



December 3, 2023

On the Horizon

Season of Advent – This special time of preparation begins December 3 and continues each week until the 24th.

Christmas Decorating – Please join us after the service this Sunday as we decorate the Sanctuary.

Ladies' Night Out – Christmas Ornament Exchange on Tuesday, December 19, from 6–8:00 PM at McAlister's Deli in Lake Worth.

Community Caring Center – Needs: Ramen Noodles, canned meats, mac & cheese, soups, peanut butter, and jelly.

Scheduled Activities

Sunday, December 3

Bible Study at 9:45 AM

Morning Worship at 10:45 AM

Wednesday, December 6

Prayer & Bible Study at 6:30 PM

Pastor's Pondering

One of the things that I like to reflect on about the seasons is how summer and winter do not necessarily go along with the longest and shortest days of the year.

The longest day is usually around June 21, yet the hottest days of the summer are still ahead. Similarly, the shortest day is on or close to December 21, after which the Sun will begin its trek back north before Christmas, but the coldest, hardest days of the year will still be ahead. I like this reminder. Even as the summer days get hotter, and the winter days get colder, the changes have been made that will provide relief from those days.

We can look at Jesus' coming and His ministry like these two solstices. Even though hard days came after Jesus' time on earth, the work of redemption is already done. No matter how bitter the days ahead, His work cannot be stopped.

- Blessings, David

Worship Preparation

This Sunday begins the Advent Season with the Hope candle, and our sermon passage will be [Luke 1:5-25](#).

December Memory Verse

1 Corinthians 13:13

But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Physical Needs:

- George Cary has dementia (EH)
- Mike Perrin is on chemotherapy for stage 4 bone cancer (DC)
- Chris Lawry has lung cancer (EF)
- Cindy Pratt's treatment for lung cancer (AC)
- Judy Brigham fell and broke a bone (EH)
- Kathy Smith has stage 4 cancer (LH)
- Linda Johnson is recovering from hip surgery
- Sylvia Cary is undergoing chemo and radiation treatment for cancer
- Brady Tidwell needs neck surgery (BT)
- Joe Mears is in hospice with Stage IV liver cancer (AC)
- Linda Carrillo is suffering from liver disease and strokes (MC)
- Jackson has a broken back and chest from bus accident (AC)

In the Hospital:

- Brian Olafson has liver problems (LL)

Personal Requests:

- Unbelieving family, friends, and acquaintances
- Unspoken prayers carried in our hearts
- Hilda Lapointe & Family
- People suffering from addictions
- Brandon, nephew of Doug (LL)
- Jane Sutton struggles with Dementia (MM)
- David C. suffers from PTSD and alcoholism (LL)
- Noah is looking for a new job (GL)
- Sonia Giron is moving from Mexico City to border
- Jennifer T. is going through a divorce (AC)

Praises:

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Thank you for your prayers. We know that many of our praises are due to the prayers of our fellowship.

World Events:

- Christians and allies in Afghanistan
- War in Ukraine, for Christians to be faithful, specifically those believers in Chernivtsi
- Peace and justice in Israel & 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)

Families who have recently lost loved ones:

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Family members in the military:

- Matthew Beaman - Army
- Drake Bowers - Army
- Andrew Cecil - Army
- Alexander Cole - Air Force
- Wesley Langley - Air Force
- Alex Grant - Army (deployed to border)

Special Days:

- James Rollins' Birthday is on 12/4

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

Giving Report for 11.26.2023

<u>Offering</u>	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>World Missions Giving</u>	
General Offering Needs:	\$ 2,126.68	\$102,080.64	2023 Goal	\$7,200.00
General Offering Actual:	\$ 445.00	\$ 95,423.56	Dec. Goal	\$7,200.00
Designated Offering:	\$ 100.00	\$ 6,000.00	Last Week	\$ 100.00
Total Offering:	\$ 545.00	\$101,423.56	Year To Date	\$5,700.00