



A Message from Interim Pastor Diane Curtis

***Do not be afraid; for see--
I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:
to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is
Christ the Lord.
- Luke 2:10-11***

“I am bringing you good news!” We regularly talk in church about the “good news” of the gospel, the good news we are called to share with the world. These words from the Gospel of Luke are the good news in a nutshell. The good news is the message of joy for all people. Not just church-goers, but EVERYONE. Your neighbor down the street, your colleague at work or classmate at school, the person who serves you at the diner or pumps your gas, even the nameless faces you see on television. All of these are included in the “all people” proclaimed by the angel following Jesus’s birth. No one, not any person who lives on earth, is left out.

Who are the people in your world who need to experience great joy this Christmas? The grocery store clerk or the residents of the nursing home, a great aunt or brother, the next door neighbor or the person who recently lost their job – these and more might appreciate some kind words and a hearty Merry Christmas! (I know that is not politically correct, but for me it expresses **great joy**). For some, words are not enough. A small act of kindness, the gift of your time and yourself, or providing help for someone who isn’t able to shovel their walk can make a huge difference. These are only some of the ways you might share the good news of great joy.

The message of Christmas is summed up in the words from the angel to the shepherds. These words are the essence of the Christmas story and the Christian story. They are also the essence of our story: Jesus Christ is born today!

Share the good news of great joy.

Merry Christmas!
Pastor Diane



December Advent Schedule

December 6th — Second Sunday of Advent
Communion

The Promises of Christmas: The Son of David *Luke 1:26-38*

December 13th — Third Sunday of Advent

The Promises of Christmas: Mary's Child *Luke 1:39-56*

December 20th — Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Promises of Christmas: The Savior *Luke 2:1-7*

December 27th

The Promises of Christmas: The Wise Men *Matthew 2:1-12*

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

5 P.M. The Christmas Story (family-oriented)

8 P.M. Lessons and Carols with Communion



Mission Committee Christmas Project

The Mission Committee has chosen [Urban Promise Children](#) for this year's Christmas gift giving.

Please take an ornament from the tree in the Fellowship Room. The ornaments will have a child's gender and age range on it. Please use the ornament as the tag. **Please do not wrap gifts.** The deadline for bringing the gifts to church is **Sunday, December 13th**.

Suggestions for popular toys include: Minions toys, Frozen character Barbies, skateboards and scooters, sweatshirts or pajamas for younger kids. The teen girls love jewelry and older youth prefer gift cards.



New Office Hours

The church office is now open from 9 am to 3 pm Monday through Thursday.



Adult Sunday School

10:45 a.m.

The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

We will journey with Mary and Joseph as they travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Using historical information, archaeological data and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, Adam Hamilton, senior pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, brings this world-changing event to life via video from the Holy Land. Class discussion will follow each video presentation.

Facilitator: Diane Curtis



Save These Dates!

Sleep Mat Workshops Begin January 9

Every Saturday, 10 to noon
January 9 through March 26

Join us to make sleep mats for the homeless. Last year, we made three mats. Each mat uses 900 grocery bags! These amazing mats are easy to prepare but assembly requires some skill. **WE WILL TRAIN YOU!** There are many easy tasks before the mats get to the harder "crochet" part. If you have never joined us before, we need you! If you did it last year, please come back. We will be training members of the Protestant Community Church so that they can take the ministry back to their congregation. Contact Bonnie Halle with any questions.