



Vol. XXVI & XXVII No. 12 & 1 – DEC 2021 & JAN 2022

Dear Church Family,

It is the most wonderful time of the year! As we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as we gather with loved ones to enjoy family and the yummy flavors of the season, as we gather for worship during this special season, hear the laughter and joy of children and especially having been so isolated these many months. In the busyness of this season the challenge is always slowing down enough to take it all in and to recognize and celebrate God's presence in the midst of it all.

What I love about the Advent season and the days of Christmastide as we move into the New Year is that we once again anticipate, celebrate and live into the presence of God with us, Emmanuel. As is promised in the prophetic words of Scripture in the Old Testament, God steps into the messiness of humanity to offer hope, peace, joy and love through the saving grace of Messiah. This season is a reminder that we are never alone in this life, but that the very presence of God is with us and is constantly working. I believe that the more we are aware of God's presence with us and lean into that Presence, the more God through the Holy Spirit works in us and through us, transforming us and impacting our world.

My prayer for us during this busy time of Christmas and New Year is that God will move mightily in and through us to bring hope, peace, joy and love to our world.

"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever." -- Revelation 11:5 (KJV)

Watching, waiting, and celebrating with you....Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Pastor Brian

4th Quarter Mission Focus

Warsaw FUMC's Community Closet & Deb's Closet

- FUMC's Community Closet (Downtown Campus) & Deb's Closet (Connection Campus) is the mission focus for the remainder of 2021. Personal care and household items that cannot be purchased with SNAP funds continue to be available curbside on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the alley Atrium door and in conjunction with Strengthening Families on Mondays at The Connection.
- We have been consistently assisting about 80 families. The need continues to grow – on a recent Wednesday, we assisted about 400 individuals. Your “mission” donations supports this ministry. Please indicate “Closet” in the memo section of checks made payable to FUMC or on a separate line of your giving envelope.
- We have a 2021 Reverse Advent Calendar to collect items for the Community Closet & Deb's Closet. There is still a great need for personal care and household items. The calendars are available at both campuses and online at the church's website! Also, please continue to save your plastic grocery bags - we always have a need for bags! Bring them to the Downtown Campus.
- Thank you for your generous support!

Thank you: I would like to say thank you to each and everyone of my church family members... I put in a request for plastic bags and men and women deodorant and you guys simply amaze me... We now have lots of all the items... Are numbers are still on the rise.. I love this ministry because we are helping people in our community



that need the extra help.. Our numbers are 65 families which is 290 to 300 people... Thank you for the continual support in this ministry ..Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Krystal

Fellowship
missions

Community Program to Support Winter Contingency & Cold Weather Warming Center Program

The Winter Contingency & Cold Weather Warming Center Program at Fellowship Missions has two components... The Gathering Room is open during the day as a warming center for people who need to get out of the cold and warm up when daytime temps (or wind chill) are at or below 32 degrees. Guests are welcome to eat lunch if they need a meal. The warming center hours are Monday through Saturday 8:30 am-1:00 pm.

When overnight temps (or wind chill) are at or below 32 degrees, Fellowship Missions takes in as many people as can be safely accommodated. If all regular shelter beds are full, guests staying on cots must vacate the shelter living areas by 8:30 am. However, they are welcome to stay in the Gathering Room if it is open as a daytime warming center.

2021 Christmas Offering

Again this year, your Christmas Offering will be divided equally between The Bishop's Christmas Offering for Children and Fellowship Missions, the local homeless shelter. Learn more about this opportunity to give . . . Jesus loves children. The Bible includes countless stories of the special affinity Jesus had for little ones. Mark 10:14 tells us,

“He took the children in His arms, placed His hands on them and blessed them.”



Providing spaces and opportunities where children are valued, cherished, supported and have the opportunity to experience the love of God, is the purpose of the Offering. The Bishop's Christmas Offering for Children impacts the lives of children in Indiana and around the world in the following ways:

- Impact 2818, the Indiana Conference camping ministry (includes Camp Adventure & programs at Epworth Forest in North Webster)
- The three Indiana United Methodist-related children and youth homes (includes Bashor Children's Home in Goshen)
- Local outreach projects for children
- United Methodist advance projects for children (national and global)
- Bishop's fund for emergency children's projects and the promotion of this offering

All New Things

**ALL THINGS
NEW**

The Connection Campus has been working to support this local program. All

New Things is a voluntary, faith-based, rehabilitation program, serving women ages 18 and older who struggle with drug and alcohol dependency. Although the plan is individualized and program length varies for different residents, all applicants must be willing to commit to at least one year within the program. The women there are all mothers; all but one have school-aged children who are living with family members. The other has grandchildren. They actually come from a variety of backgrounds. One is married, the rest divorced. A couple were raised Catholic, most were not raised with any faith at all. One thing they do have in common is that they all had a significant

amount of trauma in their lives at a young age and they weren't equipped to deal with it. Their addictions numbed the pain, but to heal they have to bring it all back out and look at it again. It's a horrible process, which is why the success rate is so low (Nationally less than 20%.) it's also why the program lasts a year.

If you would like to donate, they are looking for consumable food items, hygiene products, gift cards, food storage items, etc.

Church Finances

Weekly Update				
Attendance (in-person/ virtual)			Giving	
Oct. 3	9:00 11:00	120/66 39/115	Offering Missions	7,485.50 5,164.58
Oct. 10	9:00 11:00	130/52 38/82	Offering Missions	6,659.00 632.00
Oct. 17	9:00 11:00	110/71 32/99	Offering Missions	10,178 242.43
Oct. 24	9:00 11:00	98/54 44/75	Offering Missions	7,090.00 3,472.15
Oct. 31	9:00 11:00	128/85 41/105	Offering Missions	7,321.00 4,821.48
Nov. 7	9:00 11:00	141/83 39/72	Offering Missions	5,006.00 2,152.96
Nov. 14	9:00 11:00	133/75 42/116	Offering Missions	8,276.00 10.19
2021 YTD October — Operating Budget				
Operating Income:			408,690.83	
Operating Expenses:			355,826.37	
Mission Focus Offerings				
4th Quarter as of Nov. 7 Community Closet			3,371.71	

Historian

J Thomas Frost

I know some of you will remember Tom Frost who was pastor at First Methodist Church in Warsaw from 1949 to 1952. He was the seventh child of devout Methodist parents and grew up believing that he was destined to be a minister. Because there was no high school in Kentucky where he grew up, Tom attended God's Bible School in Cincinnati for one year and then graduated from Asbury College and Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. In 1933 while conducting a revival in North Webster, he met Margaret Meredith, a school teacher, whom he married the following year. Thereafter the two of them cooperated on many church tasks. Tom involved businessmen in the church through contacts which he made while playing golf—a sport he loved. He served on many commissions of the Conference and was on the board when Epworth Forest facilities were improved. He often served as a wise counselor for younger ministers. For him, it was a privilege to be a minister and a trusted servant of a loving God whom he could approach through prayer. J. Thomas Frost and his wife Margaret are buried in Oakwood Cemetery. He died June 20, 2002 in Winona Lake and was survived by two sons and three grand-children.



Janet K—Church Historian

Family Ministry



• We are continuing on with our First Families program. This is taking place Sundays after the 9am service (10-10:45am). We have a class for Baby-Preschool, Elementary, Middle School/High School, and Adults/Parents! The children and

youth are going through Bible lessons and the Adults are participating in a “group therapy for parents”. We hope you and your family will come join us for the remainder of our sessions!

- We are always looking for adults to help out with childcare during and after the service. The shifts are from 9-10am and 10-11am. Please let Mandy know if you are interested at communications@warsawfumc.org.
- The Youth Group will begin selling frozen cookie dough balls 12/5 after the service at both locations. It is \$10/dozen and there are M&M, Peanut Butter, and Sugar Cookies available!



- The Children have started to work on a Christmas song using the handbells, as well as a special Nativity play! Practice will be during the service Dec. 5, Dec 12, Dec. 19 . The performance will be on December 24th at the 7pm service!



- January 16th—the Youth Group will be going out for a Bowling/Pizza outing after class at 11am.




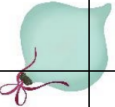



12/1 Ann Compton
 12/2 Ana Hamrick
 12/3 Ashley Neubaum
 Diane Quance
 12/4 Wes Olds
 12/5 Walter Johnson
 12/6 Michelle Becknell
 Jon Garber
 12/7 Billy Sale
 Jason Seiffert
 12/8 Patrick Fuller
 Deb Starbuck
 12/9 Christa Shenefield
 Carol Wood
 12/10 Ryan Wood
 12/11 Mike Arford
 Shayna Cooper
 12/12 Blayne Shenefield
 12/13 George Gilbert
 Keely Roe
 12/14 Steve Harris
 Nancy Helstern
 Lorena Siesennop
 12/15 Sydnee McCammon
 Luke Smith
 12/16 Penny Bartel
 12/17 Amy Williamson
 12/18 Deb Halfacre
 Bev Miller
 Krystal Smith
 Raygan Wright
 12/20 Jenni McCammon
 12/26 Sarah Kirkpatrick
 12/27 Ann Seward
 12/29 Candi Kizer
 Brianna Walsh
 Carolyn Wulliman
 12/30 Linda Ellison
 Sydney Lancaster



1/1 Rick Helm
 1/2 Jerry Craig
 1/4 Tim Mangas
 Shianne Shafer
 Randy Wilcox
 1/6 Cathie Ressler
 1/7 Laura Arford
 Todd Shenefield
 1/8 Jake Mangas
 Deb Vitoux
 1/9 Katie Maile
 1/12 Ed Christoffel
 Gary Cooper
 Ava Drudge
 1/15 Willis Alt
 1/16 Tyler Miller
 Bob Rearick
 Becky Watson
 1/19 Edie Seewald
 Bob Vitoux
 1/20 Ammie Devenney
 1/21 Jeannine Cavell
 Maxine Harris
 1/26 Tanner Hughes
 1/27 Sara Rode
 Griffin Roe
 1/28 Jane Eaton
 1/29 Clara Griner
 1/31 Mary Garrett
 Hope Osborn

2021 Community Closet Reverse Advent Calendar

Warsaw FUMC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov. 28 	Nov. 29	Nov. 30	Dec. 1	2 	3	4
5 	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 	21	22	23	24	25 
26	27	28	29	30	31	Jan. 1

Thank you so much for participating in **Warsaw First United Methodist Church's Reverse Advent Calendar!** This is a great way to directly support those in need within our community. Warsaw FUMC's Community Closet supports about 65 families per week – about 300 people! We are currently serving these families in a drive-thru setting where they receive personal care and household items that cannot be purchased with SNAP funds. This is offered each Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the alley Atrium door at our Downtown campus, 179 S. Indiana Street.

To participate, set a box or bag out and each day add a household or personal care item to the container. Examples of items to donate include: bar soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, body wash, feminine care products, diapers, toilet paper, paper towels, and cleaning supplies. At the end of December, bring the container into the Warsaw FUMC Downtown Location Office – 179 S. Indiana Street. Thank you for your donations and support for our local Warsaw families! Merry Christmas!

2021 Advent Calendar

Warsaw FUMC

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
HOPE	Nov. 28 Make a list of your hopes for this season. Create an advent wreath with 4 candles. Eph 1:18	Nov. 29 Pray anytime you have to wait today- in traffic, in line, during commercials etc. Ps 130:5	Nov. 30 Choose an advent devotional: paper, online or an app. Put it in your daily calendar. Ps 119:114	Dec. 1 Send a Christmas card to someone who won't expect it. Rom 15:13 	Find a way to thank someone who serves our church. Thank God for all the people who use their gifts in service. Heb 10:23	Tape a favorite scripture to your bathroom mirror. Ps 31:24	Pray for our church service tomorrow. Eph 1:18
PEACE	5 Pray for someone you struggle to like. Col 3:13	6 Leave a thank you or treat for your postal worker or someone else who serves you daily. Col 3:15	7 Pray for our soup kitchen and closet tomorrow. Acts 20:35	8 Brighten the day of someone who lives alone. II Cor 1:3-5	9 Stop and listen to one Christmas song all the way through without doing anything else. Ps 91-2	10 Do a random act of kindness today. Col 3:12	11 Take a walk or drive to look at the Christmas decorations. Matt 3:3
JOY	12 Sing your favorite Christmas Song-LOUDLY- You can even dance! I Sam 18:6	13 Smile at someone you don't know...do it again. Neh 8:10	14 Do something that brings you joy. Ps 16:9-11	15 Send a thank you note or bring a treat to a teacher you know. Ps 25:4-5 	16 Let someone go ahead of you. Mark 9:35	17 Call, visit or send a note to someone who might be feeling lonely today. Ps 68:4-6	18 Give someone your undivided attention today. Luke 10:38-42
LOVE	19 Contact someone you love that hasn't heard from you in a while. John 3:16-17 	20 Send a thank you note or take a treat to a healthcare provider. Luke 1:26-33	21 Light all four candles and spend some time in silence thinking about HOPE, LOVE, JOY & PEACE Col 3:14 	22 Leave an encouraging note for someone to find. Heb 3:13	23 Give someone a compliment today. Col 2:2	24 Read the nativity story out loud. Matt 1:18-23 Luke 1:26-56, 2:1-20	25 Light the Christ candle before you get caught up in the festivities of today. John 1:1-4
REFLECT	26 Read through 5 cards or messages today and pray for the senders. James 5:16	27 Send 2 thank you notes and pray for those people. Phil 1:3-6	28 Call 2 people you miss and tell them why they are important to you. Rom 1:11-12	29 Spend 30 minutes relaxing without interruption today. Ps 62:1-2	30 Find a way to thank a law enforcement official or first responder today. II Thes 3:2-3	31 Choose 2 things from this calendar to do more often in the New Year. Gal 5:22	Jan. 1 Take a walk or spend 15 minutes at your window enjoying nature. Ps 19:1-6 
GIVE	Jan. 2 Start a box and drop things into it to give to others. Prov 28:27	Jan. 3 Share a treat with a friend today. Luke 6:38	Jan. 4 Ask God to bring someone who needs your help today to your mind. Acts 20:34-35	Jan. 5 Give yourself the gift of at least half an hour today to recharge. Is 40:31	Jan. 6 The wisemen brought 3 gifts to the Christ child today. What can you bring to people around you? Matt 2:10-11		

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or current occupant

Warsaw First United Methodist Church



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Director of Worship Ministries Brian Brauchla – music@warsawfumc.org
Director of Youth Ministries Courtney Sale – youth@warsawfumc.org
Business Manager/Finance Secretary
 Ann Baker – busmgr@warsawfumc.org
Communications Coordinator Mandy Ferguson – communications@warsawfumc.org

Our Mission: Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Downtown: 179 South Indiana Street, Warsaw (mailing address)
 The Connection: 1692 West Lake Street, Warsaw
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 (574) 267-6933 / office@warsawfumc.org / www.warsawfumc.org