

1. Admit your need.  
*"I am a sinner."*
2. Be willing to turn from your sins.  
*"I am sorry for my sins, Lord. Please forgive me."*
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave.  
*"I believe you did what you said you did—that you died on the cross then rose from the dead and have the power to save me."*
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come in and control your life through the Holy Spirit.  
*"Please come into my life and change me. Make me a new person."*
5. If you have recently received Christ, we would like to give you a Bible. Contact Pastor Aaron if you are interested.

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## Christmas Offering

We will be designating our Christmas Offering this year to two specific ministries. It will be divided equally between the Manna Food Pantry and our missionaries.

If you feel led by the Lord to give, you may do so by participating in the Christmas Eve offering or by using the special offering envelopes available in your Sunday morning bulletin on Dec. 15 and Dec. 22.

## Events in Our Church Family

<b>Sunday</b>	6:30 pm	Small Group 1 (Grigorenko's)
	6:30 pm	Small Group 3 (Entler's)
	6:30 pm	Small Group 5 (Rice's)
<b>Monday</b>	6:30 pm	Small Group 4 (Rotroff's)
<b>Tuesday</b>	3-7 pm	Sanctuary Reserved
	6:00 pm	Deacons' Meeting (Fell. Hall)
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:00 am	Men's Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)
	10:30a-12p	Jazz Trio Practice (Sanctuary)
	6:30 pm	Finance Team Meeting (Hildebrand's)
<b>Thursday</b>	10:30a-12p	Praise Leaders' Practice (Sanctuary)
	6:30 pm	Small Group 2 (Vaughn's)
	7:00 pm	Brass Practice (Sanctuary)
<b>Friday</b>	10:30-11:30 am	Jazz Trio Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
<b>Sunday</b>	8:30 am	Worship Service
	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship Service



# FPC NEWS

Dec. 8, 2019

## Pioneer Clubs Takes A Christmas Break

We had a very successful Pioneer Clubs session during the past few months. We thank Jodi Smith who did a fantastic job organizing and running the clubs and as well as the following Pioneer Club leaders:

Becky Mohler	Rylan McInerney
Raelyn Severt	Jim Lightle
Arlene Morrow	Hunter Parker
Barbie Cain	Mason Demaree
Rick Burton	Dave Morrow
Jodi Smith	Sarah Burton



Pioneer Clubs will resume on Wednesday, January 15.



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# Why the ESV?

By Rev. Dr. Aaron W. White, Ph.D.

Greetings, congregation of FPC,

We are a Christ-centered church. How do we know who Jesus is and how might we know how to live a life that is more and more Christlike? The answer is the same to both questions and is simple: by reading our Bibles individually and as a community on a regular basis. The implication then, is that we are a Scripture-centric church too.

As you look around, you will notice that Scripture is at the very heart of each of our initiatives, might it be Pioneer Club, Jr. High Night, 5th Quarter, small groups, Sunday school and, of course, in our worship on Sunday morning.

Many of you have noticed we have started to promote one version of Scripture, the English Standard Version (ESV). I want to take a moment to explain what the ESV is and why it is being promoted.

Before I get too far into the weeds, I would want you to know what I am **not** saying. I am not asking you nor telling you (nor is your leadership) that the ESV is "the best", nor that you have to dispose of the current version you are using if it is not the ESV. Our initiative is for clarity of message, not control. I use many

versions in my sermon prep and study but prefer the ESV for study and communication of scriptural truths.

The ESV is out of the legacy of the KJV. The KJV comes from earlier translations like William Tyndale's version (which he was persecuted for translating; it was a capital crime to translate the Bible in the common tongue), and the Geneva Bible that was birthed from Calvin's Geneva. From the KJV, the Bible was revised into the Authorized Version, or the Revised Standard Version, and the ESV has revised the RSV. The ESV, in sum, stands on a legacy of faithfulness to God's Word and taking every measure to get it into the hands of God's people.

As the translation goes, see the chart on the next page. In sum, the translation is faithfully verbatim without losing understandability and without being too wooden.

So why have we chosen this version, and why are we promoting it? Basically, we chose it because of the reasons above. Also, newer versions of the NIV and the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) have taken translational steps that I and others view as inaccurately representing the original language, especially language that concerns gender. Also, we have chosen to promote the ESV so that we can clearly com-

## Sermon Series: 6 Questions Jesus Asks

- Dec. 15— "Can Any of You Charge Me with Sin?" (John 8:37-47)
- Dec. 22— "Do You Realize What I Have Done for You?" (John 13:12-20)
- Dec. 24— "You Still Don't Know Me?" (John 14:1-14)
- Dec. 29— "What Concern Is It of Yours?" (John 21:19b-24)

## Where to turn to for help & answers...

Card Ministry .....	Barbara Florence
Chair Loan .....	Janine Miller
Change of Address, Phone or Name .....	Janine Miller
Church Calendar .....	Janine Miller
Deacons .....	Dan Smith, Fred Berge, Jim Lightle Bob Entler, Steve Paugh, Brad Timmons
Food Pantry .....	Jim Lightle, Fred Berge, Dan Smith
Maintenance, Church Building .....	Bob Entler
Membership .....	Pastor Aaron White
Music Ministry.....	Carol Wildman, Deanna Mattinson
Newsletter .....	Janine Miller
Nursery .....	Julie White
Pioneer Clubs .....	Jodi Smith
Prayer Chain .....	Janine Miller
Rental, Church Facilities .....	Janine Miller
Session .....	Pastor Aaron White, Dave Morrow, Aaron Baldauff Rob Vaughn, Chuck Wildman, Jim Hildebrand, Janine Miller
Small Groups .....	Don Grigorenko
Website .....	Janine Miller
Youth Ministry.....	Dave Morrow

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Thanks to John Sanders 12-20-2006

PASTOR AARON COULD SENSE THE CLOSE PRESENCE OF CHRISTMAS AS HE SLOWLY MADE HIS WAY THOUGH THE JUNGLE OF POINSETTIAS

### Cedarville Christmas Concert

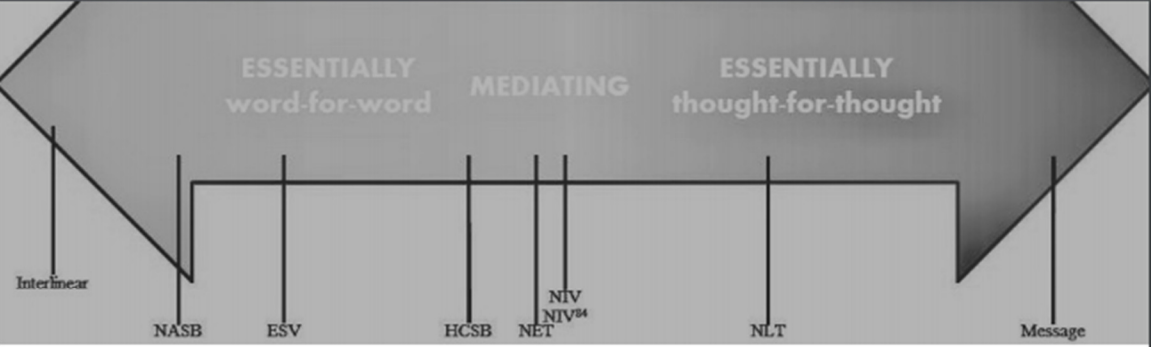
This evening is the Community Christmas Concert at Cedarville University beginning at 6 pm in the Dixon Ministry Center. This is a free event and is also available via livestream.

### Nursery News

Dec. 8	Sarah Burton Rylan McInerney	<b>Just a few reminders for those who use the nursery:</b>
Dec. 15	Barbie Cain Aiden White	◆ Unless you are dropping off a child for nursery, please do not open the door.
Dec. 22	Julie White	◆ If you are just giving your child a break from service but are going to stay with them and possibly return to church, please keep your child in the Fellowship Hall.
Dec. 29	Christy Routzahn Sarah Vaughn	◆ <i>During the 11:00 worship service, the only nursery helpers who should be in the nursery are those who are scheduled to work during that time.</i>

### Christmas Jazz

FPC's very own Jazz Trio (Carol Wildman, Aaron White, and Tom Allen) will be entertaining the village with their own version of Christmas music on Wed., Dec. 18th, at 7 pm at the Village Cup. Drop by, grab a cup of coffee or tea, and enjoy the music!



### Comparing Translations

## the ESV bible

### Translation philosophy

- The ESV is an "essentially literal" translation that seeks as far as possible to capture the precise wording of the original text and the personal style of each Bible writer.
- Within this framework the ESV is "as literal as possible" while maintaining clarity of expression and literary excellence.
- As an essentially literal translation, then, the ESV seeks to carry over every possible nuance of meaning in the original words of Scripture into our own language. **As such, it is ideally suited for in-depth study of the Bible.**

municate the gospel to you. It is hard to sit in a small group and read a passage aloud, while in that group there are three or four versions represented. For many, this can be undermining to their faith or just simply frustrating or confusing. The same goes for worship; if we have one version on the screen, a different version in the pews, and a completely different version being read, confusion can result.

In the end, our promotion of the ESV is a step of shepherding we have taken to get a faithful translation of Scripture into your hands and to remove any barriers that may impede the gospel going forward.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to let me know!

Advent blessings,

Pastor Aaron





# Resting in the Sovereignty of God

“[D]o not be anxious about anything.” So says the apostle Paul in his letter to the church in Philippi. That’s a tall order. For some of us it seems impossible. We all get anxious from time to time, and some of us are marked by persistent anxiety. At times, we can experience bouts of anxiety that are so severe that our lives are hampered in various ways: physical illness, mental anguish, or struggles with various addictions. And, a cursory look at the day’s news reveals that we seem to live in an ever-increasing age of anxiety. So why does the Scripture say not to be anxious? It’s a fair question to ask if not being anxious is even possible.

The answer, of course, is yes, because with God all things are possible. However, we cannot simply “will away” our anxieties. They are ever-present and – like the moon – they will wax and wane as we go through life. The key to Paul’s admonition comes immediately before his instruction to not be anxious. The words are often left out because, for some reason, most translations split Paul’s sentence into two verses right in the middle of the sentence and leave out this very important component: “The Lord is at hand....” In fact, the full sentence reads “The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Many of us have memorized verses 6b through 7, but we rarely hear anyone quote verse 6a – The Lord is at hand!

Indeed, isn’t the fact that the Lord is at hand the key to bringing rest to our anxious hearts? Our fears, doubts, and anxieties all appear very different when we contemplate God’s sovereign control over all things – the universe; the stars, moon, and sun; the seasons; the air we breathe; even the moments of our first and last breaths. Remember when Peter walked to Jesus on the water. He was doing fine until he looked at the waves, taking his eyes off of Jesus. It was when he looked at circumstances, rather than Jesus, that he began to sink. The Lord was at hand, but Peter couldn’t see it because he focused on the waves. When we experience anxiety, it can feel like we are sinking; however, we must refocus our eyes on Jesus rather than our circumstances. The Lord is at hand. As the writer of Hebrews said, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, for he is both the author and the perfecter of our faith. He saved you by His sovereign grace; and, by His sovereign grace he will not let you go. Let us rest in that sovereignty. He is in control.

—Rob Vaughn



# Poinsettia Memorials

Name	In Memory of...
Brad & Diana Timmons	Ken & Betty Timmons
	John & Vivian Hall
Larry & Monica Hill	Barbara Hill, Elizabeth Belt
Louise & Don Berrier	Lois & Lewis Frederick, Ron Abrams
	Don & Joyce Berrier Julia Bunch, Kent Lookabaugh
Larry & Roberta Miller	Allen & Margaret Miller
	Bob & Clara Runyan
Tom & Lois Staton	William Staton
Severt Family	Joy Severt, Angie Severt, Carol Dove
Barbara Florence	Family & Friends
Jeff & Cathy Delk	Pat Girton, Ken Delk
Nancy Deerwester & Family	Gary Deerwester, Family & friends
Patti Wilson	Carl Wilson
Keith & Karin Rotroff	Our dads, Kent Lookabaugh
Fred & Daphne Berge	Vivian & Jim Phillips
	Mary & Lyford Berge, Uncle Richard
Alan & Nan Stiles	Past loved ones
Sarah Courtright	Eben Paxton Wildman
	Austin Paxton Wildman
Jeannine Erwin, The Fergusons	Bob & Marge Swaby
	Bill Ferguson, Edgar & Anna Little
Kenzie Spears	Grady Neff
John & Diane Eichelberger	Dean & Jane Stage, Jim & Mary Eichelberger