



Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 17

9:30 am Worship w/Communion
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Decorating the Church

Monday, December 18

6:30 pm Executive Committee

Tuesday, December 19

6:15 pm Life Long Faith Formation

Wednesday, December 20

Thursday, December 21

1:00 pm Mountie Back Pack packing
6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm NA

Friday, December 22

11:00 am Poinsettia Set-Up

Saturday, December 23



Answer: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11, NIV.

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Christmas Schedule

December 17, 2023

9:30 a.m. - Worship Service

10:30 a.m. - Decorating the church

December 24, 2023

9:30 a.m. – Worship with Communion

7:00 p.m. – Worship with Communion and Candle Lighting

11:00 p.m. – Worship with Communion and Candle Lighting

Combined Choirs, Celebration Ringers, Soloists & Instrumentalists

Musical preludes will begin approximately 30 minutes before the start of service.

December 31, 2023

9:30 a.m. – “Lessons and Carols” Worship Service



December 17, 2023

Service Assistants

Ushers: Charles Luppert, Larry & Donna Britton, Rhonda Koch, Sylvia McCarty, Larry Solomon; **Lay Assistant:** Sandy Ream; **Communion Assistant:** Pam Eveleth

Acolyte: Brennen Hess; **Altar Guild:** Vicki Bair, Doris Butt

Greeters/Communion Presenters: Gary and Connie Hess

Cantor: Bob Schweppenheiser; **Flower Delivery:** Charles Luppert

Sunday, December 10; Attendance:108; Offering: **\$7,209.00** Cap. Campaign: **\$15.00**

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dennis Ream by his wife Sandy, Dennis Jr., Kelley and their families.

Bible Reading

Sunday, December 17 – Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday, December 18 – Psalm 125; 1 Kings 18:1-18; Ephesians 6:10-17

Tuesday, December 19 – Psalm 125; 2 Kings 2:9-22; Acts 3:17-4:4

Wednesday, December 20 - Psalm 125; Malachi 3:16-4:6; Mark 9:9-13

Thursday, December 21 – Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; 2 Samuel 6:1-11; Hebrews 1:1-4

Friday, December 22 – Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; 2 Samuel 6:12-19; Hebrews 1:5-14

Saturday, December 23 - Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Judges 13:2-24; John 7:40-52



Pastoral Care Number: Please call (570) 326-9171. (Available 24 hours a day) During work hours the office staff will assist you. After hours, please press "3" for a Pastoral Emergency to be connected directly to the Pastor.



Food Pantry is in need of mac and cheese, boxed potatoes, canned fruit, dry milk, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti, jelly, canned chicken, tuna fish, syrup, pancake mix and soup and cream of mushroom soup.

Pledge cards and Time & Talent forms will be accepted through January 1st

All donations to be recorded in the 2023 Calendar Year, must be received in the office by **December 29th**. Any donations received after **December 29th** will be recorded in the new year, 2024. Thank you.

If you give to the church through **Simply Giving/Vanco/Automatic deduction**, after your December donation, you will need to update your pledge. Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE This is for those members who are changing their amount of tithes or who would like to give to the church in this way. If you are keeping your pledge as is there is no need to contact us.



The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children - **The Christmas List** - Emily had a problem. She didn't know what to put on her Christmas list this year. A new bicycle? A new doll? She just wasn't sure. One day her Sunday School teacher told the class about Jesus' special list. And then Emily knew exactly what she wanted for Christmas. Find out the rest of the story by checking out this book in the Christmas section of our library.

Adult - **Corrie's Christmas Memories** - All the family warmth and Christian love in Dutch Christmases past are recalled by Corrie ten Boom in this book. Corrie is 84 years old and her memory reaches back to sweeter times, times when her beloved family met together around the holiday table, when the spirit of the Lord's birthday was truly the center of all the festivities, when the real meaning of Christmas filled each heart with a special joy. Wonderful, heartwarming quick read for this holiday season. This book is in our Christmas section of our library.



Sunday, December 17 immediately following worship we will be decorating the church. Poinsettias will be set out **on Friday, December 21** at 11:00am. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!**
Many hands make quick work. Please share your time and talents.



Thank you to all who contributed, donated and helped with the white gifts and Christmas baskets. We were able to provide 14 Families with white gifts and 16 families with Christmas baskets.

Office Holiday Hours

CLOSED – Christmas Day – Monday, December 25, 2023

8:30 am – 3:30 pm – Tuesday, December 26 – Thursday, December 28

8:30 am – 12:00 pm – Friday, December 29

CLOSED – New Year's Day, January 1, 2024

8:30 am – 3:30 pm – Tuesday, January 2 – Thursday, January 4

8:30 am – 12:00 pm – Friday, January 5



The congregation council members will be installed this Sunday December 17th, during worship. The members of council for 2024 are: Newly elected to council is Mary Schultz. Re-elected members are Jody Fullmer, Craig Kropp, and Sylvia McCarty. Current members are Anita Bair, Cindy Bennett, Jimmy Gardner, Ann Marie Hohman, Gary Hutchinson, Rhonda Koch, Lauren Russell and Carol Winter.



Thanks for all who came to the Christmas dinner on Sunday evening. Dave Bausinger and his helpers did a great job with the food and clean up for the dinner. There was plenty of a variety of wonderful side dishes that were shared by all. After our meal we all enjoyed playing a bingo game with a twist of trivia and then Candy Watkins accompanied us with Christmas Carols.

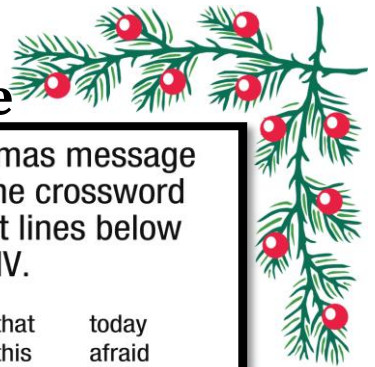


Didn't like those hot Sundays last summer without air conditioning in the Nave? Here's a cool deal for you to help with that \$50,000 expense to the church.

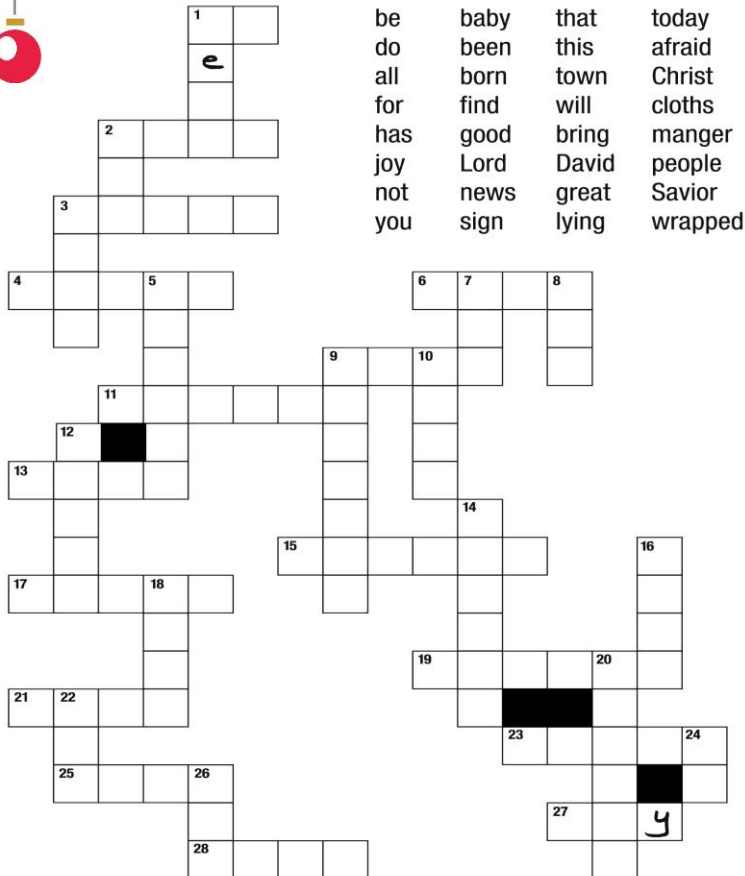
This Sunday, December 17th, there will be a puzzle sale in the Narthex. Quality used puzzles that originally cost \$16-\$20 each will be offered for donations to help offset that major expense. Give whatever you can to keep you cool this coming summer.



Christmas Puzzle



The word list contains the angel's Christmas message to the shepherds. Fit those words into the crossword squares. Then write them on the correct lines below to complete Luke 2:10-11, NIV.



be	baby	that	today
do	been	this	afraid
all	born	town	Christ
for	find	will	cloths
has	good	bring	manger
joy	Lord	David	people
not	news	great	Savior
you	sign	lying	wrapped

“ _____ 24 _____ 26 _____ 1A _____ 5 _____ . I _____ 3A _____ 8 _____ 13 _____ 18
of _____ 4 _____ 27 _____ 16 _____ 9A _____ 1A _____ 2D _____ 7 _____ the _____ 15 _____
_____ 12 _____ in the _____ 28 _____ of _____ 23 _____ a _____ 20 _____ 22 _____ 1D _____
_____ 3D _____ to _____ 8 _____ ; he is _____ 19 _____ the _____ 10 _____ .” Luke 2:10-11, NIV



Answers on the back page