

# Heritage Happenings



A Publication of Heritage Church

ligonierheritage@gmail.com

www.ligonierheritage.org

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** How are you planning to grow in your relationship with Jesus in 2026? I hope you're taking time for prayerful discernment. To kick off the new year and provide spiritual direction, we're offering intentional ways to help you **Know, Follow, and Share Jesus.**

You might consider making new decisions to worship more regularly, participate in a Bible study or small group, or serve in an upcoming ministry. I encourage you to take your next right step with Jesus.

To help us get started on the right foot, I'm inviting you to take two specific actions. These may be challenging and even uncomfortable, but I encourage you to join me. First, attend Sunday worship on January 4. We will be worshiping Jesus using the **Wesley Covenant Service**, which calls us to recommit ourselves to Jesus in all areas of our lives.

Secondly, I invite you to participate in a **church-wide fast** on Thursdays in January. Here's what I'll be doing: **I will fast following dinner on Wednesday night through lunch on Thursday, which means I will miss two meals.** During the times when I would normally eat, I will read that day's SOAP passage and pray. Will you join me from your own home? Imagine a church united through prayer and fasting, seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance for our lives as we begin the new year. Let me know if you'll be joining me.

**Church Wide Fast on Thursdays**  
**January 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**

**What Should I Pray?**

*Pray for your spiritual renewal*  
*Pray for God's guidance and direction*  
*Pray for humility and surrender*  
*Pray for forgiveness and healing*  
*Pray for unsaved family and friends*  
*And anything else!*



**Unleashing Heaven**  
**Pastor Ron's January Teaching Series**

The Beatitudes, which are central to Jesus' teachings, introduce a revolutionary concept of blessedness that challenges the prevailing wisdom of our time. These profound statements are not simply platitudes or gentle reminders to "be nice." Instead, they outline the essence of the kingdom of heaven and define how we should live as people of that kingdom.

Jan. 4 **I Will Live Completely Dependent on God**  
Jan. 11 **I Will Live Broken about My Sin**  
Jan. 18 **I Will Live with Bridled Self-Control**  
Jan. 25 **I Will Live Longing for More of Jesus**  
Feb. 1 **I Will Live Giving Mercy**  
Feb. 8 **I Will Live Holy**  
Feb. 15 **I Will Dare to Live Openly for Jesus**

## **BEING A GLOBAL METHODIST CHRISTIAN**

In 2023, Heritage Church made the prayerful decision to join the movement of the Global Methodist Church. This decision has inspired us to think and act differently about following Jesus and allowing the Bible to guide our lives and ministry. We are continuing to grow into this new way of being. We are no longer who we once were!



Now, almost three years into this journey, and with many new faces at Heritage, it's a great time to learn what it means to be Global Methodist Christians. Pastor Ron is offering a brief class on Sunday mornings. You are welcome to join us and discover what it truly means to be a Global Methodist. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

**SUNDAYS 9:35 am – 10:30 am**  
**Heritage Church Lounge**

Jan. 18 – Wesleyan Doctrine – What Do We Believe?  
Jan. 25 – Social Witness - What Do We Stand For?  
Feb. 1 – Transformative Discipleship – What Do We Expect?  
Feb. 8 – Transformative Discipleship Part 2  
Feb. 15 – Fulfilling the Mission -What Will We Accomplish?

## **Monday Night Bible Study News**

### **Monday Night Bible Study**

The Monday Night Bible Study group will resume meeting on January 5th at 6:30 pm in the lounge. All are welcome to join us as we begin our new 8 week study, "The Book of Philippians" by Joby Martin. Joby will demonstrate that being with Jesus and belonging to His church fuels our joy and contentment in any situation.

## **Circle of Ruth Meets Jan. 8th**

Circle of Ruth will meet Thursday, January 8th at 6:30 PM in the Heritage church lounge. We will be continuing our Bible Study, *Lyrics of Life* by Lisa Harper with the session titled "Messy Beards and Our Merciful God" Through this session, we will learn to exit times of suffering, thanking God for his commitment to hear and respond to us. Ellen Yeskey will lead the Bible study and Beth Caldwell will bring a dessert to share. We will be signing Valentine's Day cards for our card ministry. Please join us for fellowship, fun, and dessert!



## **Red Cross Blood Drive Feb. 20th**

Heritage will host a blood drive on Friday, February 20th from 1 - 5 pm. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter our zip code to schedule an appointment. A sign up sheet for volunteers is on the bulletin board or contact the office if you would like to help. Thank you!



January SOAP Readings

Scripture – which passage am I reading?  
Observation – what does this passage say about God?  
What’s it say about people?  
Application – what does this passage mean for me?  
What will I do about it?  
Prayer – what is my prayer as it relates to this?

January 1	Matthew 5:1-12
January 2	Matthew 5:13-16
January 3	Matthew 5:17-20
January 4	Matthew 5:21-26
January 5	Matthew 5:27-30
January 6	Matthew 5:31-32
January 7	Matthew 5:33-37
January 8	Matthew 5:38-42
January 9	Matthew 5:43-48
January 10	Matthew 6:1-4
January 11	Matthew 6:5-15
January 12	Matthew 6:16-18
January 13	Matthew 6:19-24
January 14	Matthew 6:25-27
January 15	Matthew 6:28-34
January 16	Matthew 7:1-6
January 17	Matthew 7:7-12
January 18	Matthew 7:13-14
January 19	Matthew 7:15-20
January 20	Matthew 7:21-23
January 21	Matthew 7:24-29
January 22	Exodus 19:1-6
January 23	Exodus 19:7-15
January 24	Exodus 19:16-19
January 25	Exodus 19:20-25
January 26	Exodus 20:1-3
January 27	Exodus 20:4-6
January 28	Exodus 20:7
January 29	Exodus 20:8-11
January 30	Exodus 20:12-17
January 31	Exodus 20:18-21



Collection for Union Mission

Circle of Ruth is collecting items for the Union Mission now through the end of January. “The Union Mission is a Christian organization located in Latrobe, that provides a temporary haven for men in need and assists them in building lifelong relationships.” They are in need of new and gently used men's clothing, coats, winterwear (hats, gloves, etc.), tennis shoes, white socks and men's new underwear; hygiene and cleaning items; paper products; towels and washcloths; small and XL garbage bags. A bin will be available under the table in the stairway for your donations. Thank you very much for supporting this mission project!!



Thank you to all who brought in items for our mitten tree. Together we collected 7 hat & glove sets, 3 pairs of gloves, 3 pairs of mittens, 13 hats and 1 scarf.



Ligonier’s Ice Fest will be held January 23-25. The Cub Scouts will be having their annual Soup Sale on Sunday beginning at noon.



*Keeping the family and friends of Mary Kay Cieslo in prayer. She passed away on December 2nd and had been Heritage’s custodian since 2011. Thank you to all who have stepped up to help keep Heritage in good shape until we can hire someone new. An update on Stephen: he did have lung surgery on Dec. 11th and all went very well. Praying that he’s good to go now.*



A big thank you to all the kids who participated in the Christmas program on December 14th, and also to those who helped organize it. You did an amazing job!






Dear Ruth Circle, I was in a medical facility where it was chilly and they brought me this throw to warm me up. I’d like to thank you for the work you do to bring love and joy to others. God bless you. Phyllis

The 2026 Heritage Church Leadership Team  
(Paragraph 443 GMC Doctrine and Discipline)

Team Chair: Rich Ziegenfus (Lay Leader)  
Staff/Parish/HR Lead: Emily Kelly  
Trustee Lead: Greg Schaetzle  
Finance Lead: Tom Shearer  
Clergy (Leadership Development): Dr. Ron Geisler  
Secretary: Cara Evans



# January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Office Closed 	2 Office Closed	3 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Rich Ziegenfus w/music by Linda & Josh Biery
4 12 pm Undecorating the Sanctuary	5 6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study Resumes 7 pm LVAC Mtg. at Heritage	6	7 11 am Clergy Mtg. in Lounge	8 6:30 pm Circle of Ruth Mtg. in Lounge	9	10 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Matt Barany w/live music by Kasey Kisner
11	12	13	14	15 1 pm Linus Blanket Workday in Fellowship Hall	16 Office Closed 7 pm Coffeehouse at The Barn	17 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron
18 9:35 am Global Methodist Christian Class	19 Office Closed 	20	21 10 am–2 pm Pgh. South Circuit Clergy Gathering in Lounge	22	23 12 pm Newsletter Deadline 	24 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron 
25 9:35 am Global Methodist Christian Class 12–5 pm Cub Scout Soup Sale Fundraiser 	26	27	28	29	30	31 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Ken Clark of Clean Water Kenya

**Anniversaries:**  
Ron & Louise Wagner, 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Rick & Maggie Hildebrand, 24<sup>th</sup>

**Regular and Weekly Meetings**  
Sunday 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Services  
9:40 am Sunday School  
Monday 6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study  
Tuesday 6:00 pm Cub Scouts in Fellowship Hall  
Weds 8:00 pm AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall  
Thursday 9:00 am Bible Study at Senior Center  
Friday 8:00 pm AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall  
Saturday 6:00 pm Saturday Night Service



**January Birthdays**

Dylan Jackman – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Dean Marks, II – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Rob Wagner – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Westen Nicodemus – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Celena Valentine – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Christian Petrilla – 11<sup>th</sup>  
Peregrine Woolridge – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Andrew Geisler – 17<sup>th</sup>  
Hannah Yeskey – 17<sup>th</sup>  
Tyler Neiderhiser - 18<sup>th</sup>  
Andrew Flower – 19<sup>th</sup>  
Heather Flower – 24<sup>th</sup>  
Pam Stablein - 25<sup>th</sup>  
Vivienne Burson – 25<sup>th</sup>  
Joshua Gruendling – 27<sup>th</sup>