

Staying Connected



Sunday Morning Worship

Sunday, 12/15/24; **Zephaniah 3:14-20, Luke 3:7-18**

Sunday, 12/8/24; **Christmas Pageant**

Caroling

We will be caroling on Wednesday, December 18th! Meet at the church at 5:15 pm. All are welcome to join with your beautiful voices!

Advent Devotions

Look in your emails for Advent devotions. They will be daily, but sent weekly. These devotionals are a way to prepare for the birth of Jesus by reflecting on scripture and meditating on the meaning of the season.

Christmas Eve Worship

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion worship service will be on Tuesday, December 24th at 4:30 pm.

Giving Tree

This season we would like to continue our long tradition of a Giving Tree and ask for gifts of warmth that will be donated to Love INC for them to distribute to families in need. We are collecting items from now until our Christmas Eve service. If you are not able to drop off items in person, please let me know and we will make arrangements to pick them up. Thank you very much, Andrea, on behalf of the Mission Committee.

December Birthdays:

Trevor Berg	12
Linda Telecky	12
Hunter Decker	13
Joshua Helmbrecht	17
Atlee Nowak	18
Chuck Miller	20
Romana Koepp	21
Dan Robinson	22
Liz Helmbrecht	25
Clayton Decker	26

Dec. Anniversaries:

Trevor & Amanda Berg	30
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WCCA Fundraising

Please consider a donation to the Wright County Community Action Program. In **December** the following holiday fixings are needed: sugar/brown sugar, baking soda/powder, cookie/bar mixes, cake/muffin mixes, frosting/baking chips.

"The truest form of love is how you behave towards someone, not how you feel about them."

~ Steve Hall

Needed Prayers



Please Pray for...

Healing: Rose Barberg's daughter Cheryl Paicius, Alma Robinson's grandson Chris Robinson, Mike Koepp, Maureen Hoover, Rose Barberg, Adell Mumford, Gini Gutknecht's nephew, Tim Anderson and Gretchen Karg

At Cokato Manor: Reta Blanchette

Bereavement: Pray for the Neisen family as they mourn the loss of Stephanie

Please Pray for thankfulness and joy for the lives of. . . Dave & Maureen Hoover! Lord, we thank you for Dave and Maureen and for the many blessings they have given to others!

Looking Ahead

- December 11 — 6:30 pm Session Meeting
- December 15 — 3rd Sunday of Advent; 8:30-9:15 am Bible Study & Prayer Time; 9:30 am Worship, 10:30 am Fellowship
- December 18 — 5:15 pm Caroling for everyone
- December 22 — 4th Sunday of Advent; 8:30-9:15 am Bible Study & Prayer Time; 9:30 am Worship, 10:30 am Fellowship
- December 24 — Christmas Eve; 4:30 pm Candlelight Worship with Communion
- December 25 — Christmas Day; Office closed
- December 29 — 1st Sunday of Christmas; 8:30-9:15 am Bible Study & Prayer Time; 9:30 am Worship, 10:30 am Fellowship
- January 1 — New Year's Day; Office closed
- January 5 — 2nd Sunday of Christmas; 8:30-9:15 am Bible Study & Prayer Time; 9:30 am Worship, 10:30 am Fellowship
- January 8 — 5:15 pm Youth Program Gathering Activity; 5:30 pm Learning Groups; 6:10 pm Dinner; 6:40-45 pm Wrap-up & Sending Prayer

Message from Pastor Cathy

Waiting...

We are not good at waiting.

Waiting for healing, waiting for endings, waiting for beginnings....

In the season of Advent we are waiting for Christmas.

Jesus to arrive again, that is different from the other kinds of waiting.

We know Jesus comes at Christmas, there is a date, an end to our waiting.

We await His coming as a baby in a manger with joy, love, peace and hope as Jesus-followers.

What if we could have more peace and hope as we wait for earthly things? Like those test results, the transition we have been dreading, and all those things that fill us with anxiety...what if it was hope and peace instead? Hope and peace because our God has already sent us the love and joy of Christmas that fills us with peace and trust in Jesus and certain hope of the future.

And then, what if we had more urgency and conviction as we wait for Jesus every day?

The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. Lamentations 3:25

Waiting for him to reveal himself to us.

Waiting for Him to guide and direct in our prayer life.

Waiting for God to show up on a regular basis.

We pray this every time we pray the Lord's Prayer, "thy kingdom come."

Not only do we wait for God to return in glory at the end of time, but we wait and watch for glimpses of the kingdom to appear to us now.

This kind of waiting is actively seeking and watching.

May your Advent be filled with glimpses of God's kingdom among us.

May this Advent fill you with love and joy, leading to peace and hope in Jesus.

Waiting in Hope and Peace,

Pastor Cathy