

Weekly Newsletter

DECEMBER 14, 2023

Christmas CANTATA

A MUSICAL CELEBRATION
OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS

DECEMBER 17
AT 10:30AM



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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Ring in 2024

"But when the time arrived that was set by God the Father, God sent his Son, born among us of a woman, born under the conditions of the law so that he might redeem those of us born under the conditions of the Law so that he might redeem those of us who have been kidnapped by the law. Thus we have been set free to experience our rightful heritage. can tell for sure that you are now fully adopted as his own children because God sent the Spirit of his Son into our lives crying out,

"Papa! Father!" Doesn't that privilege of intimate conversation with God make it plain that you are not a slave, but a child? And if you are a child, you're also an heir, with complete access to the inheritance.

Galatians 4:4-7 The Message

Our last Sunday of the year falls on the last day of the year with a scripture of good news! We have been freed from the impossible task of earning God's favor by maintaining 613 laws by a tiny immigrant Child kissed by the Holy Spirit, God's own son.

For many, this has been a challenging year because of illness, strained relationships, or maybe the loss of a dearly beloved. But Light and Hope has been born to us. We are not alone, but have been adopted into God's holy family, and stand as heirs of God's goodness! It is through this Christ Child that we will find healing and joy once again.

I invite you to meditate on this scripture, and allow God's Spirit to speak to you personally. What is it to be adopted by God and to stand shoulder to shoulder with our brother, Jesus? How does that imagery change the way you understand your relationship with the Father?

After all the big services of the season, we are going to draw the round tables together and create a café ambiance in Fellowship Hall. There will be hot beverages, and I invite you to bring a treat to share. Pastor Cassandra will lead the service and bring the message. Come and ring in the new year with song and praise!

Grace & Peace +
PASTOR SHARON



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please Pray For

Clay Grumke; Bev Mesey; Margo Petracek; Stacy Ponder; Ayanna & Zechariah (Carolyn Redmore); Teri Samples (Connie Kroenung); Andrews/Kattempedi Family (Cindy Andrews); Peter Schuren (Debbie Lund); world peace; and safe travel for all travelers.

Congratulations to Morgan Murphy who is graduating this month from University of Missouri - St. Louis (UMSL) with a Bachelors in Sports Management.

SYMPATHY TO...

family and friends of John Reed who passed away December 3, 2023, after a fall on November 25. A member of the King Class, John celebrated his 96th birthday on October 28. He's been attending WUM since moving in with his daughter Beckah Reed in 2011.

MARCH TO THE Manger



CAST

MARY
JILLIAN PALLIA

JOSEPH
JEREMY HENSON

BABY JESUS
LUKE HENSON

THE ANGEL
NORA LEISTER-MCCURLEY

THE SHEPHERDS
MARSHALL LEISTER-MCCURLEY
JULIAN NUNES
PASTOR CASSANDRA LENOIR

THE WISE ONES/KINGS
KATIE RENKINS
DEREK REDMORE
SEVERIN PELEKARA

A huge thank you to everyone who did such a wonderful job on Sunday, during the March to the Manger. Our cast members created a beautiful tableau of the first Christmas. Our readers, Connie Kroenung and Kurt Schwind, did a fabulous job of bringing scripture to life. I also want to thank Ellen Hendrickson for her help and our terrific costumer, Megan Gesse. For me, March to the Manger is always special. Thanks again, everyone, for helping to make this such a beautiful and meaningful experience.

BARB SARICH



The Advent Wreath

The third Sunday of Advent, as the Hostmeyer/Wilson family lit the candle of joy.

Cookie Monster & The Grinch say “Thank you”!

Thank you, Church, for all your support for our Youth Christmas Cookie Marketplace! It was a sweet success!





Christmas Thank-You's From Mission Team

Webster United Methodist is indeed a generous, giving church! Not only did you help make our annual November mission fund-raiser, now called “Harvesting Hope for Missions,” our largest ever, but you opened your hearts to Webster Rock Hill Ministries, filling many, many bags for Thanksgiving meals. And, just last week we delivered 19 donated gift items to the LifeWise Holiday Market! Thank you, thank you.

Bless you all, and Merry Christmas!

Jan McCurley; the Risk-Taking Mission; Service Team

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Carol Gilker & Margaret Skouby were awarded Mission Pins at the United Women in Faith Christmas Luncheon on December 2nd in recognition of their years of service to our Unit of

United Methodist Women/United Women in Faith and also to Webster United Methodist. Linda Guth Stangl awarded the pins during the business portion of the luncheon.

Following the craft sale and delicious lunch, the **Buckhannon Brothers** provided some delightful traditional bluegrass tunes and Christmas music.

