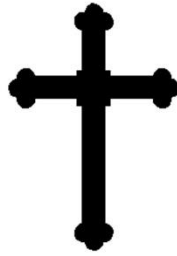


CROSS




WORDS

Volume 8, Number 12

A newsletter published by
United Church of Christ, Warren IN

All the time,
GOD is good.



WARREN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
202 East Second Street

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:30 FOR
WORSHIP

Refreshments served at 8:45
Nursery available at 9:15

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."
Psalm 150:6

December 1, 2020

The Monthly Word

FROM PASTOR TROY

SEEKING THE STILLNESS

Underneath and surrounding the bright lights of Christmas is the reality that we live in a broken world. Somehow the holidays make it seem worse. We have an expectation that because it's the holiday, life will work. We will have a short respite from tragedy and heart break. But our expectations are quickly shattered as we face the death of a loved one, the break-up of a marriage, or a world-wide pandemic. Tragedy and loss, broken cars and broken kids, hurting and homeless ones do not bend to the will of holiday cheer. A broken world doesn't stop being broken just because we dress it up in twinkling lights and brilliant red and gold baubles. Broken is still broken. Into this broken comes Advent.

Advent doesn't present us with false expectations or promises; Advent gives us room to long for all to be made right, to long for peace, to long for broken to be made whole. But Advent does something else-Advent shows us that the broken one is welcomed into the arms of God.

Advent...it's the longing for the world to be as it was created to be. It's spiritual longing for all to be made right, for a broken world to find redemption and with redemption be made whole and complete. To see an estranged relationship be mended; to hear of illnesses and hope for healing; to hear of atrocities and long for justice; to hear of violence and long for comfort, to see the world as it was intended, not as it is.

"If you are weary this Advent season, if you are face to face with tragedy and death, with the broken bones of a weary world, know that you are welcomed into the arms of God." (Author unknown)

I shared this because the words are so relevant to our situation at this time. The holidays can be a difficult time for many of us. But let us try not to focus on what's missing in our lives but what we have. Be safe and healthy in how you celebrate Christ's birthday.

God's blessings to you,
Pastor Troy



Day 1: James 1:17	Day 17: Psalm 68:9-11
Day 2: Luke 11:9-13	Day 18: Psalm 68:19-21
Day 3: John 4:7-10	Day 19: Matthew 5:23-24
Day 4: John 4:11-15	Day 20: 1 Corinthians 16:1-3
Day 5: 1 Samuel 1:17	Day 21: Hebrews 11:24
Day 6: Romans 5:15-16	Day 22: 1 Timothy 6:6-8
Day 7: Romans 6:23	Day 23: 1 Timothy 6:17-19
Day 8: Psalm 76:11	Day 24: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
Day 9: 2 Corinthians 9:6-9	Day 25: Jeremiah 33:6
Day 10: 2 Corinthians 9:10-15	Day 26: 1 Peter 1:18-19
Day 11: Ephesians 2:4-7	Day 27: Hebrews 9:15
Day 12: Ephesians 2:8-10	Day 28: Matthew 5:11-12
Day 13: Ecclesiastes 5:19	Day 29: Matthew 6:38
Day 14: John 3:16	Day 30: 1 Timothy 3:15-16
Day 15: Revelation 2:10	Day 31: Romans 5:8-11
Day 16: Psalm 68:3-6	

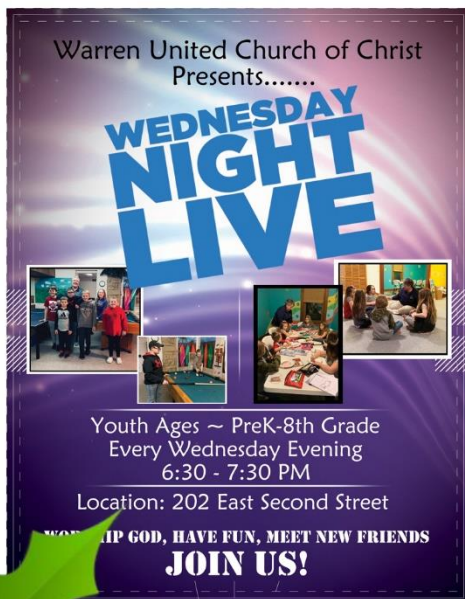
*Commit to spending 10 minutes every day to meditate and reflect on God's Word.
Write down what you have gleaned from each day's scripture.*

The Ruffled Mango

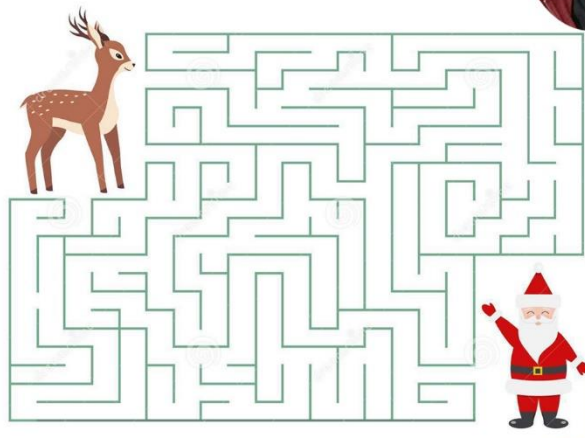
YOUTH

I'm incredibly lucky to live in this town surrounded by friends and family. I'm blessed and honored to have the opportunity to lead the youth program at Warren United Church of Christ. Leading youth is something I have been doing for a long time. I've had the opportunity to lead youth as a coach in youth sports leagues, a section leader in marching bands, a scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts, and most recently as the owner of East of Chicago Pizza. Kids today face a unique set of challenges in a harsh world. It's important that they know that God has a plan for them and that they have the ability to positively influence the outside world as well as each other.

My goal is to have an active vibrant youth program. I want to create an environment where the kids are excited to keep coming back week after week. I would love to be able to plan community service projects for the youth to be involved in as well as potentially having a yearly youth group trip. I certainly see some pizza and bible study nights in the future. All in all I'd like the youth program at WUCC to be a fun and welcoming group where kids can grow spiritually.



Terry Lee Miller

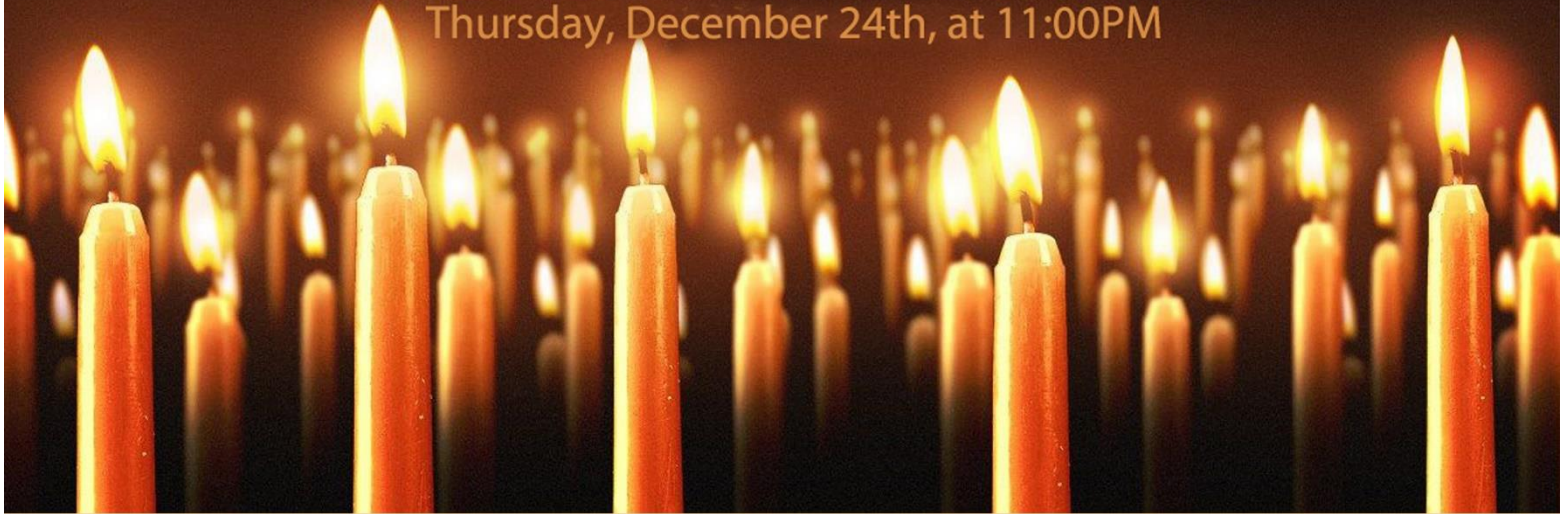


Warren United Church of Christ
Invite you to join us for our:

CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Thursday, December 24th, at 11:00PM



We invite you to join us for our Candlelight Service
at 11pm on Christmas Eve.

Santa Claus
IS COMING TO TOWN



Hey Kids!!

**Santa will be at church
Sunday Dec. 20th!**

**He will arrive
immediately following
service in the
Fellowship Hall.**



**Thank you for supporting
our Angel Tree again
this year. Please bring
wrapped gifts with the
Angel Tag attached
back to the church
by Sunday,
December 13th.**



CROSSROAD
Child & Family Services

Crossroads is a children's home in Fort Wayne and we will be collecting items for them through the month of February. Items needed are coats, hats, gloves and socks in all sizes. Also puzzles and journals are always appreciated. They also need gift cards to food places in small amounts. Items can be placed under the "Crossroads" tree at the front of the sanctuary.



1st Annual Porkchop Dinner

A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT SUPPORTED AND OR HELPED AT OUR PORK CHOP DRIVE THRU DINNER! WE HAD A LIMIT OF 400 DINNERS TO SERVE, AND SOLD 382 DINNERS THAT NIGHT! THE REMAINING DINNERS WERE SOLD SUNDAY MORNING AT CHURCH. THIS WAS A FREE WILL DONATION AND COLLECTED \$4263.00 FOR THE DINNERS. WITH OUR EXPENSES AT \$1612.91, WE ENDED UP WITH A TOTAL PROFIT OF \$2650.09 TO BE DIVIDED BETWEEN WAMA, JOY CLASS MISSIONS AND WUCC MISSIONS.

AGAIN, THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS A HUGE SUCCESS!

JULIE & CAMMY

P
R
A
Y
E
R

Waldo Knight
Les Ackley
Ruthann Ackley
Lou Ann Shafer
Ann Jackson
Geri Zickafoose
Ronny Sheets
Martha Shafer
Roselyn Poulson
Ron Wartzok
Dick Grove
Carol & Ray Yeiter
Cindy Boxell
Jerry & Jim Williams
Mike Ridenour
Bill Byrd
Janet Fitch
Mel Clingaman
George Dye
John Brooks
Dee Rader
Jim Huffman



The Missions Committee is reaching out to the congregation for help building up their funds for the upcoming winter months. If you would like to donate to the Missions Fund you may give Sunday at church or mail to PO Box 344. Every month the Missions donate to the Food Pantry as well as the Remnant House. We anticipate throughout the winter months needs will arise that we would like to be able to help with. Thank you for your support of our WUCC Missions.

We will continue to collect blanket for the Huntington Homeless. You may drop them off in the church office. New or gently used is appreciated. Thank you for supporting our mission to "Share the Warmth"! Your donation will make a difference. As always, coats are also needed for our annual coat drive. Coats may be dropped off at the church throughout the year.

There are several ways you can contribute to our local Food Pantry. The first is by donating the item of the month. Through the month of December we are collecting boxes of oatmeal. Another way is by volunteering your time. Our church's next assigned work-day is December 30, 2-4pm. Lastly, monetary donations are always appreciated. If you would like to make a contribution, your donation may be placed in the Sunday morning offering or mailed to PO Box 344.

December Challenge

100 boxes of Oatmeal



Warren United Church of Christ
202 East Second Street
PO Box 344
Warren, IN 46792



Warren United Church of Christ
202 East Second Street, PO Box 344, Warren, Indiana 46792
Church Telephone: 260-375-2102
Pastor Troy Drayer Cell Phone: 260-228-0064
Church Email: wucc@citznet.com



2020
RING THE
BELL



★ DECEMBER 2020 ★

General Offering
November ~ \$10,691

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1	2 Contemporary Youth Group 6:30pm Amanda Tolen	3	4 Mona Scott	5
6 Sunday Service Communion 9:30am	7 Gary & Jill Yount	8 Luke Thiele Carson Thiele Jerry Wilson	9 Contemporary Youth Group 6:30pm Shari Sue Brown Jill Yount	10 Jada Johnson	11 Brenda Tolen Keaton Jones	12 Deb Baker
13 Sunday Service 9:30am	14 Ava Leas	15 AB Board Meeting 6:30pm Bill Byrd	16 Contemporary Youth Group 6:30pm Ron & Cynthia Wartzok	17 Peggy Wilson	18 Ceaten Brubaker	19
20 Sunday Service 9:30am	21 Kari Green Kevin Deakyne	22	23 Brittney Eppard	24 Candlelight Service 11pm Joyce Dahlquist		25 26
27 Sunday Service 9:30am Cole Campbell	28	29	30 Food Pantry Work Day 2-4pm	31 Chod & Claudia Boxell		



Slow the Spread

As the number of cases of COVID-19 has continued to increase in our county we want to assure you we are continuing to take extra measures to help slow the spread. We will continue our in-person worship as well as Facebook live stream. To help protect our members, especially those who are more vulnerable to the virus we strongly encourage you to wear a mask upon entering and exiting the service as well as whenever you are not seated in a pew. Please be aware of social distancing with respect to others as you find your seats. We have hand sanitizer and face masks available as you enter the sanctuary.

WUCC Website
warrenucc.net

Stay Updated!
Sunday Service
Live Stream
9:30 am

