

# CHURCH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## THE LINK

Volume MMXXII., Issue 11 - November 29, 2022



Advent, (from Latin *adventus*, "coming"), in the Christian church calendar, **the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas and also of preparation for the Second Coming of Christ.**

We are in the season of Advent. The season of anticipation. You can see in the eyes of little children as they wait for Christmas morning. However, during Advent, our eyes are focused on watching for Christ's return.

We often think of Advent as a past experience, a time when the world anticipated the arrival of the Messiah. However, Advent is past and present. Although we use Advent as a time to count down the days until Christmas, Advent also serves as a reminder that we are looking to the future when Christ's promised return occurs.

I pray for child like anticipation for each of you during this season. May we all find peace among the chaos, comfort among the grief, and joy in the squeals of little children.

Please remember to check your calendar each week during this season. We will have many opportunities to be together and celebrate the birth of Christ and anticipate His promised return.

In His Service,

Diane



### Church Street Staff

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**Michael Steele, Custodian**

### Office Hours

Monday through Thursday

8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Friday

8:30 am to 2:30 pm

## Music Ministry Notes From Gordon

*Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"* As we move into the month of December, may be all sing with hope, peace, joy, and love the great carols of Christmas in our times of worship. I am looking forward to this season of the year!

We will have another opportunity to hear our Young Musicians ring and sing before we see the end of 2022. During Sunday morning worship, December 4<sup>th</sup>, they will ring carols of Christmas and sing the wonderful, simple song *Away In a Manger*. This WILL be a highlight of our Christmas season at Church Street.

Our Chancel Choir is placing final touches to their Christmas musical for 2022 – *Night of the Father's Love*. I know your hearts will be blessed as you hear them once again present the Christmas story through narration and music on Sunday morning, December 11<sup>th</sup>. It is our prayer that you will find hope in its message and encouragement in the unconditional love of God. When we are in the presence of the Lord, we feel His holy peace; and all is well. Because of Christ's birth, all is well between God and us. For through this great gift from heaven, we are reconciled with God and can experience holy peace in our souls and new life in Christ. Christ is born! Nowell!

As we prepare for this season of Advent, may we reflect upon these words of Christina G. Rossetti penned in the late 1800's.

*What can I give Him, poor as I am?*

*If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;*

*If I were a wise man, I would do my part;*

*Yet what can I give Him? Give Him my heart.*



Gordon

## December News at Leika's



December at Leika's is such a special time as we eagerly look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus. Our bible verse for the month is Luke 2:11, "For unto you is born this day a Savior which is Christ the Lord! Our Kindergarten students learn Luke 2:8-12, and recite it during the Christmas Pageant. Leika's Christmas Pageant will be held on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall.

The classes will celebrate with Christmas parties on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. School will be closed for Christmas Holidays beginning Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and will resume Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. Merry Christmas!



## *The Christmas Season*

*On Saturday, December 3rd, before the Selma Christmas Parade, the children are invited to have Muffins with Santa Claus in Windham Hall from 9:30am until 10:30am. During this time, we will make Christmas crafts, have muffins and juice, and VISIT with SANTA CLAUS. There may even be a few surprises! We hope all children, young and young at heart, will join in this merry and bright fellowship at our Church. The Children's Ministry is grateful to our United Methodist Men for their support of this fun time!!!*

*Also on Sunday, December 4th, the children will sing and ring the jingle bells in our worship service! Then, on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, the Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be going to CANDYLAND in Andalusia. Here we will enjoy a wonderful outdoor Christmas event with "play cottages, train rides, snow tubing, winter skating," and more.*

*On Christmas morning and New Years Day morning, Church Street will have one service at 10:00am. On Christmas morning, we hope your child will bring his/her favorite Christmas present!!!! There will be no Sunday School or breakfast, as well as no nursery on both Sundays.*

*What a wonderful time of the year to recognize our blessings and to acknowledge our thankfulness for the gracious gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ! Let's make **HIS JOY** a daily experience throughout the year!*

*Merry Christmas,*

*Frances*



## I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my.... PRAYERS

**Current:** Ann Thomas, The Family of Helen Edwards, Lee Calame III, Robert Beers, Gloria Adams, Evan Trauai, Buddy Swift, Blake Flanagan, Todd Deavor, Becky Rives, Kathryn Britnell, Bert Beers, Bill Sellier

**Ongoing:** Dub Deavor, Buc & Gwen Shaw, Mary Nell Mayo, Jimbo Barrett, Ray Delp, Ann Buster Payne, Jack Burnside, Cassandra Steele, Peggy Cross, Caroline Thomas, Glenn Carter, Bobby Phillips, Allen Green, Sonny Nelson, Bob Simpson, Linda & Jesse Harris, Danny Jordan, Brooke Lawrence, Shelby Breedlove, David Saylor, Abigail Flanagan, Jim Kennedy, Arthur "Deedle" Sullivan, Amy & Jim Sims, Keith Stephan, Gary West, Kathryn Hardy, Bill Livingston, Clark Schatz, Shannon Miller Cook

**Homebound:** Eloise Trammel, Jean Walker, Ann Pegues,  
Edna Wiechers, Camille Salter, Rex & Anita Waldrop, Lucille Jordan Sellier, Mary Ann Hornsby



## I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my.... PRESENCE

### Average attendance YTD as of November

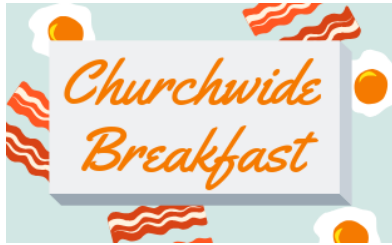
Sunday School: 77      Worship Service: 143



We hope to see each of you each week for our regular **Sunday Schedule with Breakfast** at 8:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., and **Worship Service** at 10:30 a.m.

If you miss a service, be sure to listen to the prior week's sermon on Sundays, at 9:00 am on Dixie Country - WDXX 100.1.

## I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my.... GIFTS



**Join us for a Church Wide Breakfast  
and Sunday School on**

**Sunday, December 11th @ 9:00 am  
in Windham Hall.**



### **WHITE CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

This Offering has enabled Methodists to share their blessings with those whose circumstances in life just haven't been fair. These children and young adults certainly didn't sign up to be in the situation they're in and with your support, they have the hope of a much brighter tomorrow. We continue to collect the White Christmas Offering through the end of December.

### **MEMORIALS**

#### **John Haskell**

By: James & Julie Drinkard  
By: Floyd & Kaye Plummer  
By: Dub & Pat Deavor  
By: Gale Bedgood  
By: Larry & Jan Justice  
By: Sharon Hardy

#### **Allen Williams**

By: Dub & Pat Deavor  
By: Gale Bedgood

#### **Luke Whetstone**

By: Gale Bedgood

#### **David Y. Pearce, Jr.**

By: Dub & Pat Deavor  
By: Gale Bedgood  
By: Mary Drue Wheeler  
By: Scoop & Betty Rivers

#### **Helen Edwards**

By: Gail Hawkins  
By: Gordon & Elaine Welch  
By: Claude and Caroline Anderson  
By: Sharon Hardy  
By: Eleanor Reynolds  
By: Pairs & Spares Class

As the year quickly comes to a close, remember  
your pledge and help us finish the year financially  
strong.

The Church Office will be open Thursday,  
December 29th, for final contributions.  
All 2022 contributions sent by mail must be post-  
marked by December 31st.



## I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my.... SERVICE

### Teams Serving in December

**Ushers:** Leonard Ingram, Andy Stewart, Milam Turner III, Deans Barber, Rex Jones, James Drinkard, Logan Cowart, Drew Wendland, Frank Speed, Mike Reynolds

**Security:** Jon Stewart, Chuck Utsey, Floyd Plummer, Jr. Kory Taylor, Sharon Hardy, Rebecca Stewart

**Worship Stewards:** Polly Sellier & Em Moore

**Collection Counters:** Julie Drinkard & Myrna Hollis

**If you are unable to be present, please find a replacement and contact your captain.**



As the new year approaches, prayerfully consider ways that you can pray for and serve the Church - your Church. When you volunteer, not only does the Church grow, the Kingdom grows, and you grow.

For more information on areas of service and volunteer needs, contact any of the ministerial staff.

### December Meetings

#### Trustees

Tuesday, December 13, at 5:00 pm in the Grist Library

#### Finance

Thursday, December 8, at 5:00 pm in the Grist Library

#### Church Council

Thursday, December 8, at 5:45 pm in the Grist Library

**Please contact your chairperson or the Church Office if you will not be able to attend.**



This year, four of our youth will light the Advent candles and lead in the Advent responsive reading.

Our appreciation is expressed to -

Walter Gilmore - Candle of Hope

Sarah Lloyd Free - Candle of Peace

Clay Beers - Candle of Joy

Kate Patterson - Candle of Love

**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....  
WITNESS**

**Living Treasures**  
**will meet Thursday, December 15th,**  
**at 12:00 noon in Windham Hall.**  
**Join us for lunch, fellowship and a**  
**wonderful program.**

This group of senior adults (60 and above) meets the third Thursday of each month for a catered lunch at 12:00 noon and the program ends at 1:00 pm. The cost is \$8.00 per person and reservations are not required.

**Circle Meetings**

**Catherine Revel Circle**

will meet Monday, December 5th in at 3:00 pm, the Old Parsonage,

**Roberta Sample Circle**

will meet on Monday, December 12th at Carolyn Dunaway's Home

**The Endowment Committee will meet on January 9th @ 5:00 pm in the Grist Library**

**BIBLE STUDY GROUPS**

**Tuesday Bible Study** led by Martha Jackson will resume meeting in January at 12:00 noon, in the Old Parsonage. Martha will be sending an email to announce the date.



*A big thank you to all who helped make this year's Stewardship Campaign a success!*

*Thanks to the Narrators who touched base with each family in your area, the Characters who turned in your pledge cards, everyone who came and brought food to the Celebration Supper, and everyone who helped in the kitchen!*

*As of now our total estimated giving for 2023 is \$432,258. We expect there will be more pledges from those contacted by mail.*

*God blesses and multiplies all we give and receive. Thanks to all !*

*Andrea Livingston and Beau Boyd*





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