



Connecting all people to God's love and purpose

9:00 a.m. Downtown @ 179 South Indiana Street
11:00 a.m. @ Joe's Kids (1692 W. Lake Street)

December 22, 2024 ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

Gospel Reading ~ Luke 2: 8-20 (NLT Translation)

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased." When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

Office Hours: Mon-Thu 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m.; Fri by appointment
574.267.6933 / office@warsawfumc.org—www.warsawfumc.org
Mailing Address: 179 South Indiana Street, Warsaw IN 46580



Thank you for joining us in person and in virtual worship today!

Please let us know you joined us for worship today (regular attendees and guests) by completing the Welcome to Warsaw First UMC! card provided. Guests are asked to complete so we may add you to our weekly updates for church activities. If you are virtually attending, please send us a comment! Large-print worship folders are also available; please see an usher. Coffee and Fellowship—Downtown in Fellowship Hall immediately following the 9:00 service and before the start of the 11:00 service at Joe's Kids site.

Statistics from last Sunday:

Attendance: 9:00 am 160 in person; 131 virtual / 11:00 am 41 in person

Weekly Giving*: \$19,110 (*Monday thru Sunday receipts and online giving)

Missions: 4th Quarter mission: UMCOR/Special Christmas

US Disaster/Helene: \$1905; International Disaster: \$25; to be split: \$3175.73

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$100; Bishop's Christmas Offering for Children: \$50; to be split \$192.00



Community Closet Advent "Fill the Van!" This is the last Sunday to "Fill the Van" with items for the Community Closet Advent project, but donations are always welcome! See the flyers at the usher stations for more information.

Youth Cookie Sale This is your last chance to buy some homemade cookie dough! Today is the last day of the sale. Find us in the Atrium or behind the sanctuary — \$10/dozen. All proceeds support our Youth activities.

Christmas Eve Services We will have three opportunities to worship on December 24; a 3:00 pm Candlelight Service with music by the 4 O'Clock Shadow Quartet, a 7:00 pm Candlelight Family Service with music by the Children's Ministry and an 11:00 pm Candlelight Communion Service with music by the Ginn Handbell and Sanctuary Choirs.

Coffee and Conversations — Come and join together with women from churches from the Warsaw area on Wednesday, January 8th at noon, at Maggie's Coffeehouse, 124 S. Buffalo Street, Warsaw. Led by Pastor Cindy Gackenheimer, the discussion will be, "Why would Jesus be last in line?"



Special Advent/Christmas Missions Offering

You are invited to donate to the special Advent/Christmas Missions Offering now through Christmas Eve. Unless designated otherwise, this offering will be divided equally between the

following:

- Pastor's Discretionary Fund - monies in this fund are used at the pastor's discretion to meet emergency, immediate basic needs of those in the church family and community
- Bishop's Christmas Offering for Children - in keeping with the "Children Matter Most" theme, money raised is distributed to Indiana's UMC camping ministries, the three Indiana United Methodist-related children and youth homes, national and global Advance projects and Indiana outreach projects.

You may also continue to give toward the 4th quarter mission focus, UMCOR - the United Methodist Committee on Relief, through the end of 2024. Make checks payable to Warsaw FUMC and indicate the designation of the monies on the memo line. Online donations can be made at the church website (www.warsawfumc.org) - click "Give" and follow the prompts.

Ongoing prayers for...	Betty Ferguson	Amanda and Family
*Our Church	Priscilla Conley	PSG Families
*Pastor Brian and Family	Richard Sisk	Jamie
*Our church family in long-term care facilities or home-bound	Rose Ann McCammon	Keelie Eide
*Our students and Educators	Bonnie Jarboe	Carlla Kiser Family
*Our Country, Military Personnel	Bill Seiffert	Corrie Miller
*All healthcare workers and First Responders	Janet Kirkpatrick	Esther May (Hal May's mom)
*Unspoken prayers	Cathy Shull	
*Community — New Creation Church	Charlie Shull	
	Yvonne Coburn	
	Stanley Smith	
	Ann Gephart	

Prayer requests: Contact the church office (574-267-6933) or Richard and Sue Balke (574-267-3787)

Pastoral Care: If you would like a pastoral visit in emergency, sickness, hospital, or just to talk, please contact the church office at 574-267-6933. *After hours: Pastor Brian at (863) 257-0244*

Pastor — Brian Smith brian.smith@inumc.org	Children's Ministries Katie Maile — children@warsawfumc.org
Lay Minister — Diane Quance diane.quance@inumc.org	Communications Coordinator Mandy Ferguson communications@warsawfumc.org
Worship and Music Ministries Brian Brauchla (Choir/Bells/Praise Team) music@warsawfumc.org	Church Secretary Cathy May — office@warsawfumc.org
Youth Ministries Courtney Sale — youth@warsawfumc.org	Business Manager/Finance Secretary Ann Baker — busmgr@warsawfumc.org

Schedule for this week (as of 12/17/2024)

Monday—December 23

Office Hours: 8:30 am—4:30 pm

**Tuesday—December 24 Christmas Eve
Christmas Eve Services 179 S. Indiana Street**

3:00pm Candlelight Lessons and Carols

7:00pm Family Candlelight Service with
Children's Music Ministry

11:00pm Communion Candlelight Service with
Choir and Ginn Handbells

Wednesday—December 25 Christmas Day

Merry Christmas!

OFFICE CLOSED

BUILDING CLOSED 10:00 am to 6:30 pm

Thursday—December 26

Office Hours: 8:30am—12:30 pm

Friday—December 27

Office Hours: 8:30 am—12:30 pm

Saturday—December 28

Sunday—December 29 Wesley Communion

9:00am Worship Downtown

179 S. Indiana Street

10:00am Children's Choir/Bells Rehearsals

10:00am *Let's Talk About It*—Parlor

10:00am Fidelity Sunday School—LL2

11:00am Worship at Joe's Kids

1692 W. Lake Street

Birthdays coming up...

12/26 Sarah Kirkpatrick

12/27 Ann Seward

12/29 Carolyn Wulliman

12/29 Candi Kizer

12/29 Brianna Walsh

12/30 Linda Ellison

1/1 Rick Helm



AA Support Group Meetings:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m. LL-3

Tuesday 7:30 p.m. LL-3

Wednesday 7:30 p.m. LL-3

Friday, 7:30 p.m. LL-3

Saturday 7:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Sunday 7:30 p.m. LL-3

Narcotics Anonymous Meetings:

Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Friday 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Growing Minds

Monday through Friday 9a-4p Room 202

The People of God at Worship ~ 9:00 a.m. ~ December 22, 2024

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE	Pastor Brian Smith
PRELUDE	Richard Dick
GINN HANDBELLS	<i>The First Noel</i> by Karen Roth
OPENING PRAYER	Pastor Diane Quance
*HYMN No. 218	<i>It Came Upon a Midnight Clear</i>
ADVENT READING AND CANDLE LIGHTING (congregation response in bold)	Youth Group

Today the fourth candle, the candle of Love, joins the candles of Hope, Peace and Joy.

The more candles we light, the more warmth and glow we receive. It is the same with our church family coming together each week to learn about God and His amazing Love for us. Let the warmth of that Love light up the connections we have with each other and remind all of us that we have a place where we are Loved and cared about right here in our church family.

Love creates bonds that provide us with deep and meaning relationships,

The greatest of all gifts is Love.

Love inspires us to be kind and generous to others we meet along the way,

The greatest of all gifts is Love.

Love helps us to only look for the best in others,

The greatest of all gifts is Love.

Love accepts us for who we are, imperfect people trying to do our best each day. And when we goof up, Love forgives,

The greatest of all gifts is Love.

Let us pray. Perfect Love made real in Jesus, we gather in your presence today with hearts overflowing with Love for each other. We thank you for the gift of your son, born to live among us that He might truly know all our struggles and our joys. May this celebration of love extend out from everyone in our church family to other people we have contact with in our lives that everyone might come to enjoy this gift of your son. May we become the lights that shine in the world, spreading your Love everywhere we go. Amen

CHORAL ANTHEM	<i>Child of the Light</i> ~By B Harlan
*GOSPEL READING (on folder cover) ~ Luke 2: 8-20 (NLT)	Pastor Diane

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Gloria Patri, Hymn No. 70

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

HYMN No. 213

Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Amy Stenoish

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Diane

Silent Reflection

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MESSAGE

When God Shows Up

Pastor Brian

*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

*Doxology, Hymn No. 94 (together)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*HYMN No. 234

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Assisting in worship today:

Greeters: Kathee Reed

Ushers: Mike Reed and Sue Bradway

Acolyte: Carter Davis

Sound: Michael Gough

Video Streaming: Bruce Andrews

Radio Ministry: Flynn' Brian Walsh, WIOE 101 (online at www.wioe.com)

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King." The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world; above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing, and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow, look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing. O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits; the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide; let us thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.

Thy Holy Spirit lead us on until our glorious goal is won; eternal praise, eternal fame be offered, Savior, to thy name!

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal, lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb; Son of the Father, begotten, not created; (Refrain)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest; (Refrain)

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze; we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; (Refrain)