings with refreshments to follow, we hope to invite our community once again to hear the greatest story ever told. This night is God's gift to Piqua. We are God's messengers telling His story: The Christmas story. I will be contacting many of you to help with making cookies, greeting, servers, etc. Yes, we are the messengers. Stand ready to serve in delivering His message!

CHRISTMAS COOKIES

We will want to have many Christmas cookies for the evening of Dec. 12th. As our guests come out from the Christmas program into the welcome area Christmas cookies and punch will be served. There will NOT be sign ups for cookies and we trust you will bring cookies the morning of Dec. 12th or Friday, Dec. 11th during regular work hours. Please leave your cookies in the main kitchen marked DEC. 12. Hospitality will be arranging cookies on trays early Saturday. Thank you for participating in reaching our city with God’s tremendous story. Questions? Call or text Mary Haldeman at 541-1105. E-mail haldemanmary@yahoo.com or Tawnya Gaier, 418-8491

WILL YOU HELP?

We want to warmly welcome people the evening of Dec. 12th. Will you be a greeter/usher? Help with serving punch or putting cookies out? Please give me your “YES” very soon for planning purposes. Thanks so much! Call or text Mary Haldeman, 541-1105 or Tawnya Gaier, 418-8491.

DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO LOVE CAME DOWN?

If you find you need transportation to or from the Dec. 12th event please contact the church office no later than Thursday, Dec. 10th. Someone will confirm with you and arrangements will be made.

Church members, if you would park in the Presbyterian parking lot, this would leave parking for our guests in our lot and on the street.

Poinsettias

Greene Street traditionally uses Poinsettias ($6.50/6" plant) to decorate the sanctuary during the Christmas Season. This year the sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas with the Poinsettias on Sunday, December 20, and Christmas Eve Candlelight Services (7:00 & 11:00 p.m.). The Poinsettia Dedication will be run on December 20 and Christmas Eve only. If you would like to order a Poinsettia for use in decorating the sanctuary, please complete this form and return it to the church office by 9:00 a.m., MONDAY, DECEMBER 14. You may still order from someone else as long as your plant is here by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 17.

Please read ALL three choices. - Thanks

1. ____ In lieu of taking a flower, I wish to make a $6.50 contribution to the decorating fund (my dedication will still be printed as usual but I do not want a flower).

   *** OR ***

2. I am ordering ____ (number) poinsettia(s) from the church at a cost of $6.50/poinsettia.

   *** OR ***

3. I am purchasing ____ (number) poinsettia(s) from ANOTHER SOURCE (florist, store, fund raising group) and I will deliver them to the church by Thursday, Dec. 17, 9:00 a.m.

You may remove your poinsettia(s) after either Christmas Eve service or during the week after Christmas. Please list the dedication(s) as follows:

Given by ................................................

In memory of ...........................................

..........................................................

In honor of ..............................................

..........................................................

In celebration of ......................................

..........................................................
Ministries for Children

From Barb Hudson

On Sunday December 13th we hope to see all of you at the 10:30 Unveiled worship gathering for the children's musical, Christmas Around the World! Immediately following the worship gathering, all children and their families are invited to stay for a Birthday Party for Jesus! This special celebration will include pizza, birthday cake, and a piñata. We will also be putting together Blessing Bags for our Food Pantry recipients. Please call or email the office by Friday December 11th to reserve your family’s spot.

The children won’t want to miss Kidz Worship this month as our Bible study follows the events of the Christmas story in Luke. December’s memory verse is “This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger.” Luke 2:12.

Daycare/Preschool News

December is a busy time of year. Our schedule during the holiday week of December the 28th – January 1 will be based on the needs of our families. Hours will be announced at a later date. There will be lots of parties and excitement as we move through the month. The Preschool teachers would welcome some extra hands during the Christmas season to help with parties or making gifts for the parents. Please contact Debbie Frazier and she will be happy to share your information with teachers. Many all your holidays be filled with many blessings.

UMCmarket

Donation Program Benefits the Church!

UMCmarket, a tremendously rewarding opportunity to earn money for your church, makes it possible to receive donations from your favorite retailers every time someone within the congregation makes an online purchase. The best thing is that the shopping United Methodists were already doing online can now benefit the church as well.

How it Works

Every store at UMCmarket is happy to pay a percentage of the purchased amount as a donation to your church. There is no additional cost or charge for either the church or the shopper. The stores send UMCmarket their contributions within 30-90 days. Once your church reaches $100 in total donations, a check will be mailed.

Signing Up is Free!

When you go to UMCmarket.org, you will click on the “Get Started” button. You will simply sign up with your email or through Facebook, find your church (Piqua Greene Street), and start shopping and donating. Giving couldn’t be easier!

Over Easy Commitment Cards

Over Easy commitment cards were mailed in October. If you need another card, they are available in the church office.

December is always the month to “catch up” on charitable contributions. Greene Street’s office will be open on Thursday, December 31, 9 a.m.—3 p.m. for year end giving. Offering received after that date, unless postmarked in 2015, will be counted in 2016 and will not appear on your year end giving record.
Because We Are Family . . .

Hospitalized Since Last Month: **Judy Elliott, Chuck Alexander, Joyce Ellerman**

**Greene Street Church Family** - Jim Whetstone, Hubert Bateman, Ron Cooper, Jean Heath, Kim Calland, Robyn Cooper, Irene Clark, Ben Hiser, Judy Elliott, Jane Fitcraft

**Friends and Family of Greene Street** - Carol and Mike Jess, Joanne Kress, Janet Hartley (Stilwell), Bud Runner, Nicole Bailey (Pettit), Carol Wick (Harbison), Jeni Alderman (Hardman), Tina Carnes, Parker family (Community), Shirley Haron (Shellenberg), Kendra and baby Karson (Lambert), Ferrymon family (Mullikin)

**Military** - Ron Cooper, Jed Cooper, Andy Pearson (Carter), Brian Pummill, Dasch Underwood, Clark Cripe (Elliott), Joseph Sherman (Shellenberg), Brent Efaw (Frazier), Ben Datu (Mullikin), Janet Dilbone (Dilbone), Kris Palsgrove,

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Brookdale
Howard Reed
Maxine Zimmerman

Piqua Manor
Dick Callison

Caldwell House
Virginia Gross

**Garbry Ridge**
Barbara Minton

**Spring Meade**
Martha Fraley

**Lincoln Park Manor**
Margie Trimmer

Dorothy Love
Ruth Brush

John Phillips
Gladys Mullen

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OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:

- family and friends of Dick Durham, who passed away.
- family and friends of Mary Janes, who passed away on Thursday, November 5, 2015.

CONGRATULATIONS EXTENDED TO:

- Josh and Abby Silvers with the birth of their son, Nolan Pierce Silvers, on Thursday, November 12. He is welcomed by big brother Blakelee and grandparents Rick and Terry Fry.

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Thank You’s

Susan Hopkins wanted to share it with you.

“To whomever bought JJ a new book bag, thank you from the bottom of my heart! It’s greatly appreciated considering the rough patch we have been through! So again, THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!!!”

This warmed my heart and I thought it would be a neat one to put in the thank you area. I gave three children new back packs in the last three days. I just love my Greene Street family and their generous hearts!

Dear Greene Street Prayer Group,

Thank you so much for the beautiful blanket you knitted for our son, Brooks! What a special gift.

Amy & Drew Hartman

Dear Greene Street,

Thank you so much for the lovely prayer shawl. Dad really appreciated it.

The Howard Petty Family

Dear Ones,

Thank you for your donation to Eagles’ Wings. We so appreciate your kindness.

May God Bless You all,

Eagles’ Wings

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December Anniversaries

10 Martin & Jackie Pollock
16 Rolland & Martha Wagner
21 Billy & Jennifer Wright
24 Randy & Janet Smith
26 Tom & Jeanne Ringer
30 Bob & Darlene Montgomery

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## Sunday Schedules

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<th>Sun</th>
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<td>3 p—Love Came Down Practice</td>
<td>2 p—Disciple Group</td>
<td>2:30 p—Building Improvement Meeting</td>
<td>2:30 p—Staff Meeting</td>
<td>7 p—Love Came Down Practice</td>
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<td>5 p—TEEM</td>
<td>6:30 p—Praise Team</td>
<td>6:30 p—Love Came Down Practice</td>
<td>6:30 p—Women's Well Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 p—Love Came Down Practice</td>
<td>6 p—Piano Recital</td>
<td>12:30 p—Staff Meeting</td>
<td>6:30 p—Praise Team</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 p—Food &amp; Hunger Team</td>
<td>7 p—Love Came Down Practice</td>
<td>2 p—Disciple Group</td>
<td>6:30 p—Praise Team</td>
<td>6:30 p—Love Came Down Practice</td>
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**Unless otherwise stated . . .**

- **Sunday Schedules**
  - 9 a.m. Liturgical Worship
  - 10:30 a.m. Unveiled Worship
  - 6 p.m. Ch. 5 Rebroadcast
Greene Street Methodist Church

Monday, December 28, 2015
6 am - 10 pm
Valid on Dine In or Carry Out

Bob Evans will donate 15% of sales when you present this flyer* to

Bob Evans

999 East Ash Street In Piqua
(SR 36 & I-75)
www.BobEvans.com/BEkind
*Flyer must be presented at time of check out.