

## Our Mission

*We are an open and welcoming community that God calls, and the Holy Spirit empowers us to:*

- *Share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all ages*
- *Explore and express a growing faith*
- *Equip believers for ministries which expand the kingdom of God*



## Bearing the Fruit of Repentance

Luke 3:7-18

**“One More Powerful” Luke 3:7-18**

**Advent 3C, December 15th, 2024**

**What is the message about? . . .**

The Gospel message for this Sunday continues to focus on the dramatic figure of John, baptizing people in the wilderness. He is in fine John form, talking about broods of vipers, axes at the root of trees, the Holy Spirit and fire, winnowing forks and chaff burning in the fire. John 3:18 then ends today's reading with “So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.” If this is how John proclaims good news, you certainly don't want to hear him deliver the bad! But there is very good news for us today to be found here. Someone even more powerful than John is coming. Join us for Advent's third Sunday and hear some good news!

## ADVENT MOMENT

Philippians 4:7. "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

I can feel God's presence, his peace, especially during the quiet evenings of winter. Candlelight helps. I have those battery-operated ones, placed around in the living room. No worries about a flickering flame, they go off automatically. But unlike that battery operated candle, God continues to be present..... knowing him gives me that "peace that surpasses all understanding."

Janette Howard

Dear Lord,

During this Christmas season please be with those that have not experienced your peace. Help those who know you to "shine our light" so others recognize your saving grace and peace.

Thank you for your love.

Amen.

## Praying with Mary



The very essence of prayer is recognizing that God is with us. That is the meaning of one of the Lord's names, one that we hear over and again in Advent, *Emmanuel*. The Lord is with Mary. The Lord is with us.

What does it take for us to pause amidst the busyness of this season of preparation—between the shopping and decorating, the family gatherings and holiday parties? Mary's life is dramatically interrupted by the visitation of an angel and a miraculous conception. How do I hear the angelic messenger, that still, small voice of God (1 Kings 19:12) in my days? What does God wish to conceive in me? How does God want to use my flesh to incarnate the living Christ?

As we journey through this Advent and Christmas season, we can seek Mary's intercession, looking to her example of how to welcome the overshadowing Spirit of God. As Mary said yes to the Spirit, I can trust in her to lead me to my own yes.

by Chris Sullivan

## **Grab 'N Go Needs Some Volunteers, Please!**

Christmas Day is Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>. Chris Simon's team will be serving as usual and need help from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. Some team members are unable to be there. If your plans don't conflict with this time frame and you would be willing to help, please contact Chris or the FCC Office, 660-747-6815. Thank you for considering helping those in your community that need a good hot meal!

### **Prayer Concerns & Praises**

Prayers for Rick Dooley.

Prayers for Tyler Young's Mother.

Prayers for David Cadle.

Prayers for John Landreneau, friend of the Simons.

Prayers for Bob and Shelly Burrow's Grandfather and Grandmother.

Prayers for Sam Jones.

Prayers for Debbie Whitmore's Father and Grandmother.

Prayers for Ashton Dennis.

Prayers for Chris Howard.

Prayers for Ann Patterson Scott.

Prayers for Chuck Eaton, son-in-law of the Elliott's.

Prayers for Kathy's nephew, Eric Mueller.

Prayers for our members who are homebound, in an assisted living community and nursing homes.

Praises for Karen Renfro's daughter and son-in-law who are feeling much better!

Praises for all our family members coming to visit! Last Sunday we had Roger Baldwin's brother and sister-in-law, Anita Gosney's daughter and son-in-law came for her birthday, and Tyler Young just to name a few.

Praises for the Bell Choir & Harmonayres.

Praises for our wonderful Church Community during this busy time of year!

### **December Birthdays**

- 1 - Evan Stuck
- 5 - Nancy Miller
- 5 - Patricia Cook
- 6 - Lynn Hicklin
- 7 - Tina Venable
- 7 - Anita Gosney
- 9 - Larry Elliott
- 16 - Vicki Goodwin
- 17 - Ryan Wiss
- 18 - Elmer Schumann
- 21 - Lyman Hannah
- 21 - Patricia Smith
- 24 - Benjamin Huff
- 28 - Adam Lang
- 29 - Hayden Cox
- 30 - Kristal Shaumeyer

### **December Anniversaries**

- 7 - Nancy & Chuck Eaton
- 12 - Mark Goodwin & Kathy Ramser
- 16 - Lee & Tammie Crabtree
- 16 - Travis & Karla Seigfreid
- 22 - Noel & Shirley Dougherty
- 28 - Taylor & Elizabeth Bell



**First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
101 East Gay Street  
Warrensburg MO 64093**

Church phone: 660-747-6815  
Pastor Tim Whitmore's cell phone: 660-553-8222  
Website: fccwburg.com  
Office Email: 1stchristianchurchwburg@gmail.com  
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00-2:00

Sunday Worship Services:

Sunday, December 1st = 99

Sunday, December 8th = 125

Elders for 12/15:

Traditional Service, Smarr

Celebration Service, Grigsby

(Please continue to pages 5 & 6...)

### Weekly Calendar

#### Wednesday December 11

11:00 to 12:00 – Grab ‘N Go  
5:30 – Fellowship Meal  
6:15 – Study Groups & Youth Group

#### Thursday December 12

11:00 – Devotion, Warrensburg Manor  
11:00 to 1:00 – Life Goes On, a  
Holiday Event for Widows in the CLC  
No – Harmonayres Practice (Caroling  
next Thursday, Dec. 19th!)

#### Friday December 13

9:00 – Bell Choir Practice

#### Sunday December 15

9:15 – Sunday School  
9:15 – Traditional Service in the Sanctuary  
10:15 – Coffee Connection  
10:45 – Celebration Service in the CLC

#### Tuesday December 17

5:30 – Elders Meeting  
6:30 – Board Meeting

A decorative border of red poinsettias with green leaves surrounds the text.

# Life Goes On...

## **A Holiday Event for Widows**

**Bringing a Community of Women  
together through new and existing friendships**

**December 12, 2024 11-1 pm**

**First Christian Church Life Center**

**101 E. Gay St, Warrensburg, MO**

*Salad and Dessert Luncheon*

*(Please bring a salad OR dessert)*

*Drinks and Plate service provided*

*11-11:30 Social, 11:30-12:15 Lunch, 12:15-12:45 Brief Program*

**RSVP to Lynn Alkire by Dec 10th**

**660-909-3662 text or [lynnalkire@gmail.com](mailto:lynnalkire@gmail.com)**

**Facebook: Life Goes On**



# Join the Harmonayres Christmas Caroling

**Thursday December 19th**

**Leave from the church @ 5:30pm**

**Carol up Gay Street and wind up on  
the square for dinner at a local favorite**

