

EMILY'S EDITION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This weekend in worship, we will light the pink candle to remind us of the joy the Christ child brings.

On Saturday night, Pastor Doug will look at Matthew 11.2-11, concluding his two-week series on John the Baptist. How can John know for sure Jesus is the one he's been watching for? The evidence is in the ways Jesus lifts up the disadvantaged.

On Sunday morning, I will be preaching on Micah 5.2-5a and Matthew 2.1-6. This week, we will be thinking about waiting through the lens of prophecy. What does it mean for something to become more true as time passes, and as we press ever-nearer to the coming of God's kingdom in its fullness?

Are you keeping an eye on the pavilion during this Advent season? It's worth a look, especially after dark! Thank you to the faithful church members who are clandestinely helping us mark this holy season.



Prayer List

Family and Friends of Jane Maher (former member of Bethlehem, passed away in Missouri)

Kathy Mandell (health problems, sister of Judy Heseman)

Amy Spurling (recovering from surgery)
Bob Kolb (recovering from surgery at home)
Wayne Gander (recovering from foot surgery at home)
Family and friends of Patina Dremstedt Rosenthal (passed away December 4, Tricia Dremstedt Vaupel's sister)
The family and friends of Bill Kattmann (passed away December 1)
Leigh Ann Mindrup (recovering from surgery at home)
Carl Kuebler (recovering at home)
Jim Hendrix (bone cancer, Alex Hoffman's uncle)
Adam Hayden (entering hospice, friend of Troy Vaupel)
Ruth Ann Krall (recovering from fall, fractured pelvis; mother of Cindy Carwile)
Rose Crockett (health concerns)
C. Bob Cravens (back home)
Candy Curie (awaiting heart valve replacement, aunt of Pam Rardin)
Carolyn Dacy (Carleen Grossman's mother, leukemia)
Bill Kreighbaum (moved to River Pointe)
Tom Walthall (cancer diagnosis)
Larry Knott (Chris Jones's uncle, in hospice care)
Our military
Students and Teachers

Online  Giving

Whether giving to the church's general fund or a special offering, doing so online (24/7) is a quick and easy alternative to check-writing or having cash on hand. Simply click the button below.

Give



The flowers on the altar are given by the Palmer Family in recognition of Charlie's opening weekend of "A Christmas Story" in Biloxi, MS. Happy Holidays everyone!

Please use the buttons below to view dates and sign up for a weekend. If you prefer a paper form, they are always available in the vestibule (office entrance open 24/7), church office hallway, Welcoming Area, children and youth entrance, and narthex.

For altar flower needs, please contact Carol Kolb with any questions at carolrkolb@yahoo.com or (812) 589-8322.

Three weekends available in January!

Upcoming Available Dates

Altar Flower Sign Up

Serve

Sunday Worship Acolyte - Click here!

Sunday Worship Liturgist - Click here!

Join us this Advent season!

December 13 & 14, following worship Cookie Walk Bake & Treat Sale

December 14, 9:00 am Children's Christmas Market

10:15 am Bethlehem Handbell Choir in Worship

5:00 pm Youth Christmas Party

December 16, 6:00 pm Blue Christmas Service (Welcoming Area)

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



**This weekend following
both worship services in
the fellowship hall.**

**Make your selection at
just \$6.00 per pound!**

Youth don't miss out on the fun this Sunday!



**SUNDAY
DEC 14**

Youth Christmas Party

Gather in the youth room for food, games, crafting and merriment! No need to bring a gift!

5:00 PM-7:00 PM



Thanks to the generosity of our members, 17 Caze students will have a merrier Christmas! We started with 12 ornaments on our "tree" display, each representing a student. These were pretty quickly removed, so we obtained another 5 students. By the end of Sunday worship, the tree was bare! Please return the wrapped gifts in a large gift bag, with the ornament identifying the student attached, no later than this **Sunday, December 14**. You may place them under the display in the Welcoming Area, and they will be collected and delivered to Caze.



Collection of the Christmas Fund special offering is underway, and will continue throughout the month of December. The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years. It provides emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees. Special giving envelopes can be found in the pews

and at all church entrances. Please make checks payable to Bethlehem UCC and note "Christmas Fund" on the memo line. Gifts may also be made online at bethlehemucc.org.



Blue Christmas
A service of hope and healing



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 16, at 6:00 p.m. in the Welcoming Area.**

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION POTLUCK SUPPER



Epiphany, traditionally linked to the visit of the Magi to Jesus, is so much more than that. It celebrates the coming of the Christ to all the world. To celebrate this event, the former "U-10" group will be hosting an all-church "potluck supper" on **January 6th at 6:00 pm.** Everyone is invited to bring a dish to share and we will see what feast we create (kind of like the story of Stone Soup). The evening will include a short lesson about Epiphany and the sharing of the story of "The Fourth Wiseman." There's no special purpose for this gathering other than good food and fellowship. Mark your calendars now so you won't miss the celebration.

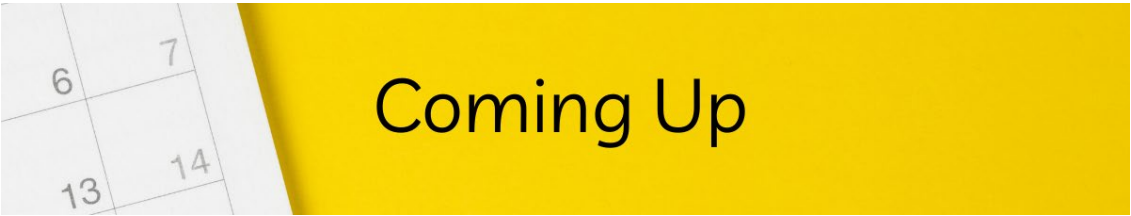
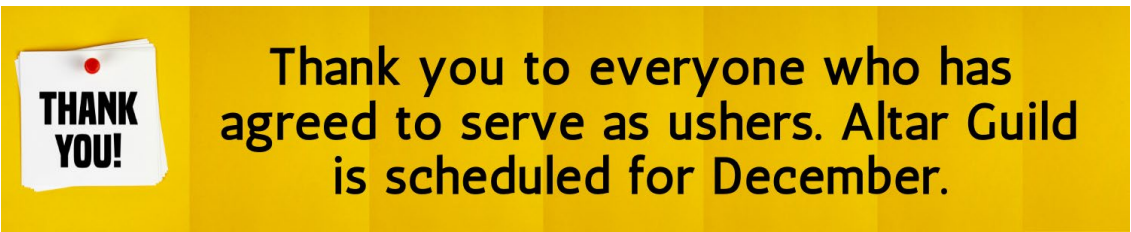
DONATIONS FOR TRI-STATE FOOD BANK

This past weekend's collection of canned fruit brought in 121 items for the Tri-State Food Bank. Since September, when we began this project, until now, 613 items have been donated! Thanks to all who have participated. The next collection weekend will be January 10 & 11, 2026.

R.O.M.E.O. CLUB

What is the Bethlehem R.O.M.E.O. Club? It is Retired Old Men Eating Out (just men gathering) every Tuesday for food, fellowship, and faith. ROMEO Club is open to anyone no matter your age! The Club will meet again at 11:30 am for lunch this Tuesday at Spankey's Una Pizza. If you would like to join the group for lunch, please RSVP to Barry Jones at Twinpapa02@yahoo.com by Monday

morning. New faces are always welcome!



Thursday, December 11

6:30 – 9pm

Welcoming Area Rsvd (Wiseman)

6:30 – 7:30pm

Bells Rehearsal

Sanctuary

7:30 – 8:30pm

Choir Rehearsal

Music Room

Friday, December 12

9am – 12pm

Welcoming Area Rsvd. - Wiseman

Saturday, December 13

9am – 2pm

Welcoming Area Rsvd. - Kuebler

9am – 12pm

Cookie Walk Preparation

Kitchen & Fellowship Hall

9 – 11am

Conference Room Rsvd. - Shafer

5:30 – 6:30pm

Worship
Welcoming Area

6:30 – 7:30pm
Cookie Walk
Kitchen & Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 14

9 – 10am
Children's Christmas Marketplace

9 – 10am
Sunday School - Adult Classes

10:15 – 11:15am
Worship
Sanctuary

11:15am – 1pm
Cookie Walk
Kitchen & Fellowship Hall

5:30 – 7pm
Youth Christmas Party

Monday, December 15

8:30 – 10am
Conference Room Rsvd. - Worthington

9am – 12pm
Fellowship Hall Rsvd. - Wiseman

5 – 6pm
Executive Committee Mtg.
Library

6 – 8pm
Church Council
Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 16

6 – 7pm

Blue Christmas Service & Communion

Welcoming Area

Wednesday, December 17

6:30 – 7:30pm

Cub Scout Meeting

7:30 – 8:30pm

Choir Rehearsal

Music Room

Saturday, December 20

5:30 – 6:30pm

Worship

Welcoming Area

Sunday, December 21

9 – 10am

Sunday School - All Ages

10:15 – 11:15am

Worship

Sanctuary



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