

Walnut Grove UMC
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ISAIAH 7:14

¹⁴ THEREFORE THE LORD HIMSELF SHALL GIVE YOU A SIGN; BEHOLD, A VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE, AND BEAR A SON, AND SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL. KJV

Walnut Grove UMC ***The Nuggets***

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DECEMBER 2021

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Calendar of Events



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			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	

12/2	5pm	Church Reserved
12/5	10am	Combined Worship/Carry In
12/12	9am	Traditional Worship
	10am	Sunday School
	11am	Contemporary Worship
12/13	6:30pm	Ad Council Meeting
12/19	9am	Traditional Worship
	10am	Sunday School
	11am	Contemporary Worship
12/24	7pm	Christmas Eve Worship
12/25		CHRISTMAS DAY
12/26	10am	Combined Worship

From The Pastor's Desk

The other night, I was going to Mom's house. I turned onto Pattison Avenue, and as I traveled up the road I was reminded that Christmas is on the way! House after house was lit up with Christmas lights! I am certain, that if the sky is clear, one can see Pattison Avenue from the International Space Station! House after house is celebrating the season with outdoor decorations and lights...LOTS of lights!

While all the light are fun to look at, they are a powerful reminder of what the Christmas season is all about. It was the light of the star that led the wise men to Bethlehem. When the angels appeared to the shepherds, the glory of the Lord shone around them. In John 8, Jesus reminds the disciples that He is the Light of the world. Christmas is the celebration that the Light of the world has come and has dispelled the darkness of sin.

Imagine you are in a blackout. You get hold of a flashlight in order to check the breaker box. What will the flashlight do? It will point the way to the breaker box, ensuring you don't take a wrong turn or stumble over a box in the basement. Jesus is a speaking signpost, pointing the way to God. His teaching helps us avoid pitfalls and keeps us in the right path.

Then that same flashlight will shed light on those circuit breakers in the breaker box. It doesn't show us the way to our destination, it illuminates that destination. It acts like a floodlight. Jesus similarly shines a spotlight on God. He illuminates the reality of God. He is God spelling himself out in a language we humans can understand. When it comes to knowing God, we are not blundering in the dark.

And the flashlight does something else: it actually highlights how dark the surrounding darkness is. The glare of the light seems to show up the intensity of the darkness. Jesus said that his goodness will show up the world's badness. His ministry aroused the forces of darkness and showed those forces that something stronger was at work.

In all these ways, Jesus is light of the world. Helen Keller was both deaf and blind. Once she was asked if being blind was the worst thing in the world. She replied there was one thing even worse: having perfect eyesight and yet seeing nothing. We, who so often slink around in the darkness, badly need to embrace the one who gives light and sight to each one of us.

Hello Walnut Grove!

We hope you are doing well and had a great Thanksgiving with your family. The youth at Walnut grove had two meetings in November. On November 7th the HCC met at Walnut Grove and played commando church as well as an “escape room” where kids had to work together to solve some problems. Thank you to the Stump/Ruhlen/McCullough/Roby families for making us food for that night! Then on November 21st the WG youth group met for a meeting. We played Bible charades and had a lesson on thankfulness and gratitude.



December schedule looks like this:

- December 5th** HCC meets at Kenton movie theater to watch Elf. It's Free!
- December 11th** we are bell ringers for the Salvation Army at the Kenton Walmart from 10-5.
- WG youth Christmas party on **December 12th** from 5-6:30 pm. We will have a white elephant gift exchange for this.

Have a great December!



<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Check #</u>
10/1/2021	Beginning Balance			\$3,567.04	
10/8/2021	Julie Hite - Pumpkins		\$90.00	\$3,477.04	1002
10/29/2021	Interest	\$0.08		\$3,477.12	
10/31/2021	Ending Balance			\$3,477.12	



Beginning Balance -	\$25,040.84
Deposits -	<u>+ \$ 17,404.39</u>
	\$ 42,445.23
Checks paid out	<u>-\$ 15,689.84</u>
Ending Balance -	\$ 26,755.39
Memorial fund -	\$ 22,114.35



The Sunday School
Checking Account
balance is \$2001.04

CHILDREN'S OUTREACH MINISTRIES

We continue to make blankets to give away to families in need. We also continue to make cards to send a cheery greeting to our church family.

CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

The Mission Society will meet on December 7th at 11:30am at Mr. Cheezy's in Dunkirk.

ONE CHURCH ONE SERVICE

On Sunday, December 5, we will have a One Church One Service Sunday. Worship will be at 10:00am. During this service, we will celebrate the sacrament of Baptism. If you would like to be baptized or have you child baptized, please contact Pastor Doug. Following the service, there will be a carry in lunch.

There will be another One Church One Service Sunday on Sunday, December 26 where we will worship with a service of lessons and carols. Please plan on joining us for these very special services.



Our advent worship series is entitled, God Bless Us Everyone: The Redemption of Scrooge. This series is based on the book by Matt Rawle entitled The Redemption of Scrooge. This Advent/Christmas series will take a look at how living in God's economy of grace and justice is the antithesis of the life-threatening addiction to money, success, exclusion and looking out for ourselves. The chimes of the clock-tower bells in Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" provide a wake-up call for Ebenezer Scrooge and turn him from his resentment, fear and isolation. Just as God's presence was born anew into this world, we too can be born anew, woken up and redeemed into renewed life, joy, passion, generosity, humility and love.

11/28 – Bah Humbug! Making Change
12/5 – The Remembrance of Christmas Past
12/12 – The Life of Christmas Present: Look at Me
12/19 -- The Hope of Christmas Future: Death-Defying Acts

Sunday, December 26, will be a service of lesson and carols and we will celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism.



Please join us on December 24th at 7pm for our Christmas Eve Worship.



12/1 Lanny Dillon	12/20 Josh Grappy
12/2 Aaron Sheldon	12/20 Lori Wilson
12/3 Darren Reese	12/22 Perry Sheldon
12/4 Tim Crowe	12/22 Holly Wilson
12/5 Dana Oates	12/25 Holly Ruhlen
12/7 Kyle Koehler	12/26 Chase Doll
12/7 Connie Steele	12/26 Kay Doll
12/8 Robert Steiner	12/26 Rune Frater
12/10 Don Doll	12/26 Cooper McBride
12/12 Rowe Garmon	12/27 Tenley Heckman
12/12 Kurt Sheldon	12/28 Megan Frisbee
12/14 Jeff Doll	12/29 Judy Cronley
12/15 Carolyn Lambert	12/29 Preston Wykes
12/15 Melissa Rall	12/30 Amanda Schutz
12/16 Kathy Bash	12/30 Boyd Stewart
12/16 Cynthia Sheldon	12/31 Haylee Hoyt
12/16 Haley Waller	12/31 Joshua Kindell
12/18 Jordan Doll	12/31 Trevor McCall
12/18 Allison Wilson	12/31 Eugene Oates
12/19 Jack Rensing	



12/5 Justin & Chelsea Beale
12/6 Chanda & Mark Garmon
12/8 David & Kathy Bash
12/10 Michael & Christine Bacon
12/10 Theron & Anne Gammon
12/31 Ed & Bev Bahr
12/31 Tracy & David Spencer



weather cancellation policy

As we enter the winter months, and bad weather is certain to come our way, we want to remind everyone of our church cancellation policy:

1. If the Hardin County Sheriff Department issues a Level 1 snow emergency, church services will go on as usual.
2. If the Hardin County Sheriff Department issues Level 2 snow emergency, we will have one service at 10:30am.
3. If the Hardin County Sheriff Department issues a level 3 snow emergency, in person church will be cancelled and Pastor Doug will post an informal service on the church's Facebook page
4. If the wind-chill is 15 degrees below zero or colder, in person church will be cancelled and Pastor Doug will post an informal service on the church's Facebook page.

If any of these conditions are present, Pastor Doug will send out a One Call and post it on the church's web site and on the church's Facebook page. The decision on whether or not to close the church will be made in consultation with the Chair of the Ad Board and the chair of the Trustees by 7:00am on Sunday morning. If in doubt, please stay home and remain safe.

I would like to thank everyone who offered expressions of love during Pastor Appreciation Month. The cards, gifts and all the other expressions are deeply appreciated. I am honored to be in Kenton and serving as your pastor!