



*So All May Know Joy*

## **BUMC Weekly Connection—Dec 1**

**This Sunday, Dec 3 @ 9:00 am**

Also on Buffalo United Methodist Church's Facebook Page & YouTube!

### **Prepare | New Sermon Series**

Anyone who has hosted a Christmas dinner or party can tell you, there is a ton of preparation that goes into throwing these holiday celebrations. Many of us find ourselves doing lots of preparing in this busy season of lights, tinsel, and wrapping paper. Yet, what are we really preparing for? Who are we really preparing for? This Advent, hear God's call: "Prepare!" – for the coming one, Jesus. Hear this imperative as an invitation to strip away all the fuss and ready your heart and life for the change that is coming when Jesus gets here.



### **This Sunday – Keep Awake | Mark 13:24-37**

Advent is an invitation to stay awake as we wait for and recognize God's inbreaking.

### **Communion This Sunday**



Our worship this Sunday will also include Holy Communion. In The United Methodist Church, all are welcome at the table, as we understand Communion to be the gift of Jesus Christ to anyone of any age who desires a closer relationship with Him. If you are worshipping at home remember to gather your items representing the bread and the wine as we gather in spirit around Christ's table. If you don't have bread and grape juice, crackers and water are a great substitute.

### **Scripture Reading**

"Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back— whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!'" Mark 13:24-37

**Next Sunday— GET READY | MARK 1:1-8** To get ready is to prepare our hearts and lives for Jesus.



## Other Ministry Updates

- Dec 3**    **9:00 am** Worship with Hanging of the Greens and Communion  
**10:00 am** Fellowship  
**10:00 am** Education Hour
- Dec 4**    **9:00 am** Commodity Distribution
- Dec 5**    **12:00 pm** Dynamite Prayer Lunch  
**7:00 pm** Property Team Meeting
- Dec 6**    **6:00 pm** Meals & Mission  
**6:30 pm** Handbells
- Dec 7**    **12:00 pm** Experiencing Christmas Study  
**1:00 pm** Game Day
- Dec 9**    **7:00 am** Turkey Cooking
- Dec 10** **9:00 am** Worship with Handbells  
**10:00 am** Fellowship  
**10:00 am** Education Hour

### Hanging of the Greens

Please join us this **Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>** during worship for our annual Hanging of the Greens service as we celebrate the beginning of Advent.

### Advent Discipleship Opportunities

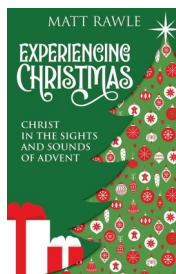
Advent is a time of preparing our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child. Options to enrich our preparation are listed below.

### Thursday noon group study

**Dec. 7, 14 & 21**

Things look, smell and taste differently during Advent and Christmas. These differences are a sign that God is about to do something radical and different.

Join us for *Experiencing Christmas: Christ in the Sights and Sounds of Advent* by Matt Rawle, on Thursdays at noon. We'll start each session with a short video then follow with discussion. Feel free to bring your lunch!

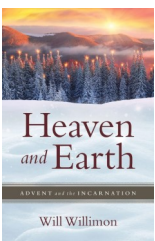


### Individual Online Study led by the Bishop

**Dec 5, 12, & 19**

Bishop Lanette Plambeck is leading a 4-session Advent study via Zoom on Tuesday evenings, of the book "*Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation*", by Will Willimon.

Registration for the class can be done on the [MN conference website](#).



### Meals & Mission Night

Please join us **Wednesday, Dec 6<sup>th</sup>** for our Meals & Mission Night. A scalloped potato & ham meal will be served at **6pm**, followed by our missional event of putting together fruit baskets to distribute in our community. You can also contribute by donating items for dinner that evening. The sign-up sheet is located in the entryway of the church.



### Happy Birthday, Jesus Party

Everyone's invited to celebrate Jesus's Birthday on **December 17<sup>th</sup>** after worship in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us as we celebrate with cake, games, crafts and a photo booth too! More details coming your way.

### 2024 Promise Cards Still Welcome

If you were gone or didn't turn in your promise cards for 2024, both for financial estimate of giving and Using My Gifts to Serve, please bring them in. We welcome them through the end of the year, but appreciate having them as soon as possible. Not only does it help the church in planning ministry, it also helps you find clarity and joy in your faith walk and spiritual growth.

### Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

We will be having our regular **9:00 am** Worship service offered in person and online and also a **5:00 pm** Christmas Eve Candlelight service. Please consider inviting a friend who may be looking for a place to worship. If you're not able to participate in person, you'll find the service posted on YouTube and Facebook shortly afterwards. On Christmas Day at **1:00pm** we'll host our annual Christmas Day Dinner.

### Prayer Labyrinth

The BUMC Labyrinth is closed for the winter. It will open again in Spring - May 2024!

### Nursery

Our church nursery is for children five and under and is staffed. You'll find the nursery on the right side of the hallway past the church office and restrooms.



## Poinsettia Donors

Thank you for helping decorate our church this Christmas!

**Dave & Robin Anderson** in honor of children & grandchildren

**Brian & Molly Aurentz**

**Candy Benoit**

**Angie Beussman** in memory of Matthew Beussman

**Alison & Martyn Dibben** in memory of our parents, in honor of a past family

**Alison & Martyn Dibben** in memory of our beloved parents

**Ed & Katie Dubois** in memory of loved ones

**Ed & Katie DuBois, Steven & Tammy Wilson** in honor of our grandsons, Edward & Emmett

**Craige & Gloria Farwick** in honor of 6 children & 10 grandchildren

**Dave & Sara Gaeth** in honor of our family

**Marilyn & Neil Hammer**

**Erva Hance** in memory of Ed Hance

**Hanson Family** in memory of Meredith Ellsworth

**Vicky Kath** in memory of Connie Kath - Mom and Eddy Kath - brother

**Bonnie Kelly Jr.** in memory of Jim & Jessica in honor of Bonnie Kelly Sr & Coral D.

**Bonnie Kelly Sr.** in memory of Jim Kelly

**Laudenbach's**

**Dexter & Sheryl Lehman** in honor of Bill Hendershot

**Dianne McLain** in memory of Lindy McLain

**Christy Merkl** in memory of Faith & Bill Richardson, Bert & Dale Wilson

**Jean & Peter Metcalf** in memory of our parents

**Arlene Nelson** in memory of Jim Nelson

**Barb Odenthal** in memory of Robert - husband

**Darla O'Flanagan** in loving memory of Lawrence, Ashley, parents and grandparents

**Lori & Paul Olson** in memory of Verne Beecroft

**Rita Varner Otness** in memory of Ottie

**Art Peterson** in memory of Judy Peterson

**Sally Peterson** in memory of Dan Peterson

**Clair & Ryan Phillips**

**Gayle Reed**

**Peter & Barbara Sargent** in memory of our parents

**Riti Sanderson** in memory of Bob 'Sandy' Sanderson

**Jill & Gerry Starr** in honor of our family

**Kellie Corrick Strub** in memory of Delmar Corrick

**Vidmar Family** in honor of our parents

**Jason & Rebecca Warner & family** in memory of Cathy Kolenberg

**Ken Weese** in memory of Roxie Weese

**Don & Jeanne Wermager** in memory of our parents and sibling

**Rick & Benita Wright** in honor of our lovely church

**Unknown** in memory of Laura Engeby, our niece