

# Cornerstone Newsletter of

# Manchester Christian Church

930 W Nimisila Rd, Akron, OH 44319 (330-882-3116)  
 Senior Minister: B. Kelly Gowen (330-882-3897 home)  
 Secretary: Jinger Hoffman  
 Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
 www.mymanchesterchristian.com  
 E-mail: Manchestercoc@hotmail.com

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This past month we rejoiced with the angels in heaven as Kenneth & Todd Kennedy came to MCC to be baptized into Christ. On Sunday afternoon, November 9, 2008 Kenneth & Todd came with their family to accept Christ as their personal savior and Jack Brown baptized them. Kenneth Kennedy, 6636 Hampsher Road, Clinton, OH 44216  
 Todd Kennedy, 8710 Erie Ave N, Canal Fulton, OH 44614

**SENIOR SAINTS LUNCHEON**  
 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 12:00 P.M.  
 Bring a side dish and table service



**2XL & TRACK**  
 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH  
 \$5 Gift Exchange  
 Wrap gift and write on it if it is for a girl or boy.



7:00 P.M.  
 Manchester  
 Christian Church



Meet at Manchester Christian Church between 8:15 & 8:30 p.m.  
 Activities for the night:  
 bowling at Midway Lanes in Akron, roller skating, rock climbing, arcade, laser tag, and euro bungee at Fun & Stuff in Macedonia  
 Cost per person: \$25.00  
 Contact Sponsors with any questions



2009 OFFERING ENVELOPES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

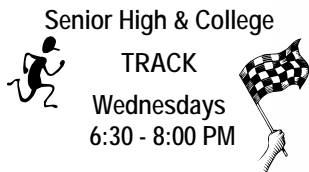


All Church  
 New Year's Eve  
 Party  
 Held at  
 Perfect Balance Gym  
 Hosted by  
 Kevin & Kathy Noble

8:00 p.m.

You are asked to bring a 2 liter of pop and an appetizer or dessert

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR  
 JANUARY 25TH  
 A VERY IMPORTANT DAY FOR  
 MANCHESTER  
 CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
 EVERYONE NEEDS TO  
 BE IN ATTENDANCE!**



Senior High & College  
TRACK  
Wednesdays  
6:30 - 8:00 PM



2XL  
Wednesdays  
6:30-8:00 PM  
Grades 6th-8th



A new teacher for S.O.L.E. is needed!!!!  
(Serving Our Lord Everyday)

Wednesdays 7:00-8:00 p.m. For grades K-5th

We would like to thank Kayla Jolly for her willingness to serve in this ministry. Due to a change in work schedule Kayla must step down. If you would like to take over this position of ministry please call the church office as soon as possible.

Until the position is filled - S.O.L.E. will not be meeting.



It saddens our hearts to say goodbye to our long time friend, Art Wells, who want home to be with the Lord on Sunday, November 23, 2008. Art joined our church family on October 29, 1956 and he

touched many lives through the years. The memories of Art will include his teaching, being a deacon then elder, the carnations every year for Mother's Day, the many flower arrangements over the years, his many hours of council, his love of Christmas Decorating of the church and his overall love for his church family. Until we meet again our dear friend, may the Lord comfort your family and friends.



#### COFFEE SHOP REMINDER

There is no charge for the regular or decaf coffees, nor for the teas, however there is a \$.50 *per cup* charge for all the cappuccino/hot chocolate type drinks. There is also a request that donations be made for the pastries provided (muffins, doughnuts, honey buns etc.)

**PARENTS:** we really appreciate your help in seeing that your children are supervised in the coffee shop area.



Family Life Center Open for Walkers/Joggers  
Monday through Friday the FLC is open  
at 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Open Gym Volleyball for age 14 and up  
Mondays at 8:00 p.m.



FLC OPEN GYM BASKETBALL  
for age 18 and up Thursday 8:30 p.m. & Saturdays at 9 a.m.

If you would like to add someone to our prayer list, please write the name down and place it in the top tray on Jinger's desk. Names will be listed for 3 weeks unless we are notified otherwise.

Contact Vi Dickerhoof (330-882-3742) with emergency prayer chain request.

**Our Shut-Ins:** ALMA DOZMATI, (Maison Aine, Stow), CAROL KOEBERLE (Essex Health Care - sister of Rose Brown), JERILYN DELAUDER (at home), JOSH (Arbors Nursing Home - cousin of Kathy Ayres), NELLIE SMITH (Alterra, Barberton), WILLIAM & KATHRYN GREGG (Shady Lawn), ANN HAGELBARGER (at home), FERNE WILLIAMS (Rose Lane) HELEN WELLS, (Pleasant View & Pointe)



#### NEEDED COMMUNION SERVERS FOR THE NEW YEAR!

Please see Kelly Gowen or Ben Ream  
your services are needed!

Young-Middle-Old - any man will be appreciated.

#### Children's Worship Teachers Needed

A sign up sheet is posted in the main hallway for Teacher Teams to sign up for one month of teaching. If you have any questions contact Jerry/Sue Justiss or Jack Brown.



#### NURSERY COORDINATOR NEEDED

We are in need of someone to take on the ministry of our church nursery. This job includes lining up workers and caring for the nursery itself. If you would like to take on this ministry please contact me at the church office for complete details **ASAP**.  
Thank you,

#### DECEMBER SCHEDULES

##### NURSERY CAREGIVERS

- December 7th: 8:50: Lillabelle Mullenix  
9:50: June Luli, Logan Gowen
- December 14th: 8:50: Shelly Chappell  
9:50: Charisse Gardner, Chelsea Chappell
- December 21st: 8:50: Joan Greenfelder  
9:50: Paule' Sponseller, Seth Chappell
- December 28th: 8:50: Sue Justiss  
9:50: Becky Taylor, William Patton



##### SERVING SCHEDULE

Communion Meditation / Offering Prayer & Servers



December 7th: Bill Wells & Roger Chappell  
Ray Broughton, Fred Cornell, Seth Chappell,  
Kip Gardner, Butch Merrill, Jack Brown

December 14th: Roger Chappell & Rob Templeton  
Randy Duncan, Timm Evans, Allen Garside,  
John Henderson, Terry Haddix, Jerry Justiss

December 21st: Rob Templeton & Jerry Justiss  
Josh Lair, Kevin Noble, Earl Kirkendall,  
Butch Merrill, Lewis Six, Ed Simon

December 28th: Jerry Justiss & Don Wells  
Tim Sponseller, Rob Templeton, Bill Wells,  
Don Wells, Ben Ream, Dale Jolly

##### OUTSIDE COMMUNION SERVERS

Don Wells (330-854-5461) Kevin Noble (330-882-9324)

##### DEACONESS:






December 7th & 14th: Sue Justiss  
December 21st & 28th: Lilabelle Mullenix



##### GREETERS

December 7th: Russ & Maryellen Taylor  
December 14th: Fred & Mary Frances Cornell  
December 21st: Jerry & Sue Justiss



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	<b>1</b> <b>M/M Jack Brown '84</b> 8:00 Open Gym Volleyball age 14+	<b>2</b> <b>M/M Ed Simon '05</b> MCC Basketball League	<b>3</b> 6:30 TRACK-Sr. Hi & College Age, 2XL-6th-8th grade 7:00 Adult Bible Study Life Preservers	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Emily Garside</b> <b>Lilabelle Mullenix</b>	<b>6</b> 	
<b>7</b> <b>Charlene Joyner</b> <b>Katrina Meadows</b> <b>M/M Dave Adams '84</b>	<b>8</b> <b>Nicholas Canale</b> <b>Angela Facemire</b> <b>Susan Facemire</b> 8:00 Open Gym Volleyball age 14+ 	<b>9</b> <b>Nate Duncan</b> MCC Basketball League	<b>10</b> <b>Mary Kirkendall</b> 6:30 TRACK-Sr. Hi & College Age, 2XL-6th-8th grade 7:00 Adult Bible Study Life Preservers	<b>11</b> <b>Vi Dickerhoof</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Tyler Chappell</b> 6:30 Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall in use by Pre-school	<b>13</b> <b>Timm Evans</b> 11:30-2:00 Fellowship Hall in use by the Adams/Grant Families	
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 8:00 Open Gym Volleyball age 14+	<b>16</b> MCC Basketball League	<b>17</b> <b>Meghan Ford</b> 6:30 TRACK-Sr. Hi & College Age, 2XL-6th-8th grade—Christmas Party \$5 gift exchange 7:00 Adult Bible Study Life Preservers	<b>18</b>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">           Fellowship Hall in use by Pre-School for breakfast with Santa         </div>	<b>19</b> <b>Randy Duncan</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Roger Chappell</b>	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Chrissy Simon</b> 8:00 Open Gym Volleyball age 14+	<b>23</b> MCC Basketball League 	<b>24</b> <b>Stephen Lewis</b>  7:00 MCC Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 	<b>25</b> <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">           Church Office closed         </div>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>M/M Jim Baston '97</b>	
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:00 Open Gym Volleyball age 14+	<b>30</b> <b>Kathy Ayres</b> Jr/Sr High New Year's Eve Eve All Night Party—Check with Sponsors for details	<b>31</b> <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b> <b>Brandon Gardner</b> <b>Britani Gardner</b> 8:00 All Church New Year's Eve Party at Perfect Balance				



What would you do if this Christmas was the “last” Christmas? I know you’re asking, “What do you mean, the “last” Christmas”? There are many things that could be meant by that question. For example:

Your own last Christmas on earth

The last Christmas you could spend with a loved one

The last Christmas you would be in a certain area with

friends

The last Christmas openly permitted by law

The last Christmas before Christ returns

The truth of the matter is that it **could** be the last Christmas—in the sense of any one of these. We are not promised tomorrow, nor are our families or loved ones. We don’t know if the future may call us to be moved to another area within the next year. With the rise of evil and persecution, we don’t even know if we’ll be able to *legally* utter the words, “Merry Christmas” much longer. And of course, although we know Christ is coming back, we don’t know when. So yes, this could very well be the “last” Christmas.

So again I ask, “What would you do if this Christmas was the ‘last’ Christmas? If you knew for a fact that you wouldn’t be around next Christmas, I’m sure you’d tried to enjoy to the fullest the special emphasis of the gift of the Christ child, and what that gift holds for you. If you knew that any of your loved ones was not going to be around next Christmas, I know you’d want to savor every moment of this time with him or her.

If you were aware that a move was in store for you in the coming months, perhaps you’d try to share as much of this season with your friends whom you might not be able to see often, if ever again, in this life. And if you knew that Christmas would be outlawed next year, I think you’d probably try to make the true meaning of Christmas stand out to the world this year.

If you knew that Christ would return before next Christmas, however, I think perhaps you’d do a little bit more. In fact, I think you’d probably do all of the above. You’d want to celebrate this time of year as fully as possible, and share with family and loved ones the true meaning of Christmas, so that all those you love so dear are truly ready for His appearing.

Oh, and you’d probably tell those who wish to outlaw Christmas, “Go ahead...those who know it’s true meaning won’t be around to worry about that foolishness.”

It is my most heartfelt prayer that each of you will enjoy a blessed Christmas and make it the very best for you, your family, and your loved ones. And please, share it with the world as much as you can...they need to know God’s truth.

Merry Christmas!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Fisher".

