



December 15, 2024

On the Horizon

Season of Advent – Join us as we continue our Advent Celebration on Sunday, as we proclaim Joy.

Christmas Eve Service – Tuesday, December 24, at 5 PM. Come one, come all, as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

Year End Giving – Please turn in your final tithes and offerings for 2024 no later than Sunday morning, December 29.

Union Gospel Mission – We are collecting gently used coats, sweaters, pants, & other cold weather clothes for the homeless through December 29.

Scheduled Activities

Sunday, December 15

Bible Study at 9:45 AM

Morning Worship at 10:45 AM

Wednesday, December 18

Prayer & Bible Study at 6:30 PM

Pastor's Pondering

My neighbor has beautiful Christmas lights in his front yard that make his house bright and inviting. They also make my house look dark and cold, because I haven't been able to get my lights up yet. My house was just fine a few weeks ago, but now it looks bleak because my neighbor's house is so bright.

I can't help but think about the Christian life when I see Christmas lights. Like houses lit up for Christmas, those who walk in Jesus' light shine in a dark world. Not only do we bring light, but we make a stark contrast with the darkness that everyone accepts as normal. The closer our light comes to the darkness, the darker and less normal that darkness looks.

As you drive around this month, consider the brightly lit houses and reflect on how you can light up a dark world, too. I pray we fill the world with joy and light.

- Blessings, David

Worship Preparation

The third week of Advent is Joy, a theme we will consider from Luke 2:8-11 and Luke 15:11-32.

December Memory Verse

James 1:17

Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

Physical Needs:

- Cindy Pratt's treatment for lung cancer (AC)
- Kathy Smith has stage 4 cancer (LH)
- Sheila Pierce has cancer spreading (TB)
- Dean has a terminal cancer diagnosis (MH)
- Stacey has breast cancer (BT)
- Robert is being treated for cancer (DC)
- Leah Iglesias received a difficult diagnosis (TB)
- Steven Wells' stage 4 prostate cancer is getting worse (LL)
- Louis Lapointe has artery blockage (LL)
- Tom Cann has a sprained arm (TC)
- Kelly Spear's sister, Beth, has cancer (AC)
- Mark Alexander has Parkinson's Disease (LL)
- Harrison had an MRI for a neck problem (LL)
- Belinda DeRossett is home from the hospital and in a great amount of pain (MH)
- Lillie DeRossett is on chemo (MH)
- Cherrie is suffering from a mysterious blood pressure malady (LL)

Personal Requests:

- Unbelieving family, friends, and acquaintances
- Unspoken prayers carried in our hearts
- People suffering from addictions
- Brandon, nephew of Doug (LL)
- Jane Sutton struggles with Dementia (MM)
- David C. suffers from PTSD and alcoholism (LL)
- Jason has family troubles (LL)
- Pat has poor mental health and alcoholism (TC)
- Hilda Lapointe's extended family (HL)
- Tiffany's mom is off her bipolar meds (GL)
- Amanda Shi needs a job (AC)

Please send new prayers or updates to office@embcm.com. Thank you for keeping us accurate with your updates!

World Events:

- War in Ukraine, for Christians to be faithful, specifically those believers in Chernivtsi
- Peace and justice for Israel & neighbors
- Hurricanes Helene and Milton victims
- Hostages in Gaza

Ministry Requests:

- Opportunities to strengthen relationships with people who don't know Jesus

In Nursing Care:

- Bonnie McFarland (Azle Manor)
- Charlene Bagby (Azle Manor)
- Anita Boynton (Springtown Park) (KH)
- JL Coleman is recovering from hip surgery (NC)

In the Hospital:

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Families who have recently lost loved ones:

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Family members in the military:

- Matthew Beaman - Army
- Andrew Cecil - Army
- Alex Grant - Army

Praises:

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Special Days:

- J. L. & Nita Coleman's Anniversary is on 12/21
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Thank you for your prayers. We know that many of our praises are due to the prayers of our fellowship.

Giving Report for 12.8.2024

Offering	Last Week	Year to Date	World Missions Giving	
General Offering Needs:	\$ 2,121.43	\$103,950.07	2024 Goal	\$6,000.00
General Offering Actual:	\$ 2,152.00	\$ 98,454.27	Dec. Goal	\$6,000.00
Designated Offering:	\$ 150.00	\$ 5,634.78	Last Week	\$ 150.00
Total Offering:	\$ 2,302.00	\$104,089.05	Year To Date	\$3,115.00