



Owl Creek Baptist Church

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OUR VISION: To be a continuing light in the world's darkness, inspiring people to love God and to love others.

Fourth Quarter • Issue 11 • December 13, 2020

News and Announcements

❖ **The Christmas Adopt a Family** items are due this week. If you would still like to participate, please call Kristi at 740-504-4054.

❖ **Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering** will be received during the month of December.

"During these times, supporting RMMO is an opportunity to highlight the self-less contributions retired ministers and missionaries have made in the community."

~ABC USA



Donate any Sunday during the month of December using the envelopes available at Owl Creek or online at www.abc-usa.org/RMMO.

❖ **The Utica Community Bloodmobile** is coming up on December 17th

at the Utica Church of Christ. Many members of the Owl Creek family have served for years to help make these drives a success. Alice Meadows helps lead the effort by coordinating with the American Red Cross. Jerry and Mary Skeen have both been donors and volunteers for years as well. Mary is approaching the milestone of 25 gallons donated! They will miss the blood drive this time around due to Covid 19. Although



Mary and Jerry Skeen

they are improving, please keep Jerry, Mary and their family in your prayers. If you are interested in helping with this important community mission by volunteering or donating, please contact Alice Meadows.

Prayer Focus of the Week

'I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.'

1 Timothy 2:1

As a new feature of the newsletter, we will be introducing a prayer focus of the week. Most often, we will focus on a person or family that we can lift in special prayer for the week. This week, as they continue recover from illness, please lift **Jerry and Mary Skeen and their family** in your thoughts and prayers.

Let us lift up in prayer...



Pray for families and communities

affected by the corona virus pandemic as it is ongoing.

Mary and Jerry Skeen for illness.

Jerry is currently hospitalized while Mary remains home.

Walter Bruah minister of

Fredonia Baptist Church for illness.

The family of Rev. Dave Fowls

minister of Perry Chapel Church. Rev. Fowls passed away from complications of Coronavirus. this week.

Kathy Hepner recovering from illness.

Our Shut-ins as they are even more challenged during these times. Please remember to call or send cards or letters to remind them we are thinking of them.

**Patty and Don Cornelius
Martha Robey
Phyllis Rockwell**

Sermon Notes

Pastor JD is continuing the Call to Christmas Series in this Advent season.

'But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.

Luke 1:30-33

"This is in essence the gospel, humans cannot produce their own salvation, but God has chosen to accomplish it through Christ."

Join us this week as he shares, "Joseph: A Call to Protect" with passages from the gospel of Matthew.

Coming Events

❖ Owl Creek will be holding a Christmas Eve service this year. Covid precautions will be observed during that evening. We ask that everyone wear face coverings and follow social distancing guidelines. A limited number of hearing devices will be available as well for those that wish to attend by remaining in their cars or the lobby.

As part of our Christmas Eve tradition, the Executive Board has decided that this year's special collection during the Christmas Eve service will be for Food For the Hungry in Knox County.



FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY- WORKING TOGETHER TO CARE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

Food for the Hungry was started in 1982. The funds raised by Food for the Hungry are distributed to local agencies that work first hand with those in need in our community. Their goal this year is \$240,000. Just like everything in 2020, the fundraising efforts of Food for the Hungry have had to adjust and adapt. We hope to help them reach their goal during these extraordinary times when the need is so high!

All donations to our offering on Christmas Eve will be directed to this effort. If you would like to donate, but will not be in attendance on Christmas Eve you can write a check and make a note in the memo that it is for Food for the Hungry (FFTH) anytime the next two weeks.

For more information, check out their website at foodforthehungrycares.org or their social media on Facebook @foodforthehungryknoxcounty or Instagram or twitter @ffthcares.

Stay tuned for more information in the next week's newsletter to learn more about this amazing Knox County effort!



In our Kids Own Worship, the children are learning about the Christmas Story! They sang fun songs this week, like Joy to the World! and Shalom (which they have learned means Peace). Last week they learned about how John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus and how we should prepare our hearts for Jesus as well. They also took some time to prepare their worship area for Christmas by decorating the tree!

Kids Own Worship welcomes all children, Pre-K to 6th grade, during the adult worship time.

