



# THE TOWERS

201 S. Main St., West Milton, Ohio 45383

February 2025



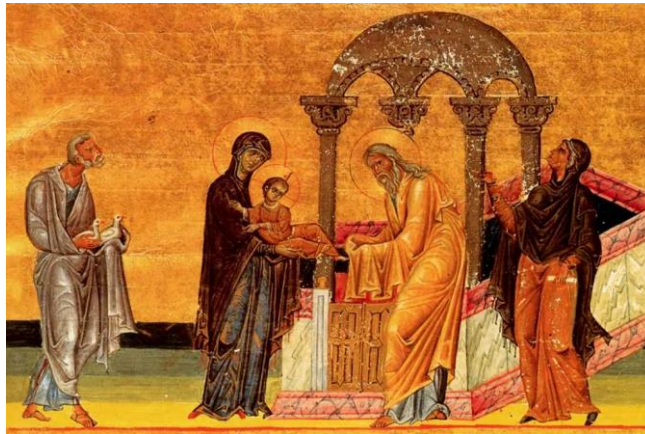
## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

**[Luke 2:22] And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, Christians around the world celebrate February 2 as the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. The Presentation is one of the oldest feasts in the history of the Church, going back to at least the fourth century. The feast is based on the event told to us in the Gospel of Luke 2:22-40. According to the Torah, a woman was unclean for 40 days after giving birth to a son. Now the time had come, the 40th day, when Jesus' parents were to go to the Temple for Mary's purification and the offerings prescribed in Leviticus 12 for the firstborn child. This feast is celebrated on February 2 because this date marks 40 days since the celebration of Christmas on December 25.

We're told that Joseph and Mary bring the prescribed offering if one is unable to afford a lamb. Of course, in one sense, they have already brought the lamb when they bring Jesus to the Temple! A man named Simeon "righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel," picks up the child Jesus, and utters a prophecy (now known as the Song of Simeon):  
*"Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, According to Your word; For my eyes have seen Your salvation Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel."* (Luke 2:29-32)

The Holy Spirit had revealed to Simeon that we would not see death before he had seen the promised Messiah, the Christ. Now, as Mary and Joseph bring their child to the Temple to fulfill the customs of the Law, Simeon believes God's promise has been fulfilled.



He tells God that he can now "depart in peace." After Simeon gives another prophecy to Mary that foreshadows the tragic death Jesus will face, we are told of a prophetess, Anna, who also was a person of deep faith and devotion. Upon seeing Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem" (Luke 2:38).

While for many, Epiphany on January 6 marks the close of the Christmas season after the 12 days, some traditionally leave up Christmas decorations until this 40th day of the season. February 2 goes by another name, as well: Candlemas. This comes from the practice of taking candles

to one's local church where they are blessed and then used for the remainder of the year. These blessed candles, blessed on the day we celebrate Christ's presentation at the temple, serve as symbols of Christ being the true light of the world. In his prophecy over the Christ child, Simeon refers to Jesus as, "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" (Luke 2:32).

May we take this day to give thanks for the light of God that shines in our hearts, and that "He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son" (Colossians 1:13). And may we ask for God's blessing that His light may shine out from us, allowing it to shine for our families, our friends, our neighbors, a world groping in the darkness.

**Collect for the Presentation of Christ in the Temple:**  
Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as Your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in the substance of our flesh, so we may be presented to You with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *Pastor Ty*

## Board Meeting Highlights

### Devotion

Devotion was offered by Les Trittschuh. Les read an article from the Tippecanoe Gazette from Ashley Spring McCarroll. "Enough is Enough", This is a wonderful article, I looked it up for I could capture what Les was sharing with us.

God created you on purpose, for a purpose. He welcomes you just as you are. You were already enough through Christ. Without him, we aren't enough and weren't created to be. God covers that for us, and He made us depend on Him for everything.

Edit your to do list and take it to the cross, and hand God the pen. Read Ephesians 2:19-22  
Les opening the meeting with Prayer.

### Meeting Attendees

Pastor Ty Williams, Les Trittschuh, Wendy Black, Jill Circle, Kim Dohrman, Jim Mitchell, Denise Wendy Heisey, David Hayes, David Jay, Myra Lingle, Kim Dohrman, Tina Mathews

### Pastor's Report

- Advent Wednesdays in December attendance was about 30 adults each week.
- Christmas Eve Services 7pm & 10pm – Festival of Lessons and Carols.
- Covenant Renewal Service: Tuesday, December 31, 7pm.
- Order of Holy Fire Retreat – Feb 24-27, 2025. Pastor Ty attending.

### Youth Ministry:

- Had bible study on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, next gathering is Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>

- April 25-27, 2025 Youth Retreat at Heartland Retreat Center Marengo, Ohio.
- Confirmation: Looking at Spring after Easter.

### Finance Report

- Weeks of operations is 14.99
- Capitol Improve Fund of \$3,700 moved to Trustees for expenses. (A new designated fund for the Trustees)
- Motion made from Kim Dohrman and 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Hayes to increase Becky Garrett's credit card to 5K for the Children's Ministry's. Voted and approved.
- Pastor asked about some of the General Fund be moved to the Endowment. Jim Mitchell asked to wait till Jan or Feb 2025 due to our 2025 budget going up, Jim thinks our weekly of operation will go down.

### Trustees

- Paid the Activity Center water heater bill (\$5,561) and new washer for the parsonage (\$1,249) in December.
- Received a \$531.30 credit for the sewer from the village.

- **List of Important Dates**

March 5	Ash Wednesday – Beginning of Lent
March 21-22	Spirit & Truth Conference
April 20	Easter Sunday
May 16-18	Spirit & Truth Weekend

Next meeting will be held January 16, 2025.

## Serving Schedule

### FEB 02

**9:00 Liturgist:** Wendy H.                      **Greeters:** Wendy H. and Marcia S.  
**Ushers:** Wayne & Susie S. and Phil & Karen M.                      **Hospitality Table:** Joseph & Jennifer K.

**Nursery: 10:15** Debby & Steve S. / **11:15** Julia C., Wendy H. & Loralie M.

**11:15 Greeters:** 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade class                      **Acolytes:** Anna & Emma K.                      **Scripture Reader:** Tim B.

### FEB 09

**9:00 Liturgist:** Jerry D.                                      **Greeters:** Elaine P. and Kathy K.  
**Ushers:** John & LaVerne H.                                      **Hospitality Table:** Peggy N.  
**Nursery: 10:15** Elaine P. & Sarah P. / **11:15** Kim & Cooper D. & Rose K.

**11:15 Greeters:** Dick & Mary Ann M.                      **Acolytes:** Lorelei M. & Rose K.                      **Scripture Reader:** Julia C.

### FEB 16

**9:00 Liturgist:** Becky G.                                      **Greeters:** Elaine I.  
**Ushers:** Stacy W. and Josh W.                                      **Hospitality Table:** Paul & Sally M.  
**Nursery: 10:15** Carol C. & Kathy K. / **11:15** Ben G.

**11:15 Greeters:** Kathy W. and Stacy W.                      **Acolytes:** Dalton M. & Lily M.                      **Scripture Reader:** Lily M.

### FEB 23

**9:00 Liturgist:** Monica S.                                      **Greeters:** Carol S. and Carolyn B.  
**Ushers:** Dan & Erin S. and David & Dawn J.                                      **Hospitality Table:** Carol C.

**Nursery: 10:15** Jennifer K. & Patti W. / **11:15** Jennifer & Anna K. and Jill C.

**11:15 Greeters:** Paul & Sally M. and Marijo S. **Acolytes:** Will H. & Matthew G.                      **Scripture Reader:** Ben G.

\*\*Please contact the church office (937)698-4401 if you are unable to be a greeter or have switched Sundays. Thanks!

## Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary February 2025

1<sup>st</sup> - Caroline Williams  
Tim & Lisa Wright (42 yrs)  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Max Hemminger  
5<sup>th</sup> - Leah Blackburn  
8<sup>th</sup> - Jerry Smith  
9<sup>th</sup> - Danielle Sweitzer  
10<sup>th</sup> - Darin Wion  
13<sup>th</sup> - Emma Sims  
14<sup>th</sup> - Jerry & Shirley Smith (44 yrs)  
15<sup>th</sup> - Grace Knostman  
16<sup>th</sup> - Steve Kraus  
Nancy Studebaker



17<sup>th</sup> - Janet Balsbaugh  
Rose Knostman  
19<sup>th</sup> - Marcia Smith  
Lester Trittschuh  
20<sup>th</sup> - Ansel Circle  
Terry & Wendy Long (43 yrs)  
22<sup>nd</sup> - Wayne & Susie Spidler (64 yrs)  
23<sup>rd</sup> - Janet Benkert  
24<sup>th</sup> - Anna Hemminger  
26<sup>th</sup> - Lydia Garrett  
28<sup>th</sup> - Terry Long

## Weekly Giving and Attendance Statistics

Date	12-22-24	12-29-24	01-05-25	01-12-25	01-19-25
General Offering	4937.52	6100.16	5801.00	6946.00	4046.00
Weekly Budget Need	4692.00	4692.00	5269.00	5269.00	5269.00
Mission Offering	1080.00	290.00	498.00	560.00	275.00
Maintenance Fund	580.00	565.00	390.00	440.00	70.00
Building Fund & Memorials	213.00	145.00	152.00	160.00	178.00
Online & Physical Attendance					
9 a.m. Service at church	76	64	79	56	77
* Remote viewing	10	17	5	9	17
11:15 a.m. Service at church	56	75	54	45	55
* Remote viewing	0	0	0	9	3
Total Attendance	142	156	138	119	152



### SUPPORT A LIFEWISE STUDENT

- \$20/mo (1 Student)
- \$40/mo (2 Students)
- \$80/mo (4 Students)
- Other .....

Name.....

Phone..... Email.....

Address.....

City..... State..... Zip.....

Home Church.....

**How to Give** (please select one)

- Enclose Check
- Scan QR Code to give online
- Visit [lifewise.org/milton-unionoh](https://lifewise.org/milton-unionoh)



**People to remember in prayer:**



**Hoffman Sympathies to:** the family of Valaria Harshbarger, as she passed away on December 20, 2024  
the family of Bob Herron, as he passed away on December 31, 2024  
the family of Jeannie Blackmore, Bonnie Brown's stepmother, as she passed away on January 12, 2025  
the family of Freda Koeller as she passed away on January 17, 2025

**At Home:** Phil Blue, Wilma Hoover, Helen Keller, Cheryl Owen, Mary Maess, Dixie & Dick Porter,  
Shelia Shade, Theda Sliver, Marilyn Stickney, and Jim & Kathy Watkins

**At Centers:** Johnnie Bouck, Brookhaven Assisted Living, 1 Country Ln, Rm 112, Brookville OH 45309  
Barb Frazier, Brookdale Centennial Park, 350 Union Rd, Rm 132, Englewood OH 45322  
Dorothy Ginn, Cypress Pointe, 600 W. National Rd., Rm 312, Englewood OH 45322  
Wendy Long, Trinity Center, 789 Stonybrook, Rm 208A, Fairborn OH 45324  
Jennie McNeal, SpringMeade, 4375 S Co. Rd. 25A, Rm 307, Tipp City OH 45371  
Monica Winemiller, Koester Pavilion, 3232 N Co Rd 25A, Rm 8, Troy OH 45373

**THANK YOU AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

I want to thank my church family for all the messages and kindnesses that have come to me after Bob's passing. It is such a blessing to be a part of my loving church family.  
Love, Joyce Herron

Thank you to all who have offered prayers, comfort and concerns during the illness and recent passing of my stepmother, Treva "Jeannie" Strawser Blackmore. She especially enjoyed those who came to see her from Hoffman's visitation group. It is also a blessing to know that the Prayer Chain warriors are always available to answer our prayer requests. God bless all of you!  
Bradley and Bonnie Brown

Hoffman Methodist Church, Thank you for your thoughts and prayers. I also appreciate your financial support. I am blessed to have so many people from the area encourage and which me well. Brooke Bergman

**Join us for a Birthday Celebration  
as Lester Trittschuh is turning 80!**

Saturday, February 15 from 1 to 4 p.m.  
in the Hoffman GMC Activity Center  
No need to RSVP - No gifts please

To our friends at HoffmanGMC, Thank you for your gift we received on December 2; your donation helps ensure the children on our campus stay safe, happy and healthy. Your gift lets them know they are loved!  
Pastor Dave Walker, Christian Children's Home of Ohio

**Congratulations a Baby Girl!**

Wrenna Mitchell arrived on January 5, 2025  
Proud parents: Devin and Morgan Mitchell

Elaine's Trivia Question of Month

According to the prophet Micah, what does the LORD require of you?

**Spirit & Truth Conference** March 21-22; Stillwater Church; \$59 Register at <https://www.spiritandtruth.life/ohio>  
*What is a Spirit & Truth Conference?* At Spirit & Truth we long to see the church fully alive! We exist to help equip a global movement of local churches to become empowered by the Spirit, rooted in the truth, and mobilized for the mission. A Spirit & Truth Conference is a gathering for believers to get equipped and seek the powerful presence of the Lord together. It's a chance to learn from respected leaders about ways to spark a new movement of back-to-the-basics, Spirit-filled, missional Christianity.

“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.”



Traditional Service  
9AM

...

Sunday School Hour  
10:15-11:10AM

...

Open Door Service  
11:15AM

**Upcoming Event:**  
**Valentine's Day Family Game Night-**  
**Saturday, February 15**  
**5:30-8:00PM**

We will have walking tacos, ice cream bar, etc. We will also have board games and our annual nerf gun war! We hope that you can come and have some fun with us!!

Children's Director: Becky Garrett  
ragarrett15@gmail.com  
937-524-7220

**Bible study will be Sunday, February 9 at 6 p.m.**

**CONFIRMATION**

We are praying and planning for confirmation. Confirmation classes will take place during the Sunday school hour. Confirmation is 8 weeks: Sunday April 6 - Sunday June 1 (we will skip April 27th for the Retreat). We will be using *Absolute Basics of the Christian Faith*. You can look into it here: <https://resources.seedbed.com/absolute-basics/?fs=5aebd397-ecdc-4101-91d5-cc41ea7fd267>  
If you have questions about confirmation, please let us know.



**Youth Retreat in April 2025 hosted by Allegheny West Conference**

We plan on taking any interested youth to this retreat **April 25-27, 2025**.  
**Location:** Heartland Retreat Center  
Marengo, OH  
For Grades 6-12  
Early Registration (March 1): \$135  
Regular Registration: \$150  
Let me know if you have any questions!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Ty <><

## HOFFMAN GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH 2024 FINANCE REPORT

### General Budget and Missions

December 31, 2024

REGULAR OFFERING			MONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE	
1010	First Sunday		5,486.00	76,022.14	
1020	Second Sunday		7,458.00	66,725.50	
1030	Third Sunday		6,050.00	69,204.00	
1040	Fourth Sunday		4,937.52	58,826.52	
1050	Fifth Sunday		6,100.16	18,044.00	
Total Regular Offering			30,031.68	288,822.16	
1060	Misc. Income		130.00	1,393.72	
<b>**Total Income</b>			30,161.68	290,215.88	
		BUDGET FOR YEAR	PAID OUT THIS MONTH	YEAR-TO-DATE PAID OUT	BALANCE OF BUDGET
<b>CONNECTIONAL FUNDING</b>					
1	Connectional Funding AWAC 3%	8,000.00	0.00	7,183.57	816.43
2	Connection Funding GMC 1%	2,700.00	0.00	2,520.55	179.45
Total Connectional		10,700.00	0.00	9,704.12	995.88
<b>MINISTRIES</b>					
3	Hospitality	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
4	Outreach	750.00	0.00	209.18	540.82
5	Worship	750.00	114.50	467.68	282.32
6	Music	750.00	0.00	568.28	181.72
7	Assimilation	750.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
8	Vacation Bible School	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00
9	Children's Ministry & Holiday Parties	750.00	143.25	750.00	0.00
10	Youth Ministry	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00
11	Ministry Resource Fund	5,000.00	644.40	3,844.70	1,155.30
Total Ministries		11,000.00	902.15	7,339.84	3,660.16
<b>OFFICE, MEDIA, &amp; TECH</b>					
12	Finance & Stewardship	900.00	3.63	608.77	291.23
13	Office Supplies & Postage & Copier	4,200.00	-69.04	4,303.26	-103.26
14	Media Subscriptions	4,000.00	110.69	3,999.32	0.68
15	Technology	1,000.00	0.00	189.00	811.00
Total Office, Media, & Tech		10,100.00	45.28	9,100.35	999.65
<b>STAFF &amp; PARISH RELATIONS</b>					
16	Pastor Parish	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
17	Staff Salary	119,217.78	10,616.75	121,115.81	-1,898.03
18	Health Ins.	28,388.00	2,482.83	29,424.89	-1,036.89
19	Pension & Self Funded Portion	5,868.00	437.91	5,796.82	71.18
20	Acct. Reimbursement-Pastor	4,000.00	1,571.62	2,874.07	1,125.93
21	Hoffman Family Benevolence	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
22	Pulpit Supply	500.00	100.00	500.00	0.00
23	Employer Payroll Taxes	5,878.41	485.60	5,756.67	121.74
24	Moving Allowance	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
25	Conference Delegate	550.00	0.00	170.00	380.00
Total Staff & Parish Relations		165,952.19	15,694.71	166,638.26	-686.07
<b>TRUSTEES</b>					
26	Maintenance	2,400.00	374.10	2,369.04	30.96
27	Utilities, Monitoring, and Service Contracts	28,135.00	2,561.66	24,380.68	3,754.32
28	Building Insurance	5,079.00	446.83	5,376.00	-297.00
29	Real Estate Taxes Parsonage	3,290.00	0.00	3,097.46	192.54
30	Snow Plowing & Yard Work	6,306.00	0.00	5,182.89	1,123.11
31	Janitorial Supplies	1,030.00	14.22	994.04	35.96
Total Trustees		46,240.00	3,396.81	41,400.11	4,839.89
<b>**Total General Budgeted Expenses</b>		243,992.19	20,038.95	234,182.68	9,809.51
<b>MISSIONS</b>					
32	Local Missions	4,500.00	2,734.41	7,236.54	-2,736.54
33	Global Missions	2,500.00	1,300.64	6,106.18	-3,606.18
34	MU Council of Churches	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.00
35	Annual Mission Project	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00
Total Missions Expenses		7,550.00	4,035.05	13,592.72	-6,042.72

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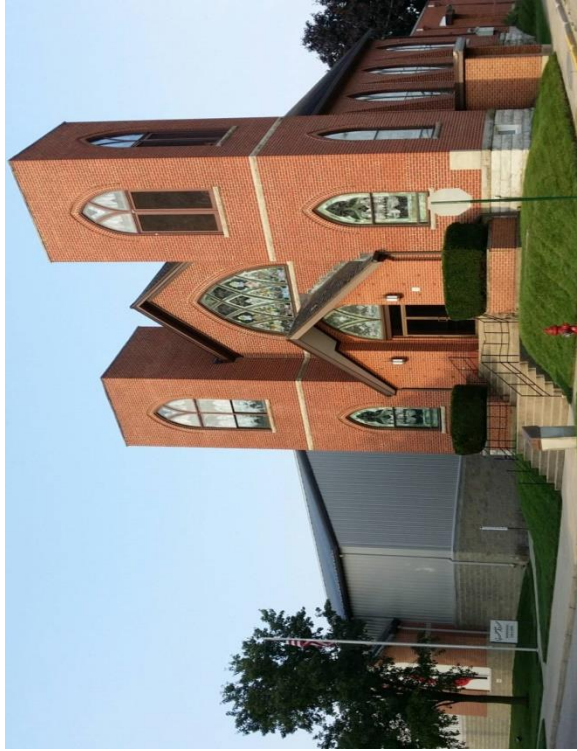
**HOFFMAN**  
 GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH  
 201 S Main Street  
 West Milton OH 45383

February  
 2025

**T O W E R S**  
**T H E S**

*Place Label Here*

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**HOFFMAN GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH**  
 Worship Time: 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.  
 Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.  
 Phone: (937) 698-4401 Email: HoffmanGMC@gmail.com  
 Website: HoffmanGMC.org  
 Pastor Ty Williams