



December 8, 2024

On the Horizon

Season of Advent – Join us as we continue our Advent Celebration Sunday.

Ladies' Night Out – We will have a Christmas Ornament Exchange on Tuesday, December 10, from 6:00–8:00 PM, at Jason's deli in Lake Worth.

Cecil Family Open House – Plan to join us on Saturday, December 14, from 5:00–8:00 PM for this come & go event!

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

Scheduled Activities

Sunday, December 8

Bible Study at 9:45 AM

Morning Worship at 10:45 AM

Tuesday, December 10

Ladies' Night Out at 6:00 PM

Wednesday, December 11

Prayer & Bible Study at 6:30 PM

Saturday, December 14

Cecil Family Open House at 5:00 PM

Pastor's Pondering

A mentor told me several years ago that, "Any strength, taken to an extreme, becomes a weakness." I saw this illustrated in a book I just finished—*Unreasonable Hospitality* by Will Guidara. In the book, he talks about having a compulsive attention to detail, and considers it one of his superpowers that makes him good at his job. Unfortunately, it is also the source of his greatest mistakes. He got so focused on some details that he completely messed up the bigger picture!

I often equate this idea with Jesus' off-hand statement that he who lives by the sword will die by the sword. The secret is not to give up on your strengths, necessarily, but to recognize that they can become a weakness if you rely on them too heavily.

This is a good reminder to be humble, as even our best attributes can fail us.

- Blessings, David

Worship Preparation

Our theme for this weekend is Love, and we will see an example of it in Matthew 1:18-25, which we will consider in light of 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.

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)
- Alex Grant has stress related nerve pain (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 starts chemo on 12/10 (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@embcmail.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:

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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 12.1.2024

Offering	Last Week	Year to Date	World Missions Giving	
General Offering Needs:	\$ 2,121.43	\$101,828.64	2024 Goal	\$6,000.00
General Offering Actual:	\$ 3,020.00	\$ 96,302.27	Dec. Goal	\$6,000.00
Designated Offering:	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,484.78	Last Week	\$ 0.00
Total Offering:	\$ 3,020.00	\$101,787.05	Year To Date	\$2,965.00