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## December Newsletter 2016

### *Christmas Caroling*

**Sunday , December 4**  
**Meet at the Methodist Church**  
**at 4:00 PM, after caroling..**  
**return to our church for a light**  
**meal that will be provided.**

### .....Our church is invited to attend **Christmas Cantata**

**on December 11 @ 7:00 PM. at the**  
**Methodist Church entitled**  
**" Jesus... The Advent of Messiah".**

## CHRISTMAS EVE



### Christmas Services

A traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held on Saturday evening at 7:00pm. Each family is invited to bring a family candle to light Refreshments following service.

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A joyous celebration of Christmas will be held Sunday at 10:30am

### Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting following worship on Sunday, December 11 to approve new officers and the budget for 2017. The Session will also present a proposal to repair the stained glass windows in the sanctuary and add new protective covering on the outside. Plan to stay for this important meeting.

The proposed slate of officers for 2017 is as follows: Session – Julie Klinger, John Paine and Shirley Nofziger; Audit Committee – Bob Boldman, Tim Nofziger and David Whitman; Nominating Committee – Shirley Carder and Tina Bavin. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor if those persons are present, or have already given their consent.

### December/ January Usher/Layleader

#### December

- 04 - Tim & Vickie Nofziger
- 11 - Frank & Bev Perkins
- 18 - Willis & Dortha Davis
- 25 - John & Gloria Paine

#### January 2017

- 01 - Rob & Cheryl Boldman
- 08 - David & Linda Whitman
- 15 - Ken Boyer & family
- 22 - Dick & Shirley Nofziger
- 29 - Sandy Runkel

(If you're not able to do either task ..

Please find a replacement.. or any change ..contact Gloria Paine).





**Notes from the Pastor's Desk**

Pastoral Notes

As the season of Advent begins, we are reminded of the need to take time to reflect again on how Christ has come into our lives - and can come again. The 4 weeks before Christmas are designated as a special time of preparation because it takes time to prepare for such an important event.

Our Advent Wreath has five candles, one for each Sunday before Christmas and one for Christmas Eve. The candles represent: the prophecy of Christ's coming, Bethlehem where Christ was born, the Shepherds who came to greet the Christ Child, the Angels who sang his praise and finally on Christmas Eve, the Christ candle itself.

Each candle reminds us to stop and reflect on these important events in the story. They are historical points to be sure, but they are also contemporary points as well. We can rehearse each of them as we prepare to receive Christ more fully into our lives today. Remember the times when you have been called to seek Christ and to stand up for his name.

Remember the places where you have taken a stand for his name. Remember the ways in which you are still being called to follow Christ day to day.

May this season be one of celebration and renewal of your faith.

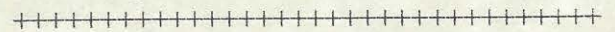
Peace and joy,  
Pastor Tom

**Christmas Families**

Our Christmas Family names are on the table in the Fellowship Room as soon as we receive them. Gifts need to be wrapped with tag on each gift and returned promptly by December 11.

"Our Daily Bread"

Copies of the daily devotional, "Our Daily Bread," are available for December-February in the back of the sanctuary and on the table by the Fellowship Room.



**December Birthdays & Anniversaries**

- 01 - Tami Manley  
Jimmy Bell
- 04 - Mary Hutchinson
- 09 - Tom & Vicki Steensma (A)
- 21 - Cory Runkel
- 16 - Dean Stuckey  
John & Gloria Paine (A)
- 19 - Faith McKinney
- 22 - Susie Beals
- 23 - Rob & Cheryl Boldman (A)
- 27 - Emily Schlosser  
Brianna Bell

**\*\*\*Recipe\*\*\***

**Christmas Salad**

- 1 medium container Cool Whip
- 1 (20oz) can crushed pineapple with juice
- 1 box instant pistachio pudding mix
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1 cup small marshmallows

Stir all together and store in refrigerator until served. Garnish with maraschino cherry halves.

\* This is a pretty green and red salad, easy and delicious.