

EMILY'S EDITION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

This weekend in worship, we will light the Peace candle in both services. On Saturday night Pastor Doug will weave together three of our lectionary texts, Malachi 3.1-4, Luke 1.68-79, and Philippians 1.3-11. On Sunday morning, we will look at the story of Ruth as we continue our series on Jesus' genealogy as told by Matthew. Also on Sunday morning, we will welcome brass musicians as our guests. Join us as we continue the Advent season, preparing for the birth of the Christ child.



Thank you to everyone who has agreed to serve as ushers. The youth high school group is scheduled for December.

Special Offering in December

Collection of the Christmas Fund special offering has begun and will continue through the month of 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. Special giving envelopes will be available in the pews and on tables near all church entrances. If you use a different envelope, please write "Christmas Fund" on the memo line of your



check. Gifts can also be made online at bethlehemucc.org or by scanning the QR Code on the 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.



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.

Homeless Ministry Needs

Because many of the homeless sleep outside in the winter months, there is a need for sleeping bags, blankets, and gently used pillows. If you have any of these items that are no longer wanted or needed, please drop them off this month in the vestibule (church office entrance-open 24/7). They will be

delivered to Aldersgate United Methodist Church, which works with the homeless.

Christmas for Caze



Wow! In just two weekends, all the ornaments, gifts, and stockings from our traveling Christmas tree and fireplace have been taken! The Outreach Team truly appreciates this outpouring of support that will make Christmas merrier for 14 Caze first-graders. All gifts should be wrapped and the numbered tag attached. Please be sure to bring them to the round table by the vestibule door no later than **Friday, December 13**. THANK YOU!

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 December 3 at Chopstick House. 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!

Coming Up

Thursday, December 5, today

6:30 – 7:30pm

Bell Choir Rehearsal

Music Room

7:30 – 8:30pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Music Room

Saturday, December 7

9am – 12pm
Cookie Walk Preparations
Fellowship Hall & Kitchen

5:30 – 6:30pm
Worship
Welcoming Area

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

Sunday, December 8

10:15 – 11:15am
Worship
Sanctuary

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

5:30 – 6:30pm
TUBACHRISTMAS Set-Up
Welcoming Area

7 – 8pm
TUBACHRISTMAS Performance
Sanctuary

Monday, December 9

8:30 – 10am
Confirmation Classroom Rsvd. - Worthington

6 – 7pm
ETSA - Sister JoAnna's Table Team
Confirmation Classroom

Wednesday, December 11

5:30 – 7pm
Finance Ministry Team

Confirmation Classroom

Thursday, December 12

9am – 1pm

Sanctuary Rsvd. - Vaupel

6:30 – 9pm

Welcoming Area Rsvd (Wiseman)

6:30 – 7:30pm

Bell Choir Rehearsal

Music Room

7:30 – 8:30pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Music Room

Saturday, December 14

5:30 – 6:30pm

Worship

Welcoming Area

Sunday, December 15

9 – 10am

Christmas Market Opens

Educational Wing

10:15 – 11:15am

Worship

Sanctuary

5 – 7pm

Family Night

Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall



Bethlehem United Church of Christ

6400 Oak Hill Road

Evansville, IN 47725

812.867.2497
bethlehemucc.org
