

# Advance Bulletin

for Sunday, November 21, 2021



## Our Vision

We are a community of faith, connecting our world to the love of Christ one person at a time.

## Celebrating Our "Peasant King" During Advent

**A**dvent . . . a time to remember, reflect, and anticipate the coming of Christ. During this uniquely Christian season (November 28—December 26), disciples of Jesus celebrate the birth of Jesus, and act on the meaning of the Savior's birth in specific ways that, however small, God can use for kingdom purposes. Celebration Worship each week will highlight the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love in music, sermon, and congregational participation. Our daily guide will be "*Come Peasant, King*," a devotional book written by Olivia Metcalf (pastor, chaplain, district superintendent) to engage us in seeking to live out the priorities of the one who came to earth as servant-sovereign. A limited number of books will be available **November 21-28** at the Coffee Connection in the worship center and church office for \$5.



Special events will include "*Cookies, Carols, and Connections*" on December 12 (5:00 p.m.), with special guests Terence and Ingrid Lustaña, and *Christmas Eve by Candlelight* on December 24 (6:00 p.m.), a time to gather with family and friends for scriptural reflection, prayer, and communion.

## "God's Vision: Our Future" Week 3: Our Church Board (November 19-25)



**O**ur season of special prayer for the transition with our church property continues this week with a focus on our **Church Board**. The board, consisting of Pastor Bruce Oldham, Amy Cassick, Charles Davis, Chris Townsley, Debbie Stewart, Byron Claussen, Carol Buzzo, Bob Young, Barbara Baltz, and Wes Eby, is charged with care for the spiritual,



organizational, and fiscal interests of the church, striving to do so in harmony with the lead pastor, pastoral staff, and congregation as a whole. A positive impact from the relocation of our

ministries involved in the property sale is their mutual commitment in this transition, with the priority of increasing our ability to reach others with the love of Christ and to make Christlike disciples as their mission and vision throughout this process.

Pray for our board as together they seek God's guidance in monthly meetings and daily interactions, and do the work to make His will of transforming lives an ongoing reality! Continue to hold up **Our City** and **Our Construction Advisory Team (CAT)** in prayer as well.

## Hanging of the Greens

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**D**o you enjoy decorating for the holidays? Then you are invited to join those who are decorating the church for the Christmas season after church on Sunday, November 28. Pizza will be provided for lunch for those who stay to help. Many willing hands are needed.



## Season 1 of "The Chosen" Concludes This Sunday

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**T**he weekly outreach event, "The Chosen," concludes season 1 this evening at 6:00 p.m. at the church. Watch for information about season 2 that will start after the first of the new year.

There is a Christmas special that will be in select theaters in December. For more information, please contact Amy Cassick or Pam Jenkins.



## "The Man from Aldersgate" Presentation

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**O**ur congregation experienced a history-filled, Spirit-blessed message by B.J. Johnston last Sunday by bringing John Wesley to life. Indeed, it was a sermon that informed, inspired, and challenged as we worshipped the Lord through drama.

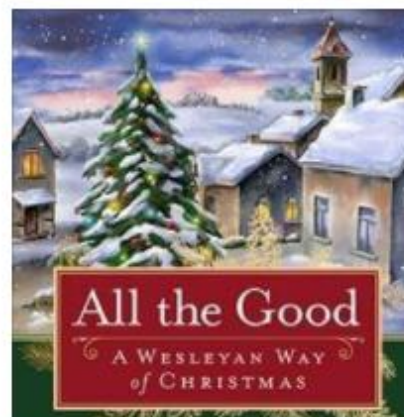
After the service, B.J. kindly took a picture with Wes Eby who is named for John Wesley.

## New Bible Study for Christmas

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**Y**ou are invited to join the Mighty & Maturing small group for a unique, four-week Christmas experience in December, facilitated by Pastor Bill Vinson and Louise Woods.

- Topic: "All the Good: The Wesleyan Way of Christmas," a video-based study.
- Time: 5:30 p.m. for a time of fellowship and food before the study at 6:00 p.m.
- Location: Cornerstone Classroom (near Connection Café)
- December 1, Session 1: "Practicing Advent" (pizza for \$1 per slice)
- December 8, Session 2: "Praying in Advent" (sandwiches and cookies)
- December 15, Session 3: "Practices of Mercy" (soup)
- December 22, Session 4: "Christmas Is Only the Beginning" (potluck)



Everyone is cordially invited to participate.

## Thanksgiving Closures

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**R**egular church activities, listed below, are taking a break next week in celebration of Thanksgiving:

- Tues., Nov. 23: Spark Ladies' Ministry
- Wed., Nov. 24: Mighty & Maturing Small Group
- Wed., Nov. 24: Children and Youth Activities
- Wed. & Fri., Nov. 24-25: Church Office Closed



Activities will resume the week of November 29.

## Holy Communion, First Sunday of Advent

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**T**hose attending the 10:30 a.m. Celebration Worship in our sanctuary will receive communion on Sunday, November 28. If you participate in Celebration Worship online and would like to use the prefilled communion elements during the live broadcast, please stop by the church office during the coming week (or have a nearby friend/relative do so) to pick up what you need. You can also supply your own bread and cup of juice.

## Operation Christmas Child Report

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**P**raise the Lord! A total of 136 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were packed this year—136 Gospel opportunities sent to children around the world! These 136 children will not only receive a shoebox but also be able to attend the 12-week discipleship course, "The Greatest Journey," courtesy of all who participate in giving to missions through Faith Promise.

"Thank-you" seems insufficient to let you know how very much we needed each of you to reach and exceed our shoebox goal! "In that wonderful day you will sing: 'Thank the LORD! Praise his name! Tell the nations what he has done. Let them know how mighty he is!'" (Isaiah 12:4, NLT).

—Sally Hatton, coordinator



## Blessings Bunch

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**T**he Blessings Bunch will meet on Thursday, December 9, at 10:00 a.m. in the Administration Center to prepare Christmas goodies for those who need a bit of Christmas cheer. Please join us!

## Spark Ministry

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**S**park women's ministry women's ministry will not meet this Tuesday, November 23, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. They will meet again on November 30, continuing the Bible study "Discerning the Voice of God" by Priscilla Shier.



## Naz Thrift Shop News

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### Special One-day Sale November 27

50 % off everything in the store! What a deal! Bargains galore!

Note. The Thrift Shop will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday, Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26.

"You are invited to drop by the Naz Thrift Shop and check out the weekly specials."

—Jan Smith, manager

## Bible Teaching & Fellowship Each Sunday

Classes for all ages available each Sunday:

### Adults

- Kingdom Seekers (behind sanctuary platform 9:00 a.m.)
- Cornerstone (near the Connection Cafe) 9:00 a.m.
- Grass Roots (next to the gym entrance) 9:15 a.m.

### Youth and Children

- Youth (2nd floor of the Discipleship Center) 9:00 a.m.
- Children (classroom behind the nursery) 10:30 a.m.

### NOTE These Changes

- Youth will meet for Sunday School this Sunday, November 21, but will not meet for Sunday school on November 28.
- Children will join family worship at 10:30 a.m. on November 28.



## Thank You



**I** appreciate all those who have assisted with our missions project of sending Bibles and resources for pastors to Christian Literature in Africa. Thanks to all who have made donations. And thanks to Sue Jenkins, Nancy Murken, Barbara Baltz, and Deb Stewart [left to right] for helping me pack nine boxes of books, each weighing approximately 50 pounds.

—Wes Eby, missions president

## Important Dates



**\*Articles in this bulletin**

# **Your Calendar**

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**Thru Nov. 21, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.**

**Thru Nov. 21, Sun., 6:00 p.m.**

**Nov. 21, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.**

**Nov. 24-26, Wednesday - Friday**

**Nov. 28, Sunday, Noon**

**Dec. 9, Thursday, 10:00 p.m.**

**Dec. 12, Sunday, 5:00 p.m.**

**Dec. 16, Thursday, 10:30 a.m.**