The Eastern Area Churches
of the
Cincinnati Presbytery

The Vine

News *from the* EAC! Nov., Dec., 2026

CROP Walk Results Are In!

From Barbara Jean Havens

We are so grateful for each church that participated in the CROP Walk! And to each treasurer because we had all the donations collected in record time this year!

As of this writing, I mailed receipts of $2,344 to Church World Services! Last year's receipts were $1,986, so we exceeded last year's offering by $358!! Great work everyone!!

Participating congregations were:

- Winchester
- Mowrystown
- Cherry Fork
- Georgetown
- Seaman

God bless all who contributed! You are each a vital part of our mission and ministry. Let us pray that we may add more participating churches to next year's campaign.

Holiday Memes & Quotes

* "Lord, bless this food to the nourishment of our bodies - and ask God to make up for our bad choices when we eat." - *Tim Hawkins*
* "I come from a family where gravy is considered a beverage." - *Erma Bombeck*"
* I can't cook a Thanksgiving dinner. All I can make is cold cereal, maybe toast." - *Charlie Brown*
* He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree. - Roy L. Smith
* Santa has been reading your posts all year. Most of you are getting Bibles and dictionaries.
* Dance like Frosty! Shine like Rudolph! Give like Santa! Love like Jesus!

Cherry Fork News

From Norine Behm & Brenda Shupert

We had our annual "Fall Gathering" on Oct. 3rd at the home of Harry and Jane Leonard. Everyone enjoyed a potluck dinner, roasting hot dogs & smores over the fire. And what church Fall outing would be complete without a hayride through the winding country roads!

The Women's Group meeting on Oct. 7th enjoyed good food provided by Colleen Shoemaker and a lesson "Daughter of the King" taught by Jane Leonard.

Christian Crafting made decoupage on glass jars led by Jane Hesler (see the light) on Oct. 12th. Each jar was different and unique!

November is shaping up to be a busy month, too! We're preparing for quite a celebration! The church building is 120 years old with a church congregation dating back over 200 years!

The Women's Association is celebrating 135 years! On Nov. 15th they will be in charge of worship and receiving the Thank Offering. A lot of history to celebrate in November!

We'll announce the first Sunday of Advent on Nov. 29th with Holy Communion.

December activities will include a Sunday of Music and our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 9:30 pm. We'll serve Holy Communion at the Christmas Eve service.

And, as always, please remember that everyone is welcome to all these activities, especially to our monthly Community Luncheons on the last Wednesday of each month from 11:30 – 1.

From the Cherry Fork Congregation:
A Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving and a Blessed, Merry Christmas!
"... for unto us a child is born" ... his names is JESUS!





Oh,
give thanks to the
LORD,
for He is
GOOD,
for His steadfast
LOVE
endures forever!

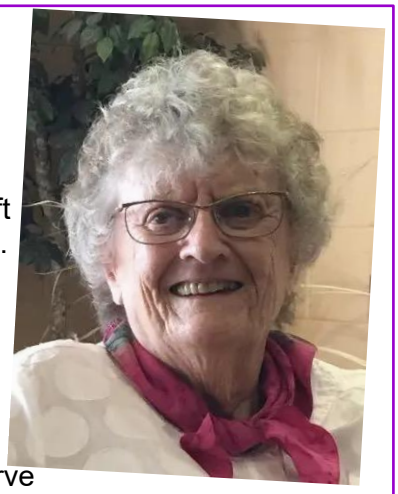
Psalm 107:1

For a **child** is **born** to us,
a **son** is given to us.
The government will rest on **his** shoulders.
And **he** will be called:
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6 NLT

Remembering Ruth

From Barbara Jean Havens



How very blessed the Eastern Area was when Dr. Ruth Dunn arrived in our Presbytery! We give thanks to our Almighty Father for the incredible gift of her service, friendship, and love of this area, its churches, and its people. We had her help for at least the last 25 years serving in many different areas.

Ruth was Pastor of Sardinia Presbyterian Church and Georgetown Presbyterian Church, one after the other. She served on the Presbytery Committees of Small Church Ministry and Preparation for Ministry.

After retirement (which did not come early for Ruth) she continued to serve as Moderator for Cranston Memorial P.C. and Georgetown P.C. She also served as mentor for various lay pastors. And besides all this service, she was elected to the Eastern Area Council Steering Team continuously, including 2 terms as Moderator, during all the time she resided here. After her final retirement she was given the honorary distinction of "Member Emeritus."

I regret that it never occurred to us to celebrate her years of ministry while she was still with us. She will be missed for many years to come!

Obituary: Dr. Ruth Dunn

Ruth Dunn, 92, of Cincinnati, Ohio passed away on September 20, 2026.

Ruth was born in 1934, in Queens, NY to the late Hugh and Esther Dunn. Along with her parents, she is also preceded in death by her brother, Hugh W. Dunn.

She is survived by her nephew and niece, Kenneth Dunn (Melodie) and Lee Daugherty (Matthew); and numerous other friends and family.

Ruth was a remarkable woman whose life was defined by faith, courage, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to justice. Raised in New Jersey, she became a great champion for racial justice and was present at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic "I Have a Dream" speech, an experience that reflected her lifelong dedication to equality and the dignity of every person.

She served as a campus minister at Vincennes University and faithfully preached in Brown County Presbyterian churches well into her 89th year. An active and beloved part of the Cincinnati Presbytery, Ruth shared her faith not only from the pulpit but through the many weddings and baptisms she officiated for family members, creating cherished memories that will live on for generations.

Beyond her ministry, she was a talented artist and a dedicated breeder of champion English setters, pursuits that reflected her creativity, passion, and determination.

Above all, Ruth was deeply grateful for her family and relished every opportunity to gather together, finding joy in the love and connection those moments brought. She was never one to shy away from speaking her truth or offering her opinions, and her honesty, strength of character, and spirited personality made her a truly unforgettable presence in the lives of all who knew her.

A service honoring Ruth's life was held at Knox Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati on October 24th.

EAC Leadership Team 2026-2027

Moderator/Treasurer	Rev. Mike Hughes
Vice Moderator	Linda Watson
Secretary	Sue Fulton
Past Moderator	John Martin
Member	Rev. Mike Brazelle
Member	CP Norine Behm
Member	CP Barbara Jean Havens
Coordinator	

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving

Nov. 29 - First Sunday of Advent

Dec. 23 - Candlelight Service at 7pm *(Seaman UPC)*

Dec. 24 - Candlelight Service & Communion 9:30 pm *(Cherry Fork PC)*

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day

Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve

For Jan./Feb., 2027 Issue

Articles & Photos due: ***Sat., Dec. 19th!***

Thank you!