



2023

from the Pastor's desk ---

Dear Church Family,

As we enter the beautiful month of December, I wanted to take some time to reflect on the significance of this season and share with you some important events happening in our church community.

First and foremost, it is the month where we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The miracle of Christmas is a reminder of God's immense love for each and every one of us. It is a time to reflect on the humble beginnings of Jesus, born in a manger, and the profound impact His life has had on our world.

During this season, we have the opportunity to share this love and joy with others. Let us be intentional in reaching out to our neighbors, friends, and family members who may need a message of hope during these challenging times. Together, let's spread the love of Christ through acts of kindness, generosity, and compassion.

In our church, we have several incredible events planned to help us celebrate and grow in our faith. Our Advent series, titled "Getting into the Story," will guide us on a journey of imagination and anticipation as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Each Sunday leading up to Christmas, we will explore different themes, such as hope, peace, joy, and love from the perspective of a character in the story. I encourage you to actively engage in this series and invite others to join us as we deepen our understanding of the true meaning of Christmas.

Additionally, we will be hosting a special pajama worship service with gift exchange and hot cocoa. And of course we have our Christmas Eve service filled with heartwarming worship, scripture readings, and a candle lighting ceremony. This is a cherished tradition in our church, and we invite you to invite your loved ones to experience the beauty and wonder of this evening. Let us come together as a church family to celebrate the birth of our Savior and express gratitude for the hope and salvation He brings into our lives.

In the spirit of giving, we will also be organizing a community outreach. This year, we are adopting two families from Terrace Heights Elementary to help with giving them a brighter Christmas. We will also be supplying a meal for Rod's house. I encourage you to donate your time, resources, and talents towards either of these noble causes. Let us be the hands and feet of Jesus as we serve our community.

As we approach the end of another year, let us remember the faithfulness of God in our lives. It has been a year filled with challenges, yet we have witnessed the strength and unity of our church community. I am grateful for each one of you and the impact you have made in the lives of others.

May this Christmas season be a time of renewal, reflection, and rejoicing. May our hearts be filled with gratitude for the greatest gift ever given, Jesus Christ. And may we continue to live out His love in all that we do.

Blessings to you and your loved ones.

Pastor Steve

December calendar ----

Dec 2 Sat 9:00 **Work Day & Finance Board**

Dec 3 Sunday 8:30 **Advent study** "An Unlikely Event"

10:00 **WORSHIP**

Council meeting *following Worship*

Dec 6 Wed 5:30 **Advent study** "Heaven and Earth"
soup provided this week

Dec 17 Sunday **Pot luck fellowship** *following Worship*

Dec 24 Sunday Pajama Worship service
followed by hot chocolate, muffins, & gifts

Dec 24 Sunday 6:00 **Christmas Eve service**

Advent studies will be every Sunday morning and Wed evening. After Dec 6th, evening study is "brown bag".

Worship every Sunday at 10:00.

Committee reports ----

Hello and Merry Christmas, I hope you all have a great holiday. At church we will have a potluck Dec 17; ham will be provided. On Christmas Eve morning we will have a PJ Sunday Wear your favorite pajama pants. We will have a gift exchange (with limit of \$20.00 or less for the gifts). We will play a game to see what gift you receive. Muffins and hot coco will be served. If there are going to be any kids coming please let Sherri and Dennis know. Hope to see you there.



**Your flowers and /or plants are welcome
for decorating the church for Christmas.**



**Your donations are
welcome and
appreciated !!!
*Thank you.***



December scriptures ----

December 3rd, 2023 First Sunday of Advent

- [Isaiah 64:1-9](#)
- [Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19](#)
- [1 Corinthians 1:3-9](#)
- [Mark 13:24-37](#)

December 10th, 2023 Second Sunday of Advent

- [Isaiah 40:1-11](#)
- [Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13](#)
- [2 Peter 3:8-15a](#)
- [Mark 1:1-8](#)

December 17th, 2023 Third Sunday of Advent

- [Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#)
- [Psalm 126](#) or [Luke 1:46b-55](#)
- [1 Thessalonians 5:16-24](#)
- [John 1:6-8, 19-28](#)

December 24th, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent

- [2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16](#)
- [Luke 1:46b-55](#) or [Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26](#)
- [Romans 16:25-27](#)
- [Luke 1:26-38](#)

December 31st, 2023 First Sunday after Christmas Day

- [Isaiah 61:10-62:3](#)
- [Psalm 148](#)
- [Galatians 4:4-7](#)
- [Luke 2:22-40](#)



***May your Christmas
season be full of blessings.....***