



Winfield United Methodist Church

December 2021 Newsletter

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Blessings to you in the name of the Christ child who is coming into the world! The season of Advent is a time where we join with those people of God from ages past who waited, yearned, and hoped for the coming Messiah. Through countless hardships, God's people never gave up hope that God one day bring them a Savior. Advent is a season where we learn to wait for the promises of God to be fulfilled in the birth of Jesus. My greatest hope for each and every one of you is that you prepare a place in your hearts and in your lives for the coming of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day.

The promise of Christmas is the promise of Emmanuel, "God is with us." Even in our darkest, most difficult times, the birth of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, is the assurance that God has not left us alone. Rather, in Jesus Christ, God shares in both the struggles and joys of what it means to be human. Christ continues to be with us in all things through the power of the Holy Spirit. The founder of the Methodist movement, John Wesley, boldly proclaimed, "Best of all, God is with us!" The promise of Emmanuel, God is with us, is the hope and the joy we celebrate this time of year.

There is no better time of year to share the promise of Jesus Christ than in the season of Advent and Christmas. I am reminded of Charles Schultz's A Charlie Brown Christmas, and how it has become a classic Christmas film across the world. Yet Schultz created quite a stir among producers when he politely insisted that the film include the Christmas story from Luke's Gospel. Schultz took the opportunity to share the "glad times of great joy" to a massive audience. All of us have opportunities in big ways and small ways to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

I encourage you this Christmas season to share the joy of Jesus Christ with gentleness and love to all your friends and family.

Please check out the many ways we can celebrate and worship together through the Advent and Christmas season. For instance, we will be handing out “Happy Birthday Jesus” bags to the children at Brittany Point Apartments. We also will gather for a community breakfast, welcoming Santa Claus on December 18. All are welcome to come for a tasty meal and for joyful fellowship. Finally, mark your calendars for two worship services: “Blue Christmas” on December 21 at 6 pm and our Christmas Eve service at 7 pm. Blue Christmas is a service where we can bring our hurts, our griefs, and the things we need to let go of in order to truly experience the joy of Christmas. If you know anyone who struggles through the Christmas season, this is a worship service for them. We also invite you to our Christmas Eve service at 7 pm as we celebrate the birth of our Lord. Sisters and brothers, please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have concerns, prayers, or simply want to chat.

Best of all, God is with us! May you have a Blessed Advent and a very Merry Christmas!

Grace and Peace,
+Pastor Chris

December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	1 Children's Group: 6:00 PM Bible Study: 6:10 PM	2	3	4
5 Youth: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	6	7	8 No Children's Group Bible Study: 6:10 PM	9	10	11 Food Pantry: Winfield Nazarene Church 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
12 Youth: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	13 United Methodist Women: 6:30 PM	14	15 Children's Group: 6:00 PM Bible Study: 6:10 PM	16 Happy Birthday, Jesus Activity Kit Pickup: 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	17	18 Community Breakfast with Santa: 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
19 Angel Tree Gifts Due Youth: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	20 Distribute Angel Tree Gifts: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	21 Blue Christmas Service: 6:00 PM	22 Children's Group: 6:00 PM Bible Study: 6:10 PM	23	24 Christmas Eve Service: 7:00 PM	25
26 No Youth	27	28	29	30	31	



Frank Capehart III	1	Jim Cloxton	19
Kristina Dunn	2	Cindy Rutledge	20
Phyllis Arnett	9	Doris Hunter	21
Barb Flanery	12	Jo Ann Jones	21
Deb Hodges	12	Joyce Jarrell	29
Zoey McDonald	12	Al Ruebush	31



Roddy & Kathy Burns	14
Dave & Sharon Shortridge	21

Worship with Us

Join Us for Sunday Worship

We have two Worship Services on Sunday, with the same message. There will be many styles of dress at both services. Come as you are!

8:30 AM: Early Service

Small, traditional service with relaxed atmosphere

11:00 AM: Late Service

Larger service but is still relaxed, a blending of traditional and contemporary touches.

Masks are to be worn in accordance with CDC guidelines. If you are not vaccinated, please wear a mask while indoors.

Social distancing must be observed.

Tithes and Offerings

If you are unable to worship with us in person, or want an alternative way to give your tithes and offerings, you may mail your donation to:

Winfield UMC
PO Box 391
Winfield WV 25213

Or give online at:

winfieldwvumc.org > Online Giving
or <https://www.ezekielgiving.com/App/Giving/winfpo284>

Children & Youth Programming

We had a great 2021 and would like to share some of our year's highlights with our church family.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

Obviously, with COVID, we got off to a rocky start, but as the community reopened, we could reopen our doors as well.

Over the summer, we held three Wacky Wednesdays. Each week was themed and the children sang songs, heard a message from Pastor Chris, enjoyed a meal together, did a craft, and played games. In August, we held a Back to School Carnival, with many game stations, plenty of prizes, and ice cream.

In October, we held our annual Trunk or Treat. Over 200 children attended and a great time was had by all.

This month, we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus with activity kits. Stop by the church between 3:00 PM and 5:00 PM on December 16th to pick up a kit for the child in your life. We will also be providing bags for the children at Brittany Point.

Sunday School classes and Bible Blast both resumed last month. Sunday School meets at 10:00 AM in the youth room. Bible Blast meets on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM in the craft room.

Children & Youth Programming

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

At the start of each year, the youth group works on goal setting. We choose personal and spiritual goals and make plans to help us succeed. I look forward to the end of the year discussion on what we accomplished and where we could have used more focus.

We've been viewing *The Chosen* on Sunday nights. It is a fantastically produced television series following the life of Jesus. We were also able to view *The Chosen Christmas Special* in theater.

Serving the community is part of our programming. This year, we have made and delivered care packages for the WHS Marching Generals and hosted Wacky Wednesdays, the Back to School Carnival, and Trunk or Treat. As a group, we have taken on a few children in the Preschool Partner Program and later this month we will assemble the Happy Birthday, Jesus Activity Kits.

In Sunday School, we just wrapped up the book of Luke.

Our Christmas party will be December 19th from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM. We are looking forward to fun and fellowship in honor of the birth of Jesus.

Thank you all for a wonderful year. As always, if you would like to volunteer with our children and youth programs, or have any questions about programming, please get in touch with me.

Merry Christmas!

Gayla Van Horn

gaylaflora@gmail.com / 304.690.1590

Upcoming Events

Happy Birthday, Jesus! Activity Kit Pickup

Thursday, December 16th

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM



**Community
Breakfast with
Santa**

Saturday, December 18th

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM



Volunteer Information

NOTE: Angel Tree gifts are due Sunday, December 19th

Community Breakfast:

Volunteers Needed!

Saturday, December 18th 8:30 AM -10:30 AM

3-4 volunteers need to help cook and serve

Contact Steve Burdette or the church office

Nursery Attendants:

5: Kim Porter + Cindy Hess

12: Kim Porter + Reva Capehart

19: Gayla Van Horn + Gayla Terry

26: Gayla Van Horn + Cindy Hess

Sunday Worship Service Volunteers

Early Service

Clyde & Pat Legg

Late Service

Ushers: Hess Family

Communion:

Reva and Kyle Capehart

The Winfield United Methodist Church Newsletter is published monthly. If you would like to contribute to the January issue, please send your article to Reva Capehart or Gayla Van Horn by Wednesday, December 29th.

Reva: winfieldumc@frontier.com

Gayla: gaylaflora@gmail.com

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WinfieldWVUMC



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