



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DEC 2023
NEWSLETTER




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**Christmas
Eve Morning**

*Celebrate
Christ* **10^{AM}**

**Christmas
Eve**

*Carols &
Candles* **7^{PM}**



This Christmas we ask: What if ?

What would happen this year if we were more excited about Jesus coming than Santa coming? What if we invested as much effort or even more effort in letting people know about Jesus than Santa? What would that look like this December? What would it be like if we planned our family and friend get-togethers around the great gift that is given by God.

God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son, Jesus. ~ John 3:16

I have a challenge for us this December. What if we say the name of Jesus as often as we say the name of Santa? What if we shared who Jesus is and tell HIS story this December? And, what if our gift giving expanded to help those in need rather than those who just want something on their Santa wish list? The church adopts families to provide Christmas for them. The youth go shopping, the UWF (United Women in Faith) group gets involved. It is a genuine effort to make Christmas more about the love of God through the birth of Christ, His Son.

There are attributes of Santa that I absolutely love. How he brings out the generous and loving nature in all of us. How excited kids get on Christmas morning. The wonder, the mystery of it all. I believe that it is in gift giving that we most exemplify and live out the example of Jesus. His life is the gift He gave. His teaching (the Word of God) is His great gift to us. His birth, His life, His death on the cross for our sins. All a gift.

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.
Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made
that has been made. In him was life, and that life
was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it. ~ John 1:1-5*

(continued on page 2)

This Christmas, let's let the light of God shine forth, not in what we give, but in how we give. With love, with kindness and compassion. Let's go beyond loving just those we love and give in a way that reaches those that God loves. Through us, His light and love can shine in dark corners and seasons of life. A smile, a small gift, a meal, a phone call. Everything you do can make a difference in the life of someone who needs love.

So, make your list. Check it twice. Go beyond your usual giving. And be sure to give an invitation to attend church each Sunday of Advent (the four Sundays before Christmas). And mark your calendars. Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year. Plan to invite your loved ones to Sunday morning worship at 10 am. Also plan to invite friends, family, and those who will be alone this Christmas to our traditional Christmas Eve Service at 7 pm. Scripture readings, favorite Christmas Carols, and soloists. Your invitation can be the gift you give this year. The gift of spending time together and making Christmas about the Love of God lived out in our lives. Share the name of Jesus.

As our beloved Christmas hymn "Silent Night" says:

Christ the Savior is Born! Christ the Savior is Born!

Grace and Peace <><

Pastor Sam



Silent Night Holy Night

Prayer Requests

Wiltfong Family on passing of Marie's sister 11/19
Tom H - various health issues
Joe P - cancer
Mona - friend of Toni
Marilyn H - recovery and healing
Marlene K - Rick's mom - improved health
Becky J - health
Jim - improved health
Linda - Diane's friend - surgery recovery and healing
Lloyd - back pain and heart health
Chris P - healing and strength
Marcia's mom - in hospice
Mark - colon cancer
Willie - cancer
Dick C - continued care needed after massive stroke
Elsie - strength and healing
Jacki W - health & strength
Mary's friend Brenda - health & healing
Beverly B - improved health
Mitch & Carla - prayers for good decisions as they go through fire cleanup and rebuild
Co-Worker - thyroid cancer surgery & treatment
Katie - good health and improved strength
Bill S - Diane's friend needing prayers for his health
Earl W - prayers for improved health
Bob - Della's brother with stomach/liver cancer
Brian A - Nancy's friend with cancer
Tom & Beverly H - pain relief, improved health
Mark - depression
Karen R - health, strength & happiness
Addie - toddler friend from Texas with leukemia
Randy K - cancer
Jeff C - healing
John - co-worker with cancer
Lois T - improved health
Dory M - kidney health & wrist healing
George M - arthritis
Mike G - health
Prayers for 2 family members and 1 neighbor
Bob W - health & strength
Marie's sister - health issues
Don C - Shawntel's dad with heart issues
Derek K - cancer-free teenager - stay in remission
Judy D - liver cancer
Jan - Friend of G & D - prayers to stay cancer-free
Roger T - Donna C's cousin in KY - prayers to stay cancer-free

Leroy S - mass on pancreas
Scott - leukemia
Deb W & Paula - both with breast cancer
Tammy R - Nancy's friend undergoing cancer treatment
David - Anne D's son undergoing cancer treatment
Barbara - Anne D's sister
Dana B's dad - health and strength
Tawnya - ongoing COPD
Paul and Renetta - ongoing medical conditions
Brian T - ongoing medical condition
Chris K - ongoing medical condition
Cheryl K - ongoing medical condition
Beth - B & T's daughter - ongoing medical condition

PLEASE NOTIFY US OF CHANGES/ADDITIONS.
You're welcome to call or email the church office with updates. Please call or text Pastor Sam 812-380-1589 with urgent prayer chain requests. *Thanks!*

Door Village United Women in Faith



Christmas
Saturday,
Dec 9, 2023
10 am - 3 pm
or until we sell out
(No early sales!)

• HOLIDAY COOKIES & BAKED GOODS •

Kabelin's Ace Hardware-West,
Andrew Avenue & Hwy 2, La Porte

All proceeds will go to area families in need this Christmas

BAKERS NEEDED! Donated baked goods can be dropped off at the church on Friday, Dec 8 from 12 to 6 pm or at Kabelin's at 9 am the day of the sale. Proceeds will support purchasing clothing and household items for our families in need.

Electronic Giving

Offerings can be made from a mobile device or computer through a secure site by visiting our church website, doorvillagechurch.org, and clicking the electronic offering button:

My Offering



Sundays

Worship & Children's Church 10 am
Communion Service First Sunday

Mondays

Mike's Bible Study at Oak Woods 10 am

Tuesdays Nov 28, Dec 5, 12, & 19

"The Christmas Experience"

Advent Bible Study at Church 6 pm

Wednesdays

Kids Club at DVUMC 3:45-5:15 pm

(No Kids Club Dec 27 or Jan 3)

Choir Practice 6:30 pm

Sat, Dec 2 – Sun, Dec 3

Youth Group Shop & Wrap Lock-In

Tuesday, Dec 5

Advent Study 6 pm

Wednesday, Dec 6

Senior Breakfast 8 am at Christos'

Thursday, Dec 7

Oak Woods Worship 9:30 am

Saturday, Dec 9

Men's Breakfast 8 am in Fellowship Hall

UWF Christmas Bake Sale

10am-3 pm (while supplies last)

at Kabelin's West Store

Tuesday, Dec 12

Advent Study 6 pm

Wednesday, Dec 13

UWF Potluck 12 noon

Tuesday, Dec 19

Advent Study 6 pm

Sunday, Dec 24

Morning Service 10 am

Christmas Eve Candles & Carols Service 7 pm

Monday, Dec 25

Office Closed

OFFICE HOURS Mon thru Thurs
7 am – 12 noon
219.362.3812
doorvillageumc@gmail.com

Senior
Breakfast



Dec 6, 2023

1st Wednesday
of each month
8 am

Christo's
1462 W State Rd 2
La Porte



MEN'S BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP

will meet on
December 9 at 8 am
in Fellowship Hall



UWF

Christmas Carry-In Lunch

Wednesday, Dec. 13

12 noon in the parlor

All women are always welcome!

Lana will share a Christmas reading.

Bring a Christmas ornament or decoration
(\$10-\$15 value) if you would like to
join in the gift exchange.



Advent begins Dec. 3. Pick up your free copy of "The Gift of the PRESENT" Advent devotional from the greeter's table. These are from Society of St. Andrew and an offering envelope is tucked in the booklet in case you wish to donate to their work through EndHunger.org.



You're invited to Adult Sunday School in the Parlor 9-9:30 with Pastor Sam & the Devotion Team sharing Scripture & Prayer

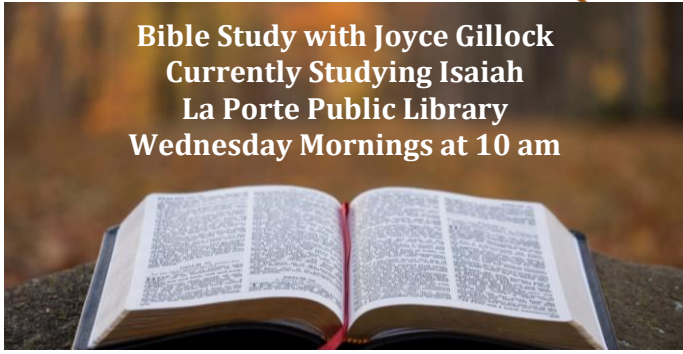
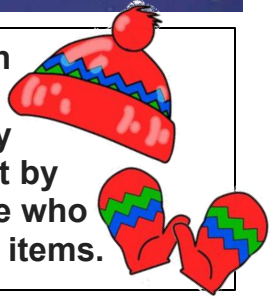


Bible Study with Mike Martin
at Oak Woods Manor
1211 Longwood Dr
(Hwy 39 South) La Porte

Mondays at 10 am
Public Welcome



The United Women in Faith will be collecting hats and gloves for local elementary children. There is a basket by the greeters table for those who would like to donate these items.



Our Healthier Eating group meets each Wednesday at 11 am at DVUMC. They are using a new book "Love God, Lose Weight." All are welcome. Please contact Lana Fenstermaker for more info.



We send our Love to our Dear Village Church Family. We wish each of You a Blessed and Merry Christmas.



BRING THEM IN!

- **Cancelled Stamps** - UWF - All you need to do is carefully rip the cancelled stamp from the envelope and trim with scissors leaving 1/4" all around. Drop off your stamps in the basket on the greeter's table. Your cancelled stamps are prepared for purchase and the proceeds are used to support preparation, publication, and distribution of a Spanish language curriculum for Sunday Schools in Latin America, Spain and the United States.



- **Prescription Bottles** - DV Lions - EMPTY Prescription Bottles with labels removed will be collected and given to Doctors Without Borders.

- **Eyeglasses** - DV Lions - There is a wood box at the greeter's table for these. Used eyeglasses are distributed to people needing vision correction in other countries.



- **Novels & Children's Books** - DV Little Library Box - Bring adult and children's books to the greeter's table. They will be placed in the Little Library Box over at the park.

- **Coins & Cash** for mission projects. We need funds for our church mission projects but we are no longer collecting aluminum tabs.



SUNDAY MORNINGS!
AGE 4 THRU 4TH GRADE
Children's Church
DURING WORSHIP

DEC CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Dec Leader: Lindsay Koselke

DEC 3 - Jesus is Born
DEC 10 - Wise Men Visit Jesus
DEC 17 - John the Baptist

Door Village United Women in Faith will be helping 3 families (5 adults and 10 children) in need at Christmastime this year. Please consider making an extra monetary donation to UWF in the sanctuary basket between now and Dec 10. Your donations will go towards buying gas and grocery cards for these families.



Kids Club



Wednesdays after school

3:30-5:15 at DVUMC

After-school program for Grades K-4

Playground time at the park

Snacks, Games, & Christian Lesson

Contact Carolyn (363-2818) or

Carla (363-9401) with questions.

Dec 6 - Cookie Decorating

Dec 13 - Caroling at Oak Woods

Dec 20 - Christmas Craft

Dec 27 - No Kids Club -

Merry Christmas!



If you have a prayer concern, if you are hospitalized and would like our prayers or to be visited, or if you would like to become a new member of the prayer chain, please call or text Cheryl Good (219-380-9160) or Pastor Sam (812-380-1589).

The Church Office will be closed **Dec 25.**



Deadline for orders is Dec 17, 2023.

Your name

Poinsettia in memory of

Poinsettia in honor of

If you would like to order a poinsettia, please fill out this form and give it to Carla Marhanka. Each poinsettia is \$15. All poinsettias will be read this year. They may be picked up after either service on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24th).

Poinsettia Orders



Altar Flowers

The altar flowers each week are graciously provided by the Flower Committee. There is no charge for you to honor someone or commemorate a special event. Please sign up on the 2024 flower sheet on the greeter's table or call the church office to have us fill in your info. Thank you to our Flower Committee for providing this lovely ministry.

Fellowship & Refreshments

Please plan to join us for Sunday worship and stay afterwards for a time of fellowship and refreshments in the parlor. You may also sign up on the greeter's table if you'd like to host a fellowship time in 2024.




A night full of fun, as our Youth Group shops for gifts and wraps them for Christmas families

Dec 2 – Dec 3



How to contact Pastor Sam:
 Email: pastor@doorvillage.com
 Mobile: 812-380-1589
 Office: 219-362-3812
 Find him on Facebook

DOORVILLAGE
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 3502 West Joliet Road
 La Porte, IN 46350
 www.doorvillageumc.org
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



12/02 Maggie Schuster	12/12 Jim Antrim	12/19 Mandy Hindsley
12/03 Ron Elliott	12/12 Jane Hubner	12/20 Bruce Wittgren
12/03 Tony Martin	12/13 Marlette Bernacchi	12/21 Samuel Veach
12/03 Rudy Netzer	12/13 Emma Fenstermaker	12/22 Jean Coulter
12/06 Jim Timmons	12/13 Ava Fenstermaker	12/25 Carol Applegarth
12/07 Brett Marhanka	12/14 Dory Morley	12/25 Mary Forbes
12/08 Alex Coulter	12/17 Deb Pruden	12/25 Chris Profilovich
12/08 Joan McCoy	12/17 Dan Jeffers	12/27 Stephanie Kaiser
12/10 Dave Applegarth	12/19 Johnny Gakle	

12/21 Kole & Mary Beth Lowery
12/26 Robert & Joyce Koselke
12/27 Lloyd & Marilyn Vance
12/29 Mitch & Carla Marhanka
12/30 Greg & Bette Pointon

