

Welcome to Powell United Methodist Church!

If you are new to the church, we invite you to visit the Welcome Center.

Our response to God reflects the truth that Christ is alive in us and is always relevant, inclusive, creative, and generous.

Special Announcements

Our Advent Banners are now in the Sanctuary, representing different aspects of the Christmas story and the foreshadowing of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. The banners are the work of several members of our congregation. An informational brochure of the full story of our Advent banners is at the Welcome desk. May they draw us closer to God in this season of waiting.

Update on Yearly Mission Project - Watoto Read. Our yearly mission project to build classrooms for the education efforts among refugee children in Chad, Africa has been wonderfully successful. Our initial goal for the year was \$10,000, enough to build 1 classroom. We quickly met that total and moved our goal to \$20,000. We are pleased to announce that we have surpassed the new goal and our project total stands at just over \$20,343. Thank you to all who have contributed, and we know God will bless the work being done in Chad on behalf of some of the world's most challenged people.

Serving

Being the hands, feet and heart of Christ

Serve with Family Promise, Dec.16-23. Help support Delaware County families who are currently without homes. In addition to providing meals and spending the night as a host, families, couples and individuals are needed to spend a few hours on Saturday and Sunday at the facility, 39 N. Washington Street, Delaware. Your support will help families achieve lasting independence. To serve, contact Betsy Effinger, beetles121@gmail.com.

Christmas Card Drop for Persons in Prison. Drop by the table in the Main Hall, Tuesday, Dec. 11, anytime between 5:30-8:30pm to share hope, love and joy with someone who is incarcerated. For many, it will be the only piece of mail received all year. Christmas cards, addresses, stamps and ideas for things to say will be available. This expression of God's tenderness is provided through All in Community. For more information contact sandyhuber@powellumc.org.

Knowing

Learning about faith and discipleship

***Tuesday Night Woman's Bible Study**, begins Jan. 8, 6:30-8pm. Walk through the book of Leviticus with an awesome group of ladies, reading, learning and being in fellowship in God's Word. The only book needed is a Bible. Not sure Leviticus sounds fun? It is with the right group of ladies! It is recommended to read Genesis & Exodus before class begins. The facilitator is Rebecca Brownlee, rebeccabrownlee@powellumc.org.

Music and Worship Arts

Jody Hepp, jodyhepp@powellumc.org

Children's Music: **Cherub choir** (age 3-kindergarten), no rehearsal today.
Children's choir (grades 1-5), meets 10:35am in the choir room.
Joyful Ringers (grades 3-5), no rehearsal today.

Youth Music: **Glorybells** (6th-8th grade), no rehearsal today.
Alleluia Bells (9th-12th grade), no rehearsal today.

Do you have a musical gift or talent you could share? There are many opportunities for special music on Sundays. Contact Jody Hepp, jodyhepp@powellumc.org for more information.

* Childcare or Sunday School scheduled.
Childcare is available for other adult ministries.
Contact Kim La Rue at kimlarue@powellumc.org

Telling

Sharing our stories of God's activity in our lives

Ladies Night Christmas Party, Thursday, Dec. 13, 7pm. You are invited for an evening of fellowship and Christmas celebration. Bring 5 of the same, unwrapped gifts (\$5-10) & either a dessert (last name A-M) or an appetizer (N-Z) to share. RSVP to StaciHood@powellumc.org.

***Sign Up for the Next New Member Series.** If you would like to learn more about Powell UMC and how you can better respond to the reality of God by taking steps on the pathways of knowing, serving, giving, and telling, come to a three-session series on these Sundays: Jan. 27 (6:30-8pm), Feb. 10 (6:30-8pm) and Feb. 17 (6-8pm). Childcare will be available. Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact kimlarue@powellumc.org.

Finding God in Best Sellers group meets at 9:30am at Scramblers, 3980 Presidential Pkwy, Powell. The book for Jan. 2 is *The Good Pilot*, by Alexander McCall Smith; the book for Feb. 6 is *Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell*, by Robert Dugoni. Those who enjoy reading are invited to join this small group. For information, contact Joy Waldron at 614-975-8626 or jkw71550@columbus.rr.com.

Upper Room Devotion groups meet Mondays, 8:45-9:45am, facilitated by Pat Parren, patparren@yahoo.com, or 11:30am-12:45pm, facilitated by Bev Avers, bavers@insight.rr.com. Discussions each week will be based on the previous Wednesday's devotional in the *Upper Room* devotional book.

Delaware County Library Book Mobile will be in the east church parking lot on Thursday, Dec. 13 from 10:45am-11:45am. All are invited to visit during this time to borrow some books. Contact Linda Franz, DirectorPUMCPreschool@gmail.com, for more information.

Giving

God's generosity inspiring our own

Spirit-Filled Christmas Giving will take place today. This year the event will feature Equal Exchange items from the Peace & Justice team, Fair Trade products from Global Gifts, and promise jewelry from H.U.T. Outreach. The Peace & Justice team encourages you to stop by the tables to find a gift for yourself or someone you care about. Your purchase of these items will fulfill the Spirit of Christmas through the additional benefit of supporting small scale farmers and artisans.

Altar Flowers adorn the altar and help make each Sunday unique and special. If you would like to give flowers in honor or memory of someone special in 2019, sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office, 614-847-3703. The flowers are yours to take following the 11am worship service. Each arrangement is \$45 and it provided by Fireside Floral & Gifts.

Bethlehem on Broad Food Boxes are available at the display in the Main Hall. For those not familiar with this program, various churches in the Franklin County area collect food boxes to be distributed at Broad Street UMC's Bethlehem on Broad Program. It is a complete holiday experience for over 1200 less fortunate families in the area. The filled boxes are to be returned to the church by THIS Thursday, Dec. 13. Contact Terry DeWitt, 614-581-3012.

Food Pantry Items of the Month: Diapers (medium & large). Purchase some extra items when you shop, and drop them - along with any other items of your choice - in the church's mission carts. Your donations make a big difference for Delaware County families and individuals who visit People In Need's choice food pantry.

The Morning Glory Candy Sale continues today in the Main Hall. All proceeds go to Patches of Light, an organization that offers financial support to families of seriously ill children.

Giving App "GivePlus" is a free giving app that makes giving easy. Download the app in Apple store or Google play, put the name of our church in the search box, and click on it. You can create an account for recurring donations or simply give to a fund of your choice when it pops up. With questions, contact Debbie Wenner, office@powellumc.org.

Powell Community Blood Drive, Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1-7pm in the Fellowship Hall. One pint of blood can save three lives and the American Red Cross needs your help. To schedule an appointment, call Mary Carlton at 614-971-0303 or the Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767.

Children's Ministries (Infant-5th grade)

Children's Ministries Director, rebeccabrownlee@powellumc.org

Family Worship Today! Children are invited to join their families in worship today. This is a great time to experience worship together as a family, hear the scripture readings, sing the songs and listen to the sermon. Then go home and talk about all the things you experienced in worship together as a family! Children's Bulletin Bags are available to help engage children in the service. The nursery will be open for infants and toddlers up to age 5 (not in kindergarten) from 8:15am to 12:00pm. The Quiet Room is also available at the back of the Sanctuary.

"A Casual Christmas," is TODAY! This is a wonderful, relaxed family evening. Come as you are. ALL are invited to this wonderful event!

- 4:30-5:15pm: In the Sanctuary, come and enjoy the bells perform seasonal Christmas favorites
- 5:15-6:30pm: In the Fellowship Hall, come as a family to enjoy Christmas crafts, snacks and the Cherub Choir and Youth Praise Group singing Christmas carols

Children's Caroling, Dec. 16, 1:30pm at Powell Senior Living Center. Come and sing Christmas Carols with the residents and then frost, decorate and eat Christmas cookies. This is a wonderful way to spread some Christmas cheer to others. All are invited.

Jesus' Birthday Cake, Friday, Dec. 21, 6-8pm. Help cut, wrap and package Jesus' birthday cake to be handed out after the 2pm and 4pm services on Christmas Eve. Adults will work in the kitchen while children watch Christmas movies in the nursery.

Family Christmas Eve Services, Dec. 24 at 2pm & 4pm. Children retell the story of Jesus' birth in reading scripture, ringing bells, singing and dressing up as the Nativity Scene Animals. Sign up online (scripture reading parts are limited). All are invited to participate. One Rehearsal to pick up your costume and run through scripture readings, Dec. 23. More information online.

Youth Ministries (6th-12th grades)

Youth Ministries Director, hannahewald@powellumc.org

Youth Sunday School meets today at 9:30am, high school in room 101N and middle school in room 102N.

G.Y.M. (God's Young Men) Bible Study, open to all boys 6th-12th grade. Meets Tuesday, Dec. 11, 6:30pm and will meet every second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Matt Utt and Drew Thiele are facilitating.

"Girls of Grace" Bible Study is open to all girls 6th-12th grade. Meets Tuesday, Dec. 11, 6:30pm and will meet every second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Hannah is facilitating.

Youth Christmas Party is Dec. 16 from 12:30-2pm. We will celebrate Christmas together in Fellowship Hall with fellowship, food, games and movies! Please RSVP to Hannah.

Kalahari registration is open. Registration forms can be found on the youth table in the Main Hall. Kalahari is Jan. 4-6, 2019. Contact Hannah with any questions.

Caring Ministries

Are You Experiencing the Holidays Blues? The joy of the holidays can turn into a time of painful loneliness and emptiness for those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time. But help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and support you through the holidays and as long as your need persists. If you or someone you know is hurting, let us know, stephenministry@powellumc.org.

All God's Children is a resource for parents, grandparents, former spouses and other close relatives of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. For more information, contact Marty Traver, courtdoc@aol.com or 614-987-5015.

Are you looking for a way to serve your community? The Panera Project allows you to work a couple of hours on a Friday night or Saturday morning. You can pick up bread at the Sawmill Panera and wrap it in our church kitchen. Or you can pick up the bread from our kitchen and deliver it to the Common Ground Free Store in Delaware. Each week brings a new opportunity to serve. Contact kimlarue@powellumc.org to sign up today.