«BAG»

«ZIP COUNT»

«NAMELINE»

**«STREET»** 

«CITY», «STATE» «ZIP» «PLUSFOUR»

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#### **Anniversaries:**

- 8 Travis & Misty Stecher
- 19 Denny & Cindy Napier
- 20 Kaleb & Raeleen Brown

#### **Birthdays:**

- 1 Linda Bramlett
- 2 Bella Nalley
- 3 David Wilt
- 5 Aaron Hossain
- 11 Laura Reid
- 12 Christopher Frakes
- 17 Blair Hahn
- 18 Daniel Edwards, Marnie Herring
- 22 Dixie Horton Gustafson
- 28 Steph Line



- ... for **Raye Ann Beasley** whose brotherin-law, Alan, passed away after having lung surgery, along with Alan's longtime partner, **Cheri Cole.** May God grant them peace and comfort.
- ... for **Carrie Nava** for God to walk beside and carry her as she recovers from back surgery.
- ... for the family of Sandi (Wick) Hartman who passed away recently. Sandi is a good friend of the family of **Jan Lucas.**
- ... for **Kim Barton's** cousin's newborn, Morgan, was admitted to the hospital
- ... for situation with Ukraine and Russia
- that peace and diplomacy will reign.... for New City Church, Mbandaka,





### Crusader

## First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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#### Nov. 27, 2022 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Message by Pastor Greg Fitch

"How Will I Know?" (Zechariah) Scripture: Luke 1:5-25

Dec. 4, 2022 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Message by Pastor Martha-Jean Fitch

> "How Can This Be?" (Mary) Scripture; Luke 1:26-38



Worship will be in-person and on Facebook Live at 9:30am



#### **BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

A Service of Healing and Hope – December 4 at 3pm

If you are grieving or struggling, if the Christmas spirit eludes you this season, or you just need a quiet, spiritual break in the midst of busy times, we invite you to join us for this special service and/or invite someone you know who could use some extra support and join them at the service We will have a time of prayer, music and candle lighting.



#### **NEW SERMON SERIES BEGINS NOV 27**

Advent is the four-week celebration in the church calendar where we prepare and wait for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. This year, our sermon series for Advent will be "*The Questions of Advent*". Throughout Advent this year, we will discover how the people of the nativity – Zechariah, Mary, Elizabeth, Shepherds and the Magi

all had questions about the birth of Jesus and how God was at work in their lives. Each of these honest seekers will offer us instruction and model faithfulness in the midst of their questions. We will celebrate on Christmas Eve, hearing from all the people present at the birth of Jesus, by asking the question "What Child is This?".

#### DW "CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK" SATURDAY, DEC. 3

#### 9am to noon in Small Fellowship Hall

Just a few days to go Until our "Christmas Cookie Walk" Which has become the talk Of the town ... Ho! Ho! Ho!



We ask you to bring your cookies Friday, December 2
After 8:30am to Small Fellowship Hall so we can view
All the great assortments you've brought
Which will go like hot cakes ... and that's HOT!

The Disciple Women is sponsoring this event And all proceeds help the Disciple Mission Fund will be sent. We truly thank you for what you've done So let's have the BEST Cookie Walk under the sun!



#### THANK YOU FOR DECORATING OUR CHURCH

A special Thank You to all who helped with decorating our beautiful church for the Advent and Christmas season during "hanging of the greens". It was a great joy to be together as a church family working on the decorations. Everything looks simply gorgeous!

#### CHRISTMAS EVE CANDELIGHT/COMMUNION SERVICE

"What Child is This?"

#### Saturday, December 24th at 7:30pm

Invite your family and friends to join us as we celebrate our dear Savior!





Thank you to everyone who led, volunteered, or donated in some way to make Be the Church Sunday successful this fall. We had over 40 volunteers! The team prepared and delivered 12 treat trays for local First Responders, cleaned up and painted our Gift of Lights Display, and donated non perishables and time to the FISH food pantry to help them get ready for their grand opening at their new location! With everyone's joint effort we wouldn't have been as successful as we were. THANK YOU to each and every one of you! – *Kim Barton* 

#### WORSHIP SERVING SCHEDULE

**Nov. 27** – <u>Diaconate Serving:</u> Kaleb Brown and Raeleen Brown

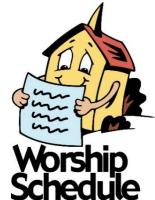
**Lead in Communion:** Cindy Andrews

Offering Message: Pastor Prayers: Neill Unger

Greeters: Kaleb Brown and Raeleen Brown at North

St.; Earlene Crouse and Brandy Hossain at Broad

St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door



**Dec. 4** – <u>Diaconate Serving:</u> Marge Patterson and Raye Beasley

<u>Lead in Communion:</u> Chris Mowrer <u>Offering Message:</u> Carolyn Spratt

**Prayers:** Misty Stecher

Greeters: Marge Patterson and Raye Beasley at North St.; Kaleb Brown and

Raeleen Brown at Broad St.; Janet Christiansen at canopy door

Elders Serving Out: Steve Spicher and Renee Galvin

# DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Note: Worship services are in-person as well as Facebook Live	Note: Disciples Sunday School and Wednesday Bible Study are both on Zoom and in person.			9am – Staff meeting	2 9am – Cookie Walk set-up 7pm – Buchanan Community Chorus Concert	3 9am-noon – DWF Cookie Walk
8:45am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School in library 9:30am – Coffee Fellowship 10am – Worship – Choir 11:30am – Disciples Sun. School 3pm – Blue Christmas Service	5 1:30pm – Cookie Walk mtg 5pm – Narcotics Anonymous Newsletter week	<ul><li>1:30pm – Caring Ministers</li><li>7pm – Choir practice</li></ul>	<b>7 5:30pm</b> – Youth group	9am – Staff meeting 10:30am – Disciples Women Council	9	10:30am – Book Club "Forever Across the Marsh"
8:45am – Coffee House Theology Sunday School in library 9:30am – Coffee Fellowship 10am—Worship – Choir 11:30am – Disciples Sun. School 3pm – Worship in the Upper Room	5pm – Narcotics Anonymous 6pm – Elders/Council joint mtg	7pm – Choir practice	3pm – Worship at Hawthorne Inn 5:30pm – Youth group	9am – Staff meeting 2pm – Worship at Knox County Nursing Home 5:30pm – Men's Night Out at Pizza Ranch and Ladies Night Out at Jimmy's Pizza	16	17
18 9am – Christmas Potluck Brunch & Congregational Meeting 10am – Worship - Choir 11:30am – Disciples Sun. School 3pm – Worship in the Upper Room 6pm – Children's Christmas Program	19 5pm – Narcotics Anonymous 7pm – Trustees Newsletter week	20 10:30am – Naomi Circle 7pm – The Weekend Cluster	<b>21</b> 7pm – Choir practice	<b>22</b> 9am – Staff meeting	23	<b>24 7:30pm</b> – Christmas Eve service
25 10am – Worship - Choir	26 5pm – Narcotics Anonymous Office closed - Christmas	27	28	29	30	HAPPY NEW CYEAR

#### **BOOK CLUB RESUMES DECEMBER 10**

Book Club will meet at 10:30am Saturday, Dec. 10 at the church to discuss the novel by Jeff Pearson, "Forever Across the Marsh." All are welcome to read and join in our discussion. A copy of the book is available for loan; call Diane Eager at (309) 335-7560. The book and audio version are available through Amazon and other outlets for purchase.



Looking forward to future selections: we will read alltime favorite books of members with some suggested criteria for choices.



#### CHRISTMAS POTLUCK BRUNCH & CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT 9am

Join us for a catered All Church Christmas Potluck Brunch on **Dec. 18 at 9am.** Please bring a brunch item or two to share. Drinks and table service provided.

There will be a brief Congregational Meeting to vote on the slate of nominees for 2023.

#### LOOK FOR THE GIVING TREE THIS ADVENT SEASON

You are invited to give to our Blessing Box throughout this Advent Season. Look for the "Giving Tree" in the Sanctuary, close to the choir loft.

Choose a tag or two from the tree to purchase for the Blessing Box Ministry **OR** purchase from the whole list (see half sheet to



the left of the tree). Each tag has about \$10 (or less) worth of items on it. Once items are purchased, bring them back to the tree and place them in the boxes.

If you prefer to not do shopping yourself, please feel free to give cash donations to Kim Barton or Lorraine in the office and we will be sure that items off of the list are purchased with your donation.

Our community members greatly benefit from your generosity this Holiday season and all year round! Thank you for your support!

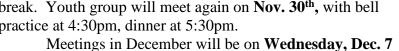




A large thank you to Mark and Mary Davis for cooking the youth Chicken Noodle Supper that was held at the church on November 12. Your hard work and many hours in the kitchen paid off, dinner was delicious! Thank you, John and Janet Foster, for helping prepare, serve, and clean up the youth dinner as well as assisting Mark

and Mary. The dinner was well attended, and the children had a great time serving you! We are looking forward to another dinner later this winter! Thank you for supporting us.

No meeting on **Wednesday**, **Nov. 22** for Thanksgiving break. Youth group will meet again on Nov. 30th, with bell practice at 4:30pm, dinner at 5:30pm.



and 14, and resume again on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> in the new year.



The Children's Program is on Sunday, **Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.** Watch for more details in upcoming Crusaders.



The preschool-early elementary youth group made thankful turkeys from their hands and feet after reading Psalm 138 on Wednesday, Nov. 16.