



 <p>Time to Go Home</p> <p>COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERIES</p>	<p>NOVEMBER 28: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—LUKE 21:25-36 Scripture Reader: Ryleigh Crochet Advent Candle: Price Family Prelude: "Offering" Hymn: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" - UMH #206 Anthem: "Hope of the Broken World" Communion Song: "He Made a Way in a Manger" Praise Song: "You Are Holy" ("Prince of Peace")</p>
 <p>The Fear of Home</p> <p>COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERIES</p>	<p>DECEMBER 5: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT—LUKE 3:1-6 Scripture Reader: Crystal Benoit Advent Candle: Daigle Family Prelude: "Here I Am to Worship" Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" - UMH #211 Anthem: "Rise! Shine! for Your Light Is a-Comin'!" Praise Song: "Good Christian Men Rejoice"</p>
 <p>The Joy of Home</p> <p>COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERIES</p>	<p>DECEMBER 12: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT—LUKE 3:7-18 Scripture Reader: Anne Arceneaux Advent Candle: Crochet Family Prelude: "Refiner's Fire" Hymn: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" - UMH #224 Anthem: "How Great Our Joy" Praise Song: "You Are Emmanuel"</p>
 <p>The Blessing of Home</p> <p>COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERIES</p>	<p>DECEMBER 19: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—LUKE 1:39-45 Scripture Reader: Michelle Sawyer Advent Candle: Sawyer Family Prelude: "We Adore You" Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" - UMH #234 Anthem: "Somebody Build a Manger" Praise Song: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"</p>
 <p>Welcome Home</p> <p>COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERIES</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 6:00 P.M. SING WITH US THE CHRISTMAS STORY Join us for worship as we sing Christmas carols and recount the Christmas story through Scripture readings and a reenactment of the nativity.</p>
 <p>Lost at Home</p> <p>COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERIES</p>	<p>DECEMBER 26: FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS—LUKE 21:25-36 Scripture Reader: Kim Precht Prelude: "Messiah's Song" Hymn: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" - UMH #240 Anthem: "Ring the Bells" Praise Song: "Angels We Have Heard on High"</p>
 <p>The Light of Home</p> <p>COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERIES</p>	<p>JANUARY 2: EPIPHANY SUNDAY—LUKE 21:25-36 Scripture Reader: Richard McGregor Prelude: "Adore Him" Hymn: "We Three Kings" - UMH #254 Anthem: "This Child Is" Praise Song: "King of Kings"</p>

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The year 2021 is almost gone and there is a great sigh of relief going up everywhere. Mandates are being lifted and we are returning to a new normal. More people are getting vaccinated and therefore numbers of new cases are decreasing. There may still be restrictions in some areas such as schools and colleges so the new normal is different than the way it used to be.

So here we find ourselves in the midst of a post pandemic period trying to figure out how to prepare for the Season of Advent. November 28 was our first Sunday in Advent and as the song says, "now the waiting has begun." Our first Sunday was the Sunday of Hope which is what people everywhere need today. This Sunday is the day of expectation and joy. When we worship this month we should have expectant hearts looking for all the many opportunities to worship and serve others where ever we find ourselves.

I heard it said that the saddest thing about the birth of Jesus was the people in the Inn missed the whole event because they likely did not look out their windows. I feel that we still do the same thing. We use excuses and say "if I had only known ahead of time . . ." We too miss opportunities every day because of distractions.



What if we all started a new tradition to help keep us focused on expectation? What if we all started lighting advent candles in our homes? What if we focused on Hope, Joy, Love, and Peace and began to prepare our hearts and minds on the true meaning of the season?

I feel that we could make a difference in our own lives and in the lives of those around us. The Upper Room has some very good advent readings for home use and I would encourage each of you to begin a tradition of making space for an Advent Wreath in your home and work for Hope, Joy, Love, and Peace for 2022.

My prayer is that as we get busy planning family traditions and celebrations that we also make time for our spiritual well-being and celebrate the presence of Christ in our midst. Watch and Prepare for what is to come. Be expectant and let Love and Peace reign. Watch for the LIGHT OF CHRIST this Christmas.

Blessing and peace.

See you in church this Sunday,

Walter

Your pastor and friend

Children's Sunday School Updates

INCREDIBLE CHRISTMAS



In our Advent series for Sunday school, we will experience the INCREDIBLE story of Christmas. The Christmas story is an incredible tale of the birth of an incredible hero – Jesus our Savior.

Memory Verse: “Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.” Luke 2:11 (NIRV)

Lesson 1: Incredible Trust – Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

The Angel Visits Mary

Mary was just a normal girl living her life. When an angel visited Mary, she had to use her incredible trust to believe in God's amazing plan to save the world even when no one else believed her.

Lesson 2: Incredible Invisibility – Scripture: Luke 2:1-20

The Shepherds

The powerful birth of Jesus happened in a small town— invisible to most of the world. God chose to reveal the good news to a nearly invisible group of shepherds out in the fields.

Lesson 3: Incredible Power – Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

The Visit of the Magi

Jesus was born a powerful king, and his birth attracted the attention of the strong and powerful, like the Magi and King Herod.

Lesson 4: Incredible Grace – Scripture: Matthew 1:18-23

The birth of Jesus

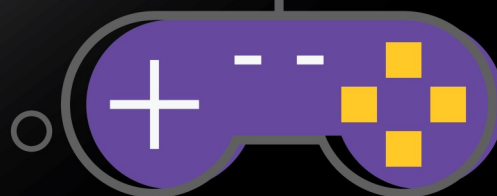
God sent the most incredible hero the world has ever seen when he sent his son Jesus to save the world from sin and give everyone the gift of eternal life.

Join us for a special New Years lesson called “Reset” as we talk about when Zacchaeus meets Jesus.

Memory Verse: “I will give my people hearts that are completely committed to me. I will give them a new spirit that is faithful to me.” Ezekiel 11:19a
NIRV Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

Zacchaeus had lots of money but no friends. He'd chosen a poor path in life, he was very unhappy, and he didn't know how to fix it. Then Zacchaeus met Jesus and Jesus showed Zacchaeus how to hit the reset button. Jesus will let us reset because loves us and wants the best for us. If we trust Jesus, He will give us a fresh start! We will ask God to help us reset one thing in our life we want to make right this new year.

RESET



LET GOD TAKE CONTROL THIS YEAR

Sunday Sidekicks Updates

ESCAPE FROM BETHLEHEM

Learn The Christmas Story.
Escape The Room



Join us for a special Advent Bible study called “Escape from Bethlehem”. We began our Advent series on November 28th. In this series, we are taking an “Escape Room Themed” look at the Christmas Story. We sometimes forget what an adventure the birth of Jesus really was: with frightening encounters, long-distance journeys, and an angry and dangerous king. This series will attempt to capture some of the energy of these events and invite participants to engage with the Christmas story with fun escape-room-themed challenges.

Memory Verse: “The Lord himself will give you a sign. The virgin is going to have a baby. She will give birth to a son. And he will be called Immanuel.” Isaiah 7:14

Lesson 1: A Frightening Visitor

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38, An Angel Visits Mary

Lesson 2: No Room

Scripture: Luke 2:1-20, The Birth of Jesus

Lesson 3: The Tale of Two Kings

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-11, The Visit of the Magi

Lesson 4: The Great Escape

Scripture: Matthew 2:11-20, The Escape to Egypt



After Advent, we will resume our elementary Bible study called “Bible Sidekicks: Bible Heroes You Haven’t Heard Of”. Our Sunday Sidekicks group will continue to meet on Sunday afternoons from 4:00-5:30. Volunteers are welcome to join us for snacks, and sometimes supper, Bible study, and then fun fellowship with games. Please contact Crystal or Sarah if you are interested in volunteering or helping to provide a light supper or snacks to the elementary and youth groups on Sunday evenings. The group has been so fun and such a blessing. You have no idea how wonderful it is to see our church filled with such life and energy on Sunday evenings!

Lesson 1: The Speaker – Aaron

Scripture: Exodus 4:10-17, 6:28-7:6, A Reluctant Hero

Lesson 2: The Wise Father-in-Law — Jethro

Scripture: Exodus 18:1-27, Jethro Advises Moses

Lesson 3: The Connector — Naomi

Scripture: Ruth 2-3

Lesson 4: The Wing Man—Jonathan

Scripture: 1 Samuel 19, David and Jonathan

Lesson 5: The Peacemaker - Abigail

Scripture: 1 Samuel 25, David Meets Abigail

Lesson 6: The Man Who Knew No Fear - Nathan

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12, Nathan Rebukes David

Lesson 7: The Good Student - Elisha

Scripture: 2 Kings 2:1-22

Lesson 8: David's Mighty Men

Scripture: 2 Samuel 23:8-17, The Mighty Men

Lesson 9: The Fire Walkers - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

Scripture: Daniel 3

Lesson 10: The Point Man - John the Baptist

Scripture: John 1:19-37, John the Baptist Prepares the Way

Lesson 11: The Music Man - Silas

Scripture: Acts 16:16-40, Paul and Silas in Jail

Lesson 12: The Tent Makers - Priscilla and Aquilla

Scripture: Acts 18:1-3



Youth Sunday School starts at 9:30am on Sunday mornings!

This month we have begun a new series called “Social Media Christmas”

In a clickable, hashtag, selfie media culture, the truth of Christmas still remains the same: Jesus came to earth as a baby to become our Savior.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light, on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. –Isaiah 9:2

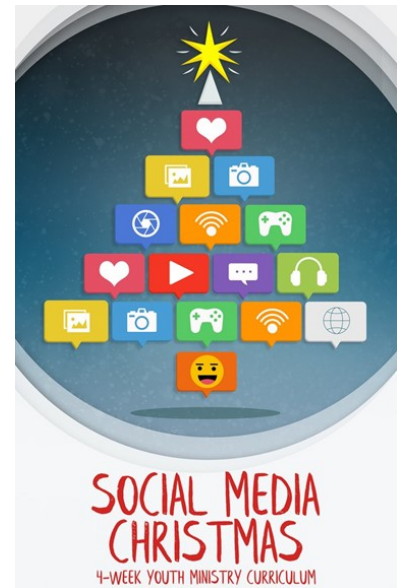
Lesson 1: Facebook

Lesson 2: Instagram

Lesson 3: Twitter

Lesson 4: Youtube

#Christmas, #Advent, #JesusIsComing, #Prepare



Youth Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 19th from 4:00pm-6:00pm. Please bring a wrapped gift to play a game!

Youth will go Christmas Caroling on Monday, December 20th we will meet at church at 1:00pm and go caroling for the afternoon! If you would like to come caroling with the youth come and join us!!



Fall Retreat 2021



Announcements



We are inviting all women in the church to our UMW Christmas party it will be held on Saturday, December 11th at 11:00am. We invite you to bring a dish to share and wrapped ornament for gift exchange!

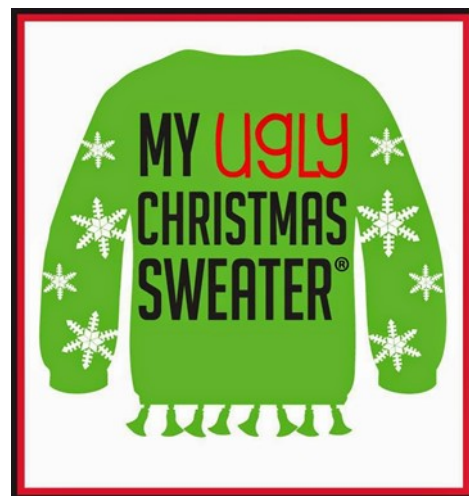


Game Day will be held on
December 7th & 21st
From 2pm-4pm



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1ST-KYE LEGER
6TH-RICHARD BROUSSARD
9TH-UVONNE DOMINGUE
13TH-RYLEIGH CROCHET
14TH-RANDY DAIGLE & DANIELLE PRICE
15TH-KIM PRECHT & COLLIN WATSON
16TH-GARY FOREMAN & JOHNNIE FREDERICK
16TH-KAIDEN CLEMENT
23RD-HARRIET SHULTZ
25TH-WANDA DECORDOVA
26TH-THOMAS ROMERO



Wear your "Ugly Christmas Sweater" to church Sunday!
December 26th

After church we will have lunch and you and your family can take pictures!

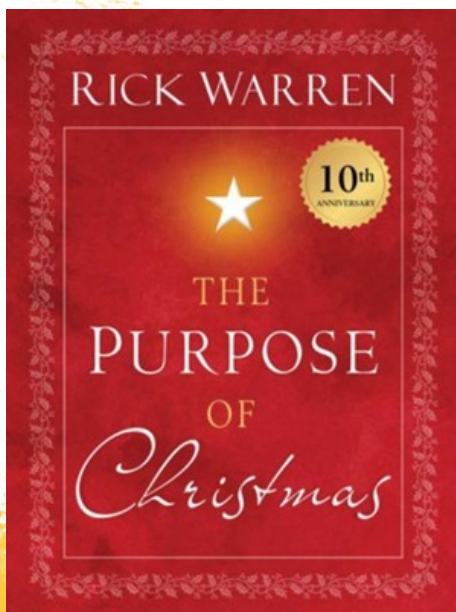
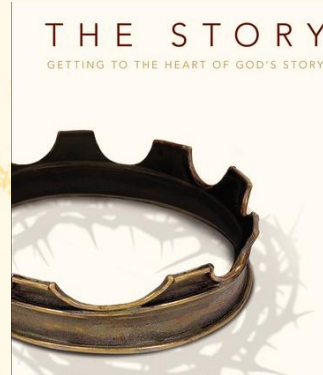


SMALL GROUP MINISTRY UPDATE

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

"The greatest story ever told" is more than just a cliché.

"To understand the Bible," says author and pastor Randy Frazee, "you need bifocal lenses, because two perspectives are involved. The Lower Story, our story, is actually many stories of men and women interacting with God in the daily course of life. The Upper Story is God's story, the tale of his great, overarching purpose that fits all the individual stories together like panels in one unified mural." Our study group is continuing their current study



Come join us for an Advent study! We meet each week of our 3-week study in the fellowship hall. A light breakfast will be provided each Sunday of our combined group Advent study. Please let Jacquie know if you are interested in joining the group each week. This study is open to any adult who would like to come.

The Purpose of Christmas features three sessions taught by Rick Warren on why we celebrate Christmas and how it can change our lives forever. At the very first Christmas - the birth of Jesus - an angel announced three things. In those three statements of the angel, we find the three purposes of Christmas. The three sessions in this study look at each of those purposes:

Session 1: Purpose #1 Christmas is a time for celebration.

Session 2: Purpose #2 Christmas is a time for salvation.

Session 3: Purpose #3 Christmas is a time for reconciliation.