

The Bethlehem STAR

Pride in Our Past - Faith in Our Future

December/January 2025

Anticipate



Pastor's Perspective



Some yearly traditions, if they were proposed today, would probably not pass the safety and/or common-sense test. For example, out of both safety and logistical concerns, we probably wouldn't invent Trick-or-Treating in 2024 (and, in fact, its popularity has waned over the last decade or so as "trunk or treats" have become more popular). Additionally, if it were not already part of our country's Independence Day traditions, we probably would not advocate allowing untrained people to possess and deploy fireworks (not to mention the question of sobriety while doing so!).

Likewise, I'm convinced that if it were not an already entrenched and beloved part of our Christmas tradition, we would not think it a good idea to tightly pack people into a pew, give everyone (regardless of age) an individual candle, and pass the fire around the dark sanctuary. (So, I give thanks for whomever started it long ago, because it is truly a highlight of the season!)

We take certain risks for the sake of our traditions, risks we don't often evaluate. It's just what we do!

On Christmas Eve we will gather again in the sanctuary and end the service with our candles raised singing "Silent Night." We will turn off the lights, but it will not be dark. Darkness cannot overcome even the smallest flame.

And we will think of that tiny flame ignited in Bethlehem all those many years ago. Its glow was enough to prompt angels to break into song, to cause shepherds to rejoice, and to give Mary pause ("and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart").

While we sing, we will marvel at the growing glow from our candles as the light makes its way from the Christ candle to the very last pew. The Incarnation is that first flicker of light that breaks through, but its light grows like the candles in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve. We are meant to pick up that light and add to its radiance in the world.

We forget that everyone holding a candle while distracted by the song they're supposed to be singing comes with certain risks, because we've done it for decades.



Likewise, we may forget that bearing Christ's light in the world also comes with risk (because many of us have also done this for decades!).

Which leads us to one more thing we might forget: this all cost God, too. That first flicker in Bethlehem was the greatest risk God ever undertook (with the possible exception of creating the world in the first place!). The Incarnation cost God. God coming to us in Jesus came with a cost. We should not be surprised that following Jesus asks something of us, too.

Be careful as you hold your candle on Christmas Eve. We take the fire risk, because it's worth the reward of the beautiful candle-lit sanctuary. Let us also take care as we follow Jesus in discipleship. It is also a risk worth taking, because we believe in the Kingdom He brings in our midst! Thanks be to God!

Hanging of the Greens





Join us this Advent season!

December 1, 10:15 am Sunday Worship with Harpist Emily Fife
(music begins at 10:00 am)

5:00 pm Youth Christmas Party

December 7 & 8 Cookie Walk Bake & Treat Sale following worship

December 8, 10:15 am Sunday Worship with Brass Quintet

December 15, 10:15 am Sunday Worship with Bell Choir & Men's Ensemble

5:30 pm Family Night, Fellowship Dinner & Children's Christmas Market

December 17, 6:00 pm Blue Christmas Service (Welcoming Area)

December 22, 10:15 am Worship with Ladies Ensemble

December 24, 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion
Worship with String Quartet (music begins at 8:30 pm)

Weekly Worship
Saturday at 5:30 pm
Sunday at 10:15 am
bethlehemucc.org



Sunday, December 1

The youth (6th-12th) Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 1, at 5:00 pm. The Traveling Artist will guide us in painting ornaments, we will have dinner, and a “favorite things” gift exchange. Please RSVP to Margaret.

Youth Christmas PARTY



Sunday, December 15 - An All-Church Event

Family Night will be held on Sunday, December 15, at 5:00 pm. Our theme this year will be Old Time Radio Classic: A Christmas Special. Following the program we will have a fellowship dinner. We will be serving fried chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, macaroni and cheese, and rolls. The Children's Christmas Market will be open for children to

shop for their families. **Please RSVP for dinner as soon as possible to help us with planning by clicking [HERE](#).** If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Margaret Eberhart.

December Sunday School Overview

What we're teaching!

Pre-K - 6th Grade

JOY STORY: A 5-Week Series on the Gospels of Christmas
SERIES OVERVIEW:

At Christmas, gifts are all around us, but we know the holiday isn't about the toys—it's about the joy of Jesus' birth. We might experience joy from opening up
Continued



gifts, but God gives us even greater joy through Jesus. In this 5-week series, kids will learn all about the joy Jesus brought into the world. They'll learn **Jesus is the savior God promised**, how **God sent Jesus at the perfect time**, that **Jesus brings joy to the world**, and what it means to say **Jesus is God's greatest gift**.

[DOWNLOAD THIS MONTH'S PARENT DEVOTIONAL](#)

Youth

7th-12th (not in confirmation)

REMEMBER WHEN: A 4-Week Series from Luke and the Prophets on Jesus' Birth



SERIES OVERVIEW:

Christmas is one of those holidays that feels timeless. The traditions, music, and made-for-TV movies not only connect us, but also the other parts of our lives. It's a season that invites us to be nostalgic and think about memories from Christmases past. In this 4-week series from the Gospels, we'll take a look at the Christmas story to see how something we may have heard long ago can still help us grow today. As we reflect on these classic stories, we'll remember how **Christmas reminds us Jesus is our Savior** and that **God can be trusted, to rely on each other**, and to trust that **God is with us**.

[CHECK OUT THIS MONTH'S STUDENT DEVOTIONAL](#)

[DOWNLOAD THIS MONTH'S PARENT DEVOTIONAL](#)

January Sunday School Overview
What we're teaching!

Pre-K - 6th Grade

CAMP BELIEVE IT: A 4-Week Series from the Gospels on Jesus' Early Life

Continued

SERIES OVERVIEW:

People love camping, and for good reason! You can take in nature, practice special skills, or just take time to relax in a new environment. And when it comes to camping, no one loved it as much as John the Baptist.

In this 4-week series, kids will hear about John the Baptist's special role in preparing the way for Jesus and his ministry. John's story will help kids to say their camp motto, **"I believe God gives me purpose. I believe God can speak to me. I believe God is powerful. I believe God's words are true."**

**[DOWNLOAD THIS MONTH'S PARENT DEVOTIONAL](#)****Youth**

7th-12th (not in confirmation)

FROM NOW ON: A 4-Week Series from the Gospels on Following Jesus

**SERIES OVERVIEW:**

Christmas is one of those holidays that feels timeless. The traditions, music, and made-for-TV movies not only connect us, but also the other parts of our lives. It's a season that invites us to be nostalgic and think about memories from Christmases past. In this 4-week series from the Gospels, we'll take a look at the Christmas story to see how something we may have heard long ago can still help us grow today. As we reflect on these classic stories, we'll remember how **Christmas reminds us Jesus is our Savior** and that **God can be trusted, to rely on each other**, and to trust that **God is with us**.

[CHECK OUT THIS MONTH'S STUDENT DEVOTIONAL](#)**[DOWNLOAD THIS MONTH'S PARENT DEVOTIONAL](#)**

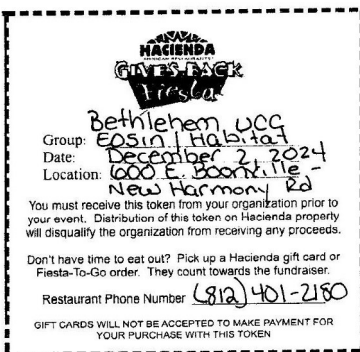


Left—Youth serving at United Caring Shelter

Below— The Eosin group was making their annual apple pies, a now 30-year-old fundraiser!



**Benefit Habitat for Humanity
Hacienda Restaurant
(Boonville-New Harmony Rd. location)
December 2**



The Eosin class will be having a Hacienda Giveback Day on December 2, 2024 to benefit Habitat for Humanity. Eosin will receive 20% of sales of the day when this coupon is **presented or mentioned when ordering**. This is a great opportunity to get Hacienda gift cards for holiday gift giving.

*Coupons available in the church office vestibule, Welcoming Area, and narthex.

Annual Report Committee Reports Due

Committee Reports Due December 5

With the end of the year drawing near, it's time to submit Annual Report articles. Please take the time to review in the article the wonderful work your committee, social group, or Sunday School class has been doing. Remember, our Annual Report is our 'history in the making'.

Please help make the Annual Report process as seamless as possible by submitting your **Annual Report no later than December 5**. You can submit your report by sending me a Word document (patty@bethlehemucc.org) or by submitting it via link [here](#) any time between now and December 5th. Please don't wait until the last minute so that we can all enjoy the Christmas holiday season!

Thank you in advance!

Patty Oglesby



Tax Credit Giving Opportunity!

Just In! We recently learned that donations to Habitat for Humanity of Indiana can receive tax credit. How it works, donations to HfH of Indiana (which will be funneled back to our Evansville HfH) will receive 50% Indiana tax credit. IRS distributions are also eligible for the program.

It is another way to make our dollars count more as we work to help provide quality homes for qualified homeowners at affordable prices. For more details and information <https://evansvillehabitat.org/ways-to-give/tax-credit-giving/> .

BETHLEHEM UCC CONFIRMATION PODS 2024-2025



Junior Mentor Sydney Traylor,
Confirmands Isabella Allen and
Sydnee Hape,
Mentor Debbie Kuebler



Confirmand Frank Gratzer,
Mentor Steve Oglesby,
Confirmand Oliver Gratzer



Junior Mentor Emily Ozete,
Confirmands Rachel Harper
and Courtney Traylor, and
Mentor Tracey Stevens



Mentor Pastor Doug Turner,
Confirmands Lucas Eckert and
Ethan Vaupel, Junior Mentor
Marshall Traylor

BETHLEHEM UCC CONFIRMATION PODS 2024-2025



Mentor Susie Kuhlenschmidt,
Confirmands Ella Eberhart
and Natalie Slade, Junior
Mentor Audrey Kuhlenschmidt



Mentor Kelley Felt,
Confirmands Izzy Milheiser
and Savannah Hirsch,
Junior Mentor Emily Shreffler

CHURCH COUNCIL

This month in council, we heard the budget committee's proposal for the 2025 budget, which we will vote on in our December meeting.

We also recently approved the formation of a team to investigate potential upgrades to the choir loft.

I know I still have a month left, and I don't want to jinx it (lots of knocking on wood right now), but this has been a really good year to be Council President. I work with a great team of people, and our pastors are always so willing to help with anything. Honestly, they have made this job much easier than I thought it would be! It has truly been a pleasure to serve you all.

Kelley Felt, Church Council President



UPDATES FROM OUTREACH



CHRISTMAS FOR CAZE

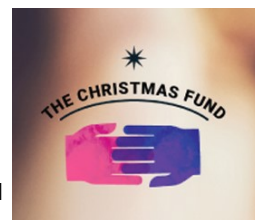


The Outreach Team will again coordinate the collection of gifts for some students at Caze School. If you would like to participate, look for the “traveling Christmas tree”. The tree will be on display in the Welcoming Area at all times except for before and during the Sunday School hour, when it will travel to the lower classroom level.

Remove an ornament from the tree and look on the back for instructions on buying either a book, art supplies, or a \$5-10 gift/toy. Wrap your gift, **BE SURE** to attach the paper ornament, and bring it to the round table across from the office door by the vestibule **no later than December 13**. Thanks for your help in making Christmas brighter for some of our EVSC students!

SPECIAL OFFERING IN DECEMBER

For over 100 years, The Christmas Fund has provided direct financial assistance to the healers in all our lives: retired and active UCC ministers, church workers, and their families. Last year, the Christmas Fund provided over \$1.9 million in pension and health benefits, emergency grants, and thank-you checks to retired church servants and their families.



Special giving envelopes will be available in the pews and on tables near all church entrances. Gifts can also be made online at bethlehemucc.org or by scanning the QR Code on Christmas Fund posters at the Welcoming Area and church office doors. This year, please give what you can to continue supporting those who've devoted their lives to serving others.

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OUTREACH GIVING

This year, the Outreach Committee has again received an allotment from the church budget and from the Voigt Trust distribution to make additional benevolent contributions. Recipients chosen this year are: Delaware, Evans, and Vogel Schools (teacher gift cards); St. Vincent dePaul (for providing emergency financial assistance); Culver Clothes Closet; CAJE; Appalachia Service Project for Help After Helene; Aurora (designated for Zion Church sanctuary remodeling); SIMA 100 (Southern Indiana Mentoring Academy); Sleep in Heavenly Peace (builds beds for children in need); Sister Joanna's Table.

Tuesday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m.



The Christmas/Advent season is truly one of mixed emotions. There is so much to keep us busy (distracted!), and obviously so much to celebrate with Christ's birth. But there is also a lot of heartache in the Christmas story—we sometimes gloss over the burden to Mary and Joseph, the fate of the precious Christ child, and Herod's horrific plot.

If your Christmas this year is a mix of joy and melancholy, you aren't alone. Bring your sadness, uncertainty, discomfort, questions, grief. . . whatever you're carrying this holiday season, and join us for a special low-key worship service. Our Blue Christmas service will be Tuesday, December 17, at 6:00 p.m. in the Welcoming Area.

More Hanging of the Greens



get to know our new members



Mike Dean

I'm originally from the Cincinnati/Dayton, Ohio area, having been born in Cincinnati and spending much of my life in the Dayton area. After graduating with an Electrical and Computer Engineering degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1985, I worked as an engineer in Indianapolis for 40 years before retiring in 2022. Retirement has been a time of transition, and I've enjoyed giving back to the community through volunteer work, including handyman services for seniors and tax preparation assistance.

I was introduced to Bethlehem UCC through Barry Jones, a friend who spoke so highly of the welcoming and supportive atmosphere here. My first visit confirmed his words; I immediately felt a sense of belonging and connection with the congregation. The warmth and acceptance I experienced solidified my decision to make Bethlehem my new church home. It truly feels like a place where I can grow spiritually and connect with others in a meaningful way. Evansville and becoming a part of the Bethlehem family and Barry's life has been a wonderful experience, and I'm very grateful for the friendship and kindness of everyone I've met.

Pat King



My husband Doug and I have been married for 47 years and are the proud parents of two sons, two granddaughters, and three great-grandchildren. During my working years at The Heart Group, I was a cardiology technician and medical assistant.

Over the years, I've connected with a few people at Bethlehem

Continued

and have attended a couple of musical events. Music has been a great love of mine since I was a child. For many years, I sang in church choirs and played my favorite instruments, the flute and piccolo. In fact, it was the music that led me to Bethlehem, and subsequently, Pastor Emily and her messages kept me coming back!

You'll often find my husband and myself tuning into Purdue basketball at home and cheering on our favorite team. You may also see me at Gateway Hospital on my volunteering days or at the YMCA taking water aerobics classes.

SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please join us on January 26 following worship in the sanctuary for our semi-annual Congregational Meeting, where we will install new Council members, approve the 2025 budget, and more.

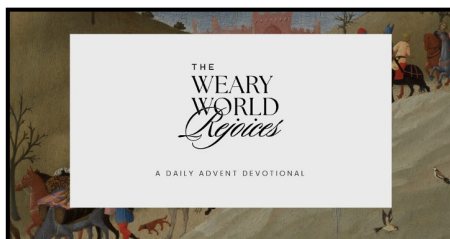


We rejoice with church family members who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month. A full list of birthdays and anniversaries can found on our website at bethlehem/estar or by contacting the church office (867-2497) for a printed list.

New Stained Glass



The new stained glass inserts have been installed in the hallway outside the sanctuary. These memorial gifts were given by the wives of Mel Gaffney, Gene Koch, and Bud Schultheis.



This year's Advent devotional is an invitation to sit with the tension of a promise not yet fulfilled, to acknowledge the cracks in our lives, and to find the courage to believe that they can still be filled with light, love, and grace.

Paper copies will be available in the church office vestibule (open 24/7), Welcoming Area, and narthex. Look for an electronic link in Emily's Editions.

There are three ways you can access this individual Advent guide online below:

[You can download a printable PDF.](#)

[Download an interactive PDF to access on your tablet, phone, or computer.](#)

[Or access each day through an online course page.](#)

It's easy to be an altar flower donor to celebrate an anniversary or birthday or remember a loved one. Prices are \$40 for two vases and \$35 for one centerpiece.

View all available dates and online sign-up instructions at bethlehemucc.org. To streamline the process, please sign-up online if at all possible or contact Cindy Carwile. Paper forms are available outside the church office.

2025 Available Altar Flower Dates

January 5, 12, 19, 26
 February 2, 9, 16, 23
 March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
 April 6, 13, 20, 27



Financial Recap

October General Account

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Monthly Beginning Balance	\$ 169,385.59	\$ 148,220.73
Monthly Pledge Deposits	30,655.84	35,772.41
Monthly Other Deposits	5,982.98	1,676.66
Monthly Operating Disbursements	(36,705.52)	(38,744.93)
Monthly Other Disbursements	(15,075.00)	44,631.90
Transfer Funds to 3-month CD	-	-
Monthly Ending Balance	<u>\$ 154,243.89</u>	<u>\$ 191,556.77</u>

YTD General Account

Beginning Balance	\$ 182,223.60	\$ 323,301.95
Pledge Deposits	364,223.19	328,197.60
Other Deposits	16,408.64	17,579.27
Operating Disbursements	(413,035.54)	(385,228.01)
Other Disbursements	4,424.00	57,705.96
Transfer Funds to 3-month CD	-	(150,000.00)
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 154,243.89</u>	<u>\$ 191,556.77</u>



In 2016 the U.S. joined with 192 other countries in signing the Paris Climate Agreement with the aim of having a stronger response to the dangers of climate change. All countries agreed to a preferred goal of holding the increase in average worldwide temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit). However, the Agreement lacks any meaningful enforcement mechanism. The U.S. pulled out in 2018 and re-joined in 2021. It looks like we will pull out again.

Historically, the U.S. is by far the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions at 20%. China 2nd at 11%. Russia 3rd at 7%.

Currently, China is the largest contributor with the U.S. second and India third. Combined, the three account for 42.9% of current emissions.

We are likely to consistently pass the 1.5 degree goal by the end of this decade absent meaningful changes by those who are contributing the most. We are on our way to the second year in a row of having the hottest year on record (likely hitting the 1.5 C. mark this year). We will also pass several tipping points soon after (think melting ice packs, thawing of the frozen tundra, etc.), which will accelerate further global warming of the air and oceans, and cause disruptive climate changes.

Estimates vary upon how much higher we might go by the end of the century. Reliable sources range from 2.6 to 3.1 degrees C. Adverse effects will happen exponentially above 2.0 C.

While going over the goal will not doom the earth and all life on it, it will have dire consequences for billions of people and animal, plant and marine species.

Among the consequences:

significant new areas of frequent and long-lasting drought (estimate of 75% of world's population affected by 2050)

mass migration to less affected areas

increased strength and frequency of severe storms

coral reefs will die out and many fish will lose their habitat

sea levels will rise and coastal cities and towns will frequently flood absent expensive efforts to mitigate

forest and grassland fires will become more frequent

insurance rates will skyrocket

polar ice melting will accelerate

smaller and poorer countries will bear the brunt of change due to inability to afford adaptation and coping mechanisms

farmland will be subject to weather changes disrupting the ability to feed the world

It is easy to despair and become discouraged in the current environment. It is natural. However, we cannot give in. It is important to continue to do our individual and collective part. We can reduce our waste stream and carbon footprint. We can hold out hope that people will come to realize the seriousness of the situation for our future and apply pressure on business and government. We can hope that new technologies will develop to help in some way to reduce the amount of greenhouse gasses and their effects. We can support organizations that are fighting for climate justice.



The church office will be closed December 24 - December 27 and December 31-January 1.

The Advent season comes and goes quickly, and soon it will be time for Dehanging of the Greens. All ages are welcome on January 5, 2025 following worship to help tidy up the sanctuary after the holidays.



Join a team of walkers and support United Caring Services for this annual event to raise funds and draw attention to the plight of individuals in our community who are homeless during the winter months. The "Coldest Night of the Year" is a national event, with the local 1-mile or 2-mile walk along Evansville's riverfront, starting at First Presbyterian Church on 2nd Street, walking to the LST 325 and ending with a light supper back at the church. For more information, go to CNOY.org and look for the Evansville location, or reach out to Lee Ann Shafer or Brian Newton about their teams.

Coldest Night of the Year
Saturday, February 22

4:00 Registration and Start at First Presbyterian Church
Light Supper and Celebration at First Presbyterian Church
Teams, walkers and donations at CNOY.org

Dear Bethlehem Church,



We wanted to thank you for your \$1,068.00 donation. Every act of your generosity helps us further our mission. We appreciate your continual support of Weekday! With your gift, we can spread the Gospel on the mission field of Evansville, ensuring our students learn to value themselves and others, learn of God's immeasurable love for them, and learn that their identity can be found in Him (Ephesians 2: 10). Your interest in, action for, and prayer for these students is greatly appreciated!

Again, we thank you for your support in helping to make the Evansville community a better place.

With many blessings and thanks,

Weekday Christian Education

Thank you so very much for allowing Evansville Day School to use your wonderful kitchen space to make puppy chow for the Fall Fest. Our students and faculty will benefit from your generosity.

Friends of EDS PTO

Dear Friends,

Thanks for all the good wishes and lovely cards I received over my birthday; all were so appreciated.

Doris Oglesby

Dear Rev. Emily,

I am writing to send a heartfelt thank you for your generous support. Your gifts of \$1050.00 and \$3,200.00 are helping us build brighter futures!



Every day, families in Vanderburgh and Posey Counties find themselves struggling to keep a decent roof over their heads. Scarcity of affordable housing is one of the most serious challenges faced by families in our community right now. For many, the dream of homeownership is simply out of reach.

By giving them a hand up -not a hand out -we can help our local families achieve greater safety, financial stability, and independence to pursue their dreams. Because of your donation, we will be able to give more local families and individuals hope for a brighter future by helping them build and buy their own decent and affordable homes.

Your generosity will not only construct homes but will also build hope, providing families with the foundation they need to succeed. Together, we are forging a path towards brighter futures, one home at a time.

On behalf of our staff, board, and future homeowners, THANK YOU! Your gift is an investment in the lives of families and our community that will last generations.

Sincerely,

Dan Douglas
Director of Development
Habitat for Humanity

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Once again the Eosin Pie Sale was a great success. Many thanks to everyone who helped in some way – donating time, money, or just purchasing our delicious pies. The profit from this project goes to help missions.



Dear Bethlehem UCC,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$828.50 to Back Bay Mission! Your gift to Friends of the Mission makes it possible to meet the most urgent needs of the poor and marginalized of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Your gift is already at work strengthening neighborhoods, seeking justice, and transforming lives. You're helping a homeowner stay in their home, providing homeless families with apartments, making sure people have enough food, and giving people the support they need to make their lives better.

Most importantly, your gift is making sure that Back Bay Mission is here to provide a safe and welcoming place for everyone who comes through our doors. Thank you for partnering with us through your generous gift. We - and those we serve - are ever grateful.

James Pennington
Executive Director
Back Bay Mission

Thank you for your invaluable contribution of \$4,850.00 to the EVSC Foundation's Adopt-A-School Program. Your contribution will allow the purchase of many items on several school's Wish Lists!



As a partner of the Adopt-A-School Program, you are providing support and resources for student needs, academic programs, and important opportunities for our educators at the schools.

Thank you for helping with the "here and now" needs with your generous contribution. At a time of many unknown variables surrounding the school setting, thank you for sharing a positive light for our students.

With warm regards,
Melanie Atwood
EVSC Foundation President

Thank you for your recent \$2,425 donation to Vanderburgh County CASA. Your faith in our mission will allow us to continue advocating for abused and neglected children in our community. Thank you for believing in CASA to be stewards of God

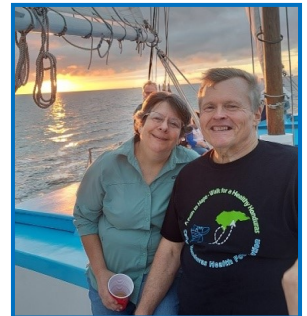
Ashley Thomas
Development and Marketing Director

BACK BAY MISSION

strengthening neighborhoods, seeking justice, transforming lives

Several Bethlehem folks traveled to Biloxi, MS for the annual mission trip. Four other UCC churches from the Evansville Tri-state Association were represented. The trips are open to

anyone and involve a variety of ways to help, both indoor and outdoor volunteer opportunities throughout the week, as well as great fun and fellowship in the evenings. Save the dates for next year, which are November 1-8, 2025!





Save the Dates!
Cookie Walk
Bake & Treat Sale
December 7 & 8 following
worship services.
Lots of bakers, treat makers, and
shoppers are needed.

Get your baking sheets ready to make this the best Cookie Walk ever! We will need cookies and candy to make the Cookie Walk a success. Mark your calendars for December 7 & 8 after church. If possible, we would like the goodies by noon on Saturday, December 7. The cost will be \$6.00 a pound, and bakers will get ½ pound free.

To be a volunteer, please email the information below to Patty Geske (psgeske@yahoo.com) or Connie Crab (conniecrab2901@gmail.com) or fill out the form below and place in the Eosin mailbox by elevator, offering plate, or drop at the church office. Thanks for making this holiday season special with your cookies and/or candy.

COOKIE WALK VOLUNTEER

We welcome makers and bakers of all ages. Please volunteer to make a batch (2 - 3 dozen) of holiday treats.

NAME _____

I plan to make a batch of:

_____ Cookies _____ Candy _____ Specialty item _____

Thank you in advance!



The Altar Guild will again be selling poinsettias to decorate the altar and chancel for Christmas. The cost is **\$15.00 per plant** in a 6 1/2" pot with gold foil cover and will be available in red or white. **The deadline for ordering your plant(s) is Sunday, December 8, and there is no exception to the deadline.**

The list of donors will be available on Sunday, December 22 and on Christmas Eve. The donor list will also appear in that week's Emily's Edition. Poinsettias can be taken home following the 9:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. Remaining poinsettias will be used on Sunday, December 29. **Any plants left after the service on December 29 will be discarded.**

You may place your order form and check (or pay online via bethlehemucc.org) in the offering plate, in the Altar Guild box near the office by the second-floor elevator, or email the information to Cindy Carwile at ckcarwile@gmail.com with payment info. Paper copies of this form will be available in the Church Office vestibule, Welcoming Area, and narthex. We purchase our poinsettias from Steve Worthington's Kiwanis organization, who uses their monies to support various community projects throughout the year.

Name of Donor _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Donor List Wording:

Total Number of Plants ordered _____ Cash _____

Check# _____

COLOR: Red _____ White _____ No Color Preference _____

Orders must be pre-paid with checks made payable to BETHLEHEM UCC.



BETHLEHEM
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
6400 Oak Hill Road
Evansville, IN 47725

Please contact the church office if you are aware of any address changes.

(812) 867-2497 (Office)

email: church@bethlehemucc.org

website: bethlehemucc.org

Follow us on Facebook,
Instagram, and Twitter

Office Hours

Monday 12:00 - 3:00 PM

**Tuesday - Thursday
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

OUR VISION STATEMENT:

***Striving to welcome all who seek God; to grow in faith;
and to love neighbor as self through action.***