

Holgate Community Church

“Making new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”

December 2025/January 2026



Message from the Pastors:

We are spending our Advent season this year at HCC discussing the Lights of Christmas. Christmas lights are a staple decorative necessity in our world today. We even have television shows based on decorating houses with Christmas lights! Those are not the lights, though, that we are dwelling on. We are dwelling on a tiny baby in a feeding trough in a stable with two teenagers taking care of him. This little baby who is the light of the world is also the Light of Hope, the Light of Joy, the Light of Peace, and the Light of Love.

The stable where the newborn King was born was not decorated with Christmas lights. But it also was not in the dark. For a star shone bright in the sky, serving as a guiding light to the miracle that had just happened. It served as a placemaker for the baby who would change the world.

How were people supposed to find this proverbial baby in a haystack? They followed that star! The shepherds did, and were amazed by what they found. But they were not the only ones, for The Magi did as well. They were students of astrology, and when they noted a new star in the sky, it could only mean one thing: a new king, a great king, was on the way. And they were compelled to put aside everything they were doing and studying to take a long and dangerous journey to find that new King.

The undeniable truth of a star is that it shines its light for all people. It does not sort out the Jews from the Greeks, the believers from the nonbelievers, the saved from the unsaved. Its light wants to guide us every day to that baby in the manger, to that new King, to the King of our Salvation. To the one who left the splendor of heaven for the squalor of earth. He became like us, so that we could become like Him. He did that for you and for me. For all.

This Christmas season, look for His star. Let it lead you out of a stained and tarnished life to a new life, a life of righteousness, made possible only through Him. May all of you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Pastor Shawn and Pastor Diane

Joy and Hope Youth Group

The group is currently studying the life of Moses in Sunday School. From the burning bush to the plagues to the Promised Land, it is an amazing study of one of the Bible's best loved heroes.

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER:

Scripture Verse: Luke 2:10-14

'Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be the sign to you: you will find the Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.'

Prayer:

Father of mercy,

Similar to the shepherds that night, we were outcasts from You due to our sin. We were terminally stained and separated from You. Instead of condemning us, You chose to claim us by the incredible act of leaving the splendor of Heaven for the squalor of human life. Your birth led to the cross. The cross led to Your death for us. Your death led to Your resurrection and freedom for those of us captive to sin. We praise You always for the immeasurable gift You gave us. Amen.

PRAYER CONCERNS

As a reminder, if you have a prayer request that you would like shared with the Prayer Chain, please contact either:

Pastor Shawn: 313-999-2653 Pastor Diane: 419-438-0685



Stay in touch ONLINE and through our SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS:

[Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)

Website: holgatecommunitychurch.org

Email: hcc@holgatecommunitychurch.org

[YouTube Channel](#): Search Holgate Community Church

LifeWise

Praising God for the growth of our students attending Lifewise each week! We currently have 98 elementary students from kindergarten to fifth grade! Praising God also for the evidence of their faith growing as well. I love hearing them as they share praise to God for answered prayers... from healings, to reading their Bible with their parents, to getting to go to church! God is doing a beautiful thing and He is using you too by your continued support through your prayers, your monetary donations and your help when needs arise. We are so grateful for you and ask you to continue to pray for these students, they are carrying heavy concerns at such a young age. Pointing them to Jesus and His love for them is what LifeWise is all about.

December will be all about the Savior coming for us, a sinner, in such a humble way, whom He loves and wants to be the Savior of our life. A time to hear the life changing gift God gave us, His Son, Jesus. Pray these kids grasp the true meaning of Christmas and share with their friends and family. Blessings to you all this Christmas season.

Missions

Thanks to your generosity, our church was able to help 9 families for Thanksgiving! We were able to give them all the basics for a traditional Thanksgiving meal, along with a turkey, as well as a gift certificate for perishable food. All of the families were very grateful for the gift!

Christmas tags are now available to help a few local families with Christmas gifts for their children. If you have questions or would like to help, please reach out to Stephanie (419-966-6875) or Chris (419-438-2551). As always, thank you for your generosity!

Update on Serving Opportunities

We still have the following areas open as opportunities for serving within our church:

- Song leader/Praise Leader
- Children's Sunday School teacher
- Camera operator
- AudioVisual creator/presenter
- Any new ministry opportunity you can think of!! Serving in the church is the greatest gift we can give to others and give to ourselves. Let us know what you would like to do!

Holgate Community Church - What's Next??

As 2025 draws to a close, we will start by updating you on a few projects that are still ongoing:

- ☐ The AED has arrived!!! Training on how and when to use it will occur in January and then the device will be installed on the wall. Training times will be announced at a later date.
- ☐ The plans for the addition to the front of the church have been submitted back to the architect. He is now contacting contractors to give us a rough estimate of what the cost will be. We will then decide if and when to proceed.

With the dawning of 2026 looming ahead of us, it is time to consider what projects we would like to undertake this year. The Leadership Team is always looking for suggestions from all of you concerning what you would like to see done. As we generate ideas, we need to always keep in mind not necessarily what is inside of our walls, but what is outside of them as well.

What is missing in our community that we could provide either in our building or on our campus? We have many organizations who use our building for meetings, fundraisers, and gatherings of all kinds. Are there other opportunities where an invitation could be extended? Are there other projects within the building which would facilitate even more?

What about on our campus? Last year, we tackled our woods a bit to see what would be needed to create walking trails, a sanctuary, a prayerful environment. Are there ideas of how to accomplish that or create something even better? What about on our grounds? Grass is nice, but it probably won't bring anyone to our campus! Do we need a playground for children? Could we take part of our land and create a soccer field? How about an outdoor sand-pit volleyball court (maybe start a young couples coed league?) Pickleball courts??!!?? Maybe a community garden? Where does your mind take you when you close your eyes and visualize our campus? Share that vision with a member of the Leadership Team! Let's make 2026 a year of growing our outreach to an even higher level!

Worship Plans for December

Date	Pastor	Message
7	Pastor Diane	Christmas Lights Part I: The Light of Hope
14	Pastor Shawn	Christmas Lights Part II :The The Light of Joy
21	Pastor Diane	Christmas Lights Part III: The Light of Peace
24	Pastor Shawn/Diane	Christmas Lights Part IV: The Light of Love
28	Pastor Diane	'Recounting our Blessings'

December Worship Leaders

DEC	PASTOR	LITURGIST	ACOLYTE	CAMERA	AUDIO/VISUAL	TRANSPORTATION
7	Pastor Diane	Kevin Simon	Jack Hastings	Levi Zachrich	Stephanie Zachrich	Barb Fritz and Kevin Simon
14	Pastor Shawn	Nikki Hastings	Holice Hartman	Gabe Moore	Stephanie Zachrich	Chris Kelly and Deb Wagner
21	Pastor Diane	John Fritz	Hudson Hartman	Levi Zachrich	Nikki Hastings	Barb Fritz and Kevin Simon
24	Pastor Shawn/Diane		Haizel Hartman	Gabe Moore	Nikki Hastings	Chris Kelly and Deb Wagner
28	Pastor Diane	Barb Fritz	Holice Hartman	Levi Zachrich	Nikki Hastings	Barb Fritz and Kevin Simon

Worship Plans for January

Date	Pastor	Message
4	Pastor Diane	'How God Operates in Our Lives'
11	Pastor Shawn	
18	Pastor Shawn	
25	Pastor Diane	'How People Come to God'

January Worship Leaders

JAN	PASTOR	LITURGIST	ACOLYTE	CAMERA	AUDIO/VISUAL	TRANSPORTATION
4	Pastor Diane	Levi Zachrich	Jack Hastings	Gabe Moore	Nikki Hastings	Chris Kelly and Deb Wagner
11	Pastor Shawn	Kevin Simon	Holice Hartman	Levi Zachrich	Stephanie Zachrich	Barb Fritz and Kevin Simon
18	Pastor Shawn	Nikki Hastings	Hudson Hartman	Gabe Moore	Stephanie Zachrich	Chris Kelly and Deb Wagner
25	Pastor Diane	Barb Fritz	Holice Hartman	Levi Zachrich	Stephanie Zachrich	Barb Fritz and Kevin Simon

December Events

Birthdays

- 1 Evan Dopp
- 13 Mary Lou Miller
- 14 Paul Anderson
- 17 Pat Price
- 23 Todd Kelly
- 25 Natalie Hullinger

Events

- 10 Leadership Team Meeting 7pm
- 10 Together We Can Make a Difference 6pm-7pm
- 24 Together We Can Make a Difference 6pm-7pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Service 7pm



January Events

Birthdays

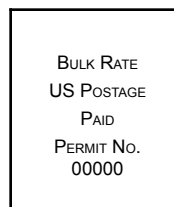
- 4 Kevin Muntz
- 9 Haizel Hartman
- 13 Kevin Simon
- 18 Ila Wolf
Sara Eiden
- 21 Deb Wagner
- 29 Ryan Zachrich

Events

- 14 Leadership Team Meeting
7pm
- 14 Together We Can Make a
Difference 6pm-7pm
- 28 Together We Can Make a
Difference 6pm-7pm



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