

ST. PAUL'S UCC NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2023

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www.stpaulsuccmo.org



A Loving Church, Making a Difference in the World

Letter from our Pastor Emeritus

The joy of Christmas is that no matter what we are going through, God is there with us. He is there to support us and love us. He is there to encourage us and help us. He is there to forgive us and give us a second chance.

You see, joy is not a feeling. Joy is not circumstantial. Joy is stability. Joy is the assurance that we're not alone. Joy is the confidence that God is with us, and that he can make the most out of our lives.

Grandpa came over to visit his little grandson, Johnnie. When he arrived, however, he found Johnnie jumping up and down in his playpen, crying at the top of his lungs. When Johnnie saw Grandpa, he reached out his arms and said, "Out, Gramps, out!"

Just as grandpa was about to pick him up, mom walked in. She said, "No, Johnnie. You are being punished. You can't get out."

Grandpa didn't know what to do. Johnnie's tears were breaking his heart, and yet he couldn't take lightly the discipline laid upon Johnnie. So, since he couldn't take Johnnie out of the playpen, he climbed in with him.

The joy of Christmas is that God has climbed into life with us. Through Jesus Christ, the baby born in Bethlehem, the baby grew up to die on a cross and rise again, we can be energized with life. For Christmas reminds us we are never alone. No matter what the circumstances, no matter what the pressures, no matter how routine, life can surge through us with vitality because God is with us. And God always makes life great. That is the joy of Christmas.

Pastor Deeker

—Christmas Services—

There will be two Christmas Eve services of worship:

4th Sunday of Advent service at 9:30am and a
Christmas candlelight service at 7pm on Sunday, December 24th.

There will be NO service of worship on Christmas Day.

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December Extra Step - ECH (Every Child's Hope) (Formerly Evangelical Children's Home)

Partnering with the community to assist children, youth and families in their unique pursuit of health and wholeness through quality, professional, and faithful services.



St. Paul's UCC Staff

Pastors by Supply	
Robbin DeVore (office@stpaulsuccmo.org)	Secretary
Sally Rohe	Organist
Sally & Tony Rohe	Custodians
Debbie Garbs.....	Choir Director
Cathie Schoppenhorst, Gene Ahmann, Brenda Daniels, Amy Lange	Projection Technicians
Robbin DeVore	Newsletter Editor

Church Council

Curt Rohe	President/Missions Committee
Bob Aholt.....	Vice President/Pastoral Relations Committee
Kendall Lange.....	Recording Secretary
Lulu Hasenjaeger	Financial Secretary/Altar Guild/Historical Committee
Diane Freese.....	Treasurer
John Buhr	Buildings & Grounds Committee
Cheryl Swartz.....	Christian Education Committee/Membership Care Committee





Purchase a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas in honor or in memory of someone. Sign-up sheets are in the lobby. Cost=\$16 each.

Sign up by Sunday, December 3rd.

Payment instructions are noted on the sign-up sheets. You may take your poinsettia home after Christmas.





NOTICE



Cancelling Worship / Church Activities due to inclement weather:

In the event that worship, or other events, must be cancelled, postponed, or the start time be delayed due to inclement weather, communication of such will be relayed through postings on the following TV Stations:

Channel 2, Channel 4, Channel 5, Channel 11, Channel 30

A decision as to whether church services will be cancelled will be made by 8am on any given Sunday.

****Also, be advised that you should always use good judgment before taking unnecessary risks under any inclement weather conditions.****



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

**24 boxes
were collected.**

Thanks to all who participated!



Annual Reports are needed from **ALL** church committees/organizations. Please email them to Robbin DeVore at stpaulsuccmo.org@gmail.com or see that she gets them ASAP to be included in the annual report.

Sunday Morning Fellowship

We need *volunteers* to assist with coffee, lemonade, and donuts.



The sign-up sheet is in the lobby.

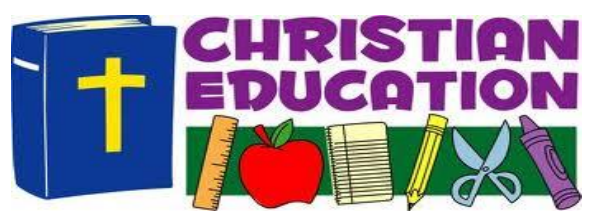
See Marigene Kersten with questions or inquiries.

Thanks for your participation.



Quilting **Mondays** **10am-4pm**

Contact Audrey Meyer with questions or inquiries.



No Sunday School Classes **on Dec. 24th or Dec. 31st.**



Women's Guild **WED., DEC. 6th** **11:30am**

Lunch at Hawthorne Inn
Labadie, MO

Sign the sheet in the lobby by Sun., Nov. 26th.
To carpool, meet at church by 11am.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP **NO DECEMBER MEETING**

Church Council Meeting: **Thurs., Dec. 14th—6:30pm**

IMPROMPTU CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023**

—immediately following the service of worship—
for the purpose of prospective new council member.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

Tentatively scheduled for

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024

—immediately following the service of worship—
Please plan to attend.

In the event of inclement weather, the alternative meeting date will be Sunday, January 28th.

Advent



*The season of Advent begins on December 3rd. Please join us in celebrating this holiday season. The Sunday School classes will be a part of the services of worship during Advent. Classes have been practicing every Sunday, since **October 22nd**. Please make every effort to have your children at Sunday School. Thank you.*

Mission Moment – Pregnancy Assistance Center

Because of your generosity, local needy families will be receiving help at Christmas from the Pregnancy Assistance Center.

Many of these families have children or parents with physical impairments, terminal illnesses, have been victims of natural disasters, or other situations that have caused them to fall on hard times.

Ornaments with suggested needed items are displayed on the tree in the lobby.

Consider making a contribution to help these families in need.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR DONATIONS WITH THE ORNAMENT ATTACHED BY SUNDAY, DEC. 10TH.

You may return contributions/items wrapped or unwrapped.





ADULT SOCIAL CONNECTION

WILL BREAK IN DECEMBER,

BUT WILL MEET ON **JAN. 12, 2024 AT**

6PM FOR "SOUP & GAME NIGHT."





Pastor Supply



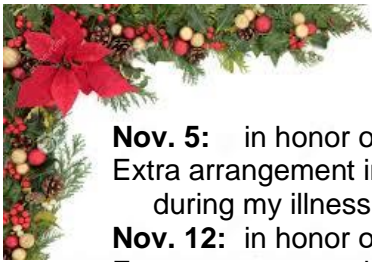
December 2023

Dec. 3— Tim Wheeler
Dec. 10— Richard Brandon
Dec. 17— David Arndt
Dec. 24— Randy Heckman (9:30am)
 David Arndt (7pm)
Dec. 31— Randy Heckman



January 2024

Jan. 7— Rhonda Feurtado
Jan. 14— Rhonda Feurtado
Jan. 21— Richard Brandon
Jan. 28— Matt Grube



ALTAR FLOWERS:



Nov. 5: in honor of November birthdays: Carrie, Jim, & Cindy, by Jim & Cindy Buescher.
Extra arrangement in appreciation for all the concern, thoughts, prayers, and acts of kindness during my illness, by Jeanette Stegner.

Nov. 12: in honor of Amy Lange's 50th birthday (Nov. 11th), by Jodi Lange.
Extra arrangement in memory of Lulu & Delvin Hasenjaeger's 63rd wedding anniversary today, by Lulu Hasenjaeger.

Nov. 19: in loving memory of Ken DeVore, and Cornelius & Hertha Berg, whose wedding anniversaries were Nov. 23rd, by Robbin DeVore.

Extra arrangement in honor of Tony & Sally Rohe's 54th wedding anniversary (Nov. 22nd), by Sally Rohe.

Nov. 26: to the honor and glory of God, by the Women's Guild.

Extra arrangement in loving memory of Bob Dohrer, whose 55th wedding anniversary would've been Nov. 30th, by Karen Dohrer.

NOTE: Consider sponsoring the altar flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, a special date, or just because...Sign-up sheets for altar flowers are in the lobby. The flowers are yours to take with you after the service of worship.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

***Anyone who is interested in joining St. Paul's UCC
should contact a council member or the church office.***



With Deepest Gratitude

We would like to thank **REV. CARLTON NORTON, REV. FRED BRANDENBURG, REV. ALLEN LADAGE, REV. RICHARD BRANDON, PASTOR NICHOLE TORBITZKY, PASTOR EVELYN JONES, REV. RANDY HECKMAN, PASTOR DON HODGSON, REV. SUSAN KING, REV. ALLEN GROTHE, REV. DONNA KENDRICK-PHILIPS, REV. TIM WHEELER, REV. DAVID ARNDT, REV. RHONDA FEURTADO,** and **REV. MATT GRUBE** for their service to St. Paul's UCC during these months we are without a settled pastor.

Many thanks to **REV. DON DEEKER, PASTOR EMERITUS,** for always being there for us—for keeping us under his wing. We very much appreciate his willingness to cover pastoral care for St. Paul's during this time of transition.

Thanks also to **ALL** who have kept us in your thoughts and prayers, and the many kind and thoughtful gestures you have shown during this period of adjustment. May you all remain safe, healthy, and vigilant throughout these troubled times.

In His name,
St. Paul's UCC Church Council and Congregation





Services of Worship

9:30am

Pastor by Supply



December	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
Ushers	Curt R. (lead) Karen Dohrer Cathie S. Jim Buescher Cindy Buescher	Bob A. (lead) Gene Ahmann Karla Aholt Marigene Kersten Ann Jenkins	John B. (lead) Audrey Meyer Terri Ogle John Presser Nancy Presser	Diane F./Curt R. (lead) Tony Rohe Curt Rohe Robbin DeVore Kylie Rohe	Lulu H. (lead) Mary Hulsey Debbie Garbs Karen Sida Kersten Mayer
Acolytes	Kersten Mayer	Kennady Mayer	Addy Engelage	Colsie Lange	Kersten Mayer
Readers	Cathie S.	Karla Aholt	Terri Ogle	Curt Rohe	Jodi Lange
Greeters	Brenda Roloff Cathie S.	Gene Ahmann Karla Aholt	Audrey Meyer John & Nancy P.	Tony Rohe Curt Rohe	Karen Sida Kersten Mayer
Fellowship	Kay & John Buhr	Kay & John Buhr	NEED VOLUNTEER	_____	NEED VOLUNTEER

Worship Attendance:

10-29-2023---33

11-5-2023---64

11-12-2023---45

11-19-2023---56

11-26-2023---45



The Adult Choir

Come join us in song! The choir will sing on
Sundays, Dec. 3rd and 24th (am) this month.

Practices: Wednesdays, Nov. 29th and Dec. 20th at 7pm.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Contact Debbie Garbs or Sally Rohe with inquiries.



Suggested Scripture Readings for December

Dec. 3rd — Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7,17-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37

Dec. 10th — Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2,8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8

Dec. 17th — Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11 Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8,19-28

Dec. 24th — 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16 Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4,19-26

Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38

Dec. 31st — Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3 Psalm 148 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40

Church Finances

NOTE: *The following information is from the General Fund only, and in NO way is associated with the parsonage renovations.*

On January 1, 2023, our beginning balance was \$158,682.98.

As of October 31st, our income has been \$129,592.16;
our expenses totaled \$91,200.61, giving a gain of \$38,391.55:

(Beginning Bal. 1/1/23)	\$	158,682.98
Income	\$	129,592.16
Expenses	-	91,200.61
Gain	\$	38,391.55
(Ending Bal. 10/31/23)	\$	197,074.53

NOTE: November figures were not available at the time of this mailing.

The monthly financial reports are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office for your review.

Please DO NOT remove these reports from the bulletin board.

Copies are available upon request.

Church Council



ST. PAUL'S UCC CAR & BIKE SHOW



The Men's Fellowship met on Nov. 20th with eight members present. Don Deeker gave the opening prayer and Paul Freese served as moderator for the meeting. John Buhr read the minutes from the October meeting and Bob Aholt reported a balance of \$35,642. This includes the proceeds from the car show with many outstanding expenses still to be paid.



At the October meeting the Fellowship designated 50% of the car show profit to supporting the church and related activities and 50% to the community. After all expenses have been paid, the Fellowship plans on meeting with the Car Show Committee to receive its suggestions for gifts to community organizations. Don Lange distributed a handout on suggested donations to community organizations to be considered. The purpose was to provide a starting point for discussion. At the proposed meeting, lessons learned from the car show will be discussed with the purpose being how to improve it in years to come.

The Fellowship approved giving a \$100 K & R gift card to Brandon Vedvig for grilling the meat for the food stand at the car show. It also expressed its appreciation for help from the community in removing bushes from the south parking lot and other work. Also discussed was planting new small bushes at the church cemetery sign. This will be referred to the church council. A thank you note from the Bob Dohrer family was read expressing their appreciation to the Fellowship for its memorial donation.





“Old-Fashioned Community Christmas”

(hosted and sponsored by St. Paul's UCC, and other Marthasville area organizations)

—All are welcome! **COST-FREE** event—



Advent Craft Workshop
Hayride/Christmas Caroling
Music/Hotdogs



Kringle's Korner *(optional shopping)*

Visit with Santa/Refreshments

Sunday, December 10, 2023

2-3:30 pm

—**Christmas Crafts**—
(St. Paul's Fellowship Hall)



3:30-4:30 pm

—**Hayride &
Christmas Caroling**—
(leaves from St. Paul's UCC)



5 pm

(City Park Pavilion)
—**Fun & Festivities**—
—**Visit with Santa**—
—**Refreshments**—



*(Proceeds from Kringle's Korner will benefit Every Child's Hope,
formerly Evangelical Children's Home)*



"TIS THE SEASON" WORD



A	J	A	C	K	F	R	O	S	T	S	I	S	L	E	C	X	E	N	I	A	I	R	O	L	G	W
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C	K	I	H	I	A	S	R	G	W	M	M	O	T	T	H	E	T	R	N	M	T	A	L	E	G	I
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U	T	H	N	R	O	W	I	S	R	E	K	C	A	R	C	T	U	N	N	B	O	R	N	S	I	L
M	A	I	U	L	E	L	L	A	I	C	E	S	K	A	T	I	N	G	N	I	L	O	R	A	C	M

ADVENT
ANGELS
ALLELUIA
BAKING
BETHLEHEM
BRIGHT STAR
CANDLELIGHT
CANDYCANE
CAROLING
CHESTNUTS
CHIMNEY
CHRIST CHILD
CHUNK OF COAL
DECORATIONS
DECEMBER
EGGNOG
EMMANUEL
EPIPHANY

EVERGREEN
FELIZ NAVIDAD
FIREPLACE
FROSTY
FRUITCAKE
GLAD TIDINGS
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS
GOODWILL
GRINCH
HOLIDAY
ICE SKATING
JACK FROST
JERUSALEM
JESUS
JINGLE BELLS
JOSEPH
KING WENCESLAS
KRIS KRINGLE

MANGER
MARY
MIRACLE
MISTLETOE
MULTITUDE
NATIVITY
NORTH POLE
NUTCRACKER
PARTIES
PEPPERMINT
POINSETTIA
POPCORN
PRESENTS
PRETTY PAPER
REINDEER
REJOICE
RIBBONS
SAINT NICHOLAS

SANTA CLAUS
SAVIOR
SCROOGE
SEASON'S GREETINGS
SHEEP
SLEIGH BELLS
SNOWMAN
STABLE
STOCKING
SUGARPLUMS
TANNENBAUM
TOGETHERNESS
TRADITION
WINTER WONDERLAND
YULETIDE

(answers on pg. 13)

After completing the word search, use the UNUSED letters to complete the message on the next page:



Happy Holidays!

Use the **UNUSED** letters from the Word Search puzzle on the previous page to complete the message below:
(answers on pg. 13)

“ _____ in _____,
_____, the _____
_____.” ~James R. Murray

“A _____ of _____,
_____, And _____
so _____ to _____. B _____
_____,
For _____
_____.” ~Larry Shackley

“On Dasher, on Dancer, on Prancer, and Vixen! On Comet, on Cupid, on Donner, and Blitzen!
...But do you recall the most famous reindeer of all?”



DECEMBER CRYPTOGRAM 2

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
													7		

Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

(answer on pg. 20)

“

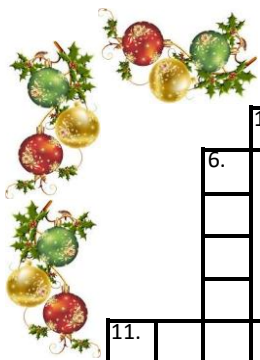
9 5 22 1 14 11 12 24 6 11 3 19

2 24 22 1 15 19, 4 19 11 22 1 15 19 6 24 8 8

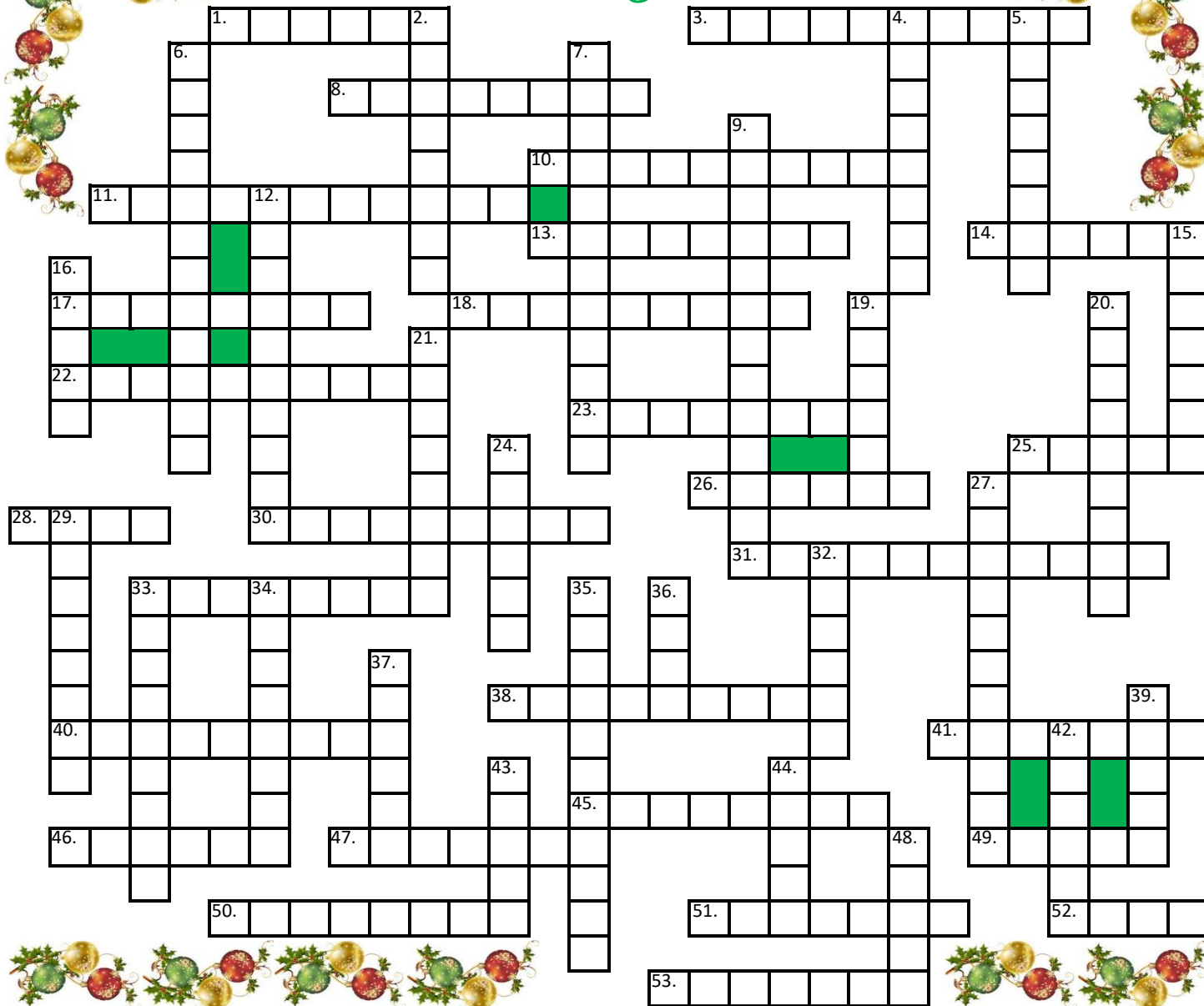
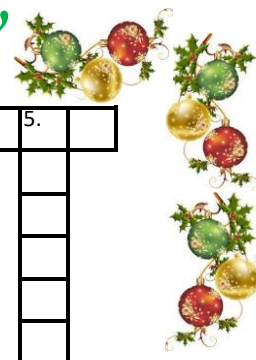
24 19 15 9 15 ... 8 15 22 22 1 15 19 15 4 15

16 15 24 21 15 11 N 7 15 24 19 22 1, 24 N 7 12

8 15 22 5 22 4 15 14 5 N 7 9 5 22 1 17 15.”



"There's A Song In The Air"



ACROSS:

1. "Joy to the world, the Savior reigns, let men their songs _____."
3. "Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, ring-ting-tingling, too. Come on it's lovely weather for a _____ together with you." (two words)
8. "Giddy-up jingle horse, pick up your feet, jingle around the clock, mix and a-mingle in the jingling feet, that's the jingle _____." (two words)
10. "Rockin' around the Christmas tree, let the Christmas spirit ring. Later we'll have some _____, and we'll do some caroling." (two words)
11. "Mary's boy child, _____, was born on Christmas Day." (two words)
13. "It came upon a _____ clear, that glorious song of old..."
14. "On the third day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: three _____ hens..."
17. Come, thou long-_____ Jesus, born to set all people free."
18. "God rest ye merry _____, let nothing you dismay..."
22. "Have a holly jolly Christmas, it's the best time of the year. I don't know if there'll be snow, but have a _____." (three words)
23. "Here we go a-_____ among the leaves so green."
25. "On the tenth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: ten _____ a-leaping..."

(answers on pg. 20)

26. "On the eleventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: eleven _____ piping..."
28. "Oh, there's no place like _____ for the holidays."
30. "Up on the housetop click, click, click, down through the chimney with good _____ ." (two words)
31. "On the fifth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: five _____ ." (two words)
33. "Alleluia! O how the angels sang. Alleluia! How it rang. And the sky was bright with a holy light, 'twas the _____ of a king."
38. "I saw Mommy kissing Santa Claus underneath the _____ last night..."
40. "Down in a lowly manger, our humble Christ was born, and brought us all _____ that blessed Christmas morn."
41. "City sidewalks, busy sidewalks, dressed in _____ style..."
45. "O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, how lovely are your _____."
46. "I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my _____."
47. "We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy _____ !" (two words)
49. "On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: seven _____ a-swimming..."
50. "Follow me in merry measure, Fa, la, la, la, la...While I tell of yuletide _____ Fa, la, la, la, la..."
51. "Come, they told me, pa-rum-pum-pum-pum, a _____ king to see, pa-rum-pum-pum-pum..."
52. "Said the little _____ to the shepherd boy: Do you hear what I hear?"
53. "Bells are ringing, children singing all is merry and bright, so hang your stockings and say your _____, 'cause Santa Claus comes tonight."

DOWN:

2. "Have yourself a merry little Christmas, make the _____ - _____ gay..." (two words)
4. "Sleep in _____ peace, sleep in ..."
5. "On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: twelve _____ drumming..."
6. "Over the river and through the woods, oh, how the wind does blow! It stings the toes and _____ , as over the ground we go." (three words)
7. "Should auld _____ be forgot and days of auld lang syne."
9. "It's the most wonderful time of the year, with kids _____ and everyone telling you'll be of good cheer." (two words)
12. "You better watch out, you better not cry, you better not pout, I'm telling you why—_____ is coming to town." (two words)
15. "Mele Kalikimaka is _____ way to say Merry Christmas to you."
16. "Let there be _____ on earth, and let it begin with me."
19. "I said the cow all white and red, I gave him my _____ for his bed, I gave him my hay to pillow his head, I, said the cow all white and red."
20. "On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: a _____ in a pear tree."
21. "O holy night the stars are _____ shining..."
24. "We three kings of _____ are bearing gifts we traverse afar."
27. "On the second day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: two _____..."
29. "Dashing through the snow in a _____ - _____ open sleigh..." (two words)
32. "On the ninth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: nine _____ dancing..."
33. "O little town of _____ how still we see thee lie."
34. "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, just like the ones I used to know. Where the _____ glisten and children listen to hear sleigh bells in the snow."
35. "In the meadow we can build a snowman, and pretend that he is _____ ." (two words)
36. "The first _____ the angels did say..."
37. "Jolly old Saint Nicholas lean your ear this way! Don't you tell a _____ soul what I'm gonna say..."
39. "On the eighth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: eight _____ a-milking..."
42. "Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O _____."
43. "On the sixth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: six _____ a-laying..."
44. "Hark how the bells, sweet silver bells, all seem to say _____ cares away."
48. "On the fourth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me: four calling _____..."

(answers to Word Search from pg. 10 & 11)

"Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head."

("Away In A Manger" ~ James R. Murray)

"A King of such beauty was ne'er before seen, And Mary His mother so like to a queen."

Blessed be the hour, welcome the morn, For Christ our dear Savior on Earth now is born."

("As Lately We Watched" ~ Larry Shackley)



*******CHRISTMAS TRIVIA:*******

(answers on pg.19)

1. What does “Emmanuel” mean? (Matthew 1:23)

- a. God with us b. He who is God c. Anointed One d. Son of God

2. What was the shepherds’ initial reaction to the angel who visited them? (Luke 2:9)

- a. They were angry b. They were afraid c. They were excited d. They were upset

3. Who visited Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus on the night He was born? (Luke 2:15-16)

- a. Shepherds b. Shepherds, wise men, and those dwelling in Bethlehem c. Wise men d. Shepherds & wise men

4. The wise men traveled _____ to Jerusalem. (Matthew 2:1)

- a. Westward b. Northward c. Eastward d. Southward

5. How many wise men brought gifts to Jesus? (Matthew 2:1-2)

- a. 3 b. None c. 2 d. The bible never really says

6. What was Jesus’ approximate age when the wise men presented Him with gifts? (Matthew 2:16)

- a. 6 yrs. Old b. 10 yrs. Old c. 12 yrs. old d. less than 2 yrs. old

7. Who diligently asked the wise men about baby Jesus? (Matthew 2:7)

- a. King David b. King Elias c. King Herod d. King Pilate

8. Why did Herod want to learn more about Jesus’ whereabouts? (Matthew 2:16)

- a. He wanted Jesus to heal him b. He wanted to worship Jesus
c. He wanted to ask Jesus to be the heir to his throne d. He wanted to kill Jesus

9. How did the wise men find Jesus? (Matthew 2:9)

- a. Directions from an angel b. They followed a star
c. They asked the shepherds where He was d. They asked the King



“Make It A Christmas Tradition”

Beginning December 1st, read one chapter of The Book of Luke in the Bible each evening.

There are 24 chapters. (And they are very short—only one or two pages.)

On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus’s Life and wake up

Christmas Morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!



May God watch over all who live in Ukraine, Israel, as well as other parts of the world in unrest, and those who are fighting for them.

May God keep them in the palm of His hand.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3rd: Kendall Lange
5th: Katie Thornton
7th: Rachel Richardson
8th: Mike Schaller
9th: Sue Berg
13th: Abbie Walde
14th: Karen Sida
17th: Tyler Chapman
20th: Walean Bunge
Hudson Beck
30th: Nicole Harrison

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

6th: Harvey & Tammy Siem
26th: Norbert & Patricia Shacklette-1970
27th: Mike & Kelly Meyer



Happy Holidays!



ANNIVERSARIES OF BAPTISM

(None this month)



(Sudoku answer from pg.19)

4	1	7	2	3	6	9	5	8
2	9	5	8	1	7	4	3	6
3	6	8	4	9	5	1	7	2
5	2	9	6	4	1	7	8	3
6	4	1	3	7	8	2	9	5
7	8	3	5	2	9	6	1	4
8	7	2	9	6	3	5	4	1
9	3	4	1	5	2	8	6	7
1	5	6	7	8	4	3	2	9

HOLIDAY WORD SCRAMBLE

Fill in the letters in the spaces with the corresponding numbers to solve the message below.

(Answers on pg. 19)

1. LEEHHMEBT _ _ _ _ _ 3 _ _ _ _ 30

2. PRESHHEd _ _ _ _ _ 37 _ _ _ _ _ 6 _ _ _ _ 33

3. EAGNMR _ _ _ _ _ 8 _ _ _ _ 29 _ _ _ _ _

4. VIITTYAN _ _ _ _ _ 35 _ _ _ _ _ 16 _ _ _ _ 27

5. DRABHYIT _ _ _ _ _ 4 _ _ _ _ 14 _ _ _ _ 31

6. GLSHIE _ _ _ _ _ 21 _ _ _ _ 1 _ _ _ _

7. DNRREEIE _ _ _ _ _ 15 _ _ _ _ _ 5 _ _ _ 34

8. SLLNWOAF _ _ _ _ _ 7 _ _ _ _ 10 _ _ _ 2 _ _

9. TEEOISMTL _ _ _ _ _ 18 _ _ _ _ _ 11

10. INSAT CLANHIOS

17 _ _ _ _ _ 25 _ _ _ _ _ 24 _ _ _ _ _

11. TRCMHASSI _ _ _ _ _ 13 _ _ _ _ _ 12 _ _ _ _ _

12. DEEIUYTL _ _ _ _ _ 26 _ _ _ _ _ 32 9

13. ANEMLMEU _ _ _ _ _ 36 _ _ _ _ 20 _ _ _ _

14. NSMWEIE _ _ _ _ _ 22 _ _ _ _ 19 _ _ _

15. VFTEESI _ _ _ _ _ 23 _ _ _ _ 28 _ _ _

“ ,

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 , 22 23 24 25 26 27

28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 ”

Did You Know?—National Days in December 2023

- Dec. 1—**National Christmas Lights Day**—Thanksgiving is over; time to hang those Christmas lights.
- Dec. 1—**A Blue Christmas**—(November 23rd–December 31st)—Police officers put their lives on the line for us every single day. This holiday acknowledges those who work in law enforcement, such as police, firefighters, EMTs, and 911 dispatchers. Display a blue light throughout the winter holidays—a porch light, blue candles in the window, or blue lights as part of a display.
- Dec. 1—**National Peppermint Bark Day**—Yum!
- Dec. 2—**World Pollution Prevention Day**—Learn how to do your part in this very worthy cause.
- Dec. 2—**Candle Day**—Light up your home with some scented candles and create a cozy atmosphere.
- Dec. 3—**Make a Gift Day**—Nothing is more special than a handmade gift.
- Dec. 3—**Let's Hug Day**—Who doesn't need a hug?
- Dec. 4—**Walt Disney Day**—Make a movie night and watch a marathon of Disney movies.
- Dec. 4—**National Cookie Day**—Make some cookies today. Try a new recipe. Share them with a friend.
- Dec. 5—... Hang your stockings and say your prayers!...
- Dec. 6—**St. Nicholas Day**—Check your stockings!
- Dec. 7—**National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**—In remembrance of the attack at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.
- Dec. 7—**National Cotton Candy Day**—Sweet!
- Dec. 7—**Hanukkah**—Also called the Festival of Lights, enjoy 8 full days of celebration with the people of the Jewish tradition of faith.
- Dec. 9—**Gingerbread Decorating Day**—Fun!
- Dec. 9—**Christmas Card Day**—Get those cards in the mail. Everyone likes to hear from family and friends this time of the year.
- Dec. 9—**National Pastry Day**—Yum!
- Dec. 9—**National Llama Day**—Learn about these smart and highly sociable animals.
- Dec. 10—**World Candle-lighting Day**—Honor departed loved ones by lighting a candle in their memory.
- Dec. 10—**Human Rights Day**—Commemorates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that was created in 1948. Learn more about this today.
- Dec. 11—**UNICEF Day for Change**—UNICEF is dedicated to helping children "at-risk." Learn more about how to extend a helping hand to children worldwide, making a difference through this renowned global organization.
- Dec. 11—**National Have A Bagel Day**—Guess what's for breakfast?
- Dec. 11—**International Mountain Day**—Learn about some of these majestic wonders of the world.
- Dec. 12—**National Poinsettia Day**—Decorate with some poinsettias today. Give one to a friend.
- Dec. 13—**National Cocoa Day**—Cheers!
- Dec. 13—**National Violin Day**—Learn to play a violin. Go to a concert to hear a symphony. Listen to some orchestra music today.
- Dec. 14—**National Screwdriver Day**—I'll drink to that!
- Dec. 14—**Roast Chestnuts Day**—Because sometimes you just feel like a nut!
- Dec. 15—**National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day**—Wear your ugly Christmas sweaters today. Make it a group event.
- Dec. 16—**National Chocolate Covered Anything Day**—Oh, Yeah!
- Dec. 17—**Wright Brothers' Day**—To commemorate the Wright Flyers' maiden flight in 1903.
- Dec. 18—**World Arabic Language Day**—Learn some Arabic today. "As-salaam 'alykum" (means "peace be upon you").
- Dec. 18—**Bake Cookies Day**—Get those Christmas cookies baked! Give them as gifts.
- Dec. 19—**National Hard Candy Day**—Sweet!
- Dec. 19—**National Oatmeal Muffin Day**—Mmm, Mmm!
- Dec. 20—**Games Day**—Play some board games with family or friends today.
- Dec. 20—**Go Caroling Day**—Visit shut-ins or go caroling through your neighborhood.

(cont. on next page)

Did You Know?—National Days in December 2023 *(cont. from pg. 16)*

- Dec. 21—**National Short Story Day**—Read some short stories today. Share them with a friend.
- Dec. 21—**Don't Make Your Bed Day**—Sounds like a good idea to me! Why not?
- Dec. 21—**Ribbon Candy Day**—Yum!
- Dec. 21—**Look on the Bright Side Day**—It's always best to look on the bright side. Always look for that silver lining.
- Dec. 21—**National Crossword Puzzle Day**—Sharpen your pencils and your minds. Do some crossword puzzles today.
- Dec. 21—**National French Fried Shrimp Day**—Who wouldn't want some of that?
- Dec. 21—**Humbug Day**—The holidays can be incredibly stressful for many people.
- Dec. 22—**Mathematics Day**—Brush up on those math skills today!
- Dec. 22—**National Cookie Exchange Day**—Bake cookies and give them as gifts or exchange some with your friends.
- Dec. 23—**National Roots Day**—Search your family genealogy. Start your family tree.
- Dec. 24—**Christmas Eve**
- Dec. 24—**National Eggnog Day**—Drink to the holiday season!
- Dec. 25—**Christmas Day**—Merry Christmas!
- Dec. 25—**National Pumpkin Pie Day**—Have some topped with whipped cream!
- Dec. 26—**National Thank You Note Day**—Take a moment to express gratitude with a written note.
- Dec. 26—**Boxing Day**—A public holiday that is a day of rest and relaxation.
- Dec. 26—**National Candy Cane Day**—Learn about how candy canes came to be...and indulge!
- Dec. 27—**National Leftovers Day**—Yum!
- Dec. 27—**Visit the Zoo Day**—A day at the zoo is always fun!
- Dec. 27—**Make Cut-Out Snowflakes Day**—Decorate your windows, Christmas tree, or make them to put on homemade cards.
- Dec. 27—**National Fruitcake Day**—Does anyone actually like fruitcake?
- Dec. 28—**National Call A Friend Day**—Call a friend you haven't spoken to in a while. Brighten their day with a surprise visit.
- Dec. 28—**National Chocolate Candy Day**—Sweet!
- Dec. 28—**National Card Playing Day**—Play some cards with family or friends today.
- Dec. 30—**National Bacon Day**—Guess what's for breakfast?
- Dec. 31—**New Year's Eve**
- Dec. 31—**National Make Up Your Mind Day**—Have you had trouble making a decision or two lately? Today is the day you must make up your mind. Don't put it off any longer.
- Dec. 31—**No Interruptions Day**—Turn off your phone, TV, shut your office door...so you can focus for the day.
- Dec. 31—**Universal Hour of Peace**—Join millions around the world in a moment of global harmony and positivity.
- Dec. 31—**National Champagne Day**—Cheers to days of auld lang syne!

KRINGLE TRIVIA ANSWERS:

1. 9—Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen, and Rudolph
2. b 10. a
3. c 11. b
4. d 12. a
5. a 13. c
6. a 14. d
7. c 15. b
8. c 16. d
9. d 17. d



(from pg. 18)



***** **KRIS KRINGLE TRIVIA:** *****

(Test your knowledge of how much you know about these Christmas classics.)

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer:

1. How many reindeer does Santa have? (Hint: Don't forget the one with the shiny red nose.)
a. 8 b. 9 c. 10 d. 12
2. What was the name of the elf that felt like he didn't belong?
a. Henry b. Hermie c. Harley d. Charlie
3. What did this misfit elf want to be?
a. a doctor b. lawyer c. a dentist d. a pharmacist
4. Which of Santa's reindeer is Rudolph's father?
a. Comet b. Prancer c. Blitzen d. Donner
5. Which of Santa's reindeer was the "flying" coach?
a. Comet b. Prancer c. Blitzen d. Donner
6. What was the name of Rudolph's buck buddy at the reindeer games?
a. Fireball b. Firecracker c. Crackerjack d. Sparky
7. What is the name of Rudolph's doe friend that wanted him to walk her home?
a. Candice b. Sharice c. Clarice d. Francine
8. Where did Charlie-in-a-box, the bird that couldn't fly, the train with square wheels, the gun that shoots jelly, the elephant with polka dots, and the cowboy who rides an ostrich live?
a. The Land of Broken Toys b. The land of Misplaced Toys c. The Island of Misfit Toys
d. The Island of Unloved Toys
9. What is the snowman's name that narrates the story of Rudolph?
a. Sonny b. Stan c. Frosty d. Sam
10. Who was the prospector that fell over the cliff trying to save Rudolph and his friends from the Abominable Snow-Monster?
a. Yukon Cornelius b. Franciscan Felix c. Tuscan Sebastian d. Mountain George

Santa Claus is Coming to Town:

11. What is the name of the baby found on Burger Meister Meister Burger's doorstep?
a. Christopher b. Claus c. Nicholas d. Christmas
12. How did the Burger Meister Meister Burger break his leg?
a. He stepped on a toy and fell down the steps. b. He slipped on some new-fallen snow
c. Someone tripped him d. He fell out of bed during a storm
13. What is Mrs. Claus's first name?
a. Janice b. Tonta c. Jessica d. Teresa
14. What was the name of Kris Kringle's friend, the penguin?
a. Tapper b. Tipper c. Chipper d. Topper
15. What gift did Kris Kringle give Winter Warlock that brought him to tears and made him start to melt?
a. a snowglobe b. a toy train c. a sled d. a yo-yo
16. How did Santa's reindeer learn to fly?
a. a magic wand b. wishing on a star c. magic jingle bells d. magic feed corn
17. Name the town where it is illegal for children to have toys? (Hint: home of Burger Meister Meister Burger)
a. Christmastown b. Sternville c. Whoville d. Sombertown

(Answers on pg. 17)

(Answers to WORD SCRAMBLE on pg. 15)

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1. BETHLEHEM | 5. BIRTHDAY | 9. MISTLETOE | 14. EMMANUEL |
| 2. SHEPHERD | 6. SLEIGH | 11. SAINT NICHOLAS | 15. WISEMEN |
| 3. MANGER | 7. REINDEER | 12. CHRISTMAS | 16. FESTIVE |
| 4. NATIVITY | 8. SNOWFALL | 13. YULETIDE | |

"I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS, IF ONLY IN MY DREAMS."




Thank You!

Many Thanks for all the thoughts, prayers, cards, phone calls, and many acts of kindness during this difficult time. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Karen Dohrer & family





The Cemetery Board will be clearing all old flowers off of the graves on Thursday, December 7th for the Christmas Season.

If you have any existing flowers on the graves you wish to keep, please remove them before Thursday, December 7th, or they will be thrown away.

Thank you.
St. Paul's UCC Cemetery Board

Sudoku Solving Directions: To solve, place a number into each box so that each row across, each column down, and each small 9-box square within the larger diagram (there are 9 of these) will contain every number from 1 through 9. No number can appear more


4			2					
		5			7		3	
	6			9		1		
5			6				8	
		1				2		
	8				9			4
		2		6			4	
	3		1			8		
					4			9

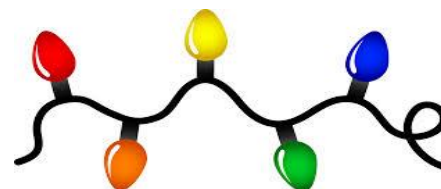
than once in any row, column or 9-box square.



(Answers on pg. 15)

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA ANSWERS:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. | a. God with us |  |
| 2. | a. Shepherds | |
| 3. | a. Westward | |
| 4. | d. The bible never really says | |
| 5. | d. Less than 2 yrs. old | |
| 6. | d. He wanted to kill Jesus | |
| 7. | b. They followed a star | |
| 8. | d. He wanted to kill Jesus | |
| 9. | b. They followed a star | |



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

The family of Herbert Roloff who passed away on 11/2; Gary Schouten—on hospice; Faith Benson (friend of Robbin DeVore)—on hospice with lung disease, pray for peace for her; Arnold & Marcia Rekate (Walean Bunge's brother & sister-in-law)—Arnold is in a rehab facility with pancreatic issues, Marcia has stage-4 cancer; Sue Berg—recovering from a fall; Amy (Reeves) Brakemeyer—moved to MO-Bap Medical Center, Critical Illness Recovery Hospital for rehab; Freya Greer (Debbie Garbs' granddaughter)—health issues; Brenda Roloff—recovering from an automobile accident; Ellen Engelage—health issues; Maurice Mittler—health issues; Ed Thierbach—health issues; the families who have been affected by armed violence in this country and in the world; the people of Ukraine and Israel, and of those who are in harm's way trying to protect them; those who have been affected by natural disasters; all who are ill with the COVID-19 virus and their families as well as those on the front lines, caring for those who are ill.



Those Battling Cancer: Brenda Gratz, Gary Schouten, Susie Lenzenhuber, Marigene Kersten, James Heady, Glennon Hepperman, Raejean Lause, Rev. Jeffrey Willey, Marie Schneider, Peggy McGinnis, Marsha Meyer, Kurt Gildehaus, Dave Pruitt, Ted Lepper, Emma Todd, Holly Schneider, Isaac Mercer, Tom Smith, Kristi Warneke, Michelle Mueller, Eric Moritz, Jim Grafrath, Ron Palitzsch.

Those serving in the Military: Andrew Gildehaus, Nick Sullentrup, Tyler Buescher, Luke Bronstrup, Caleb & Sarah Murphy, & others seeking to faithfully serve God & Country!

Please remember those who are not always able to worship with us at St. Paul's UCC. Remember them in prayer, with a visit, card, or a phone call:

D'Arline Driemeyer
Victorian Place
2800 Rabbit Trail Dr.
Washington, MO 63090

Have a very Merry Christmas!



Ellen Engelage
Union Care Center
1080 Marie Lane
Union, MO 63084

—Meals on Wheels—

If anyone needs or knows of anyone who needs home-delivered meals from the Warren County Senior Center, please contact the center at 636-456-3379. **Volunteers are also needed** to deliver meals.



CRYPTOGRAM (from pg. 11)

"With God as our Father, brothers all are we...Let there be Peace on Earth, and let it begin with me."



THERE'S A SONG IN THE AIR CROSSWORD (Answers from page 12):

ACROSS:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. employ | 23. caroling |
| 3. sleigh ride | 25. lords |
| 8. bell rock | 26. pipers |
| 10. pumpkin pie | 28. home |
| 11. Jesus Christ | 30. Saint Nick |
| 13. midnight | 31. golden rings |
| 14. French | 33. birthday |
| 17. expected | 38. mistletoe |
| 18. gentlemen | 40. salvation |
| 22. cup of cheer | 41. holiday |

DOWN:

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------|
| 2. yule-tide | 20. partridge | 37. single |
| 4. heavenly | 21. brightly | 39. maids |
| 5. drummers | 24. orient | 42. Israel |
| 6. bites the nose | 27. turtle doves | 43. geese |
| 7. acquaintance | 29. one-horse | 44. throw |
| 9. jingle belling | 32. ladies | 48. birds |
| 12. Santa Claus | 33. Bethlehem | |
| 15. Hawaii's | 34. treetops | |
| 16. peace | 35. Parson Brown | |
| 19. manger | 36. noel | |

St. Paul's UCC Church Calendar—December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><i>"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"</i></p>					1	2
3 1st Sunday of Advent <i>Bring A Meal Sunday</i> 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am AM Fellowship	4 10am-4pm Quilting 	5  <i>Hang your stockings and say your prayers...</i>	6  Women's Guild Lunch @ Hawthorne Inn 11:30am <i>(Meet at 11am to carpool)</i>	7	8  NO Adult Social Connection	9
10 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:30am Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am AM Fellowship 2pm Comm. Christmas	11 10am-4pm Quilting 	12 7pm-8pm Food Pantry @ CBC	13 	14 6:30pm Church Council	15 	16 11am-12N Food Pantry @ CBC
17 3rd Sunday of Advent 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am AM Fellowship	18 10am-4pm Quilting  NO MEN'S FELLOWSHIP	19	20  7pm Adult Choir Practice	21	22	23
24 4th Sun. of Advent 9:30am Worship NO Sunday School NO AM Fellowship CHRISTMAS EVE 7pm Candlelight Service	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS! NO Quilting Today 	26 	27 	28 	29	30
31 9:30am Worship NO Sunday School 10:30am AM Fellowship NEW YEAR'S EVE	<p><i>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:14 KJV)</i></p> 					

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
103 South Second Street
Marthasville, MO 63357