

I look forward to being in both services this weekend and getting a bit of a jumpstart on Advent, looking at Luke 1.26-45 and Matthew 1.18-25. If you have some time, I encourage you to take a look at these two texts that describe an angelic messenger and identify what they share in common and how they differ. (I like to print out passages so I can underline and make notes while I do this kind of comparison work.)

On Sunday, we will also sing some familiar Thanksgiving hymns, take part in a Thanksgiving prayer together, and stick around after the service to hang the greens!

I look forward to seeing you in worship this weekend!



Family and friends of Grant Wiseman (passed away Wednesday)
Linda Luker (recovering from knee replacement surgery)
Kurt McWilliams (recovering from surgery)
Isabella Allen (recovering from dislocated elbow)
Jacob Spurling (beginning pilot training and entering active duty in the Air Force)
Ruth Ann Krall (undergoing radiation treatment)
Dorothy Zehner (home, recovering from surgery)
Suzy Picking (upcoming back surgery on December 17)
Pastor Doug (vocal cord surgery scheduled for December 1)
Nancy Myers (recovering from car accident, former church janitor)
Karen Haines (recovering from brainstem surgery, Linda Turner's sister-in-law)
Kim Owen (recovering from bilateral hip replacement)
David Goodman (surgery coming up on November 20)

Eva Heilman (home recovering, cards only)
Jerry Hollis (prostate cancer treatments)
Mike Dean (chemo treatments)
Bill Kreighbaum
Those affected by weather-related disasters
Middle East
Victims of gun violence
All those battling addiction and facing the daily struggle to stay clean.
Our military
Students and Teachers

Missed last Sunday's message?

Listen here!



With weekends being busy for many this time of year and the tree service here today, a cleanup day is scheduled for tomorrow morning, Friday, November 20, from 8-12:00 pm. Various indoor and outdoor tasks are planned, from organizing closets to cleaning up leaves and twigs. Only have an hour to spare? We'll take it! Many hands makes tasks easier for everyone.



Whether giving to the church's general fund or a special offering, doing so online (24/7) is a quick and easy alternative to check-writing or having cash on hand. Simply click the button below.

Give



The flowers on the altar are from the Altar Guild for the glory of God.
The white rose is in memory of Grant Wiseman.

Please use the buttons below to view additional dates and to sign up for altar flowers. If you prefer a paper form, they are always available in the vestibule (office entrance open 24/7), church office hallway, Welcoming Area, children and youth entrance, and narthex.

For altar flower needs, please contact Carol Kolb at carolrkolb@yahoo.com or (812) 589-8322.

Upcoming Available Dates

Altar Flower Sign Up



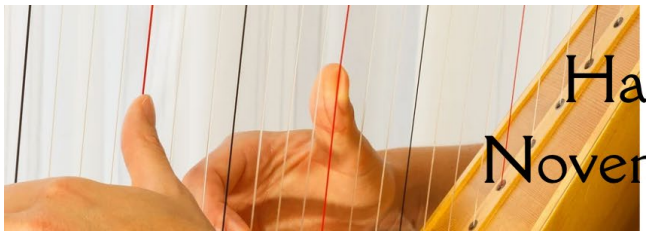
Sunday Worship Acolyte

Sunday Worship Liturgist



This Sunday, November 22!

Youth will spend time serving at UCS as an opportunity to put their faith into action through service to others. Afterwards we will gather at Turoni's for a Friendsgiving dinner and fellowship. Be sure to let Mrs. Margaret know today if your child will attend at margaret@bethlehemucc.org.



We welcome back the sounds and gifts of harpist Emily Fife to worship on November 29, as we begin the first Sunday of Advent. Preservice music begins at 10:00 am.

*Out of respect for our guest and others enjoying her musical gifts, we ask that you greet one another after worship rather than before.



Sunday, November 29
5:00 - 7:00 pm
Wondering to Bethlehem: An Advent Kickoff Celebration

- The congregation is invited to begin the Advent season with an interactive journey to Bethlehem.
- Participants will enter through the Welcome Area doors, sign the **2026 Bethlehem Census**, receive a travel passport, and visit various stations that bring the Christmas story to life.
- One of the stations will include dinner as part of the journey.
- The experience will culminate in the Sanctuary with a congregational hymn sing and the presentation of an Advent devotional book for families to take home and use throughout the season.
- Volunteers and participants are needed to make this night a success!

Hope to see you in Bethlehem!

Please register today so enough materials and supplies are ordered and prepared for every child!

Registration and/or Volunteer Sign Up Here

2026 Annual Report News

This year we welcome Haiden Hart (our Saturday night worship leader) to the 'editorial staff' of the Annual Report. Haiden will be collating the information that will become this year's Annual Report.

If you are a **committee head or team leader of a specific group**, we need you to do the following:

1. Determine the leadership for next year in your committee and email this information to Patty Oglesby by **Tuesday, December 1.**

2. **Begin writing your report** that summarizes the activities of your specific group for the 2026 year. Remember that these reports represent the life of Bethlehem Church.

Leaders, please email your report to haiden@bethlehemucc.org. **The report deadline is Friday, December 18.**



This Sunday!

Do you love the way the sanctuary looks at Christmas time? It takes many hands to get it there! Please plan to stick around for a bit after worship **this Sunday** to help with the Hanging of the Greens! Any and all are welcome to bring in the Advent season!

Cookie Walk

December 12 & 13 following worship

Lots of bakers, treat makers, and shoppers are needed!

Get your baking sheets ready to make this the best Cookie Walk ever! We will need cookies and treats to make the Cookie Walk a success. Mark your calendars for **December 12 & 13 after church.** If possible, we would like the goodies by noon on Saturday, December 12. The cost will be $6.00 a pound, and bakers will get ½ pound free!

To volunteer, please email your name and the item(s) you would like to donate —2-3 dozen cookies, candy, and/or a specialty item—to Patty Geske at psgeske@yahoo.com or Connie Crab at conniecrab2901@gmail.com. Alternatively, paper forms are located at church entrances. Please place the form in the Eosin mailbox by the elevator, in the offering plate, or drop it at the church office. Thanks for making this holiday season special with your cookies and/or candy!



The Altar Guild will again be selling poinsettias to decorate the altar and chancel for Christmas. The cost is $15.00 per plant in a 6 1/2" pot with gold foil cover and will be available in red or white. **The deadline for ordering your plant(s) is Sunday, December 6**, and there is no exception to the deadline.

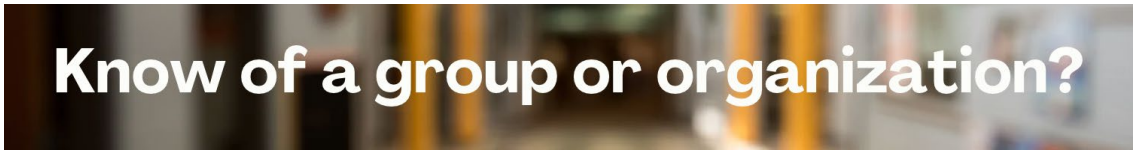
The donor list will be linked in Emily's Edition, available on Sunday, December 20, and on Christmas Eve. Poinsettias can be taken home following the 9:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. Remaining poinsettias will be used on Sunday, December 27. Any plants left after the service on December 27 will be discarded.

To order and pay online use the button below. Paper order forms are available in the church office vestibule, Welcoming Area, children and youth entrance, and narthex. We purchase our poinsettias from Steve Worthington's Kiwanis organization, who uses their monies to support various community projects

throughout the year.

Please contact Carol Kolb at carolrkolb@yahoo.com with any questions.

Order and pay here!



We have 6 heavy eight-foot rectangular tables and 44 padded fabric chairs with arms ready to be gifted to a group or organization in need. If you know of good home for them, please contact Property Chair Dave Hunt at djhunt1976@aol.com.

The United Church of Christ joined United States of Kindness to do and share acts of kindness that inspire others to do the same!

The more **visible** we make kindness, the more **kindness flourishes**. Now, is a good time to share an act of kindness you did or witnessed, or a story or quote that inspired you.

- **Sign up your Church to support the movement below**
- Tag **@USofKindness** on social media so we can amplify
- Submit a picture/summary on our website: **USofkindness.org/share-an-**

act-of-kindness so it can be shared on social media anonymously

Click Here to Learn More!



What is the Bethlehem R.O.M.E.O. Club? It is Retired Old Men Eating Out (just men gathering) every Tuesday for food, fellowship, and faith. ROMEO Club is open to anyone no matter your age! The Club will not meet again until Tuesday, December 1, at Hornet's Nest. If you would like to join the group for lunch, please RSVP to Barry Jones at Twinpapa02@yahoo.com by Monday morning. New faces are always welcome!





Thursday, November 19
5 – 7pm
Welcoming Area Rsvd. - T. Miller

6:30 – 7:30pm
Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sanctuary

7:30 – 8:30pm
Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Music Room

Saturday, November 21

5:30 – 6:30pm
Worship
Welcoming Area

Sunday, November 22
9 – 10am
Sunday School Classes - All Ages

10:15 – 11:15am
Worship
Sanctuary

11:15am – 12:15pm
Hanging of the Greens

3:30 – 5:30pm
UCS DINNER - Youth
United Caring Services

5:30 – 7:30pm
Youth Friendship Dinner
Turoni's Pizzery & Brewery

Monday, November 23
8:30 – 10am
Conference Room Rsvd. - Worthington

Thurday, November 26
Thanksgiving - Church Office Closed

Saturday, November 28
5:30 – 6:30pm
Worship
Welcoming Area

Sunday, November 29
9 – 10am
Sunday School Classes - All Ages

10:15 – 11:15am

Worship
Sanctuary

11:30am – 12pm
Council Chat
Welcoming Area

5 – 7:00 pm
Wandering to Bethlehem Family Event
Fellowship Hall & Welcoming Area



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