

The Christian Caller  
303 North Seventh Street  
Fredonia, Ks. 66736  
Email address: [fccfred@yahoo.com](mailto:fccfred@yahoo.com)  
Church phone number: 378-4118  
Pastor Claude Shue



Website [www.fccfredonia.org](http://www.fccfredonia.org)  
Sunday school: 9:00 AM.  
Worship 10:30 AM.

Office hours: Mon. – Thurs. 9:00 – 2:30 PM.  
Secretary: Cheryl Rice

### Our Mission Statement

**To help one another grow in Christian faith through worship, witness, fellowship, and service to our community and the world.**

### December 16 Caller



### Prayer Concerns

#### Condolences to:

**In the hospital:** Marvin Gregory

**Local Concerns:** Mike & Liz Jeffers, Becky Ramsey, Roger Surber, Marilyn Pryor, De Anna Spoon, Maxine Wescott

**Continuing Concerns:** Nadine Timmons, Clara & David McCluskey, Fred Eisele, Howard Svaty, Mardina Gregory, Diane Carver, Lois Ramsey, Charlie North, George Chapman, Margaret Shinkle, Emagene Walton, Carol Turner

**Our extended family:** Sherri Sass, John Settle, Kevin Olsen, John Siewart, Justin Voorhies, our uniformed men and women serving our country, storm, wild fire, shooting, looting, riot, racial violence, Covid victims and their care givers and students, teachers and parents home schooling.

**Please call the church office (378-4118) with information or updates** related to illnesses, hospitalizations, crisis, or immediate family deaths, so that care can be offered.

### Financial Report

Offerings: Received through	
December 06	\$3001.35
December 13	\$4671.25



### Happy Birthday!

December 18 - Nadine Timmons  
December 22 - Barb Vaughn  
December 25 - Jesus our Savior  
December 26 – Doris Claiborne\*



### Happy Anniversary!

December 24 - Marvin & Mardina Gregory (58 years)



**Most Needed for Food Baskets**  
canned vegetables and canned fruits.



Thank you to Steve Siegele for putting up our nativity scene and for the lighted additions.



## **Called to serve Dec. /Jan. Sunday, December 20**

Table Elders: Carol Bernauer & Darin Vaughn

Deacons: Mary Shue & ?

Deaconess: Mary Shue

AV: Cary Hutton

Children's Chat: Claude Shue

Lay Leader: Claude Shue

## **Sunday, December 27**

Table Elders: Todd Harrelson & De Anna Vaughn

Deacons: Pat and Jess Reed

Deaconess: Mary Shue

AV: Nancy Burns

Children's Chat: Becky Ramsey

Lay Leader: Jess Reed

## **Sunday, January 03**

Table Elders: Carl Thornton & David Rogers

Deacons: Sandy Besinger

Deaconess: Mary Shue

AV: Merlyn Ramsey

Children's Chat: Becky Ramsey

Lay Leader: De Anna Vaughn



### **A Message from Pastor Shue**

I hope everyone is safe and comfortable as you receive this newsletter. These are new and

trying times we are living in. We as a church must be willing to change how we do business as well. Each year that I have been here the number of people who are willing to be leaders of the church has gotten smaller. Part of the problem that we have is our congregation has gotten older and several of our church leaders are no longer with us. I understand that part of the problem. What I do not understand is

the younger people in our congregation who do not see the need to serve the church. When we are asked to be a leader in the church let us not forget who the head of the church is. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is who we work for. It hurts us when so many are able to do the work, but so few see the need to do it. Starting the first Sunday in January we will be only using one Deacon in our communion service. The reason for this is we don't have enough Deacons. Several people on the list are not willing to serve on the Sunday that they are asked to serve. We are hoping that by having one Deacon this might help. We are down to nine Elders which is the fewest that we have had since I have been here. We are also down to nine Deaconesses. The issue directly reflects on my lack of leadership. When a church fails to live up to its responsibility it is because the Minister is not doing his job.

It is because of this that I am thinking maybe it is time for a change in Ministers. Maybe it's time to have fresh new ideas. I will be praying on this for the next few weeks. Remember change is not a bad thing.

I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Joyful New Year.

I hope everyone has a truly blessed week.

Your Servant in Christ,  
Pastor Claude





**FYI**

### **Food Baskets**

\*We need volunteers to make Christmas baskets for distribution on Dec. 19th starting at 9:00 a.m.. Due to covid we will not be serving breakfast and volunteers need to wear a mask. Be here at 8:00 a.m. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

Due to Covid concerns bring your letter and stop your car under the church canopy between the hours of 9:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m. We will bring your food basket to your car. If pick up is not possible, we ask that you have someone at home to receive delivery. Local deliveries will be made first. If you will not be home on the 19<sup>th</sup> call the church to make other arrangements. If you do not contact us and are not home on the 19<sup>th</sup> your basket will be given to another family or the food bank. If you wish to decline your basket call 378-4118 and let us know. We hope this gift will make your holidays brighter.



### **Christmas Day Dinner**

Sadly, many of us have gone from not knowing anyone infected with Covid to knowing someone who has had it or is suffering from it, and increasingly having a loved one or a friend who has died from it. We do not wish to become a super spreader therefore **Christmas Dinner this year is canceled.** Please only go out if you have to, wash your hands often, and wear a mask if you do leave home.

With the Pandemic my schedule is out of the ordinary. I will try to maintain as many

of my regular office hours as possible. Call the church and if I don't answer, leave me a message. If you need to, call my cell 620-714-0807 and leave me a message. You may also text me. If it is such that I can return your call immediately, I will, otherwise I will do it as soon as possible. I may have to work some evening hours so don't be surprised if I return your call after 6:00 p.m. I would love to think schools can return to their class rooms full time, but at this point it is one day at a time.

### **Our Church Remains Open**

- **Take your temperature at home.** Do not attend if you do not feel well.
- ***Wearing of masks is strongly encouraged.***
- ***Social Distance***
- **Hand sanitizer is provided.**
- **Bulletins** – pick up by the door.
- **No Physical Contact.**
- **No contact Communion service.**
- **Anita's class and the Adult Sunday School class** meet at regular times.
- **Nursery is available.** Make sure temperatures are taken at home.

If you are unable to attend church please continue to send your tithes and offerings to the church address at 303 N. 7<sup>th</sup>, Fredonia, or to Nancy Burns at 328 S. 15 St.

***Warren Townsend*** will provide a special musical number for us at our December 27<sup>th</sup> Worship service.

### ***So Home***

***Nathan Daniel Founder and CEO*** will be a guest speaker on January 03, 2021.

*He will tell us about So Home and give us a progress report as well as his visions for it.*



**THANK YOU**

Thank you to the following people for poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary: Faye & Nadine Timmons in memory of Mark, Tom, and Tim Timmons, Marilyn and Clifford Pryor in memory of Max and Kara Pryor, Jo Shue in memory of Bob Shue, Tina Thomas, Cheryl Rice in memory of Covid Victims and their families. If I missed anyone it was unintentional. Please call the office and let me know.



**THANK YOU**

Thank you to everyone for your contributions to the food baskets. We are expecting to give out around 70 baskets this year.



### The Rest of the Story

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was filled with sorrow at the tragic death of his wife in a fire in 1861. The Civil War broke out that same year, and it seemed this was an additional punishment. Two years later, his son was seriously wounded as a lieutenant

in the army at the Patomic. Sitting at his desk, one Christmas Day he heard the church bells ringing and ringing. It was in this setting he wrote:

*I heard the bells on Christmas Day...*

At this Christmas time whether you are in sorrow or joy you can know God is not dead, nor doth He sleep. He knows your every need and longs to comfort you and be the special friend you need. Seek Him this year instead of outward manifestations of the season. He will give real meaning and your heart real peace, the peace that passes all understanding.



**December 21st** for 45 minutes after sunset an event will occur

that is similar to the Star of Bethlehem. Unlike the Star of Bethlehem this one is only visible for a short time. This phenomenon only occurs once in every 800 years. It will give you an idea of what the wisemen and shepherds saw.



### On Our Calendar

Dec. 19 – 8:00 a.m. assemble food baskets

Dec. 20 - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School & 10:30 Worship

Dec. 22 - 2:00 – 4:00 Homeless Matters

Dec. 24 – 7:00 Candle Light service

Dec. 25 – **Merry Christmas!**

Dec. 27 – Annual Meeting following church service

Dec. 29 – Homeless Matters will not meet

