



# East Columbus United Methodist Church

*A Church for Everyone!*

JANUARY 2025

IN THE  
*beginning*  
WAS THE  
*word.*

John 1:1



# PASTOR'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

## 2025, A New Journey with Jesus

May the peace of God be with you all.

2024 has come to an end, and now we begin a brand-new year in 2025. How was your year? Did you feel Jesus walking with you? Whether we felt it or not, one thing is certain: Jesus was with us. And our faith is proven when we accept and recognize His presence in our lives.

In 2025, our journey with Jesus will continue. It is the same journey but also a new journey. The Apostle Paul says: “Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:13-14)

This reminds us to forget what is behind us and run toward the goal, walking with Jesus. God’s kingdom is not built in one grand explosion moment but through the faith, love, and small actions of ordinary Christians. We are like pieces of a puzzle, each an important part of building God’s kingdom. That’s why it’s so important to care for our souls and continue our spiritual discipline.



As we enter 2025, how about setting these goals together?

- 1. Be deeply rooted in God’s Word:** Let’s dedicate ourselves to daily Bible reading and meditation, strengthening our faith.
- 2. Pray more:** Let’s grow closer to God through personal and communal prayer.
- 3. Serve with love:** Let’s bring Jesus’ light to our families, church, and community by serving others with love.

I pray that God’s Word, prayer, and love for others will fill our lives this year. May you be blessed in this new year. I love and bless you all!

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



*A Note  
from  
Terry Snyder*

By the time you read this, we will be close to, or already in a new year (if the Lord wills it.) There is something about starting a new year that seems like a fresh start. 2024 has seen some challenges for many of us.

Looking back at other things, I have worked on a hymnal database off and on, to help me with choosing hymns, tracking hymns (perhaps), and hopefully have one or more hymn sings this year. I also took a pause from other things I needed to do, and been transferring and organizing data from my years here (and multiple computers) such as audio files, scores and so forth to be kept. Speaking of that, the notation program I have used for music scores for around 20 years is being discontinued. So, I am trying to organize the arrangements and such from all of those years, get rid of duplicates or ones saved in various stages along the way (to be used in different ways), and then convert those multiple ways to eventually transfer to another program should the need or desire be there. There is a bit of a timetable on that because although I can use the old program for as long as it works, it will no longer be supported, and one Windows update could cause it not to work anymore. The program is needed to open and edit these files in the format they are saved in. So, saving in other formats that other programs can at least somewhat read accurately is important. One way will import the file allowing editing (such as enlarging text, which I have needed to do for a few years), while another will do a better job of preserving adjustments to print more accurately without re-adjusting in the new program.

The program will be supported until August 2025, then there is no guarantee how much longer it will work. To make matters worse, the company originally said it would not be possible to even reinstall if there were a system crash, or a new computer bought after that point (due to their copy protection, new installations have to be approved by them, or the work will not save after I believe 30 days.), Many of us let our dissatisfaction known about this. While they still refuse to take away the need for them to authorize the installations, they are at least seemingly going to authorize reinstallations for the foreseeable future, though they can drop that any time.

Those are just a few of many, many things I need to work on as time allows (my normal work, other things like the hymn sing etc.). Yet another thing I paused things for, was getting my office somewhat in better shape. I tend to let it go when jumping deep into huge things, and just had to finally push other things aside to devote some time to it. While it isn't quite where I would ultimately like it, I cleaned it around 3-4 months ago, and have been maintaining it pretty well (even when it meant deferring other things.)

All of these things are investments. Sometimes investments take time, resources, patience, and so forth before they pay off. Since the Lord is giving us a new year (as far as we know), I was thinking about other investments, and a new year seems like a great time to start. What if we invest more time reading the Word, praying, serving, giving, being more like Christ, witnessing, and inviting to church? Maybe the whole list seems like a lot to start at once, but maybe we can pick one to start. Maybe we won't see results right away.

I think about the farmers who have to plant seeds and work months to **maybe** get some results of their labors and investments. Sometimes things don't turn out the way they hoped, but they are likely to try again the next year. It can be easy to either see a huge job ahead of us, or maybe something we tried before, but wasn't successful, but imagine if all of the farmers just threw their hands up and didn't try again. May we be like the farmers, and try again with a vision of what could be the end result in our lives, our piece of the world, the world, and eternity.



## *Got any plans for 2025?*

Did you make any New Year's resolutions?

These are mine that I carry over year after year ...

1. Lose weight
2. Exercise more
3. Pray more frequently
4. Live frugally

Why do I carry them over each year? Because I can never keep them!!

Did you find the operative word in that last sentence? **"I"** ... I can't do anything on my own!!

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

The Lord has plans for me ... and for you ... and His plans will never fail nor will they falter.

So while we have all the intentions to keep our New Year's resolutions ... don't give up when we fail ... just rest in the promise that God's plans never fail.

Trusting that God will guide us and support us as we follow **HIS** plan for our lives!

Wishing you a wonderful 2025 .... Timothy

**HOOSIER TRAILS COUNCIL**  
**Troop 549**



December 31 was our annual New Years Eve Party. We watched a lot of movies and had fun just hanging out at the youth center. We will have a day outing planned.

January 17th-19th This is the annual Winter Rendezvous. Last year the temperature low was negative 25 and the high for Saturday was negative 1. I am hoping it isn't as cold this year as it was last year. This is always a fun outing.

We are excited for the new year in scouting. There are a lot of plans for camping and outings this year.

If you know any boys that are 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



# News



From the Mail Box...

Here's what's  
happening!

Lisa Welch thanks the church for the Candle Lantern and for all the prayers for the Welch family at the passing of Patsy.

Thank you to the Caring Ministries for the flowers and cookies. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
-Shirley Sylvia

Merry Christmas to the Church family and for the prayers and love.  
-Jan Foley

Thanks to Terry and the choir for the beautiful Christmas Cantata, "Good News From Home."

Love Chapel thanks the church for the donation of 60 lbs of food to their pantry. In 2023 Love Chapel distributed nearly 2.2 million pounds of food to those in need. A Christmas Feast giveaway was completed with 1,633 baskets of food being distributed during December of this year.

Office will be closed Wednesday, January 1 to celebrate the New Year.

Trustee Meeting will be held Thursday, January 9 at 5:30.

Grace's Table Free Meal, Sunday, January 12 at 5pm in the Youth Center.

Weekly Prayer Hour, 10am in the Sanctuary. Every Tuesday a prayer time is held from 10am to 11am for anyone to come and lift up their personal prayers. Come and pray for a few minutes or the whole hour. Please enter through the Elevator Door.



## Christmas Decoration Cleanup Monday, January 6

12 pm

Help is needed to take down the decorations through out the church

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### A New Year Poem

Another fresh new year is here ...  
Another year to live!  
To banish worry, doubt, and fear,  
To love and laugh and give!

This bright new year is given me  
To live each day with zest...  
To daily grow and try to be  
My highest and my best!

I have the opportunity  
Once more to right some wrongs,  
To pray for peace, to plant a tree,  
And sing more joyful songs.

### Kindness Counts


Need some creative ideas for performing acts of kindness?

Here are a few from [randomactsofkindness.org](http://randomactsofkindness.org).

- Make blankets or scarves for homeless people.
- Send a care package to someone who's in college or the military.
- Collect coins for a charity or cause.
- When you can't attend an event, give the tickets to strangers.
- Offer to babysit or pet-sit for free.
- Send a note of appreciation to someone who's made a difference in your life.
- Share your gifts of music, reading or conversation at a nursing home.
- Donate old sports equipment to schools.
- Give someone the benefit of the doubt—maybe even a family member or yourself.

# January



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			 <b>New Year's Day</b>	<b>2</b> 6:30pm-Scouts	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
				<b>BCSC WINTER BREAK</b>		
<b>5</b> <b>Communion</b> 9am Worship 10:10am -Sunday School	<b>6</b> <b>12pm - Christmas Decoration Cleanup</b>  <b>BCSC No School</b>	<b>7</b> <b>10am Prayer Hour</b>	<b>8</b> 6pm-Choir	<b>9</b> 5:30pm-Trustee Meeting  6:30pm-Scouts	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9am Worship 10:10 - Sunday School  <b>5pm-Grace's Table</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>10am Prayer Hour</b>	<b>15</b> 6pm- Choir	<b>16</b> 6:30pm-Scouts	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
					<b>BCSC No School</b>	
<b>19</b> 9am Worship 10:10am -Sunday School	<b>20</b> <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b> <b>No School BCSC</b>	<b>21</b> <b>10am Prayer Hour</b>	<b>22</b> 6pm-Choir	<b>23</b> NO Scouts	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9am - Worship 10:10 - Sunday School	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>10am Prayer Hour</b>	<b>29</b> 6pm-Choir	<b>30</b> 6:30pm-Scouts	<b>31</b>	



January 4...Ed Bridgewater

“ 8...Mark Parks

“ 22...Chuck Conley

“ 29...Jonathan Lee

“ 30...Stephanie Tetrick



**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](mailto:office@eastcolumbusumc.org)**

**Pastor Email: [jongmin.lee@inumc.org](mailto:jongmin.lee@inumc.org)**

**Worship Director Email: [music@eastcolumbusumc.org](mailto:music@eastcolumbusumc.org)**

**Church Website: [www.eastcolumbusumc.org](http://www.eastcolumbusumc.org)**

**9:00 am - Worship Service**

**10:10am - Sunday School**

**OUR CHURCH MISSION**

**Growing the Family of God by Making  
Loving Disciples of Jesus Christ.**