The Slifers Strides

VOLUME 2026 ISSUE 11 **November 2026**

Hello Friends!

It is hard to believe that we are entering into the month of Thanksgiving! How can it be? The fields have been harvested, and we are knocking on the door of Advent and then 2027! As I sit here, I am seeing leaves change colors. As we were camping this past weekend at the KOA in Brookville, we saw a lot of leaves changing and falling and the campground was full of families and lots of kids. There was a lot of energy and fun happening all over the campground!

This is a time of the year that we focus on what we are thankful for; now we do this all year, but I feel that this month is a month where we really reflect on our blessings. What are you thankful for?

I am thankful for my family and that our son Paul is employed and adulting on his own so well! Definitely prayers answered. For many of us this year has brought challenges, but it has also shown us the strength of our faith and the power of our church family. In a world that often seems divided and uncertain, our congregation has remained a steadfast source of love and support to one another; and for this I am so very thankful!
This year, we have seen God's faithfulness in the quiet moments and in the unexpected blessings. We have prayed together, worshiped together, served together, cried together, and walked together through our joys and challenges.

I have witnessed the unmistakable evidence of God's grace here at Slifers. I have seen it in the warm fellowship of our gatherings like our funeral meals and the new practice of serving a recipe that was from the one we were remembering. I have seen it in the compassion shared with those in need. I have seen it in the strength offered during times of difficulty and in the ways, you continually lift one another up in prayer. I have seen it in new ways as the Good Futures team has been working and visioning for the future here at Slifers. I have also seen in as we try something new like "Muffins with the Minister" & "Picnic in a Pew."

I invite you to pause long enough to truly enter God's presence with gratitude. Allow your heart to reflect on the quiet ways God has sustained you, the prayers God has answered, the mercies God has extended, and the grace God has poured out day after day. Gratitude is not only an expression of worship — it becomes a pathway that leads our souls closer to God, the One who created us.

During the month of November we will dedicate space in our sanctuary for a "Wall of Thanks". On this space we will hang paper, and we are asking each

(continued on the next page)

Radical Hospitality

and every person who would like to share a thought, testimonial or drawing of what they are thankful for by using the supplied colored pencils, pens, crayons to share. I look forward to seeing what you all are thankful for, I know that I am thankful for each one of you!



WINGS MEETING will be on Tuesday, November 3rd at 3 pm

November Session Meeting
will be November 15th after

PTL
None scheduled for November

"The Ladies Circle"
will meet on Wednesday, November 17th at 10 AM

Muffins with the Minister
none scheduled for November

Table of Contents

From Rev. Kazy Hinds	1
Radical Hospitality	2
Passionate Worship	3
Extravagant Generosity	4
Risk-Taking Mission & Service	5
Intentional Faith Development	6
Session	7
Calendar	Insert
Poinsettia Order Form	Insert

Fall Dinner will be at St. Andrew Lutheran on Sat. Nov. 7th.
4:30 – 6:30 pm. $14 for adults, $7 for children, ages 6-12 free
Menu includes: Turkey or ham, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Cranberry Salad, Roll, Pie or cake, Mac & Cheese for kids, Drink included
Reservations preferred.
Call Tom Izor 937-696-226 for reservations.

CAMP HOLIDAY BOXES
CAMP has requested we collect (if possible) 40 each of Pancake Mix and Syrup for the Holiday Boxes.
Please bring them to church by Nov. 29 as they will be taken to Camp Nov. 30

CAMP DONATIONS Donations for November are meals in a box/can, boxed potatoes, cereal/instant oatmeal. All cleaning, personal & paper products are always welcome anytime. A plastic container in the hallway to collect the various items for CAMP

New Lebanon Village Food Pantry

Collection items for November are mashed potatoes, stuffing mix and gravy. A collection box is available in the hallway. IF you have any questions regarding the program and/or donations, please contact Carolyn or Paul Leatherman

Extravagant Generosity

September	2026	Year to Date
Beginning Balance	$ 38,112.63	
September Income	$ 9,313.15	$ 121,818.05
September Expenses	$ 13,991.08	$ 143,592,06
Ending Balance	$ 33,434.70	

The Nominating Committee

have begun to look for Session Members(Class of 2028). If you are interested in participating in Session Leadership, please notify a member of the Nominating Committee. Amy Cline, Greg Shell, William Longman or Sandy Dunwoody are currently serving on the Nominating Committee. Terms for Session are 2 years in length.

We witness the gifts of our Lord through this church and through service to his people. If you are interested in volunteering for a role on Session or have questions, please let Amy, Greg, William or Sandy know. Many hands make light the work and our efforts together help to expand the Good News to Slifers and to the Community surrounding us.

SPECIAL NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARY

November 24th

George & Sharon Shell 65 Years

Youth Group Fall 2026 Activities

Nov. 1st UMC Harvest Party 2-5 pm (rain date) Nov. 8th

Nov. 15th 6-7:30 pm UMC - Dinner provided

Nov. 20th Brookville Play

Nov. 29th 60-7:30 pm UMC – Dinner provided

Dec – Decorate Float for New Lebanon Parade

Christmas Caroling – Date TBD

Dec. 31st – 11 am-1 pm

New Years Eve at Noon at UMC

Ladies Christmas Party

Will be on Friday, December 11th at 10 am at Slifers Church. Bring your Secret Sister gift. If you do not have a Secret Sister you may also bring a gift to exchange. The Brunch will be catered but the cost has not yet been determined but should be close to last year's cost.. Please give your reservation to Barb Leis before December 1st. Remember to bring your donation for the Shut-in-bags. You do not have to be a Circle member to attend. We hope to see you there?

SPECIAL NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

19th Jerry Ney

26th Karl Kaylor

Passionate Worship



Nov. 1st	23 Sunday after Pentecost Communion Rev. Kazy Hinds Preaching
Nov. 8th	24th Sunday after Pentecost Rev. Kazy Hinds Preaching
Nov. 15th	25th Sunday after Pentecost Rev. Kazy Hinds preaching
Nov. 22nd	Christ the King Rev. Kazy Hinds preaching
Nov. 29th	1st Sunday in Advent Communion Rev. Kazy Hinds preaching

Virtual Worship Some of you may be wondering how things are going with our virtual worship services. How many people are watching? Of course, the Session will be making the decision about continuing the virtual services, but below is a snapshot of how many viewers we have each week. While we can't tell how many people are watching each "view," or if they watch the entire post, Facebook does count the number of views, so here are their counts since posted in the last Strides.

Date	Views
Sept 13th	189
Sept 27th	120
Oct 4th	152
Oct 11th	113

Our Annual Community Thanksgiving Service

Will be held this year at Slifers Church from 4 pm to 5 pm. Please join us in thanking God for the blessings we have received this past year.

Hanging of the Greens

Save the date of Saturday Nov. 28th in the morning for our annual decoration of our church for Christmas. We will be decorating the church inside and also setting up the Nativity Set outside on this date. Please join in the fun to decorate our church.

Poinsettia Time

It's that time of year to be thinking about ordering flowers for Christmas. All the flower centers want us to pre-order, so if you are interested in ordering, please do so by November15th. There is an order form included in this Strides. The cost is $9.50 each. Please send in your order and payment by November 15th. Thank you.

Info for the December Strides is due to the office by Monday, November 23rd

Risk-Taking Mission &service

VISIONING FOR SLIFERS BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Pastor Kazy has many aspects to her ministry at Slifers. One of those responsibilities is to assist the Slifers Session and congregation in identifying our mission and direction as we look into the future of our congregation in a changing environment. The Miami Presbytery introduced a program curriculum, "Good Futures" created by Rooted Good, that has demonstrated positive outcomes by helping congregations navigate their economic futures through changing communities, church attendance, membership and giving. The program was presented to the Session last fall and a small committee volunteered to move through this process identifying opportunities and direction. The committee includes Greg Shell, Jason Shell, Holly Michael, Lisa Kasperski and Amy Cline

Our first meeting was in March 2026. You may have been part of this process as we interviewed some congregation members about where and when we have been innovative and studied innovation provided in other churches. We saw how our church and its members have been, at our best, innovative and supportive of our community We walked through Farmersville with some of our youth to get their perspective of the town and the town needs. We identified internal and external stakeholders and interviewed some of those leaders in our immediate community; gaining their perspective as to what our community members need. We have walked the Slifers grounds, both inside and out. In that activity, we recognized what used to occur, remembered and honored the activities and relationships that were fostered in these areas and brainstormed about how our spaces might optimally be used for worship, growth and social enterprise. Our goal is to provide recommendations to the Session and you, the congregation, that will support services and space to reach out to people within our community, support worship and praise thus enhancing the worship experience and support social enterprise that may optimize the space we are blessed to have

Please pray for this team while we work through this process. While we are still determining a direction, we are asking you to continue to pray for a vision for Slifers that will allow us to reach out and welcome all God's children. We want this direction to honor our past, acknowledge our opportunities and create a vision for utilizing space, resources and gifts that will bring God's people together in joy and service.

If you have any questions or ideas, please bring those to one of the committee members.

Marcia Glenn will be out of the office on vacation from Nov. 6th through Nov. 22nd. . She will return on Nov. 23rd. Also, my personal email is going away in November. Remove email glennma92@hughes.net and replace it with ballysally15@gmail.com for me in your email addresses.

Intentional Faith Development



We Are There!

Jesus taught us that we were never created to walk alone. Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we are there to lift up past, present and future leaders of the church. Our gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering offer assistance to current and retired church workers and their families who may be facing financial crises.

Our gifts support leadership development for people of color and Presbyterian related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Our gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering Support ministries with children at risk and nurture the faith of youth and young adults through ministries like the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and Young Adult Volunteer program.

Please give generously. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

This offering will be collected on Sunday . December 20th.

Children's Christmas Program

Will be held this year on Sunday, December 13th

Mark your calendars to be sure and attend church that Sunday to see our children in action. Don't miss it!

Christmas Family

Again this year we will be sponsoring a family. We haven't received the information year on the family we will support. We will put the information in the bulletin as soon as we receive it. There will be "ornaments" on the small Christmas Tree which will be placed by the sanctuary door as usual. The gifts will need to be wrapped and brought to the church by early December.

New Lebanon Christmas Parade

We are planning on have a float in the New Lebanon Christmas Parade. If you wish to help decorate the float, please see Holly Michael for more information

See insert for a letter from Rev. Karel Hanhart seeking some information. Copy of his actual letter is on the bulletin board. It has been transcribed to print it.

Session and Committee Information

Clerk of Session
Janice Kronour

Administration Commission
Cline (Chair (2026)
Carolyn Leatherman (2026)

Personnel Committee
Amy Cline (Chair) (2026)
Carolyn Leatherman (2026)

Budget & Finance Committee
Greg Shell (Treasurer) (Chair 2027)
Paul Leatherman (2026)
Carolyn Leatherman (2026)
Jason Shell (Financial Secretary)

Property Committee
Greg Shell (Chair 2027)
Chris Bland (member-at-large)
James Glenn (member-at-large)
Karl Kaylor (member-at-large)
Omer Keener (member-at-large)
Brett Ney (member-at-large)
Jason Shell (member-at-large)
John Shell (member-at-large)

Nominating Committee
Amy Cline-Session-Chairperson (2026)
William Longman Congregation
Greg Shell (Session)
P.W. Sandy Dunwoody

Christian Education Commission
Linda Suttman (Chair 2026)
Barb Leis (member-at-large)
William Longman (member-at-large)

Member Care & Outreach Commissions
Lisa Kasperski (Chair 2027)
Janice Kronour (2027)
Greg Shell (2027)
Cinda Shell (member-at-large)

Worship & Music Commission and Technology
Amy Cline (Chair 2026)
Sandy Dunwoody (member-at-large)
Cinda Shell (member-at-large)
Sara Keener (Music)

Technology PR
Holly Michael (Chair 2026)
Jason Shell (member-at-large)
Craig Gray (member-at-large)
Brett Ney (member-at-large)

Memorial Committee (3 yr. term)
Greg Shell (Treasurer)
Barb Leis (2026)
Eunice Hunter (2026)
Omer Keener (2027)
Andrew O'Diam (2027)

Trustee
Paul Leatherman (2026)
Janice Kronour (2027)

Nominating Committee (2026)
Amy Cline
William Longman
Greg Shell
Sandy Dunwoody

The Slifers Strides

Slifers Presbyterian Church
2999 South Clayton Road
Farmersville, OH 45325

NOVEMBER 2026

Our Statement of Mission

“Prepare God’s Children to Love

and Accept Everyone with

Open Arms”

Adopted 2025