



December 22, 2024

On the Horizon

Christmas Eve Service – Come worship this Tuesday, December 24, at 5 PM.
Holiday Schedule – The church office will be closed the week of Christmas and January 1, and we will not have Wednesday night activities those weeks.
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 22
Bible Study at 9:45 AM
Morning Worship at 10:45 AM
Tuesday, December 24
Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 PM
Wednesday, December 25
Merry Christmas!

Pastor's Pondering

Have you ever wondered what the shepherds did after that night with the angels and the baby in the manger? The Biblical narrative moves to Jesus's childhood and then His ministry, and we never see the shepherds again. I wonder what became of them. Did they live with a new purpose or a special sense of faith after that night?

The birth narrative is one of those "mountain top" experiences in the Gospels. Many of us have them in our lives as well. It is a brief moment when God reveals Himself to us. However, just like a mountain top, we cannot live in those moments. What we can do, though, is live with them in our hearts, holding onto the memory in faith for the future.

I hope the shepherds kept that night in their hearts. I hope they lived with confidence that salvation had come and were changed because of it. I hope we are, too.

- Blessings, David

Worship Preparation

The final week of Advent is **Peace. We will see God's blessings of peace for us in **Luke 2:13-14** and **John 14:27-31**.**

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)
- Kelly Spear's sister, Beth, has cancer (AC)
- Mark Alexander has Parkinson's Disease (LL)
- Harrison had an MRI for a neck problem (LL)
- Lillie DeRossett is on chemo (MH)
- Cherrie is suffering from a mysterious blood pressure malady (LL)
- Marilyn Stevens has a terminal cancer diagnosis of three months (MS)

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:

- Brady & Beverly Tidwell's grandson, Arlow, had a high fever (BT)

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:

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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 12.15.2024

Offering	Last Week	Year to Date	World Missions Giving	
General Offering Needs:	\$ 2,121.43	\$106,071.50	2024 Goal	\$6,000.00
General Offering Actual:	\$ 6,828.00	\$105,282.27	Dec. Goal	\$6,000.00
Designated Offering:	\$ 550.00	\$ 6,184.78	Last Week	\$ 550.00
Total Offering:	\$ 7,378.00	\$111,467.05	Year To Date	\$3,665.00