

So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—Nov. 23

This Sunday, November 27 @ 9:00 am

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



Advent Calendar: Waiting for Christmas

November 27-December 25, 2022

Advent calendars can be a fun way to engage the Advent season, with the opening of each numbered door revealing a delightful surprise. The sense of anticipation builds, until at long last, the newborn Jesus is revealed

behind the final door. That sense of anticipation that comes from measuring our days and patiently waiting has been lost to our consumer culture, with Christmas displays appearing in retail spaces as soon as the leaves on our trees begin to change color. This year we'll rediscover what it means to celebrate Advent as we learn to wait for Christmas with hope, peace, joy, love, and Jesus.

This Sunday - Hanging of the Greens

Advent Calendar: Waiting for Christmas with Hope

Hope isn't just wishful thinking. Hope is confidence in God's goodness and trust that God's promises are good. If hope is that simple, why do we so often struggle with finding it? Advent reminds us of the most important person in whom we can entrust our hope.



Scripture Reading

Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see. Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation. By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen. It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith. It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—"he disappeared, because God took him." For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God. And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him. Hebrews 11:1-6 NLT

Next Sunday — Advent Calendar: Waiting for Christmas with Peace, Communion



Most of us would agree, under most circumstances, that peace is something worth hoping for. But are we serious enough about our hope for peace that we're willing to work to bring it about as peacemakers? As we wait for Christmas with peace, we begin with making peace with God, allowing God's peace to change us and the world around us.



Other Ministry Updates

- Nov. 27 9:00 am** Worship Service, Hanging of the Greens
10:00 am Sunday School Pre-School – 5th Grade
10:00 am 6-12th Youth Gathering
10:00 am Fellowship
10:00 am Congregational Care Team
- Nov. 28 1:00 pm** Prayer Shawl group
- Nov. 29 7:00 PM** Finance Team meeting
- Nov. 30 6:00 pm** Youth 6-12 Bowling
6:30 pm Handbell rehearsal
7:30 pm Praise Band rehearsal
- Dec. 1 1:00 pm** Game Day
- Dec. 3 8:00 am** Worship Design team
- Dec. 4 9:00 am** Worship Service, Communion
10:00 am Sunday School Pre-School – 5th Grade
10:00 am 6-12th Youth Gathering
10:00 am Fellowship
10:00 am Church Conference

Last Call for Poinsettia Orders

Help adorn our sanctuary for Advent by donating a poinsettia. Each poinsettia is \$10 and you'll find order forms in the back of the chairs in the sanctuary. You can also call or email the church office. Payments are easy using the Breeze App. The flowers will remain in the sanctuary through our Christmas morning worship.

2022 Christmas Offering

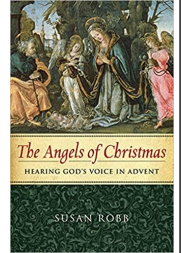
Our Christmas offering this year will be for Love INC Big Woods. Love INC is a ministry that networks local churches and community organizations together to assist people in need. Services offered have included emergency shelter, gas and rent assistance, a thrift store, and help connecting people with other ministries across the county. Love INC Big Woods has been a primary ministry of referral for our church as well as a key ministry partner for the Buffalo Ministerial. You can make a gift to Love INC by using one of the special envelopes in the church lobby or sanctuary seat backs, by writing "Love INC" or "Christmas Offering" in the memo line of your check, or by



using our secure online giving platform. You'll find a link on our website under "Giving."

Advent Study

The Bible tells of four angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus. Come explore each one using *The Angels of Christmas: Hearing God's Voice in Advent* by Susan Robb. We'll dig into the history of the angel Gabriel and others and ponder their messages as we prepare our hearts for Christ's birth. Jean Metcalf will lead four Thursday sessions with videos and discussion, beginning **December 1 at noon**. Bring a lunch if you like and join the conversation! Copies of the book are available for preorder. Sign up in the entryway or call the office.



Meals & Mission

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our next Meals & Mission Night on **Wednesday, December 7th**. We will be starting at **6pm** with a Baked potato bar followed by an all-ages mission activity from **6:30 - 7:30pm** where we will be putting together fruit baskets to provide to those in our community. Fruit baskets will need to be delivered if you are interested in helping. We hope you can join us!

Sunday School Mission

In conjunction with the Buffalo Food Shelf, our Sunday School program will be hosting a Birthday Bag drive, from Sunday **11/20 - 12/18**. We are collecting items such as: cake mix, frosting, sprinkles, cupcake liners, candles, etc to fill bags for individuals/families. A portion of your child's Sunday School offerings will be designated towards this cause. We are looking forward to putting together these bags on **12/18** (or after) when we have our Happy Birthday Jesus celebration. Donations can be placed in the designated box in the entryway!

Annual Church Conference

We'll be holding our annual church conference after church on **Sunday, December 4 at 10:00 am** to elect leaders, to vote on the 2023 church budget, including the pastor's compensation, and to review our membership rolls.