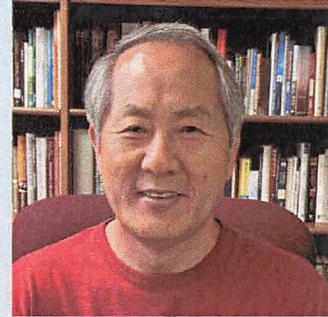




"A Word from the Pastor"

He Who Promised Is Faithful



The brief Christmas break was a sweet time of rest, refreshment & reflection. Looking back on my journey with the Lord Jesus for the last twenty-eight years, I was amazed by and grateful for how faithful he has been in fulfilling what he promised; from his call, healing, study to my appointment to Richland. Has it been an easy journey? No. I lived every moment as if it were my last moment. But the Lord has seen me through it all. Everything that has been done has been done by his grace, power & presence. Now I am looking forward to what the Lord will be doing in the days to come, knowing that he who promised is faithful!

Hebrews 10:23-25 says, *"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching."* The author of Hebrews encourages us to persevere by faith as we live in the world. He gives us a simple reason for doing so, *"for he who promised is faithful."* He also encourages us to do so *together* because we do better when we do it together (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12). Together we can persevere through challenges, difficulties & obstacles along the way, knowing that he who promised is faithful!

As we step into the new year of 2026, I pray that the Lord will bless and keep each one of us at Richland, our families & extended families. And that he will encourage us as individuals and church to continue to dream dreams and attempt something so big that unless the Lord intervenes it is bound to fail. It is guaranteed that along the way there will be challenges, difficulties & obstacles (John 16:33). However, together we can persevere through it all, having Immanuel, God with Us with us and knowing that he who promised is faithful! Happy New Year!

Greetings Richland!

We will worship in the Sanctuary and on Facebook Live on Sundays. at 10:00 am. The Facebook Live video can be seen *anytime* after it is done.

Adult Sunday School is in person after the church service in the Fellowship Hall.
Adventure Land is held live during the church service.
Youth Sunday School follows the Service in the library.

Calendar for	January 2026	
Jan. 4,11,18,25 / 10 am	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
Jan. 4,11,18,25/ 11:15 am	Adult/Youth Sunday School	Fellowship Hall/Library
Jan. 4/ 11:15 am	Send off party for the current kitchen	Kitchen
Jan.5/ 10:00 am	Building Committee moves pantry items from kitchen	Kitchen
Jan. 5/ noon	Global Methodist Women remove kitchen items	Kitchen
Jan 13,20,27/ 6:30 am	Men's Bible Study	Snider Home
Jan. 7/ 1:30 pm	Worship Committee	Parlor
Jan. 8, 22/ 1 pm	Board Games	Fellowship Hall

Please continue to lift in prayer those who were mentioned in the worship

Prayers of Praise to God ~

- Thankful for the safe travel of family members
- Thankful for Rev. Dr. Bob Ingram's uplifting sermon and allowing Rev. Han to rest & refresh
- Thankful for the beautiful, worshipful music
- Praise to God for healing Trina Wisecup and her return to mission work
- Praise to God for returning Darius Douglas to good health

Prayers of Support ~

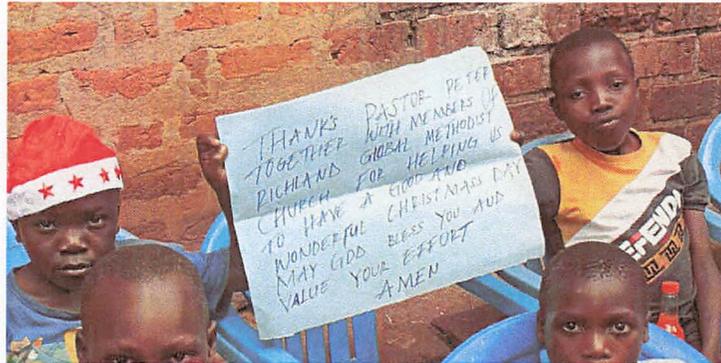
- Payton, Owen Tong's girlfriend, is in the ER
- Jan Gehres, vertigo
- Tracy Zimmerman, health concerns
- Mary Ann Bennink's niece, Shirley, serious health concern
- Health concerns: Chuck Woodall; Brian Worth; Megan Hill; caregiver Sandra; caregiver Rob Cornelius; Ella Blue; Kay Schliech (surgery); Marge Polen (surgery); Marilyn Brown's neighbor's family); Jim Smith's wife (surgery); Michelle Rose; Paul Aikman; J. D. Shriner; Sherry Norris' brother-in-law, the Figueroa family
- Sympathy to Jenny Denbow's in-laws, the Huggins, upon the loss of two family members.
- Sympathy to the family and friends of Katherine Riley upon her passing.
- Those who are being cared for away from their homes, including John Ray (Lindley Inn), Ginny Jones (TX), and Steve Secoy (at daughter's)
- Those who are grieving and/or lonely this season
- Col. Russell Henry in the Middle East
- Israel; Ukraine; our nation and its leaders:

"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you." I Peter 5:6-7

December Activities

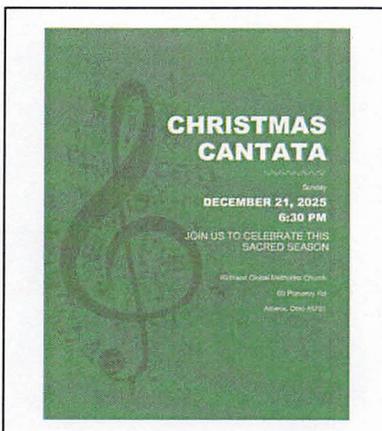
Greetings from the Mission Committee

Thank you from Nadya HInson (RGMC office manager) for supporting the Christmas Party/Dinner at the God's Care Ministry Orphanage in Jinja Uganda through your donations.

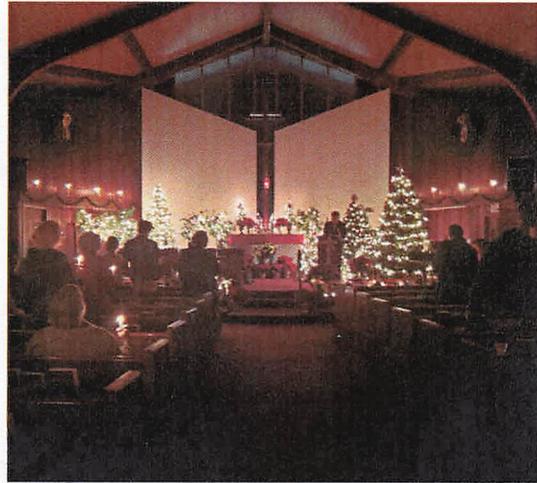
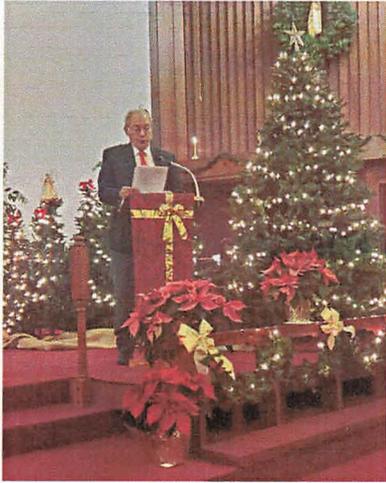


Thank you, Rita Snider, for hosting a wonderful luncheon and White Elephant exchange for the Global Methodist Women at your home on December 22.

Christmas Cantata 2025



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 pm



December Blood Drive Report

We were faced with two cancellations on Thursday but Neil Fowler and Larry Tong filled those empty spots very quickly and with smiles.

So Aaron, Tina, Becky, Karen, Linda, Neil, Teri, Mike, Mary Ann, Diane and Larry kept the drive running smoothly working a total of 35 hours.

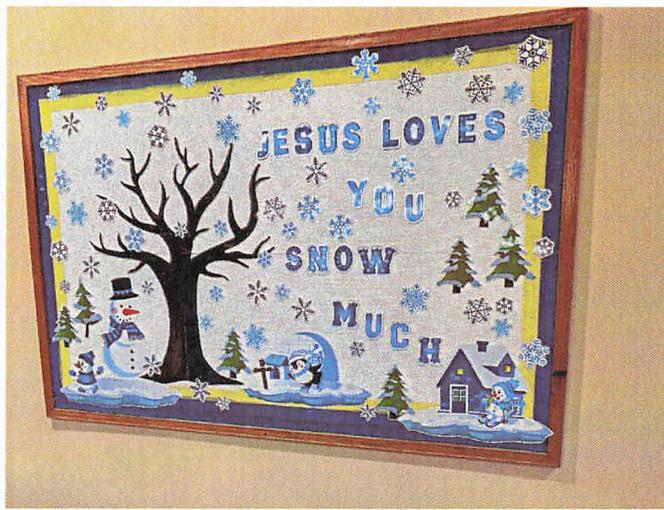
Food was prepared and donated by Nina, Julie, Karen, Kathy, Mary Ann, Ruth Ann, Linda, Teri and Diane. Thank you ladies.

We had 24 whole blood donors and 3 power red donors (which each count as a double) for productive afternoon of 30 units.

2:13pm Saturday afternoon watching the beautiful snow accumulate and giving praise and thanks to God for the successful drive and safety of the Red Cross staff who drove from their homes.

Just one last item to mention is our next drive scheduled for February 5, 2026 and will be held at the Red Cross Chapter, 100 South May Avenue, Athens OH due to the remodeling of the kitchen at the church. Thank you again!

Drive Managers: Teri Fischer, Linda Fowler,
Karen Hayes, Diane Tong



Church service was not held on December 14 due to extreme weather conditions.

Activities in January

Mission Team's News

For the month of January the church mission will be The Plains UMC Food Pantry. As a former member of TPUMC I have seen the impact the Food Pantry has made in the community, witnessed the joy of needy people receiving a food package, and know that 100% of the donations truly help those in need in our community.

During November the TPUMC Food Pantry served 121 households and in December they expect a similar, if not more, number of requests for food. So in January the Food Pantry cupboards will be bare. That's where Richland can step up to help restock the Food Pantry.

The basic food item needs for TPUMC Food Pantry are: cereal, mac and cheese, spaghetti (1lb box), canned spaghetti sauce, tomato soup, chicken noodle soup, canned green beans, canned corn, pork and beans, saltine crackers, ramen noodles, peanut butter, grape jelly, and canned pasta. Any non-perishable items you donate will be appreciated! If you would rather make a monetary donation please note on your check or envelope that it is for TPUMC Food Pantry.

Kitchen Remodel Begins

The send off party will be on January 4, 2026 after church service in the kitchen

January Calendar of events for the Building Committee and Methodist Women