

Community News

At the crossroads... where the cross meets the community



Lewis Memorial United Methodist Church
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November 2017

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Beth's Blessings

Lately my mother has been enamored of Yogi Berra's comically wise saying, "When you come to a fork in the road, take it." I've read that Berra wasn't sure he originated the saying. The first time it appeared in public consciousness was in 1913, when it was used as a joke making use of the double meaning of fork. Eventually, Berra embraced the phrase, though, saying that he first used it while giving Joe Garagiola directions to his house. Along the way of the life of this quote, someone expounded on its essential wisdom beyond the humor: "Keep trying. Stay humble. Trust your instincts. Most importantly, act. When you come to a fork in the road, take it."

As I have heard my mother repeat the phrase over the last few months, it has become the voice of the Holy Spirit for me as the spiritual leader of the Lewis Memorial congregation. Friends, we have come to a fork in the road. Just as the physical location of Lewis Memorial is at a crossroads, so our life together as part of the body of Christ has come to a point of decision that requires us to trust and act on faith. We are called to move together following God's lead. When Yogi Berra gave Joe Garagiola directions, he claimed that either way he chose at the fork would get him to the same destination. Our crossroads is truly a fork in the road, with diverging directions. One direction takes us further toward the best we can be for the kingdom of God. Another direction takes us away from God's vision, along a path that leads to stagnation, continuing unsustainable habits that eventually reach a dead end.

The Finance Committee's report in this newsletter on page 5 reveals the crossroads. We must make difficult choices together, both for the short-term of daily operations and for the long-term of fulfilling our mission to be and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The lay leadership team and I are praying and working to articulate those choices and to lead us wisely through them. Will you take the fork in the road and be part of moving us farther down the path that leads to God's future?

We are always grateful for your faithful gifts to the general budget that supports the operation of the church. This includes vital financial obligations of staff salaries, the costs of running the facilities, and ministry that is the spiritual heart of who we are. During this month's stewardship campaign, we invite you to prayerfully consider your gifts to the church in 2018. If you are giving at your full capacity, take the fork and continue trusting God with your gifts. If you can stretch a little farther to give a tithe of 10% of your income, take the fork and trust God with your gifts. If you have not given regularly to the church, take the fork and trust God with a commitment to give. Every gift is a significant and faithful response to God. Every gift helps us to take the fork in the road together.

We are always grateful for your faithful gifts of service through your time and abilities. A church is a part of the body of Christ together. Worship is only one part of how we are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Each one of us has gifts of time and ability to share, and you are vital to the work of our ministry from the crossroads. As the Yogi Berra quote says, "Most importantly, act... Take the fork in the road." Let Cindy Vinson, Ministries Assistant, or me know what you can do, and volunteer to fill the needs of our ministry.

Our faith story gives us the example of the Hebrew people, miraculously released from their bondage in Egypt, running toward the promise of life and joy in the future God envisioned for them. They came to a fork in the road when they faced the Red Sea ahead of them and the Egyptian army's chariots approaching behind them. The Lord spoke through Moses, "Do not be afraid, stand firm and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you." This is the promise of our Christian faith. Staying on the path of God's vision will lead to the good God desires for us. Jesus assures us of resurrection and life. That promise holds true especially when the sea has not yet started to part, and we stand firm in trust by wading out into the water. We have come to the fork in the road. Let's take it!

Blessings,

Beth

Thanksgiving Dinner | November 19 | 5:30 pm

Worship

8:00 am Sanctuary
10:00 am Sanctuary
11:00 am Warehouse

Children's Church is available during all Sunday services
for children potty trained to 2nd grade.

Wednesday, November 1

Worship Prayground of Story & Song
"Solomon's Temple"
1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13



Sunday, November 5
All Saints Day ~ Communion
Deuteronomy 34:1-12

We remember dear ones who have joined the Church Eternal
this past year. Saints who will be remembered are:
Patsy Davall; Nita Milburn;
Mike Thompson; Billy Whitaker; Ashley Wood

Wednesday, November 8

Worship Prayground of Story & Song
"God Speaks to Elijah"
1 Kings 19:1-18"



Sunday, November 12

Guest Speaker
(Women's Retreat Weekend)



Wednesday, November 15

Worship Prayground of Story & Song
"Justice Rolls Down"
Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15; 21-24



Sunday, November 19
Gratitude Sunday
Exodus 16:2-15

We lift our hearts and hands in
praise to a gracious God, who
supplies all our needs.

Wednesday, November 22

No Worship Prayground ~ Happy Thanksgiving



Sunday, November 26
Laborers in the Vineyard
Matthew 20:1-16



Wednesday, November 29

Worship Prayground of Story & Song
"Jeremiah's Letter to Exiles"
Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15; 21-24

November Lay Leadership

November 5

8:00 am
Worship Leader: Vicki Parker
Ushers: Tommy Martin / Jimmy Morris
Acolytes: Bennett Tharpe / Tim Best

10:00 am
Worship Leader: Jill Pratt
Ushers: Hank Thompson / ?
Acolytes: Caroline & Meredith Meador

11:00 am
Worship Leader: Sonny McDowell

November 12

8:00 am
Worship Leader: Cary Woodworth
Ushers: Jeff Ickes / Garrett Ralston
Acolyte: Nate Sweat

10:00 am
Worship Leader: Grant Nichols
Ushers: Hank Thompson / ?
Acolytes: Aubree & Makayla Jones

11:00 am
Worship Leader: Grant Nichols

November 19

8:00 am
Worship Leader: Nancy Brown
Ushers: Brewtie Lawton
Stanley Percival
Acolyte: Sean Tenant

10:00 am
Worship Leader: Vicki Parker
Ushers: Hank Thompson / ?
Acolytes: Claire & Mattie Stephens

11:00 am
Worship Leader: Kiki Orum

November 26

8:00 am
Worship Leader: Laurie Ickes
Ushers: Dave Hinner / Claude Harper
Acolyte: Bennett Tharpe

10:00 am
Worship Leader: Sonny McDowell
Ushers: Hank Thompson / ?
Acolytes: Olivia Delucia

11:00 am
Worship Leader: Jill Pratt

November Events

Sunday, November 5	Daylight Saving's Time Ends
November 5-8	Finance Committee "Silent Auction"
November 10-12	Women's Retreat
Sunday, November 19	Gratitude Sunday
	Thanksgiving Dinner
Nov. 29-Dec. 1	"Late Night At Lewis
	"Greening of The Church"

November Committee Mtgs

Sunday, November 5	Children's Council
	Youth Council
Monday, November 6	Administrative Council
	Communications
Tuesday, November 7	Evangelism
	Contemporary Worship Focus Group
Monday, November 13	Staff Parish Relations
	Board of Trustees
Wednesday, November 15	Christmas @ Crossroads
Thursday, November 16	Nominations
	United Methodist Women
Monday, November 20	Finance
Tuesday, November 28	United Methodist Men

"Save The Dates"

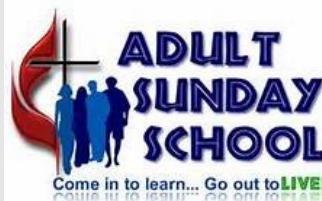
December 2	Christmas At The Crossroads
	Craft Fair
December 10	Children's Church Christmas Program
December 17	Christmas Cantata
December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
January 19-21	Youth Resurrection Retreat
January 27	2018 VBS Reveal - Chili Cook-off
February 3-4	Rock Solid 5th Grade Retreat
	Camp Glisson

Vital Signs for October

Benevolence Offering for October:	\$525.00
Benevolence Gifting in October:	509.00
Operating Budget YTD (10/22):	\$390,203.09
Operating Budget Expenses	
YTD (10/22):	<u>\$442,859.96</u>
	-\$52,656.87
October Average Attendance:	201



Linking the latest headlines to appropriate Scripture.
9:00 am | Facilitator: Fred Moore | Chapel Rm G103



Cokesbury Methodist curriculum	
9:00 am	
Annie Lewis Class (all ages)	Rm G407
Facilitator: Cary Woodworth	
Mary Crook Class	Rm F204
Facilitators: Claude & Sandra Harper	



Subscribe to The Daily Text email, spend time every day and then come and discuss various aspects of the daily reading and how they apply in our lives and culture.

www.seedbed.com
9:00 am | Parlor | Facilitator: Bonnie Johnston & Kip Woodworth
10:00 am | Parlor | Facilitator: Sonny McDowell

A Note From Administrative Council

Worship Schedule Change

Based on the recommendations determined from the Worship Surveys that were reported a few weeks ago by Lay Leader, Vicki Parker, and attendance records over the past few years, the Administrative Council has determined that the Lewis Memorial community will be best served by two worship services and one Sunday School period. With Advent approaching and all the exciting opportunities for worship during this holy time, this change will begin on **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3**. The new Sunday morning schedule will be:

8:30 am | Worship in the Warehouse
9:45 am – 10:45 am | Sunday School
11:00 am | Worship in the Sanctuary

Change is not always easy, but after careful consideration, the Council sees this new schedule as a way to increase congregational engagement in worship, strengthen Sunday School, allow fellowship, and ultimately grow as the body of Christ.

Fellowship at Lewis Memorial

Lewis Lunch Box

Sunday Lunch Made Easy!
Dine In or Take Out

- Concession Stand style Breakfast and Lunch served every Sunday morning.
- Come early for Worship or Sunday School and enjoy a breakfast biscuit.
- Pick up lunch after Church to enjoy with others in the Fellowship Hall, or take home.
- You can't beat the price, and all proceeds contribute to the church budget. Served while supplies last.

* No Lewis Lunch Box on Sundays Nov. 19 & 26

Intergenerational Meal

Sunday Evenings @ 6:30 pm

After a full day of worship in the morning and Bible studies in the afternoon, it's great to gather around the table to enjoy a family style meal. "Intergenerational" means you will be seated with people of various age groups to promote a Christian extended family fellowship time. Conversation Starter questions will help spark interesting sharing over a delicious light supper meal. Food donations for the meal are appreciated. Grocery Lists are posted on The City, or you can drop a check in the offering, designated Intergenerational meal in memo line.

Menus for November:*

Nov. 5- Pasta In a Pot
Salad, Bread
& Birthday Cake

Nov. 12- Pork Loin
Potatoes, Carrots
Rolls & Cookies

* No Intergenerational Meal on Sundays Nov. 19 & 26

Friends & Family Meal – Wonderful Wednesday Suppers

<u>Nov. 1</u>	<u>Nov. 8</u>	<u>Nov. 15</u>	<u>Nov. 22</u>	<u>Nov. 29</u>
Chicken & Rice Bake Children's Ministry	Meatball Subs General Budget "Silent Auction"	Tacos Cub Scout Pack 122	(No Meal)	Chicken Pot Pie Children & Youth

RESERVATIONS are needed by Monday Noon: office@lewismemorial.com | 706.863.6795

CANCELLATIONS by Tuesday Noon.

Friends & Family "Silent Auction" Night

The Finance Committee is sponsoring a "Silent Auction" of gift boxes and baskets filled with goodies and crafts that will be "Silently Auctioned" beginning Sunday, November 5 through Wednesday, November 8. Sunday School Classes, Special Interest Groups, or Individuals may wish to assemble these gift boxes / baskets to be auctioned off to help raise funds to "pay the bills!"

Bring your items to be submitted for Auction, between Sunday, November 5 and Wednesday, November 8.

Be Creative! Craft Items! Gifts! Fun Stuff! Necessary Things!

Then be sure to sign up for Friends & Family Meal for Wednesday, November 8
and come enter into the fun and excitement !

A Message from our Finance Committee

Through September 30, we have received 57.18% of contributions needed to fulfill this year's budget. Our reserve for such a general operating budget short fall was \$47,807.86 in January. Year to date, our expenses have exceeded our contributions by \$55,714.15 thus depleting our reserve funds.

The Finance Committee and Administrative Council are making very difficult choices about how to pay bills for necessary expenses and meet our obligation to pay staff salaries. We are also working to craft a budget for 2018 that will more accurately reflect projected giving.

We invite each one's prayerful and faithful response to this challenge in this month of Stewardship Focus. If you have any questions or input, please contact any member of the Finance Committee or Admistrative Council.

In Christ,

Susie Adcox, 2017 Chair
Finance Committee

Gratitude Sunday • November 19

Gratitude Sunday November 19

Thanksgiving Dinner - 5:30 - Fellowship Hall Turkey, Stuffing and Gravy provided

Bring your favorite Thanksgiving salad, or veggies to share in this bounteous banquet in praise of all God has done in and through Lewis Memorial this year. If you prefer to do a dessert, then.....



Late Night At Lewis - 6:30 - Warehouse Dessert and Entertainment

.....Bring your delicious dessert to the Warehouse to share during an evening of fun and fellowship as we enjoy some "hidden talents" of children, youth & adults alike.

Clipboards will circulate during Welcome time in Worship each Sunday. Please indicate the number in your family attending and what side dishes you will bring.

TALENT DRESS REHEARSAL will be on **Sunday, November 12** following the Intergenerational Meal.
Contact Jason Powell to participate: jason@lewismemorial.com | 706.631.1320

Children's Ministry

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.”
Luke 2:52

Bible Black Belts - Scripture with a Kick **Wednesdays | 6:30 pm | Sanctuary**

An active Bible Study teaching children about the books of the Bible for lifelong Bible competence and love of Scripture. Each month will be a different belt level that includes Words of Celebration, Words of Comfort, Words of Wisdom, and Words of Jesus. Activities will help children memorize Bible verses using activities that utilize physical motion in some way: games, reflection, movement, percussion, etc.

Bible Black Belts will not meet on November 22, Thanksgiving Week.

Scripture with a Kick for Kindergarten - Second Grade:

This month our younger children will be working on their Yellow Stripe. Psalm 24:1; Romans 8:28; John 14:6; and learning the Bible Black Belt Pledge or Books of the Old Testament.

Scripture with a Kick for Third - Fifth Grade:

The older Elementary children are working on their Red Stripe: The Beatitudes; Isaiah 9:2; Matthew 11:28; 1 John 4:12; Proverbs 14:31; and Matthew 5:45.

252 Basics

Sundays | 5:00 pm | Chapel

252 Basics is a curriculum designed for Pre-Kindergarten through 5th Grade.

“What does 252 mean?” Its not our street address, nor the number of questions a 2nd grader can ask in 20 minutes. Instead, everything we teach in **252 Basics** is based on one of three basic, but powerful truths modeled by Jesus in Luke 2:52 (hence 252)

- I need to make the wise choice.
- I can trust God no matter what.
- I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

The curriculum is designed to provoke discovery and invite kids into a new understanding of how to grow in relationship with Jesus Christ.

252 Basics will not meet on November 19 or November 26, Thanksgiving Week.

The theme for November / December is:

“Gratitude”

Letting others know you see how they have helped you.

The memory verse for November is **I Thessalonians 5:18 NIV:**

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

ROCK SOLID RETREAT

**Fifth Graders
Camp Glisson
Feb 2 - 4, 2018**

PURPOSE:

To give children in fifth grade who will be transitioning from elementary to middle school an opportunity to explore the foundation of their faith.

GOALS:

Participants will leave this retreat with:

- A Sense of Community
- Confidence that they are not alone as they encounter the unknowns before them
- Practical tools to strengthen their faith

\$150

\$50 deposit due 11/15

(Note: “Children’s Retreat” in check memo line)



Children's Sunday School

9:00 am | 10:00 am

In the Education Building | Nursery - 5th grade

Children's Church

8:00 am | 10:00 am | 11:00 am

In the White Building across the parking lot from the Sanctuary.

Children with Communion Cards will be escorted back on Communion Sundays.

THERE WILL BE NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH ON NOVEMBER 26.



Text @db3fb7 to 81010 to get Children's Ministry Reminders on your cell phones!

Children's Choir

Sundays | 6:00 pm | Choir Room

The Children's Choir performed in Worship on October 29 and did a great job! Keep up the good work!



"Take My Life and Let It Be!"



Looking forward to December: The Children's Choir will sing in worship on December 17. Please let Melissa Tennant know your child will be in attendance. Children will wear black bottoms and white tops. Rehearsals are November 5, 12, December 5, with a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 16 in the morning. (Time to be determined.)

On December 24 at the 5:00 pm Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary, we will have a live nativity full of children. Email Cindy Vinson by November 12 to be included in this holiday favorite. Rehearsals will be December 16 and 23 at 10:00 am.

Intergenerational Meal

Sundays | 6:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

Conversation Starter Questions for around the Dinner Table:

November 5 Key Question: *What are you grateful for?*

Bottom Line: Celebrate what God has done.

November 12 Key Question: *What do you do when you don't feel grateful?*

Botton Line: Adjust your Attitude.

Remember each Sunday 252 Kids join the Children's Choir and the Intergenerational Meal. Parents are encouraged to join the Intergenerational meal. (Meal Menus are found on page 4 of this Newsletter.)

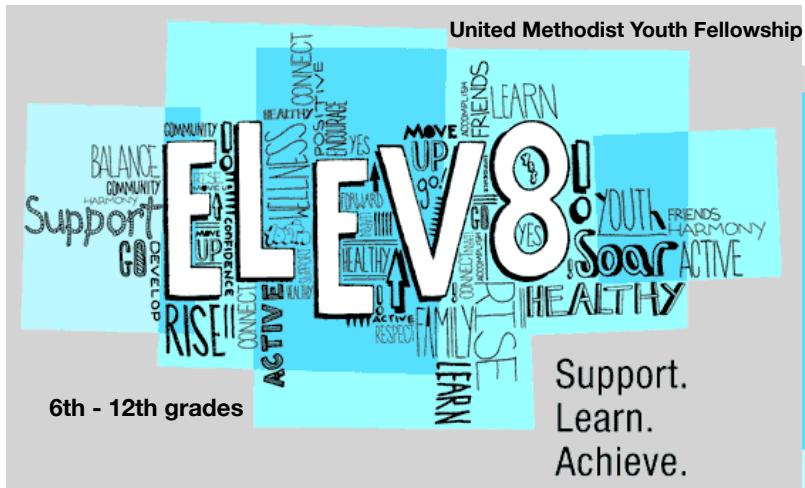
Children's Church Christmas Performance

December 10 | 6:00 pm | Sanctuary

Rehearsals: December 2 | Sanctuary | 10:00 am - Noon

December 9 | Children's Church | 10:00 am - Noon

More information will be provided in December's Newsletter.



Sunday Night Schedule

4:00 pm Youth Worship Team | Warehouse

5:00 pm Elev8 (UMYF) | Warehouse

(No meetings November 19 or 26 - Thanksgiving)

Wednesday Night Schedule

6:30 pm Bible Study

Gals | Room G107 | Jennifer Powell

Guys | Room R107 | Jennifer Powe
Room R204 | Grant Nichols

Youth Silent Auction

Donations are needed to fill gift baskets and bags for a "Silent Auction" to help the General Budget

Ideas for donations:

- Gift Cards from Restaurants, Beauty Salons, Spas, Putt Putt, Bowling, Fandango
- Quilts, Afghans, Bird Houses, Bird Feeders
- Gourmet Coffees, Chocolates, Candies, Popcorn, Treats
- Use your imagination!

Donations may be brought to the Youth Office now through November 22.



November 8
8:00 pm
Pizza & Trivia
The Pizza Joint
Washington Road | Evans



Youth "Blessing with Brownies" Event

In October, the youth baked brownies and delivered them to the Grovetown Fire & Police Departments as a "Thank You" for their service to our community.



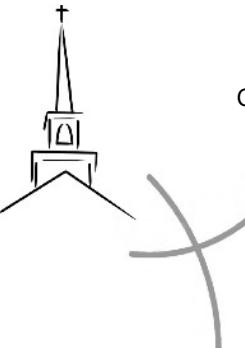
Trunk or Treat Review!

- We served over 225 hot dogs
- Almost 20 Creative Trunks Decorated!
 - Dozens of Games.
- Pumpkin Carving Contest was very competitive!
- Bible Character Scavenger Hunt was challenging!
 - Candy was plentiful!

Winning Pumpkins:

#1: Erica Zirkle; #2: Chuck Jones #3: Aubree Jones





Monday Night Rush Hour Prayer Ministry
Every Monday | 4:45 – 6:15 pm

Columbia County DOT reports that 40,000 vehicles pass LMUMC each day. Join the Evangelism and Prayer Ministries in this opportunity to reach out to these souls who are hurting and in need of a word of encouragement, a drink of cool water, and a whispered prayer.

There are many ways you can be involved:

- Hold a sign and wave
- Pass out water bottles
 - Bake Cookies
 - Greet with a smile
- Pray as the Spirit leads



Mondays
11:30 am Lunch
12:00 pm Study
Youth Building

Growing in the Lord to ministry in the Community
Facilitator: Vicki Parker
bluealm@comcast.net | 706.836.1665

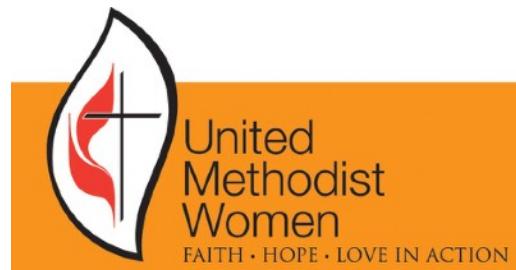


Every Tuesday
1:00 pm | Parlor

A gathering of sisters in Christ to uplift each other in spirit, through prayer and fellowship.

Young at Heart

Second Thursday
November 9 | 11:00 am
Fellowship Hall | \$5 meal and program
Join with other seniors for a fun time of fellowship and food.
Reservations:
Carolyn Andrews | earthangel31@outlook.com
706.863.3266



Amelia Akin, president
aakin60@comcast.net | 706.833.2352



Roger Kessing, president
rogerkessing@gmail.com | 706.564.1971

Second Saturday Breakfast
November 11 | 8:30 am
Panera Bread, Evans
Veterans Day
Come and share your Veteran memories of military service

Fourth Tuesday UMM Meeting
November 28 | 7:00 pm
Fellowship Hall
Gather with other men to plan community service projects

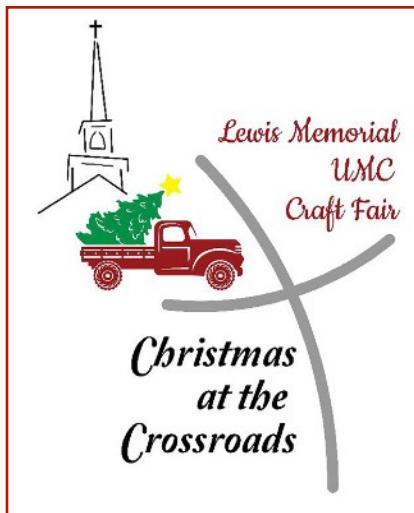
November Meeting Changed:
Thursday, November 16 @ 7:00 pm
Mary Crook Class Room F204
Meeting to discuss Christmas at the Crossroads and December Gift Basket project.

December Gift Basket Project
Saturday, December 9 | 10:00 am-4:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

All women are invited to help assemble Gift baskets for shut-ins and grieving families. Each lady should bring a snack or favorite food item to share for lunch together.

Gift Basket Item Ideas:
packaged crackers, cookies, chips, hot chocolate, candies.
No Fresh Fruit.

Coming In December



Saturday, December 2
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
40+ Vendors

For more information
contact Carol Moore:
christmasatthecrossroads@yahoo.com
706.364.8905



Wednesday, December 20
6:30 pm
Chapel

A Candlelight Service
of Healing & Hope

"The Light shines in the darkness."
John 1:5



**Appalachian
Winter**

A Cantata for Christmas

Sunday, December 17
8:30 & 11:00 am
Sanctuary



ADVENT PREPARATIONS

“Greening of the Church”

Wednesday, November 29 - Saturday, December 2

Wednesday, Noon - 5:00 pm

Thursday, Noon - 5:30 pm

Friday, Anytime

Saturday, 3:00 pm - Until Complete!

Come for as little or as long as you have time available.

Contact Jewel Allen | alljewel622@knology.net | 706.231.1827

Advent Candle Lighters Needed:

Keeping with tradition at Lewis Memorial, families* are invited to light Advent candles during all December Worship Services, Sunday mornings, and Wednesday evenings. Sign up sheets are in the rear of both worship centers through the month of November. Pastor Beth will provide families with instructions and readings for each week's Advent focus. (*Singles, Couples, Young Families, Empty Nesters... all are invited to share in this preparation for Christmas.)

Christmas Eve Sunday | December 24 | Sunday School @ 9:00 am
Combined Worship | 10:00 am | Warehouse

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services • 5:00 pm | Sanctuary • 11:00 pm | Chapel

Connect

"Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries." 1 Corinthians 4:1

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

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