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 Monday through Friday

**Dec.
2018**



Talking Leaves



December 2018

For The Birds

I have lately overheard and been involved recently in several conversations about Ring Necked Pheasants: How there used to be lots of them and now there aren't; how inconsiderate it is to release pheasants for a hunt in areas staked out for deer hunting – just before deer season, so forth and so on. Probably everyone knows – but Pheasants are Asian imports, not native to any location in the U.S. The birds were first released in Ohio in the late 1800's but were established in the wild Statewide by 1914. By 1930, Ohio reckoned a state flock of about five million. Through the 1940's hunters harvested an average of 750,000 cock birds annually. This is what is called a success story. This year, the State released 14,000 birds for special hunts here and there so Pheasant hunters would have something to shoot at. As mentioned, the timing and location of some of the pheasant hunts made deer hunters unhappy.

But what happened? How did we get from 5 million wild Pheasants and annual harvests of three quarters of a million cock birds to having to release a few for special hunts? The answer is that farming changed. The small implement, small plot, small grain, horse powered, low chemical input agriculture of the 19th and early 20th centuries was custom made for what were essentially wild chickens hanging out in the abundant cover at the edges of farming operations. Then horse power was replaced by horsepower – that is to say, real horses by the internal combustion engine. Implements got bigger. Fields got bigger. Fence rows were ripped out and what had been the edges got plowed and added to the growing fields. Low lying wet areas were drained and added to the growing fields. Wheat and oats (Pheasant faves) were largely replaced by corn and soy beans (not Pheasant faves). With fewer horses, fewer hay fields were required and with new fertilizers (also not from horses) the fields that were put in hay were cut multiple times per year – including during Pheasant nesting season.

I'm not one to cry foul here; or even fowl! Ha! See what I did there? Modern agriculture feeds exponentially more people than the Pheasant population ever did or could. And we can still get Pheasants if we want them. You can raise them just like chickens – though there are reasons for which more people choose to raise chickens. But the point remains. What happened to the Pheasants? We did. We made choices that took away the Pheasant's ability to live in our area – so they don't. Special releases won't change that.

The gospel lives and thrives and we will never stop its progress. But we can, time to time and place to place, create conditions that will deprive us of its abundant native presence for a while. More's the pity because – unlike our story with the Pheasants – what is produced by those anti-gospel conditions will never nourish or strengthen us. We should take note before monkeying too much with family structure and reshaping the church to accommodate new societal norms. The blessing can move out. In the days of Samuel's sons, such changes were made and Israel learned what it means to say – *The glory is gone.* I Samuel 4.

Terry

Talking Leaves

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



The Book of Chronicles

Chapter 270 in the ongoing annals of the people on the hill.

128,000 Ways to Glorify Christ in 2018

Scrap	90,531 pounds	Goal = 75,000 pounds Met!
Paper	63,120 pounds	Goal = 40,000 pounds Met!
Garden	61,262 pounds	Goal = 28,000 pounds Met!
Debt reduction	\$48,000.00	Goal = \$48,000.00 Met!
\$ for other Ministries	\$23,476.00	Goal = \$27,000.00

Another great month in the Lord's service. We were privileged to honor our veterans in a great Veteran's Day service, host the Ruritan Singspiration, and hold the annual Thanksgiving Eve service. We also held the annual Congregational Meeting to consider the proposed budget for 2019. The budget was accepted by a majority of 81%. With that passage, we are ready to start looking for a new Youth/Associate Minister. If you know a good candidate who might be interested, have them contact the church office. The youth started work on the Christmas play – we're all looking forward to that! **Chase Sanders** received his last chemo-therapy treatment in this first (and hopefully last) cycle. We are all praying for a good result on the PET scan and invite you to join us in these prayers for Chase. Pray also for **Cliff Griffith** who was in and out of the hospital this chapter, **Marvin Cook** who suffered a heart attack and is hospitalized for treatment, and **Mary Sanders** who is suffering from sciatica. Finally, in this chapter, we said goodbye to another dear brother in Christ as Dick Borne went home to the Lord. Please rejoice for Dick's salvation and pray for Judy and the family as they suffer the grief of loss.

October 2018



Church

Balance October 1	\$26,661.01
Deposits	13,032.22
Expenses	<u>(12,065.36)</u>
Balance October 31	<u>\$27,627.87</u>

Missions

Balance October 1	\$ 0.00
Deposit	1,553.00
Expenses	<u>(1,553.00)</u>
Balance October 31	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

Special Gifts

Balance October 1	\$12,227.40
Deposits	842.00
Expenses	<u>(1,142.00)</u>
Balance October 31	<u>\$ 11,927.40</u>

New Building Vision Fund

Balance October 1	\$21,940.82
Deposits	5,832.49
Expenses	<u>(18,270.00)</u>
Balance October 31	<u>\$60,829.23</u>
Total Balance October 31	<u>\$49,058.58</u>



1. Philippians 1-4
2. Colossians 1-4
3. I Thessalonians 1-3
4. I Thessalonians 4-5
5. II Thessalonians 1-3
6. I Timothy 1-3
7. I Timothy 4-6
8. II Timothy 1-4
9. Titus 1-3
10. Philemon
11. Hebrews 1-3
12. Hebrews 4-6
13. Hebrews 7-9
14. Hebrews 10-11
15. Hebrews 12-13
16. James 1-2
17. James 3-5
18. I Peter 1-5
19. II Peter 1-3
20. I John 1-5
21. II John,
22. III John
23. Jude
24. Revelation 1-3
25. Revelation 3-5
26. Revelation 6-8
27. Revelation 9-11
28. Revelation 12-14
29. Revelation 15-17
30. Revelation 18-20
31. Revelation 21-22



Attendance

Date	8 am Service	Sunday School	Worship
Oct. 28	57	--	133
Nov. 4	65	80	156
Nov. 11	--	64	211
Nov. 18	47	60	174

December Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 	4 Elders Meeting @ 6:30 pm	5	6	7	8
9 Board Meeting @ 7:30 pm	10	11	12	13	14	15 Christmas Caroling
16	17 	18	19 Community Fellowship Dinner	20	21	22
23 Last day for adopted family gifts	24 Christmas Play	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Prayer Calendar for December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1 Alan & Sharon Savage
2 Carl Fetterman	3 John & Kathy Secrest	4 Mike & Suzie Felcyn and David	5 Bruce & Shirley Seemann	6 Tim & Amanda Piatt and Family	7 Willard & Jean Berkebile	8 Larry & Sharon Smith
9 Elmer Snider	10 Jim & Kay Foltz	11 Joe and Jennifer Bryan and Family	12 Joyce Snyder	13 Rick & Cheryl Perkins	14 Dick & Ann Sutton	15 Jane Thorn
16 Mike Mohr and Family	17 Russell E. & Debbie Thorn and Family	18 Fritz & Mary Haines and Family	19 Dale & Denise VanVoorhis and Family	20 Ryan & Natalie VanVoorhis and Family	21 Don & Gini VanVoorhis	22 Ray & Jill VanVoorhis and Family
23 Scott & Julie Sanders and Family	24 Wendell & Shirley VanVoorhis	25 Chris Beebe & Andi Michelson	26 Mark & Terri Cook and Family	27 Terry & Mikel Bailey	28 CCHO	29 Jordan & Sarah Bennett and Family
30 Bud & Nancy Barlow	31 Mary Clapper	1	2	3	4	5



Women's Ministry

"Water finds its own level" simply means that people will seek out those most like themselves. This applies to all aspects of one's life; your finances, profession, education...and faith. Each Sunday we congregate with others who, for the most part, are on the same faith plane as ourselves. But wouldn't December, the month filled with joy and rejoicing over the birth of our Savior, wouldn't that month be an ideal time to pull into our fold someone who isn't on the same level in their faith? To seek out those who seem lost because they don't have in their hearts the reason we celebrate. *Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.*

Thank you to all who helped prepare for and attend the Women's Christmas Dinner. And also a big thank you to all the ladies who participated in this year's Secret Sister!

Keep a look out for more information on joining the 2019 Secret Sister program and in December, the Women's Ministry will again be shopping for the families adopted by IRCC. Shopping assistance would be appreciated.

In Jesus' love, until He comes,
Stacey Fallot



By The Way



Growing up we all knew that one clever clog who liked to give you this sage advice on budgeting; you work three months out of the year just to pay taxes. That's true, but I think if we are looking at things that way, there needs to be a few more line items on that list.

You work 3 months out of the year to pay taxes, another 4 to pay your bills, 1 month for groceries, 1 month for general maintenance of vehicle and home, another 1 month for birthday/Christmas gifts, 1 month for gas, and finally 1 month to pay all of your friends who mooch off of you. Now if only we could squeeze another month or two of work in there we would be showing a profit, instead of working 70 hour weeks and still being broke.

If there is one thing we can all agree on, it is that life is expensive. Almost as expensive as dying. There is nothing in life that is free. Nothing that is; except the Grace of God, which is why I think so many people are skeptical of it, because anything free is surely a lie. In these last few and exceptionally expensive months of this year, be grateful that Grace is free, because it's true price is one we could never pay.

God Bless,
Caleb Bailey

Scripture Search for December



The answers to last issue's search were as follows:

1. 10,000 pieces of silver (about \$1,000,000.00) Esther 3:9
2. 600 gold shekels, (around \$300,000.00) I Chronicles 21:25 *The amount seems much less in II Samuel 24:24 where some versions read 50 shekels of silver. The difficulty is in deciding between 'shekels' and 'talents' in the translation – more difficult than you might think! If the weight in II Samuel is read as 'Talents' of silver then the value is equivalent to the 600 shekels of gold in I Chronicles!*
3. 100 talents of silver, 10,000 kors of wheat, 10,000 kors of Barley (a talent of silver weighed about 75 pounds and a kor = about 6.2 bushels – at latest prices) We'd say \$1,740,000.00 per year in silver, \$310,000.00 per year in wheat and \$279,000.00 per year in barley – a three year value of just about \$7,000,000.00 I'll leave you to figure what 7 million 2018 dollars were worth then!) II Chronicles 27:5
4. \$50,000 pieces of silver (a touch over \$5,000,000.00) Acts 19:19
5. The Corinthians, I Corinthians 6:20, 7:23

Kudos to Deb Reed, Russell E. Thorn and Diane Gross who know their Bibles a little better for having sought out those answers. Join them in this new search on – Robes.

1. On what occasion did Jonathan give his robe to David?
2. Which two kings, arrayed in their royal robes, witnessed the prophet Zedekiah sporting a set of iron horns?
3. Which prophet criticized the Israelites for stripping the robes from unsuspecting passers-by?
4. What color robe was put on Jesus just prior to His Crucifixion?
5. In what will the tribulation saints wash their robes white?

When you know the answers and the references, get them in to the church office and remember, you cannot know your Bibles too well.



Pantry items for December are canned vegetables such green beans, corn, carrots, mixed vegetables, etc. There is a box across from the office for your donations. Thank you!