



# The Reminder

## Indian Head Church of God



December, 2023

### Mission Statement

The Indian Head Church of God exists to glorify God with Christ centered worship, Biblically oriented discipleship and Holy Spirit directed evangelism and mission.



We are collecting items each month for the ICV Food Pantry. The items can be placed in the container in the Normalville side foyer. For the month of **December will be toilet paper and kleenex.**

We appreciate your help in donating these monthly items for the ICV Food Pantry.



### Meat Vouchers

We are continuing with the **Meat Vouchers** for the ICV Food Pantry for Christmas. If you would like to donate \$10.00 towards this need, there are special envelopes in the back of the Sanctuary, by the turkey. We will be collecting donations until Sunday, December 3. Please make checks out to ICV Food Pantry.



### Nursing Home Gifts

If you took a Christmas gift tag for one of the nursing home residents, please be reminded that the gifts, along with the tag, need to be returned to the church no later than Sunday, December 17.



**Wednesday, December 13  
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

The Indian Head Church of God Community Luncheon Ministry will be offering

### **FREE HOMEMADE SOUP**

by drive thru only, while supplies last. Soup will be packaged cold in containers and distributed here in the church parking lot. This event is held the second Wednesday of every month. If you would like to help, contact Bonnie Kimmel or Amy Grimm. Everyone is welcome to come and get some soup!



Everyone is invited to attend our **Saturday Evening Worship Services**

7 p.m. each Saturday night, especially if you are unable to come to church on Sunday mornings.



Penny Pile Sunday is Dec. 31. This is an extra offering taken during Sunday School for Camp Sunrise Mountain. There are also plastic containers in each foyer, beneath the podiums, that you can put money in at any time for



**Sunday, December 31**

in the Social Room, Immediately following the late worship service. Please bring a covered dish.



We were able to send **853** shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child from our church.

There were 4,332 shoeboxes collected here and transported to the Central Drop Off Center in Uniontown.

Thank you to everyone who participated in any way!!



We extend our most heartfelt and deepest sympathy to...

\*The family of Jim Cline, husband of Cheryl Cline.

\*The family of Charlotte "Shotty" Hartz, mother of Kathy Mazurek, Mark, Scott, and sister Alverta Pritts.

\*The family of Arthur Pritts, Jr., cousin of Kayla McClain and fiancé of Mary "Bunny" Stairs.

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."  
Matthew 5:4



\*Dear Indian Head Church of God,  
Thank you for the love, prayers, and support over the years.

Love and Prayer,  
Shotty Hartz family



You can give online through the Vanco app called the...

**Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app.** (with the app picture above)

We have three options available for your convenience.

1. Text your donation to: 888-788-2914
2. Give online via our webpage and follow the **Donate** link.
3. Donate through the **VANCO Mobile Faith Engagement app** at the **Google Play Store or Apple App Store.**

Thank you to all who are supporting the church through these difficult times with your generous donations.

Donations can also be mailed to the church office at:

Indian Head Church of God  
PO Box 488  
Indian Head PA 15446



The following were Baptized on Sunday, November 5...

Judson Michael

William Eugene Ohler

"So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." (Galatians 3:26-27)



The Congregational meeting was held on November 14.

The 2024 budget was approved.

The following officers were elected:

**Elder**

Kevin Miller (3 year term)

**Deacons**

Wendy Swank & Scott Porterfield (2 year term)

**Trustees**

Doug Basinger & Mark Salyers (2 year term)

**Deaconess**

Patty Bruner (2 year term)

**Outreach & Missions**

Tammy Naugle (3 year term)

**Clerk**

Susan Shepler (1 year term)



If you would like access, please send your email address to the church office...  
ihcog@lhtot.com



We WELCOME the following couples who have fellowshiped into the membership of our church family on Sunday, November 12...

Pastor Ben and Sherri Tobias  
Brad and Susan Rodeheaver



**Installation**

The Installation of Church and Sunday School Officers will be held on Sunday, January 7 during all worship services.



**White Gift Offering**

Our special Christmas White Gift Offering will be received on Saturday and Sunday, December 23 and 24. However, we will accept this offering at any time. You will be receiving a Christmas letter with the White Gift offering envelope in your mail soon.



Sunday, December 3 at 3:00 p.m., there will be  
**All Church Christmas Caroling**  
at Woodcrest Senior Living in Scottsdale.

Meet here at the church at 2:15 p.m., or  
at Woodcrest at 3:00 p.m.



## **CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Sunday, December 24**  
**4:00 & 7:00PM**

(The 7:00 PM service will also be live streamed  
on our Facebook page.)



### **End of Year Giving**

Any gifts received by Dec. 31, 2023 may be included with 2023 giving. Any mailed gifts received and postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 2023 may be included with 2023 giving.

#### **Important Notice:**

To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2023 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax-deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church.



### **Church Snow Policy**

There will be Sunday morning services unless there is no electricity and or heat at the church. However, the church advises the use of caution and care when coming to church during times of winter weather.

The Saturday Evening Worship Service will automatically be cancelled if there is an NWS issued ACTIVE WEATHER ALERT involving the hours of 6:00-9:00 p.m. Active weather alerts would include such common items as a:

- *Winter Weather Advisory*
- *Winter Storm Warning*
- *Ice Storm Warning*

Any uncertainty, please contact the church office or Pastor Doug.



Congratulations to Austin and Taige Cramer, who became the parents of a baby boy, Remington Shane Cramer. Proud grandparents are Brian and Darla Cramer, and great-grandmother Geraldine Cramer.



Notes from Ad Council meeting on November 20th...

\*Pastor Ben will be starting a young couples Sunday School class in January.

\*Approved to schedule our annual Congregational Meeting the Tuesday following Election Day each calendar year.

\*Nursery Care is a need here at our church. Contact Dave Bruner if you are interested in this ministry.

\*We still have leftover VBS materials available in anyone is interested.

\*The Intermediate Dept. children's Sunday School Christmas Party will be held Dec. 17 in the Social Room during the Sunday School hour.

\*At the Trunk or Treat held at Resh's Park, there were 25 decorated cars and 275 kids and families.

\*653 shoeboxes were packed with items donated all year long, and 200 individual packed shoeboxes, making a total of 853 shoeboxes sent from our church.

\*There were 4,332 shoeboxes collected here and transported to the Central Drop Off Center in Uniontown

\*Coy Millwood will continue to plow the parking lots this winter.





# Christmas Peace

The cup of tea is steeping as she settles into her soft chair setting in the sun. These moments have been longed for all day. The earlier hours had been chaotic - pack lunches - get the kids to school - make phone calls for appointments - clean up the kitchen - plan dinner. Now she finally has some peace.

Peace: An elusive experience in our world today. We all want it. We all need it. Yet, it still seems so distant even when we get a few moments of quiet, alone time.

Peace: Often defined as the absence of conflict. Someone did a historical study years ago. At that point in time they concluded that in all the world history there had only been three years when there was no war.

Peace: It has to be more than a word; more than a saying; more than a pleasant feeling or endeared event. Peace must also go beyond the words and the sentiments of a season. And it needs to be more than experiential.

Peace: Real peace has to be a transforming encounter with the divine.

We are entering the holiday season when we hear, "Peace on Earth." However, the words of Longfellow's poem ring out: "And in despair I bowed my head; 'There is no peace on earth,' I said; 'For hate is strong, and mocks the song of peace on earth, good-will to men!'"

It was after the announcement of the angels to the shepherds regarding the birth of Jesus the Messiah when the praise to God resounded: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." (Luke 2:14)

Jesus' arrival brings God's peace! No more warring with our Creator because of our sin. No more conflict of our ways verses the ways of God. No more dissettlement from God because we have abandoned His righteousness for our own. God's presence brings PEACE!

While wars may not cease in our world and unrest amongst people may continue, the redeeming presence of God - Father, Son and Spirit - not only brings to us.. but IS OUR PEACE!

The cup of tea in a quiet solitary place may give us an escape from an overflowing schedule and world - but it is in those moments, and thousands of other experiences when we may encounter the transforming presence of God our Peace.

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you. (2 Thess. 3:16)  
Christmas Shalom!

Pastor Doug



God's  
Peace



*Adult Choir*

*Christmas Cantata*

*"O Holy Light"*

by Mary McDonald

*Sunday, December 10*  
*7:00 p.m.*



Our Children's Choir will present  
the opening of the program.



*Indian Head Church of God*

(691 Indian Creek Valley Road)  
Phone: 724-455-2626