

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Digital Edition

Intergenerational Angel Wings Missions

Saturday, February 10, 12:00-3:00 PM

Winter Youth Retreat

February 16-18

Fish Fry Dinners

Fridays, February 16 - March 29, 4:00-7:00 PM

Worship

Saturday at 5:00 PM & Sunday at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Live streamed at 9:00 on pendletonchurch.org

Jr. Church (3 years - 6th grade) offered at 9:00 AM



Website

pendletonchurch.org



Phone

716-625-8306



Facebook

[pendletoncenterumc](https://facebook.com/pendletoncenterumc)



Email

Pastoral Emergencies

After office hours

716-291-7529



Instagram

[@pendletoncenterumc](https://instagram.com/pendletoncenterumc)

Inside the Newsletter:

Missions

Page 2

Genesis Ministries

Page 3

Church News

Page 3

Children & Youth

Pages 4 & 5

Our Church Family

Page 6

Fish Fry Dinners

Insert



Facebook

PendletonCenterUMC



Instagram

@ PendletonCenterUMC



Website

pendletonchurch.org



The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe.

John 19:35

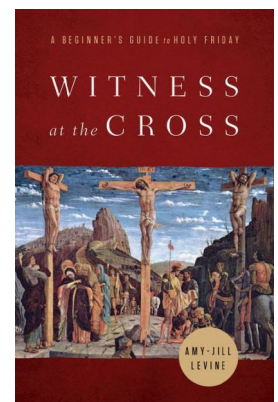
When we come home, go to any type of gathering, or even run into someone unexpectedly, we try to catch up with people. Catching up usually means sharing stories of what we've been through recently. Maybe it's a conversation about our day. Perhaps it's that funny thing your dog did since the last time you saw this friend. As humans, we seem hard-wired to share what we experience with us. Telling our stories connects us with others. We get to know people through their stories, and they understand us.

It's February, and we're heading into the season of Lent. This holy time helps us reflect on the life, crucifixion, and resurrection of Christ. During Lent, we strengthen our connection to God in a variety of ways. Many of us give something up or try something new that helps us live and love more like Jesus. This month, we have an odd overlap. Both Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fall on the same day. Juxtaposing this time of solemnity and sacrifice with a time we usually focus on love and indulgence feels really weird.

That may be the critical lesson for us this year. Our Lenten Bible study and sermon series are based on a book called *Witness at the Cross* by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. What do we bear witness to? Asked differently, if someone asked you why the cross is necessary, what would you say? Words don't seem to adequately capture what happens in Jesus' crucifixion. It's horrifying to see. It's awful to think about. It's tragic for those closest to Him. Yet because of the cross, we know salvation and victory. We see the love of God pushed to the extreme but never broken.

Many people in our lives don't understand the difference that Jesus makes, and His terrible death makes Him harder to comprehend. This is why it's critical that the people of Jesus know our story. It should be a story that we are comfortable sharing. That's the goal of our journey together this Lent. While we may not have been physical witnesses at the cross of Christ, we are definitely witnesses to the power of the cross as well as the meaning of Jesus' life and death. As we see the cross through the eyes of some of the people who saw it happen, let's strengthen our personal witness about who Christ is and what He means to the world. We are witnesses. Witnesses testify to what they have seen and what they know. Share your story.

Pastor Scott



Our annual Lenten Fish Fry dinners are starting soon! See the insert in the newsletter for more information.



Thursday Night Dinner Update!

We are still meeting the needs of all the folks in the Niagara Falls area who want or need a good, hot meal on Thursday nights! We are so blessed to be able to serve God by serving the people he sends us! We can use some help, and here's how you can get involved.

We are always in need of some basic supplies to help produce these meals: boneless chicken (thighs or breast), eggs, chocolate or yellow cake mixes, brownie mixes, boxes of instant rice, and butter. These items are continually being used, and with the average attendance of the dinners being 250 weekly, we need a good quantity to complete our meals.

If you're able to contribute financially, we purchase items in bulk to make the most out of what we have. We also have to use state approved take-out containers that are much more expensive, which certainly makes our costs greater. We also see the need being greater with many new folks coming by to pick up a dinner during these difficult economic times.

We invite anyone to come out on Thursdays to help prepare, serve, or clean up! It's a nice time of fellowship and "giving back." Please prayerfully consider the importance of this ministry, its impact on the community we're serving, and how you could help!

Please contact [DJ Mahar](#) for more information!

Niagara Falls Clothes Closet!

It caught us by surprise! This winter was going along just fine, not much more than a flurry, and the temperatures were not bad. But winter finally arrived, and we found many of our guests who attend the Thursday Night Dinner are in need of outerwear for the cold days to come. **We have been collecting coats, gloves, hats, and other articles to help protect folks from the cold during January, and this will continue through February.** There will be a collection area in Mission Central outside the sanctuary and another box in the fellowship hall for you to deposit any donations you may have. Help us be a blessing to others in need!

DJ Mahar



Intergenerational Angel Wings

Saturday, February 10, 12:00-3:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

Have you ever considered what life might be like, not knowing where you might sleep, eat, or work? I don't want to consider this thought! It's much too hard to think about emotionally.

"Walk a mile in my shoes." During our February meeting, we will make pillowcase carrying bags and fill them with personal care items. A speaker will share the needs of a person who lives a migrant life.

Please join us! We ask for a suggested donation of \$6 per family or \$3 per person.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to [Ms. Becky](#).

Save Your Christmas Cards

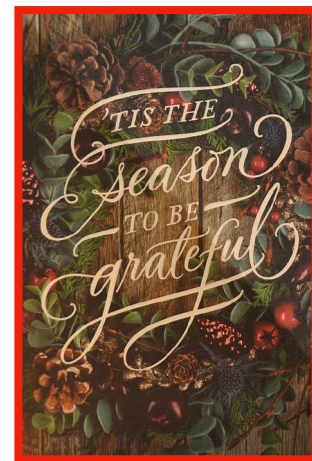
Just a reminder to save the fronts of your old Christmas cards and drop them off in Mission Central at church!

Your old cards can be made into ornaments/cards for military troops.

This past October, we sent over 900 cards from the Niagara Falls Air Base. These cards arrived in time for the holidays to troops who weren't able to be home with their families for Christmas. Please keep these men and women in your prayers as they serve our country all around the world.

Thank you for making a difference.

Sue Wilson



Feeding Hope

January Feeding Hope was an exciting time! The meal was provided, prepared, and served by our Hot Chocolate with God & S'mores Leaders. The people we fed were glad to see so many young people. They also came with a lot of extra treats. That, too, was enjoyed! That's always popular! A meal was also dropped off at Lockport CARES for their dinner.

Our next meal is Wednesday, February 21. We could use donations of penne pasta, oil, and brownie mix. If you would like to help out, we meet at 3:00 PM to prep and package, and we leave the church at 6:30 to go downtown Buffalo to serve.

Sandy Houck





GENESIS Preschool



It's time to sign up for 2024-2025 Genesis Preschool classes! Registration will be open to members of our church and current preschool families on February 13. On March 1, registration will be open to the community.

Preschool classes available are:

- 3 year olds, two days a week, morning or afternoon
- 4 year olds, three days a week, morning
- 4 year olds, five days a week, morning
- Genesis Afternoon Adventure is available for 4 year olds, three days a week in the afternoon.

Space is limited, and programs fill up quickly. Be sure to sign your child up now for the class & program of your choice. We have a great staff and curriculum that includes kindergarten readiness skills, basic Christian concepts, music, arts and crafts, and much more.

GENESIS Mom's Morning Out

Registration for this program for the fall of 2024 will begin in May. If you are interested in receiving registration materials for this program, please contact Heather Miner in the office.



If you would like information about our Preschool, Afternoon Adventure, or Mom's Morning Out programs, please call Heather Miner in the office or visit pendletonchurch.org.

CHURCH NEWS

Women's Book Club

Wednesday, February 21, 6p, at the Country Cottage at Beach Ridge & Townline Rd

Join us for dinner and a discussion about this month's book, *Light on Snow* by Anita Shreve. If you want to join the book club or any questions, let [Yvonne Bova](#) know. All women are welcome!

have



What a great team working the Bills game on December 31!
Thank you all for helping to raise money for missions!

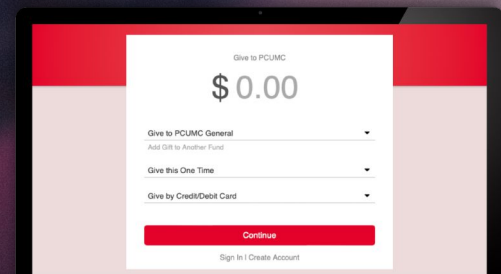
If you have the ability to help financially, it will give us the ability to continue to engage in ministry, provide for our people, take care of our employees, and care for people in need.

Electronic Giving - A Simple, Generous Choice

pendletonchurch.org/give

For more info:

Email theoffice@pcumc.org or
call 716-625-8306



The Children and Youth Ministries have had an amazing start to the new year! As we approach February, we look forward to continuing our journey within these ministries. We are excited to continue engaging your children, youth, and family to be active disciples and followers of Christ and to continue leading them in their faith in God this new year!

Each month, there are endless opportunities to learn, be together, grow in your walk with Jesus, and engage in activities, lessons, small groups, games, mission projects, and more!

God is working within each of these programs, and he has been incredibly faithful and loving. We are excited to see what else he has in store for us in the coming months.

Make sure to check out all of our children and youth ministries sections down below to see what we have been up to, what our programs will be doing throughout February, and what some of our future plans will be.

We hope you join us on this journey as we grow in our faith together as the body of Christ.

God bless,
Adrienne Demmin

In January, we started a new series called "Roar into 2024: Being Bold in Our Faith." This series



brought to life the stories of bravery that are rooted in God's Love. Each week's lesson deepened the kid's understanding of the Bible and helped them to experience a personal relationship with Jesus.

Our big idea for the month was: Because Jesus Loves Me, I can be Fearless.

Our memory verse for the month was 1 Corinthians 16:13: "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."

Our lessons and Bible stories for each week were:
Week 1: Esther - Brave Enough to Speak Out
Week 2: Paul - Bold Proclaimer of the Gospel
Week 3: Ehud - The Unexpected Hero
Week 4: Stephen - Fearless in the Face of Persecution

In February, we will be starting a new series about the Love of God and look forward to celebrating Valentine's Day together at our party!



Jr. Church (9 AM service only) is a fun, interactive, and safe place where kids (3 years - 6th grade) can worship God and engage in their very own relationship with Him. Children can be dropped off in the Ark before worship and will return to service after communion.

Easter Celebration AND EGG HUNT

Save the date - Saturday, March 23

Join us for our Family Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt - discover the true meaning of Easter, and share with our community.

Many volunteers are needed before, during, and after this incredible event!

Before

Stuffing eggs and donating items needed: candy, prizes, baked goods, hot dogs, rolls, chips (signup sheets coming soon)

During

Craft helper, storyteller, face painter, game helper, assist with parking, helping with hot dog sale, handing out prizes

After

Takedown and cleanup

Here are ways you can help right now...

- ▶ Donate individually wrapped candy & toys that fit inside a plastic egg
- ▶ Take home a bag of eggs to stuff with candy & toys (we will need to stuff over 4,000 eggs!)
- ▶ Donate prizes for children

Watch for the display in the back of the Sanctuary.

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact me.

Adrienne Demmin



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Saturday, February 10, 4:00-9:00 PM, 1 y.o. - 6th grade

The Hot Chocolate with God and S'mores leaders will hold a babysitting fundraiser for your children!

Bring your kids to church for a fun-filled night of activities and crafts, games, gym time, dancing, outside fun (weather permitting), and a movie!

You can bring your child(ren) anytime between 4:00-9:00 PM. The cost is \$5.00 per child/per hour. Please feed your child(ren) before coming; only snacks and drinks will be provided.

Space is limited! Pre-registration is required to attend.

Please contact Adrienne Demmin by Thursday, February 8, for registration and to let me know how many children you would like to register along with their ages, what times you plan on bringing them and picking them up, or with any questions you might have.



Youth Group is a great place for teenagers in 7th-12th grade to join together in fellowship, worship, small groups, discussions, lessons, games, activities, and a whole lot of fun!

It is a perfect way to start your week off and to take some time away from the stress and worldly things, and just be around a community of friends and people who care about you and have the same values that you do.

We will meet this month on Sunday 2/4, 6:00-8:30 PM, and have our Youth Retreat February 16-18.

WINTER RETREAT

SAVE THE DATE - February 16-18

Our annual Youth Retreat is coming soon, and our team has been working hard to plan an incredible weekend together. We are so excited for an amazing, fun-filled weekend at Camp Findley! We'll have a weekend packed with fellowship, games, and snow tubing, while we learn about God and grow in our relationship with Him and others.

Sign up today by visiting pendletonchurch.org/youth and for more information. The retreat will cost \$140 per person. This cost will cover food, lodging, and snow tubing. Your signed permission slip and payment will be due by Sunday, February 11.

There are also youth who would like to go on this year's retreat, but may not be able to attend due to the expense. We are looking for sponsors to help with their cost. You can give a full scholarship or any amount given will be gratefully accepted and appreciated.

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH GOD & S'MORES

Friday, 2/2, 6:00-8:30 PM - PS-3rd grade

Friday, 2/9, 6:00-9:00 PM - 4-7th grade

Friday, 2/23, 6:00-8:30 PM - PS-3rd grade girls

Friday, 3/1, 6:00-9:00 PM - PS-3rd grade boys

In January, the older kids started a new series called Epic Journeys. In this series, we will learn that when we truly understand who God is, we can trust His promises and take an epic journey of faith when He calls us to do something. (See our journey to the right.)

Our younger kids have been learning about different characters from the Old Testament. Last month we took a look at Jacob and Joseph. This month we will be diving into the life of Moses!

Abraham's Journey of Faith

During the first week, we talked about Abraham and his journey of faith. We discovered the ways that Abraham stepped out in faith to do what God asked him to do - not knowing what might happen - learning that Abraham trusted God because God always keeps His promises and does what He says.

The kids also worked together in their small groups to plan out their own epic journeys. They had to imagine that they were going on a journey for a whole month. They needed to decide their route, where they would be going, and what they would do along the way and at each of their stops, making sure to include God in their journey. Once they decided, they created a poster showing their journey and presented it to the rest of the groups.

We sent them home with a challenge to learn more about God on their own with regular bible readings at home.

A Journey About Attitude

The second week we talked about how God cares about our attitude and the state of our heart. We learned this by reading and following the 10 spies' journey in the Bible. We learned that our attitudes can have a huge impact on not only ourselves but others as well and that God wants us to guard our hearts and attitudes and always remember His Faithfulness.

A Journey of Obedience

Our final lesson in February will look at how Philip went on a journey of obedience. Make sure to come back next month to see what they learned and what we did!



When we moved to Pendleton in 2022, we were looking for a program that would help our children meet new people and have fun. We certainly found that through the youth programming at Pendleton Center United Methodist Church. Whether it is Hot Chocolate with God or the PCUMC Youth Group, every experience that our children have had has been exceptional. We love how they get excited learning about God's love, and they have the opportunity to mirror those teachings of kindness and the importance of helping those less fortunate. Our children look forward to attending these programs, and we know that they are having a positive effect on their lives. Thank you to the leaders and countless volunteers that make these programs possible. Your efforts are so appreciated by the parents of the children who attend, and we can see your impact as our children continue to grow in their love of God.

Thank you!

Tim and Cathie Synor

Thankful MOMENT

Nathan: I really like the youth programs at Pendleton United Methodist Church. I am a leader in the Pre-K - 3rd grade Hot Chocolate with God (HCWG) program and am also part of the PCUMC Youth Group. I like these programs because I get to be a leader and teach others about God.

I also enjoy spending time with friends and participating in activities like helping to feed those that are homeless and hungry. You also get to do fun activities like creating your own games out of washing machines. And much more. That is why I like going to the Pendleton United Methodist Church Youth Programs.

Caitlyn: I love going to Hot Chocolate With God. I love going because I get to see my friends and learn about God. The program is amazing, and I have learned so much. I tell all my friends at school and in the neighborhood that they should go too, because it is so fun. I also really liked helping at the bake sale during the Friday Fish Fry.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

February Birthdays

2 - Zachary Bancroft
Brianna Becker
Brent Paxton
3 - Kristi Liddell
Jill Roberts
4 - Jackie Albert
Bea Mattina
5 - Miguel Ubiles
6 - Ann Perrington
Tyler Slaght
7 - Lynne Reimer
Alec Towne
8 - Sydney Finiki
Jean McMorris
June Oppee
9 - Cody Zimmerman
11 - Eric Knuutila
12 - Mike Clifford
Erin DeVantier
David Korzak
Sue Matheis

13 - Ed Koziol
Hannah McFarlane
Everly Stowe
Riley Wagner
15 - Todd Fisher
Paige Keelty
Anne Santor
16 - Christa Eisenhardt
Jan Inwards
17 - Rosie Heinemann
Abby Johnson
Sarah Kinmartin
Tyler Valentine
Mackenzie Yerdon
19 - Jesse King
Maryellen Schutz
Addison Stowe
Anita Walter
20 - Jim Gondek
Alyssa Phillips
21 - Cory Margarucci

22 - Lynn Becker
Andrew Ludwig
23 - Liam Holmer
24 - Kate Bobsein
Dorothy Getty
Sharon Haendiges
Mary Rico
Dave Stout
25 - Louie Bobsein
Adrienne Demmin
Olivia Mahar
Allyson Morris
Debbie Terranova
26 - Tammy Heim
Jan Hodge
Frank Klawitter
27 - Carolyn Paterson
28 - Tom Crosby
Kaydon Johnson
29 - Judy Schultz

February Anniversaries

7 - Douglas & Janet Gillon - '14
14 - Robert & Susan Walck - '87
17 - Donald & Bonnie Weber - '95
18 - Richard & Debbie Stern - '89
Dave & Leslie Wagner - '67

Condolences

*We offer prayers for the friends and families
who have lost loved ones over the past month:*

Jerryl Kinley Sister of Joe Mattina



7 Fridays during Lent February 16 through Good Friday, March 29

This unique ministry allows us to reach out to our community with love and caring in so many Spirit-filled ways. We prepare and serve wonderful meals, we offer friendship, and we are a point of connection for those seeking more love and meaning in their lives.

This ministry is huge! And the 100 or so people who make it happen get the satisfaction of making God happy and bringing joy to others. What a blessing it is!

So, if you're not yet involved or want to help more, add your name to the sign-up sheets, call the office (716-625-8306), or let Pastor Scott or Louie Bobsein know. Add a note on the sheets or tell us if you're not sure what to do. We can make adjustments and help make it easier for you to join with others and get involved.

What ways can you help?

It's the same as making a meal at home, just a lot bigger and more stretched out. There are ways to help all week long and at different times of day. Whatever you can do will help.

Maybe you can work in one of these areas, whatever weeks you're available?

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Make Salads | Dining Hall Setup | Wait on Tables | Bake Pies | Take Inventory |
| Cook Meals | Dining Hall Cleanup | Wash Dishes | Answer Phones | Cut Pies |
| Kitchen setup | Dish Room Cleanup | Fill Orders | Kitchen Cleanup | Kitchen Cleanup |
| Waitstaff Setup | Potatoes | Sauces/Eggs | Sunday Extras | Leftovers Cleanup |

This ministry cannot happen without full support from all of you.

God bless you, and thank you all for all you do as we look forward to another year with our Fellowship Hall filled with smiling people!

Thank you,
Louie



Fish Fry Dinners

Pendleton Center United Methodist Church
6864 Campbell Blvd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Fridays 4:00-7:00 PM
Feb. 16 - Mar. 29, 2024



Fish Dinners

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Regular | \$14 |
| Large (50% larger) | \$17 |
| Half Portion | \$8 |
| Baked Fish (Reg. or Cajun) | \$15 |

Shrimp or Chicken Tender Dinners

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Regular | \$12 |
| Half Portion | \$7 |

Sampler Platter – Pick 2

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Fish, Shrimp, Chicken | \$15 |
|-----------------------|------|

Sampler Platter – All 3

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Fish, Shrimp, and Chicken | \$17 |
|---------------------------|------|

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Dessert | \$3 |
|----------------|------------|

Dinners include

French fries or potato salad,
applesauce or coleslaw, and a roll.
Beverage provided with dine in meals only.

For takeouts, phone 716-625-8306

(Feel free to call in orders Fri. after 9 AM!)

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| FEBRUARY 2024 | | | | 1 1p - Loyal Ladies Bible Study | 2 6p - HCWG/S'mores (PS-3rd grade) | 3 |
| 4 6p - Youth Group | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 1p - Loyal Ladies Bible Study | 9 6p - HCWG/S'mores (4-7th grade) | 10 12p - Intergenerational Angel Wings 4p - Parents' Night Out |
| 11 Mission Moment: "Souper" Bowl Sunday / Pendleton Food Pantry | 12 6p - Easter Choir Rehearsal 7p - Trustee Meeting | 13 7p - Leadership Team Meeting | 14 March Newsletter Deadline | 15 1p - Loyal Ladies Bible Study | 16 Youth Retreat 4-7p - Fish Fry | 17 Youth Retreat 9a - Men's Breakfast |
| 18 Youth Retreat | 19 6p - Easter Choir Rehearsal | 20 10a - Newsletter Assembly 7p - Finance Team Meeting | 21 3p - Feeding Hope 6p - Women's Book Club | 22 1p - Loyal Ladies Bible Study | 23 4-7p - Fish Fry 6p - HCWG/S'mores (PS-3rd grade girls) | 24 |
| 25 Mission Moment: FUMC Thursday Night Dinner | 26 6p - Easter Choir Rehearsal | 27 | 28 | 29 1p - Loyal Ladies Bible Study | 1 4-7p - Fish Fry 6p - HCWG/S'mores (PS-3rd grade boys) | 2 |

Weekly Schedule

For detailed info, check out the rest of the newsletter, visit pendletonchurch.org/calendar, or call the office at 716-625-8306.

Sundays

9:00 AM - Worship
 - Jr. Church - 3 yrs.-6th grade
 - Nursery Care - 0-2 yrs.
 10:00 AM - Sunday Morning Bible Study
 11:00 AM - Worship

Mondays

10:00 AM - Niagara County Senior Lunch
 5:30 PM - Girl Scouts
 7:00 PM - Monday Night Small Group

Tuesdays

1:00 PM - Watercolor Class

Wednesdays

6:00 PM - Pendletones
 7:00 PM - Men of Hymn

Thursdays

5:00 PM - Community Dinner at First UMC
 7:00 PM - Boy Scouts

Saturdays

10:00 AM - Watercolor Class
 5:00 PM - Worship