

On the Square, Steeped in Prayer!

Prayer List: Tom Brainard, John Buchanan, Terry Castilyn, Francisco Cetela, Pat Dean, Silvia Deaton, Lucy Dinces, Jacob "Jake" Doerner, Cathy Epp, Glendeen Epperson, Becky Frizell, Monica Gasztonyi, John Germaine, Ruth Gilmore, Glenn Gochneaur, Cindy Golitko, Paul Hach, Karen Hersman, Sylvia Hill, Lois Hosmer, Frances & Larry Kelley, Char Kieffer, Dan Kiss, Bob Krause, Lynn McCormack, Kay Merchant, Don Mixer, Clint Moreland, Jan Morse, Ron Mraz, Rob Parrigan, Leyna Pettorini & Eben, John Porsia, Bill Porterfield, Erin Potter, Jeff Raser, Morgan Reed, Janet Roberto, Jeremy Searson, Daryl Stewart, Betty Silvi, Gary Streiff, Scott & Kathleen Thompson, Betty Updike, Brandon Wallis, Mona Wallace, and Jeanne Wise. Prayers for Lindsey Wiles and her stepdaughter. Prayers for Katie, Mary, and Liz. Prayers for those who have lost loved ones, including the Onion/Walker family in the loss of George Onion.

Continued prayers for people who are living with conflict and safety concerns, or are struggling in the aftermath of natural disasters, storms, or conflict. We pray for those suffering from addiction, cancer, illness, mental health concerns, and for care-givers. We pray for those who are homeless and those who face food insecurity. Prayers for those who have suffered job losses or layoffs. Prayers for missionaries, first responders and relief personnel, and our active military, including Jakob Kealoha & Serenity Rodriguez; Brant Garn, the Harmuths, Dr. Kenneth Heida Jr., Audrey Berndt, and Karen Hersman's grandson Josh. Prayers for all those serving on the USS Paul Ignatius and all military on active duty.

Our radio broadcast this week is presented by:

Don & Bev Baines
Wishing a Happy New Year to all!

Happy Birthday!

Jan 11 - Kathy Coltrin & Jill Stadel
Jan 12 – Denise Asbury, Char Mraz, & Paul Hanson
Jan 13 – Cory Calhoun
Jan 14 – Brynn Alberts & Brody Fatica
Jan 16 – Missy Kealoha
Jan 17 – Bev Baines



Friend of the Week

Joanne Carter
&
Gretchen Casey

Cards for our friends of the week are available for you to sign in the Circle Room! Thank you!



Painesville United Methodist Church * 71 N. Park Place, Painesville, OH 44077 * 440-354-3642
Rev. Edgar Brady

Maria Strickland, Director of Support Services, Marketing & Outreach
Margie Walker, Director Christian Education & Youth Coordinator
Fritz Streiff, Director of Music Ministries
Jerry Marshall, Bob Brown, Mary Brown, Music Staff
Helen Kovacs, Childcare/Nursery Attendant
Missy Wallace, Wedding Coordinator
Mel Karac, Custodian

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR THROUGH OUR HISTORIC WHITE GIFT SERVICE



Painesville United Methodist Church
71 N. Park Place, Painesville, OH 44077
440-354-3642
Rev. Edgar Brady
January 11, 2026

Cover photo by: Eric Silvi

Rev. Edgar Brady
January 11, 2026
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Organ/Piano: Bob & Mary Brown; Jerry Marshall Liturgist: 8:30am Barb McCormack
Lead Ushers: 8:30am Cathy George 10am Mary Salchow Liturgist: 10am Bobbie Williams
Greeters: 8:30am Les & Marilou Walbeck 10am Dennis Cahill & Cindy Childs
Sound Booth: 8:30am Bob Hearn/Mike Williams; 10am Mike Williams/Brett & Sarah Rumsey

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude (8:30am)

"Joseph, Dearest, Joseph Mine" (organ)

Prelude (10am)

"The Little Drummer Boy" (Collins Bells)

*please stand as you are able

German Carol/arr. Martin

Davis/Magatagan

(from "What Child Is This?")

*Call to Worship

Leader: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

People: Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Leader: So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own him;

People: the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

Leader: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

People: Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

*Hymn of Praise

"We Three Kings"

UMH #254

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Scripture Lesson

The Gift of Music

Matthew 2:1-12

NRSV-UE

The History of the White Gift Service (see opposing page)

"The Shepherd's Farewell" (L'Enfance du Christ)

Berlioz

Message

The Gift of Self

Choral Anthem (10am)

"The Work of Christmas"

Thurman/Forrest

Invitation to Service and Fellowship

Selected verses from Ephesians, Ch. 4

Liturgist

The Gift of Service

Sharing Our Gifts of Service

Sharing of Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

Morning Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

The Gift of Substance

Giving of Our Gifts to the King

Offertory

"The March of the Wise Men"*

Rev. Jerry Kalb

Rev. Jerry Kalb

Rev. Jerry Kalb

Black

Played by Jerry Marshall in memory of Ruth Zearfoss Herman, PUMC organist 1944-1965

*Following the March of the Kings, we encourage you to come forward to the altar and present your gifts in honor of the birth of Christ! If you have a check or envelope specifically for this White Gift service, please ensure that "white gift" is noted therein so we can designate your gift accordingly, or envelopes can be specifically directed to the Pastor's Discretion Fund or the Food Pantry. We also invite you to bring forward your opportunities to serve sheet if you are finished. If you need more time, these forms can also be left in the basket on the church secretary's desk after worship or brought in this week or this coming Sunday.

*Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH #95

*Prayer of Dedication

"The First Noel"

UMH #245

*Hymn of Dedication

Rev. Edgar Brady

*Commission and Blessing

Leader: As you follow the star on your journey, don't look for what is holy in places of power and prestige.

People: Instead, pay attention to the ordinary, quiet places. There, may you be overcome with joy!

Leader: In the name of the King of kings, and the Lord of lords, Amen!

People: Amen!

Postlude

"Farandole" (Three Kings March)

Bizet

We invite you to join us for fellowship and free coffee/tea in the Circle Room after worship today!

About Today's "White Gift" Service

In 1904, Minister W.B. Winter's wife, Anna M. Winters, came across an old legend about "The King's Birthday," which told of a celebration where white-wrapped gifts were brought before the king to show loyalty and love—everyone used the same white paper for wrapping so that both humble and extravagant gifts would be received with equal edification. This set her thinking – since Christmas was the observance of Jesus' birthday, why couldn't a similar celebration be done with gifts to the church in honor of the Christ Child? This was the basis of our White Gift Service, the first of which was held right here at Painesville United Methodist Church and over the many years since then it has been adopted by hundreds of churches around the world!

The original proposal for this service was presented to the Official Board of the church and then to Sunday School teachers and officers; the idea was enthusiastically endorsed by both groups. The initial plan noted that people are blessed individually with different gifts, and so the church body could offer not only gifts of Substance (tangible items) but also gifts of Service (volunteerism) and Self (commitment to prayer, worship, study, fellowship, and the life of the church). The Sunday School students were asked to make a definite pledge of any of these contributions, sign it, and place it in the white envelope as their gift. During that first "White Gift" service, over \$300 was contributed to help the church engage in its mission of sharing Jesus Christ with others and serving those in need!

Each subsequent year brought new symbolism to the service. In the sanctuary a platform was usually draped in white with a green tree on each side, as the original legend said the king had done. At the proper time, white curtains were parted to reveal a large white cross. Then, depicting the nativity story in song and pageantry, shepherds and then three wise men came following the star to present their gifts while the hymn "We Three Kings" was sung. After the wise men arrived, those in the church wishing to make a gift brought their pledge card to the altar. Over the years this portrayal has been adapted based on changing needs throughout the life of the church, but has remained true to the original intent – to invite the congregation to commit themselves in self, service, and substance in honor of the birth of our Savior!

In 1944, PUMC organist Ruth Zearfoss Herman introduced "The March of the Wise Men" to the procession during this service. The song has been played throughout the years by succeeding organists for each White Gift service, and depicts the story of the Wise Men as they journey to Bethlehem. The piece starts out with just organ pedal work, which represents the plodding of the camels carrying the Wise Men. Throughout the piece you can hear the Zimbelsterns on the organ, which represent the star over Bethlehem continuing throughout the entire piece. All of this gradually gets louder as the Wise Men approach Bethlehem. As the heralding sounds of the trumpets on the organ join in, the Wise Men have arrived, and at the very end you will hear only the star.

While the White Gift service has changed forms throughout the years, and took a few years' hiatus during the pandemic, we were pleased to bring back this historic annual tradition in 2023. As you reflect on your own Christian journey, we invite you to consider ways in which you can be a part of the life of the Painesville United Methodist Church through self, service, and substance, dedicated to Christ.

Jan 4, 2026 - Attendance

Worship 10am 100
YouTube 10am 128

12/24 7pm approx 300

12/24 11pm approx 100

Jan 4th - Offerings

Total: \$ 12,076.34

Operating: \$ 9,165.07

Building Fund \$ 909.96

Food Pantry \$ 258.32

Radio Broadcast \$ 20.58

Pastor's Discretionary Fund \$ 20.58

Other Giving \$ 1,722.41

Thanks to our partners:

Online Giving

Did you know that you can share your tithes and offerings online using a debit card or credit card? If you prefer to give by card rather than by check or cash, scan the QR code below!



James Blask

Chief Creative Ninja

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PHOTOGRAPHY • GRAPHIC DESIGN

Flowers On Main
Where flowers are the essence of beauty!

flowersonmainpainesville@gmail.com

440.350.0200

www.flowersonmainpainesville.com

188 Main Street • Painesville • Ohio 44077

White Gift Sunday

Opportunities to Serve or Participate at Painesville United Methodist Church

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Please choose anything in which you would like to be involved. If you are already involved and would like to continue, check that as well. Some groups may not currently exist--but if there is enough interest, we may be able to start something new!

Member Care/Fellowship

- New Visitor Followup Team
- Care Team (cards, calls to shut ins)
- Visitation (shut ins/hospitals)
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Prayer & Tea Time (Thurs. at 2:30)
- Men's Fellowship Group
- Women's Fellowship Group
- Singles Fellowship Group
- College Age Fellowship Group
- MomCo (Mothers of Preschoolers Group)
- Family Fellowship Group
- Adult Fellowship Group

Other: _____

Missions /Community Outreach

- Mission Committee
- Grill on the Hill (Fri. evenings in summer)
- Hope Chest (Mon. – Thurs 9 – 1)
- Participate in Youth Mission Trip (as adult chaperone or youth)
- Organize or Participate in an Adult Mission Trip
- Organize or Participate in a Day Mission Trip
- Coffee Wagon Ministry
- Project Hope: prepare meals at PUMC & deliver
- Provide Transportation to church
- Provide Transportation to appointments
- Food Pantry: stock shelves/prepare bags (Monday)
- Food Pantry: shopping/restocking
- Food Pantry: serve clients
- Prepare Meals and/or Serve in Soup Kitchen (3rd Saturdays)

Other: _____

Spiritual Growth/Worship/Music

- Communion Steward (Prepare/Setup)
- Communion Server
- Acolyte
- Online Chat Host (10am services)
- Sound Booth (8:30-slides/sound)
- Sound Booth (10-slides/camera/sound)
- Greeter 8:30am services
- Greeter 10am services
- Greeter at Concerts/Special Events
- Usher 8:30am services
- Usher 10am services
- Usher at Concerts/Special Events
- Liturgist at 8:30am services
- Liturgist at 10am services
- Liturgist at Special Events
- Perform a solo or in a small group during worship
- Sing in Chancel Choir
- Sing in Men's Choir
- Sing in Women's Choir
- Perform in Praise Band
- Play in Bell Choir
- Help with Children's Choir
- Help with Children's Bells

Other: _____

Please turn over for more opportunities

Education

- Lead Adult Bible Study
- Teach/Assist in Sunday School
- Lead/Assist Youth Activities/Studies
- Teach/Assist Vacation Bible School
- Plan/Assist Special Children's Events
- Plan/Assist Family Activities
- Help in Nursery on Sunday
- Help in Nursery for Other Events

Other: _____

Skills/Hospitality

- Bake Cookies: Funerals, Special Occasions
- Gardening Team: Plan, plant, weed, water
- Weekday Office Help: phones, stuff envelopes, post sign ups, etc.
- Offering Counter
- Sunday Hospitality: Make coffee/Provide snacks
- Stitchers (Thursday morning)
- Handyman jobs: Carpentry
- Handyman jobs: Electrical
- Handyman jobs: Painting
- Handyman jobs: Plumbing
- Monthly Deep Cleaning Team

Other: _____

Members of the following groups are chosen by the Nominating Committee and voted on at Charge Conference according to church discipline. If you have interest in any of these areas and would like to be considered by the Nominating Committee, please check those areas below.

- Administrative Council
- Finance Committee
- Memorial Committee
- Staff Parish Relations Committee
- Trustees
- Nominating Committee

SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY



FEBRUARY 8, 2026



SOUP CAN DONATIONS

We will be collecting SOUP for the PUMC Food Pantry. Please donate can(s) of soup during the Sunday, February 8th worship services and place them in the wagons at the front of the sanctuary.

FREE SOUP-ER BOWL LUNCH!

Bring in your favorite Crock-pot of soup or chili to share with others during lunch at 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM, in Parson's Hall.

Beverages, crackers, corn bread, rolls, butter, and paper products will be provided.

Freewill cash offerings will benefit the PUMC Food Pantry.



SOUP-ER BOWL SUBS FUNDRAISER

The Youth Group will be taking PRE-ORDERS for your Soup-er Bowl Game Sub(s). Proceeds will support the cost of \$100/PUMC youth and chaperone attending the Annual Youth Winter Retreat, at Camp Asbury in Hiram, Ohio, from Feb. 27-Mar. 1, 2026.

Pick-up your Soup-er Bowl Game Sub(s) on Sunday, February 8, 2026, from 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM down in Parson's Hall.

Please complete one order form per sub and return form(s) and payment to Margie by Sunday, February 1, 2026.

Checks payable to PUMC, memo Soup-er Bowl Subs.

SOUP-ER BOWL SUBS PRE-ORDER FORM ONE FORM PER SUB MULTI ORDERS: FORM OF .

Name: _____

Contact #: _____

All subs will be on 8-inch white sub bun bread – unless you indicate Gluten Free here _____

Select 1 Sub

Turkey \$10
 Ham \$10
 Turkey & Ham \$12
 Italian (Ham, salami, and pepperoni) \$12

Select 1 Cheese

Provolone
 Swiss
 Cheddar

Select Veggie(s)

Lettuce
 Tomato
 Onion

Select Dressing(s)

Italian
 Mayo
 Yellow Mustard

Pre-Orders with payment are due to Margie by Sunday, February 1, 2026.

Amount Pre-Paid \$ _____ cash / check # _____ (Check payable to PUMC memo Soup-er Bowl Sub)

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Yellow Mustard

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