

EVENTS

12/8 - Special Music

Sunday/ Second Sunday of
Advent

12/9 - Church Council
Meeting, 7 PM

12/14 - Christmas Pageant &
Play Dress Rehearsal, 10 - 12

12/15 - Christmas Pageant

12/21 - Blue Christmas: A
Service of the Longest Night,
4:30 PM

12/24 - Candlelight
Christmas Eve Service:
*Fellowship and Music -
4:00

*Worship - 4:30

12/29 - Music Sunday:
Christmas Carol Singalong

*Worship with us every
Sunday at 10 AM!*

LITURGISTS

12/8 - Julie Norland

12/15 - Tracy Tronnes

12/22 - Tammy Campbell

12/24 - Holly Gould

12/29 - Mary Lou Behring

BIRTHDAYS

12/6 - Matt Thies

12/9 - John Norland

12/10 - Doug Cutting

12/11 - Devin Crumbliss

12/20 - Holly Gould

FELLOWSHIP TREATS

12/8 - Connie Wiersma

12/15 - Lynn Bates

12/22 - Krista Kim

...✍️From the desk of Pastor Tiff ✍️...

HERE COMES ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

As you read this, the season of Advent is already upon us. For Christians, Advent is the first liturgical season of the church year. In the coming months you will notice that many of our gospel readings will be from the book of Luke. Each year we focus on a different Gospel. Luke has many unique stories and a very different narrative about the birth of Jesus. Where Matthew tells us more about Joseph, Luke is centered around Mary, the mother of Jesus. I invite you to read the Luke version of the story of the birth of Jesus this Advent season.

There are many special worship services and events planned for the month of December. I wrote our Christmas Play, "The Planning Committee for the Birth of Jesus" and is an alternative version of the Christmas story with all the participating biblical characters, and then some. It is a joyful rendition with very opinionated personalities.

At the end of the play on December 15th, there will be a short Christmas Pageant with Mary and Joseph, angels, shepherds, and wisemen (and wisewomen). We would like a parent or two to accompany younger children on the stage. (You may choose to wear or not to wear a costume.) The younger children will play the parts of angels and shepherds. Adults can play any character they choose. Please let Jill Sanderson or I know if you would like your family to participate. You can email me at revtiffbates@gmail.com or find the signup sheet in the sanctuary.

There will be a dress rehearsal on Saturday morning, December 14th, at 10:00 a.m. to run through the play and pageant. There will be a light pizza lunch following the rehearsal.

You can find a complete list of our Christmas services and offerings under the Events list. We only celebrate Christmas once a year, so I hope you will make every effort to attend and participate in these services!

-Pastor Tiff

Pageant & Play Participants: Please arrive early on the day of the performance. We will be getting into costumes beginning at 9:30 in the fellowship hall.

Notes From the Office

- Please stay tuned to your email announcements this month for more detailed information on each week's special services. If you do not receive our emails and would like to, please let the office know!
- Christmas poinsettias will be available for purchase in honor or memory of a loved one. More information will be forthcoming in your announcements.
- Our Christmas Eve offering will benefit The Christmas Fund, which provides direct financial assistance to active and retired UCC ministers, church workers, and their families. We hope you prayerfully consider contributing to this important initiative.
- While we do not have tags for Gifts for Kids this year, you may still bring in toys, crafts, socks, underwear & family games to benefit children in our community. You may bring in items any Sunday through the 22nd. Please let the office know if you'd like to arrange a dropoff outside of Sunday or Thursday office hours. If you'd like to donate monetarily, you can do so directly to Outreach by visiting edgertongiftsforkids.org

Sunday School Corner

This past Sunday was the first Sunday of the Advent season. The kids made wreaths with candles representing the four Advent themes. There are plenty of extra sets for anyone who wants to bring home and create their own Advent Wreath! I like to keep our wreath at the dinner table and say a prayer each week on Sunday for the new theme. Below are some ideas for prayers.

Week 1: HOPE

"God of Hope, thank You for filling our hearts with hope. Help us to see Your light in the world and share it with those who feel lost or alone."

Week 2: PEACE

"God of Peace, calm our hearts and minds. Teach us to bring peace wherever we go and to love others as You love us."

Week 3: JOY

"God of Joy, thank You for the gift of Jesus. Fill our days with laughter and our hearts with gladness so that we can share Your joy with the world."

Week 4: LOVE

"God of Love, Your love is amazing and never-ending. Help us love everyone we meet and show kindness in all we do."

Note: There will be no formal Sunday School on the 29th. Additionally - if your child would like to participate in the pageant as an angel or shepherd, please let Pastor Tiff or I know so we may include their name in the bulletin ahead of the 15th!

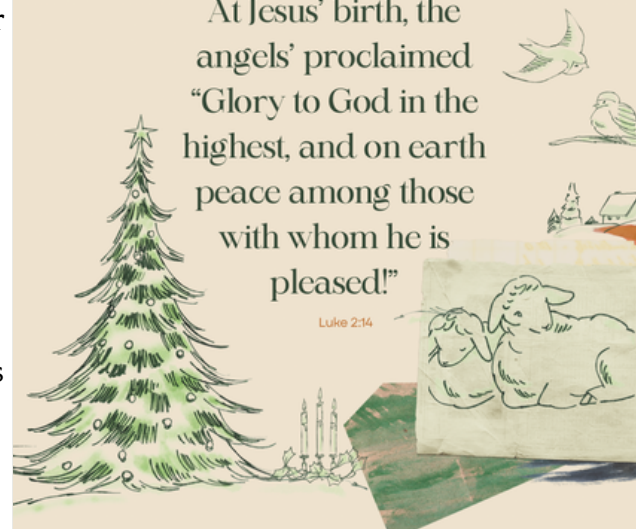
-Jill Sanderson, Director of Ministry and Education

Thank You!

Thank you to all who contributed to November's special services and our annual stewardship campaign! From those who brought fellowship treats, to musicians, to readers and potluck helpers, each person who walks through our doors helps contribute to the life of our church. This Christmas season, we are so very thankful for our bountiful blessings.

At Jesus' birth, the angels' proclaimed "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

Luke 2:14



YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

Interim Pastor Rev. Tiff Bates - revtiffbates@gmail.com
Moderator - Krista Kim - rigertkim@gmail.com
Treasurer - Tracy Tronnes - tntronnes@nylumber.com
Finance/Trustees - Bruce Morris - brucem929@gmail.com
Worship Life Team - Mary Lou Behring - hairchair@yahoo.com
Education - Jill Sanderson - jillesanderson@gmail.com

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CHURCH COUNCIL

Monday Oct. 14, 2024

PRESENT: Rev. Tiff, Krista Kim, Bruce Morris, Jill Sanderson, Mary Lou Behring and Kathleen Matson/via zoom. Krista called the meeting to order. Rev. Tiff led us in prayer. The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Jill moved to approve the minutes. Bruce seconded it. Motion passed.

MINISTERS REPORT: Tiff stated that he and Lynn like the ministry and people here at EUCC and have decided to stay on in the current capacity until Dec. of 2025 as long as their health allows them to. This is also with the plan that we are still opened to profiles coming in and if we found a settled pastor he would step down sooner. A two-week paid vacation is requested since he has agreed to take one Sunday off a month. Planning for November and December this is what the calendar will look like: Nov. 3, Communion Sunday, All Saints Sunday, Barbara Pierce's 100th birthday celebration, Stewardship kick-off. Nov. 10th, Guest speaker Brenda O'Beirne, "How we know our souls Well" Stewardship moment, music Sunday. Nov. 17th Stewardship Rally and family potluck following worship. Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Sunday. Dec. 1, Communion and hanging of the green, Dec. 8th music Sunday, Dec. 15 Christmas pageant, adults and children (practice to be held on Sat. Dec. 14th. Dec. 21, Blue Christmas at 4:30 p.m., Dec. 22 Worship, Dec. 24, Christmas eve candlelight service 4:30 p.m. Dec. 29 Hymn sing.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR/KATHLEEN: Kathleen just wants to remind people about the check list to close the church on Sundays. Elevator maintenance will be Fri Oct. 18th. Boiler maintenance to be scheduled via Bruce. MOW is starting again on Nov. 18th-Dec. 1. Jill will be the new coordinator. Kathleen will be on vacation Nov. 19-29.

DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY: The children are making treat bags and artwork to take to the residents at the Edgerton Care Center on Oct. 27. There has been a request made to start a confirmation class in the spring. Jill stated trying a new concept where the adults stay in church while the children go to the nursery and after worship families can go downstairs together and finish Sunday school.

WORSHIP TEAM: Communion on Nov. 3rd. The team will oversee the 100th birthday celebration for Barbara Pierce. We will also take care of the set up for all saints on Sunday. Sunday Nov. 10th we will have a guest speaker and will be providing snacks for the fellowship table.

TRUSTEES: Planning a spring clean up day. It was brought up that our little library out front is looking rough. It was decided to remove it for now. We now have two pianos in the sanctuary and have decided to keep them both for now. They are both tuned up. Mary Lou made a motion to adjourn, Bruce seconded it.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Lou Behring