



EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WE WELCOME! WE WORSHIP! WE WITNESS!

DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

It was a different time. We had to wait for it. Plan for it. Or if we missed it, record it with our VCR.

The Charlie Brown Christmas Special was a staple for our family growing up every year. It told the story of Charlie searching for hope in a cold winter. Looking for meaning amongst the commercialism that Christmas can bring. But ultimately, the reason for the season is found because of the baby born in Bethlehem.

This Advent season, we invite you to join us for a special worship series inspired by the timeless message of *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. As we journey together through the weeks leading up to Christmas,

we'll explore the deeper meaning of this season, reflecting on the promises of God revealed in Scripture and the heartfelt themes found in this beloved story.

Each week, we'll focus on one of the traditional Advent themes—Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love—through the lens of Charlie Brown's search for meaning amidst the hustle and bustle of the holidays. Just as Charlie Brown struggles to understand the true spirit of Christmas, we, too, are invited to pause, reflect, and rediscover the hope and light brought into the world through Jesus Christ.



As part of the series a special program will be offered by children and Choir on Sunday, December 22nd. This will be a joint worship service with Emmanuel and St. James. All are invited to participate in the program or come and worship!

Join us each Sunday in Advent as we light the Advent candles and prepare our hearts to welcome Christ anew.

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Ben

OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:45 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

COOKIES, FUDGE, & SOUP!	2
ADVENT STUDY	2
NOVEMBER PHOTOS!	4
ADOPT-A-FAMILY	5

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP AT EMMANUEL IS AT 8 P.M.

Worship on Christmas Eve at Emmanuel will be at 8 p.m. Our service will include Carols, Candlelight, and Communion.

Pastor Ben will also preach at St. James UMC, where Christmas Eve worship will be offered at 6:30 p.m.

Make this celebration part of your holiday plans! Invite your friends and family! Merry Christmas!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
December 24th
8 p.m.

Emmanuel United Methodist Church
740 East College Avenue
Appleton WI 54911
www.emmanuel-umc.org

COOKIES, FUDGE, & SOUP SALE IS DECEMBER

The United Women in Faith invite you to the Cookies, Fudge and Soup to Go on Saturday, December 14th from 8am-noon. Why Bake? Treat yourself this holiday season!

In addition to their amazing baked goods, delicious soups will be available to go in pints and quarts. Get some delicious Corn Chowder or minestrone to-go! \$6.00 for a pint or \$12.00 per quart.

Cookies Fudge & Soup Sale!

Saturday, December 14th
8 a.m.- 12 p.m

Emmanuel UMC
740 East College Ave
Appleton WI 54911
www.emmanuel-umc.org



\$ 7.00 – Cookies (Small Box)
\$11.00 – Fudge (Small Box)
\$13.00 – Cookies (Large Box)

SCRIP FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING!

What will you need this busy holiday season with Thanksgiving just around the corner? Groceries for cooking and holiday baking. Gas for travelling to see family. Maybe a run to Target to start your holiday shopping? And Scrip Gift Cards make great holiday gifts!

You can do all of these things **AND contribute to Emmanuel Church at the same time** through the SCRIP program. Through the SCRIP program you purchase a gift card (at church for face value) to your favorite retailer, gas station, and grocery store. Use these gift cards in your daily doings as you normally would. Mean-

while, these retailers are returning a portion to Emmanuel!

We are grateful for all of the ministry that Paul Sagers and Barb Steele offer through Scrip program. Stop and see Paul at the Scrip table after worship on Sundays!

If you are worshipping online, Paul delivers! Contact him by email (paulsagers@msn.com) with your order and he can bring your Scrip

order to you. Thank you for supporting Emmanuel through this ministry!



ADVENT WORSHIP DEVOTIONAL “THE WEARY WORLD REJOICES”

The season of Advent is upon us—a season that invites us into the tension of ‘already’ and ‘not yet,’ where we hold the fragile hope that everything broken will be made whole, that every sorrow will be met with joy, and that every deep longing will be filled with love. It’s about finding a way to sit with the messiness of life while still holding on to the promise of what’s to come.

Those words are from author Kate Bowler, who has written an Advent devotional called “The Weary World Rejoices.” It is a free resource we will use for an advent study this year. This daily devotional is a way to help us listen for God during this busy season.

There will also be a weekly study offered at on Zoom Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m.

and Wednesday evenings following the meal at approximately 6:15 p.m. Our neighbors at St. James will also offer a study time on Wednesday afternoons at 2 p.m. The Daily Devotional books will be available in church on December 1st. An email will also be sent out with PDF copy available for download to read on your mobile devices.



CHARGE CONFERENCE IS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

Our annual Charge Conference is Thursday, December 12th at 4 p.m. Emmanuel will again share its conference with St. James. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Park Hunter, will preside in person. St. James will host the meeting at their church located at 100 W Capitol Dr.

All members are invited to join us at the Charge Conference. We will celebrate what God has done for us this past year and look forward to the future. We hope you can join us for this important day in the life of our church!



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWS

Thanks to everyone who donated to Backpacks for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate). We had four blankets, a back pack, four stuffed animals/dolls, thirty pairs of socks, \$100.00 in Target gift cards. School supplies--markers, crayons, glue sticks, Play Dough, water color kit. These will help

when a child has been removed from the home and leaves with nothing.

Our Cookies, Fudge, Soups sale is December 14 from 8-12. Bring your goodies during the week and come shop on Saturday.

Merry Christmas and remember the reason for the season.



HELP LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLES THIS SEASON AT EMMANUEL!

Hope. Peace. Love. Joy. We hear these words each year as we await the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem. We repeat them with expectation as we light the advent candles along our journey each year.

Help is needed to create this reflective part of our Advent worship this season, as we light the Advent Candles. Each Sunday (and Christmas Eve) Readers and Candle lighters are needed. Families, friends, or groups that

serve in the church are welcome. A signup is on the red bulletin board across from the office. Thank you for helping to light the way!





Ryan Korb leads the choir in worship on Sunday, November 24th



Bev Stan stirs on before the crowd arrives for Dinner Church on November 13th



Big Crew for a Big Meal! All hands were on deck to prepare for the Thanksgiving meal on Wednesday, November 20th.

HELP US “ADOPT-A-FAMILY” THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON AT EMMANUEL!

Emmanuel has the opportunity to “Adopt-a-Family” and help out with some gifts for those in need this Christmas! Thanks to one of our neighborhood partners, we have a list of gifts identified by a family in our area

If you would like to help, stop by the red bulletin board across from the office and pickup one of the tags. Please return the gifts wrapped with the tag on top by Sunday, December 8th. We Witness!



Stop by the bulletin board across from the office to pick up one of these tags!

LAY LEADER THOUGHTS– JIM JUSTMAN

December Is...
A time of waiting,
A time of care.
A time of wonder,
A time of prayer.
For God’s salvation,
God’s love out-poured.
For the coming King,
For Christ, The Lord.

*“The Word became flesh to show us the servant king
Who breaks bread with the hungry
And washes the feet of his friends.”
(-Pastor Ben-)*



EMMANUEL UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

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