



East Columbus United Methodist Church

A Church for Everyone!

DECEMBER 2023



ANTICIPATING
Jesus
ARRIVAL

Pastor's
Christmas
Message



Waiting for Jesus

May the peace of God be with you always.

We've come to the last month of 2023. As we look back on the year, we reflect on God's grace. December is a month of waiting for Christmas, but it's also a month of waiting for the coming of Jesus.

Are you waiting for Jesus? Sometimes, when we hear and see various news from the world, our hearts may be filled with despair. Our lives seem to be falling apart, and the values we used to hold dear seem to have become meaningless.

In those moments, what we truly need to earnestly desire is Jesus. Even in this age of highly advanced AI (Artificial Intelligence), even as our lives become more convenient, our souls remain unchanged. God, in creating His children, made them in His image. Our souls always long for the Lord.

We pray for the restoration of our worship, the restoration of our praise, the restoration of our prayers, and the restoration of our lives. Restoration is the renewal of an intimate relationship with Jesus.

2023 has been a joyful year for me. I received much love from the church family, and it was a year of dedicated service to the Lord. May we not grow weary, and may we have the courage to remain faithful to the Lord.

The Christian life ahead emphasizes the importance of upholding honor. Let us live as honorable soldiers of Christ, eagerly awaiting the day of the Lord's arrival.

Thank you for your hard work throughout the year. The Lord will commend you. Let's continue walking on this path of faith with the Lord!!

In the Love of Christ,
Pastor **Jongmin**



*A Note
from
Terry Snyder*

Society has changed in the recent decades. Some things for the better, some for the worse. One way that is somewhat better, is in regards to women. **There was a time when a woman's identity seemed to be wrapped up in her husband. Even pictorial directories would put the family under the man's name (Something such as the Terry Snyder (insert wife name here) family, and her first name in parenthesis.** Women have been underestimated, and maybe still are. I have known at least one woman who had a bit of a sensitivity towards it because of it (I am sure there have been times she had been underestimated due to being female.) To me at least, while I understood why she had it, it seemed to color her views on things, seemingly always seeing things through that lens at times where I felt it didn't apply. There are other groups whose lens have changed due to some issues in the past. Maybe some of us do as well.

There have been times in life I have been underestimated (but there have also been times that some saw potential in me that I didn't see myself at the time. I may speak on that in a later article). I can't say that each time I felt that I was being underestimated was accurate (or not). I am willing to concede that I could be wrong some of the time, but there have been enough instances where the saying goes "where there's smoke, there's fire", seemed to apply.

There are definitely different sides to me. **Some have seen the goofy side of me on Facebook. Looking at some of the silly things I post, people could (and maybe some do) think I am an idiot or immature.** I like having fun, and I have had people tell me how my humor brightened their day, or helped them during a tough time, and things like that. I had no idea. These people don't always "react" or comment on the post, so I didn't always know. I was just being silly and having fun. I have a voicemail greeting I recorded quite a while ago. My sister hates it, but I have had several people tell me how funny it is, and some have called back to hear it again. One friend says it always brings a smile. But, if people define me strictly from that stuff, I would come up lacking. Other people may see the serious side of me, the Martha side of me worried about work or tasks at hand, or the Mary side at times as well. Christ Himself was seen as a drunkard and all sorts of things, and many missed who He really is.

A former pastor's daughter worked along Bobby Knight a couple of years, and posted after his death of some sides of him that many never saw. She didn't deny or excuse those things, but wanted to give a more complete picture of the man, than the man who threw chairs and had a bad temper.

When David was a boy, he was overlooked at first, then underestimated, and thought not up to the task of being king. Yet God used him in spite of what man or others thought.

We read in Mark 6:4 (paraphrased) that a prophet isn't honored in his hometown. This has several connotations, I think, such as what we saw with Jesus. "Isn't He the son of Mary and Joseph". Some may have whispered about Mary getting pregnant before getting married. Maybe they talked about Jesus playing as a child. There is a lot left out, but whatever the case, He wasn't as respected from His own people at times.

Many failed to see the importance of or potential in a baby born in Bethlehem. Going back to what I said, there may have been whispers around about Him, and I would certainly hope that He would have been treated better when Mary and Joseph looked for a place to give birth, if they knew who He actually was. I would think that some mockers at the cross would have had a different reaction, had they known. Some of the Pharisees might have behaved differently they seen the true picture. Don't get me wrong, Christ rocked the proverbial boat, or "made waves" and such to those in power who liked things just fine the way they were. They, like the devil, may have not changed how they reacted, but surely some would have.

We know who He is, but need to spread that news to others.

We have a busy month with the sing-a-long (with activities and such as well), the Christmas Eve service, and the Christmas cantata. These could be some ways, but we should share about Him year around.

HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL

Troop 549



December 8th-10th Camp Louis Ernst Winter Cabin
December 31st-January 1st

November 10th-12th the troop went to Ray's Indoor Mountain Bike Park in Cleveland, Ohio. Everyone that went had a great time. I heard "this is better than Disney Land and Kings Island combined. I want to come here for my birthday, can we come back next weekend?" We rode bikes for almost 8 hours. There were not too many wrecks, but a few of us did come home with some sore spots on our bodies.

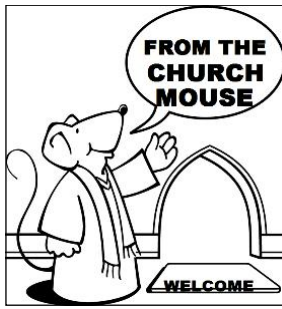
December 8th-10th is our annual Camp Louis Ernst Winter Cabin campout. This is always one of our favorite campouts. The camp has electricity at the cabin now. We will not have to listen to a generator running all day and most of the night now. How wonderful this will be. We can actually hear nature. We will be walking around the property to determine where the new mountain bike trail will go that they want me to build. This may end up being an Eagle Scout project for a scout in the Nashville, Indiana scout troop. I would be the consultant for this project. One of the things the scouts always like about this campout is, the leaders always cook the meals and clean up for the scouts at this campout. We play cards and board games late into the night on Friday and Saturday. I have brought my Amateur radio equipment to use and show the scouts during this campout.

December 31st-January 1st is our 2nd annual New Years Eve party at the youth center. This is always a fun time. We watch movies, play games outside and clean out our cook boxes and restock them to get them ready for next year's campouts.

The scouts will be making out the list of places they want to go to and where they want to camp for the next year.

If you know anyone that is interested in scouting the door is always open for their visit on our scout nights. Please feel free to pass my contact information to anyone interested in visiting or joining our troop. Boys ages need to be 11 years old to join and less than 18. Meeting time Thursday is at 6:30–8:00 at the Youth Center.

Bruce McIntosh, Scoutmaster
812-374-9009
brucemcintoshbsa@yahoo.com



Reverse Advent Calendar

Each day add an item from this list to a box and on Christmas Eve donate the box to “Feed the Flock” sponsored by Columbus Baptist Church on US 31. They provide a meal on the 4th Friday of each month to whomever shows up and sends home a bag of groceries ... like the list below with each family. They are not funded through the church or any organization ... they rely on God to provide and help them to meet the needs of those less fortunate.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Dec. 1 - 1 can of Spaghetti O's | Dec. 13 – 1 can of beans (Chili or soup) |
| Dec. 2 - 1 jar of Peanut Butter | Dec 14 – 1 can of Ravioli |
| Dec. 3 - 1 tube of toothpaste | Dec. 15 – 1 box of rice |
| Dec. 4 - 1 box of potatoes | Dec. 16 – 1 can Dinty Moore |
| Dec. 5 - 1 box of Mac & Cheese | Dec. 17 – 1 box of pasta |
| Dec. 6 – 1 can of fruit | Dec. 18 – 1 jar or can of spaghetti sauce |
| Dec. 7 – 1 can of tomatoes | Dec. 19 – 1 can soup |
| Dec. 8 – 1 can of tuna | Dec. 20 – 1 jar or bottle of jelly |
| Dec. 9 – 1 toothbrush (single only) | Dec. 21 – 1 pkg of Ramen Soup |
| Dec. 10 – 1 jar of applesauce | Dec. 22 – 1 deodorant |
| Dec. 11 – 1 can of Spam | Dec. 23 – 1 pkg toilet paper |
| Dec. 12 – 1 bar of soap | Dec. 24 – 1 can of chicken |


Share the love of Christ with those less fortunate this Christmas!

Merry Christmas Timothy





DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion 9am-Worship 10:10 Sunday School 1st Sun Advent	4	5 10-11am Prayer Time	6 6pm-Choir	7 6:30pm-Scouts	8	9
10 5pm-Grace's Table 9am-Worship 10:10 Sunday School 2nd Sun Advent	11	12 10-11am Prayer Time	13 6pm- Choir	14 6:30pm-Scouts	15	16 2 pm Com- munity Christmas Party
17 9am-Worship 10:10 Sunday School 3rd Sun Advent	18	19 10-11am Prayer Time	20 6pm-Choir	21 6:30pm-Scouts	22	23
24 5pm Christmas Eve Service 9am-Cantata NO Sunday School 4th Sun Advent	 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 10-11am Prayer Time	27 6pm-Choir	28 NO Scouts	29	30
31 9am Worship 10:10 Sunday School	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">BCSC Winter Break December 20—January 5</p> </div>					



- Dec. 5..Bryan Reed
- Dec. 14...Tom Schuyler
- Dec. 15...Roger Neptune
- Dec. 20...Patsy Cox
- Dec. 28...Kathy Warner
Mary Gorman
- Dec. 30...Katie Niespodziani
- Dec. 31...David Stuckey

News



From the Mail Box...

A very belated THANK YOU for the generous Love Offering. It will help us a lot. Thank you. Mike and family

A New 2024 Altar Flower Chart is posted in the hallway next to the office Anyone can sign up to honor a loved one, celebrate a birthday, anniversary or special day of remembrance by filling out the information on the sign-up chart. Altar Flowers will now be \$25 and payment is due on or before the Sunday the flowers are delivered.

Love Chapel Christmas Pantry Potato Collection

East Columbus UMC donated 625 boxes of potatoes to Love Chapel for their Christmas baskets. Thanks to everyone for their donation.

ECUMC participated again this year in the packing of shoe boxes for children around the world. ECUMC collected 36 Shoeboxes.

Roger and Karen Neptune thanks the church for the beautiful Angel and for the prayers at the passing of son, Tim. God bless all of you.

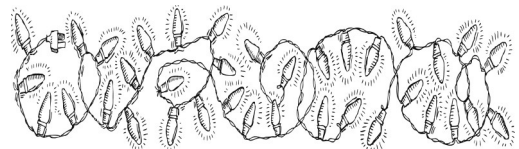


Our condolences to Roger & Karen Neptune at the loss of their son, Tim Neptune.

Here's what's
happening!

Grace's Table Dinner Church, Sunday, December 10, at 5:00 pm in the Youth Center. Please donate Christmas cards to be given away to our guests at Grace's Table.

Every Tuesday from 10am to 11am the Sanctuary will be open for anyone to come in for prayer time. The Elevator Door and both Glass Doors near the office will be unlocked during those times.



YOU'RE INVITED

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 16 at 2pm

Invite your family, friends and neighbors!

There will be Christmas crafts, games for children, sing favorite Christmas songs, decorate Christmas cookies, and hear a special message from Santa. Sign up for Door prizes and enjoy cookies and refreshments.

Cookies are needed to serve as refreshments. Please sign up in the Information Area. This can be any kind of cookie.

Donations of gently used and new books are being accepted for the party.

Christmas morning the choir will be bringing us the Christmas Cantata, "The Love of God at Christmas."

On Christmas Eve there will be a Candlelight Christmas Eve service at 5:00 pm.



East Columbus United Methodist Church
2439 Indiana Avenue, Columbus IN 47201

Return Service Requested

Jongmin Lee, Senior Minister
Angie Sherfick, Adm. Assistant
Terry Snyder, Music Director

Church Office: 812.376.7418
Church Office Email: office@eastcolumbusumc.org
Pastor Email: jongmin.lee@inumc.org
Worship Director Email: music@eastcolumbusumc.org
Church Website: www.eastcolumbusumc.org

9:00am-Worship Service
10:10am- Sunday School

OUR CHURCH MISSION
Growing the Family of God by Making
Loving Disciples of Jesus Christ.