

## Pastor's Column

### What's happening this month?

Advent began on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Advent is a season in the Christian calendar, during which we prepare for Christ to come: 1. As a baby born in Bethlehem long ago, and 2. As the King of Glory entering our hearts through faith in the here-and-now, and 3. As the Son of God who will come to stand in judgment and in mercy at the end of time.

I hope you are already enjoying the excellent **Advent Devotional** with entries for each day, written by our own church members.

Each of three **Wednesday nights in Advent** (November 30, December 7, and 14) we will enjoy a light meal in the Fellowship Hall at 6:05 PM, to be followed by a short study on the words Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy. Donations will be accepted for the meal, and the amount collected will be directed to the support of Room in the Inn, Living Waters for the World, and the Churches United in Christ Help Ministry.

Wednesday Night, December 7<sup>th</sup>, we will go together on a bus to **shop for the Angel Tree families**, leaving from the Church after the study, at approximately 6:45 PM.

Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> will be the annual **Lessons and Carols** service at 10:30 AM. The biblical history of salvation is remembered, beginning with the Fall of Adam and Even in the garden, and finishing with the extraordinary prologue to John's gospel "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God..."

Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, we will go **caroling**, bringing the music of the season to homebound people, and to our area retirement communities. We will head out after worship.

**Christmas Eve, December 24**, we will have **one service of worship, at 5:00 PM**. This will be designed for all ages, and will include communion and the lighting of candles at the end of the service.

**Christmas Day is a Sunday** this year, so we will celebrate the birth of our savior at 10:30 AM.

As long as we remember Christ and the joy of the salvation he brings, our lives will remain full of Christmas gladness throughout the year.

Know you are loved.

Matthew

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# Christian Education

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** are at 9:00am  
Special class offering during Advent:

## The Moment That Changed the World

Advent Sunday School for All Ages - 9:30-10:15 a.m. –  
in our Church Fellowship Hall - on November 27, and  
December 4, 11, and 18.

- Come share in the joy of the four Sundays of Advent through familiar carols, beautiful art, treasured Bible stories and festive crafts.
- Pastries, coffee, and juice will be available.
- For more information, contact Mary Evans or Julia Roberts

**Youth Class** – in the Youth Suite on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

**Preschool and Children's classes** – downstairs



## Missions

**DAVID'S ROOM IN THE INN (DRITI)** is now open and going on Thursday evenings. We will host every week on Thursdays until March. On our first night hosting we were full, with our max number of guests (15), plus one! Thanks to the many folks who helped this to happen.

Now, we ask that YOU add your name to sign-up sheets located outside the chapel **wherever** you can help. Inn-keepers are needed, along with other slots each week. Your assistance is much needed and appreciated.

**GLOVES WITH LOVE returns!** Our 10th Street fence will be dressed in gloves, socks, hats, and scarves during the DRITI season. Your donations of items to hang on the fence are appreciated. We have a good stock of hats and scarves right now, but **are low on gloves** for adults. There is a blue bin under the table in the 10th Street Foyer for donation dropoffs. And if you would like to help us re-stock fence from our bin each week, let the office know.





# Youth Ministry

Our Angel Tree is up in the 10th Street lobby. Please pass through, and if you are willing and able, take some angels to buy gifts for children. You can sign up on the sheet beside the tree. Please try to return the purchased and wrapped gifts to the church office by Sunday, December 11th.

Our Angel tree Delivery day will be on Saturday, December 17th. If you would like to be involved in helping deliver the gifts please speak to [David Clarke](#).

Our youth group Christmas party will be on Sunday December 11th at Dr. Julia Roberts house. For more information on this event speak to David Clarke.

Youth group will continue to meet and run in the new year while David Clarke is at home in Northern Ireland. If you have any questions or want more information contact Mary Evans.

We still need people to sign up to provide meals for youth group on Sunday evenings. If you would like to provide them, the sign-up link can be found on the front page of our Church [website](#).

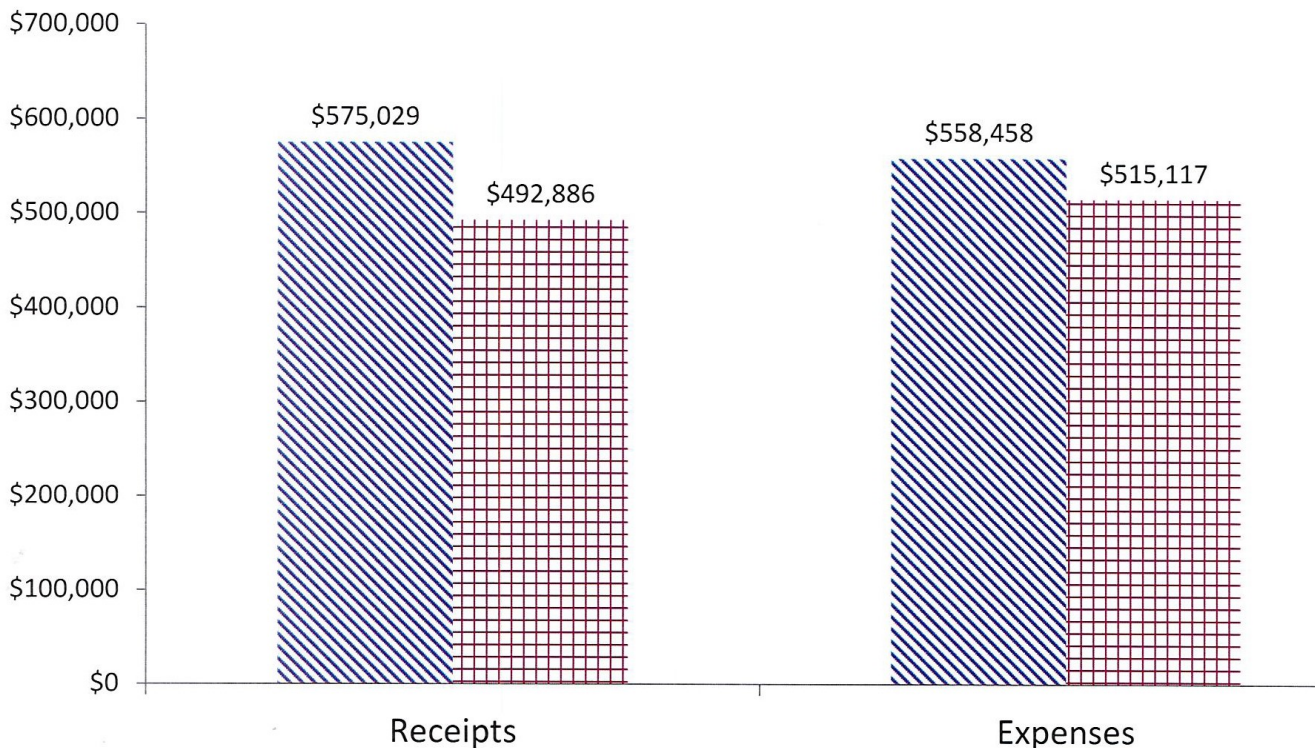


# Finance Ministry

## Financial Summary

Year to Date October  
2022

▨ Budget  
▩ Actual



# Church and Community

**WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVENT GATHERINGS** Dinner and Advent Meditations on November 30, December 7, and December 14

- A soup supper will be served at 6:05 followed by an Advent meditation. All are welcome; please make plans to join us in the Fellowship Hall.
- Call the church office to let us know you plan to attend so we know how much food to make.
- There is no cost for the soup supper, but you may make a donation to one of our church missions if you choose.



**ANGEL TREE** Don't forget to select your angel(s) from the **Angel Tree** outside the office. There are some still available and in need of adoption. The final date to bring in gifts is **Monday, December 14.**

In addition to gifts, we also provide each family with food for Christmas dinner. Diane Simmons and other church friends have been chief food shoppers the past several years (Thank you to these Ladies!) and are willing to offer their expert advice to **two new shoppers** this year. If you are willing to be a shopper, please contact [Judy Whitson](#) for more information.

**ANGEL TREE GIFT SHOPPING** A Fellowship Opportunity: As the holiday season approaches we all know how busy a time it can be and how annoying it can be to do that seasonal shopping. So why not make it a little more enjoyable by shopping with friends? On December 7th after our Wednesday night Advent meditation, we will be having a group shopping trip. So if you have some Angel tree shopping to do or just some shopping of your own, please feel free to come join us as we do some shopping, and then maybe some wrapping and festive music at the church afterwards. If you would like more information speak to David or Matthew. We plan to leave together on a bus at approximately 6:45 PM.



## **LESSONS AND CAROLS—DECEMBER 11, 2022 AT 10:30 AM**

A service of Lessons and Carols was first done in the late 19th century but later made popular by King's College, Cambridge, who held their first service in 1918. Readings and music are paired as we recall God's historic willingness to bless, and the fulfillment of blessing in the coming of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Along with congregational singing and Advent Wreath Lighting, the music in this year's Lessons and Carols will feature the Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, Colligate Singers and Tom Moody on organ. A special guest string quartet will accompany in a variety of beautiful and uplifting Christmas anthems, traditional carols, Christmas solos and instrumentals.

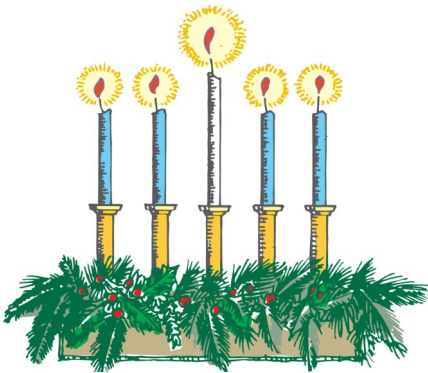


# Church and Community

**CHURCH CAROLING** On Sunday, December 18, our church will send small groups out caroling to folks in the community who are homebound, or less able to come worship in person. We plan to have a light lunch after worship, then divide into groups to make visits. We'll be taking cookie tins to offer along with festive music! Would you like to participate? RSVP to the church office so we can plan for lunch. We'll also need cookies and tins, which can be dropped off at the church office any time. Mark your calendars!

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

As Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year, for this Christmas Eve, our church will gather for one worship Service at **5:00pm**. This will be a service for all ages, and will include communion, music, and the lighting of candles at the end of worship. All are welcome!



## CHRISTMAS DAY

On Sunday morning of Christmas Day, we will worship together and celebrate the birth of our Savior in our Sanctuary, beginning at 10:30am. All are welcome.



**POINSETTIAS** Poinsettias will be available for purchase this Christmas, given either in memory of departed loved ones, or in honor of someone special. A bulletin announcement page with a listing of gifts will be included with the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Forms for poinsettia orders will be available in the church office or in the Sunday bulletins. Both should be returned to the church office by Monday, **December 19th**. Poinsettia orders are \$18.00 each. You may call or email the information to the church office, or print and mail an order form.



*Our deepest sympathy is extended to the following members and friends of this church who have recently lost loved ones:*

*To the family of Mary Lee Kelley*

*To Tina Coates in the death of her husband Chuck Coates*



# December Birthdays

December 1

Mary Lucas

Bobby Rabold

Charlene Rabold

December 2

Mary Belle Ballance

Stacy Kreuzer

Wanda Rosdeutscher

December 3

Donna Meredith

Sara Parkerson

December 5

Mae Etta Hines

December 7

Marty Jo Watson

December 9

Heather Jeffrey

December 10

Ticket McGown

Debbie Morse

December 11

Frederica Kernohan

December 13

Michael Spencer, Jr.

December 14

Alex Yusk

December 15

Ginger Van Ness

December 17

Susan Todd

Claire Watson

December 18

Mary Hext

December 22

Mallory Hudson

Grayson Trickey

December 24

Wes Green

Gary Hext

Shaska Hines

December 25

Angie Alexieff

December 28

Amelia Davenport

December 30

Stephen Alexieff


Tim Leigh

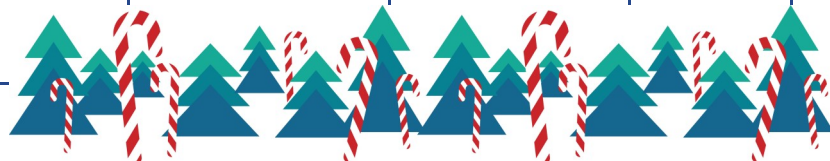


**Elders:** Class of 2023-Jean Harris, Wayne Hendrix, Nathan Love, Mike Morse, Bud Schlinker; Class of 2024-Frederica Kernohan, Tim Leigh, Bobby Rabold, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden; Class of 2025-Karol Kirby Ahmed, Buzz English, Pamela Napier, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge **Deacons:** Class of 2023-Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Annette Parkerson, Judy Whitson; Class of 2024-Trudy Burkeen, Evan Goad, Linda Leigh, Catherine Reber, Susan Thomison; Class of 2025-Craig Long, Teri Polen, Ernie Small, Dan Stelling, Fred Trickey

# December Calendar

Please check our 60-Second email and bulletin announcements regularly. In our present circumstances, scheduled events often change. Take care and stay safe!

| Sun  | Mon   | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat   |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
|   |   |   |  | <b>1</b><br>6:00pm DRITI<br>7:00pm Neighborhood Group | <b>2</b><br>7:30am Men's Breakfast Group<br>5:30pm Gallery Hop           | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>4</b><br>8:30am Fellowship<br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Children's Music<br>10:30am Worship<br>5:00pm Youth                                     | <b>5</b><br>9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love                          | <b>6</b><br>9:30am Chair Yoga<br>11:00am Special Care<br>2:00pm Staff Meeting<br>7:00pm Deacons   | <b>7</b><br>7:00am B'fast Group<br>5:00pm Chancel Choir<br>6:05pm Advent Meal and Program                                | <b>8</b><br>6:00pm DRITI                              | <b>9</b><br>7:30am Men's Breakfast Group                                 | <b>10</b>   |
| <b>11 Lessons &amp; Carols</b><br>8:30am Fellowship<br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Children's Music<br>10:30am Worship<br>5:00pm Youth (away)        | <b>12</b><br>9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love                         | <b>13</b><br>9:30am Chair Yoga<br>11:00am Special Care<br>11:30am Lions' Club<br>2:00pm Staff Meeting<br>6:00pm Sunny 16                | <b>14</b><br>7:00am B'fast Group<br>5:00pm Chancel Choir<br>6:05pm Advent Meal and Program<br><b>Angel Tree deadline</b> | <b>15</b><br>6:00pm DRITI                             | <b>16</b><br>7:30am Men's Breakfast Group<br>3:00-8:00pm Bellewood Party | <b>17</b><br>Angel tree deliveries  |
| <b>18</b><br>8:30am Fellowship<br>9:00am Sunday School<br>10:00am Children's Music<br>10:30am Worship<br>12:00pm Caroling<br>5:00pm Youth<br>Movie night | <b>19</b><br>9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love                         | <b>20</b><br>9:30am Chair Yoga<br>11:00am Special Care<br>12:00pm Finance M.<br>1:00pm CUICHM<br>2:00pm Staff Meeting<br>7:00pm Session | <b>21</b><br>7:00am B'fast Group<br>5:00pm Chancel Choir   | <b>22</b><br>6:00pm DRITI                             | <b>23</b><br>7:30am Men's Breakfast Group                                | <b>24 Christmas Eve</b><br>Sat Meals (all churches)<br>5:00pm Christmas Eve Worship |
| <b>25 Christmas Day</b><br>9:30am Fellowship<br>10:30am Worship  | <b>26</b><br>9:00am GOD/DOG Is Love<br><b>Office closed</b> | <b>27</b><br>9:30am Chair Yoga<br>11:00am Special Care<br>11:30am Lions' Club<br>2:00pm Staff Meeting                                   | <b>28</b><br>7:00am B'fast Group   | <b>29</b><br>6:00pm DRITI                             | <b>30</b><br>7:30am Men's Breakfast Group                                | <b>31</b><br>Sat Meals (all churches)   |



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We share  
the vitality of Christ:  
loving, serving, and  
welcoming all.

The full-color newsletter is online at [www.bgpres.org](http://www.bgpres.org).  
December 15 is the deadline for the January 2023  
newsletter. Please send your information to the  
church office at [info@bgpres.org](mailto:info@bgpres.org)

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