

# WESTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)



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## Weston's Candlelight Homes Tour

### Help Us Sell Apple Dumplings!

A sign-up sheet is out to pick your slot to help sell WCC's delicious apple dumplings during Weston's Candlelight Homes Tour. The homes tour is coming right up on December 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Look for the sign-up sheets on the card table. This year we're setting up shop in the Masonic Lodge on Main Street.



## Advent and Christmas Sermon Series



- Advent 2, December 4th - "What's Inside?"  
Matthew 3:1-12
- Advent 3, December 11th - "Feeling Fragmented?"  
Matthew 11:2-6
- Advent 4, December 18th - Children's Program  
Matthew 1:18-24
- Christmas Eve - "Unto You is Born"  
Luke 2:1-20
- Christmas Day - "A Child is Born"



## Congregational Annual Meeting, December 11th

Please make it a priority to join us in worship on December 11th and stay after for our annual congregational meeting. We'll have some finger food and beverages upstairs, as we'll be meeting in the sanctuary. The meeting part is generally fairly short. Then, we'll have a service of dedication for those who are newly elected to serve in various positions in our congregation. Also, if you have not yet filled out the volunteer form for 2017, we'll ask you to do that and we'll have a prayer of blessing for all of our volunteers. It will be an intimate time of affirming one another in our gifts of service and grace. Come, and worship, serve, and be blessed.



*Christmas Communion*  
**CANDLELIGHT**  
SERVICE  
*Christmas Eve*  
**10:00 pm**

## Christmas Wreaths

One of our youth is selling wreaths for the Boy Scouts once again this year. Cost is \$20/wreath. He'll bring some to church on Sundays and also will have them Saturday during Weston's Homes Tour.



## December 18th...

Children's Christmas Program  
during 10:30 am worship

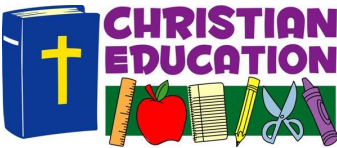
followed by

Christmas Caroling &  
Lunch at Tin Kitchen



## Thanks!!

Thanks to all who attended the choir's presentation of 'Selections from Messiah' on the 27th. Thanks, also, to our accompanist and the choir members who came together for multiple rehearsals. A great beginning of the Advent season.



If you'd like to help shape the future of Christian Education at WCC join us for our first meeting of the Christian Education Committee, Monday, January 9th at 7:00 pm.

## Our identity statement:

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for **wholeness** in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

## REMINDER...

Christmas Day & New Year's Day are on Sunday this year. The worship services on these days will begin at **11:00 am**



### WCC Christmas Gift Project

Again this year WCC has adopted several families from West Platte Middle School and High School for Christmas gifts and Sharp's Market gift cards. We have a total of 30 kids in ten families. These names are provided to us by the school counselors, so we know the need is real, and that these are "our" kids. If you would like to adopt a family or one child or would like to contribute to the Sharp's gift cards, you can call or email the church office or call [westonchristianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westonchristianchurch@gmail.com), 816-640-2846.)

All gifts need to be delivered to the church by Monday, December 19. Please include wrapping paper, ribbons, and tags, if possible. Usually parents prefer to wrap the gifts themselves.

We plan to give each family a Sharp's Market \$50 gift card for Christmas dinner, so if you don't want to adopt a family but want to contribute, make a donation for the gift cards and Francie will pick them up.

A log is being kept of which families are available for adoption. Thank you in advance for your generous participation in this substantial and worthy ministry!



### New Year's Eve Watch Party at the Parsonage 7:30-midnight-ish.



Come and go as you please. Children are welcome! It is possible we'll shout "Happy New Year" a bit early to accommodate those who prefer sleep to watching the ball drop. The party will include an opportunity to write out some New Year's prayers and blessings for yourself, your family, our congregation, our nation, and the world. Come, and bring as many guests as you can. A party is a great way to get acquainted with some members of our church. Let's welcome 2017 in the presence of God's grace.



Thanks to our choir director, accompanist, and choir for "Messiah", and our hospitality committee members for the reception afterward. If you would like to view the performance on YouTube, key in the link below in your browser.

### What's happening in...



9:30 am—Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am—Greeters  
10:30 am—Worship Service  
Tuesdays, 6:30 am—Men's Bible Study  
Wednesdays, 7:30 pm—Choir Rehearsal

- 12/1 5:15 pm - Tai Chi - arthritis/balance  
6:15 pm - Tai Chi - challenging
- 12/2-4 Weston Homes Tour—WCC selling apple dumplings on 12/3 & 12/4 - at Masonic Lodge on Main St.
- 12/5 4:30 pm - Micah Ministry at IBCC - carpool from Parsonage
- 12/6 9:30 am - Yoga in Fellowship Hall
- 12/8 5:15 pm - Tai Chi - arthritis/balance  
6:15 pm - Tai Chi - challenging
- 12/11 11:30 am - Annual Congregational Meeting
- 12/15 5:15 pm - Tai Chi - arthritis/balance  
6:15 pm - Tai Chi - challenging
- 12/18 10:30 am - Children's Christmas Program  
11:30 am - Christmas Caroling followed by lunch at Tin Kitchen
- 12/20 9:30 am - Yoga in Fellowship Hall
- 12/21 10:00 am - "In His Service" Soup Ministry
- 12/22 5:15 pm - Tai Chi - arthritis/balance  
6:15 pm - Tai Chi - challenging
- 12/24 10:00 pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- 12/25 **11:00 am** - CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
- 12/28 Choir Rehearsal ???
- 12/29 5:15 pm - Tai Chi - arthritis/balance  
6:15 pm - Tai Chi - challenging
- 12/31 New Year's Eve



# Advent Devotional Suggestions



Set up four candles around a taller candle somewhere in your house. I suggest the dinner table, if there is room there. The "proper" colors are 3 blue or purple, one pink, and the larger candle is white, but don't fret if you want to use whatever colors you have on hand. Then, once a day light the appropriate candle(s) and spend a moment reflecting on Advent themes. See the chart below for dates and prompts.

If you do this spiritual practice individually: light the candle(s), read the prompt question, sit quietly and reflect on the prompt, listening for what comes up in your heart, and consider writing in a special Advent journal or prayer journal.

Families can begin with reading the prompt question, and then have a minute of quiet time to listen to your heart. Share around the table. Consider writing responses in a family journal, or each person can keep their own Advent journal. Perhaps finish by singing a Christmas Carol together.

Consider taking a picture of the sacred space you create and send it to [westonchristianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westonchristianchurch@gmail.com), and we'll use those on our Media Shout slides on Advent Sunday mornings.

Another resource for your Advent devotions can be found in our church channel on Right Now Media at: [www.righnowmedia.org](http://www.righnowmedia.org). If you need a log-in, just email Mary and she'll get one for you. The name of the resource she recommends is: "The Greatest Gift" by Ann Voskamp.

First Week of Advent (November 27-December 3): Hope, light one candle

12/1 Think of a time when God used you to bring hope to someone else.

12/2 Think of a teacher who encouraged you.

12/3 Think of a time when you expected something to go wrong, but it worked out.

Second Week of Advent (December 4-10): Peace, light two candles

12/4 Think of a place in nature that brings you peace.

12/5 Think of the most peace filled person you know.

12/6 Think about how calm returned after a time you were very upset.

12/7 Ask God how you can bring peace into a situation in your life.

12/8 What does peace look like to you?

12/9 How is peace different from hope?

12/10 Think about "God is God and we are not. Hallelujah!" Does that bring peace?

Third Week of Advent (December 11-17): Joy, light three candles

12/11 Have you ever experienced joy that made you jump for joy?

12/12 Has sorrow ever turned to joy for you?

12/13 Can you experience joy when you are alone, or do you need other people for joy?

12/14 How is joy different from happiness, or are they the same for you?

12/15 Think of a person who lights up with joy. Is joy contagious?

12/16 Do you think Jesus laughed? (Google, "Laughing Jesus")

12/17 What can you do to bring joy to someone today? Can you make someone laugh?

Fourth Week of Advent (December 18-24): Love, light the four small candles

12/18 Think of someone from church who was there for you.

12/19 Who accepts you just the way you are?

12/20 Who do you love unconditionally? Has that love been tested?

12/21 Is sacrifice required for love?

12/22 What does love feel like in your heart? Can you describe it?

12/23 How have you shown your love to someone today?

Christmas Eve: Light all of the candles, including the Christ Candle

12/24 What does God's love feel like? Are love and forgiveness the same?

12/25 How can we respond to the call for "More love to Thee, O Christ?"



# December Carol Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Adult Sunday School ⬇️ 10:15 WCC Church Zoom Meeting 10:30 WCC Worship Service 1p Choir Rehearsal (Messiah) 2p "Messiah" Concert	28	29 6:30 Mens Bible Study	30 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	<b>Dec 1</b> 5:15p Tai Chi-Arthritis 6:15p Tai Chi	2 Weston Homes Tour	3
4 ⬇️ Weston Homes Tour 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Adult Sunday School ⬇️ 10:15 WCC Church Zoom Meeting 10:30 WCC Worship Service	5 4:30p Micah Ministry-Indep. Blvd. Christian	6 6:30 Mens Bible Study 9:30 Yoga - Fellowship Hall	7 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	8 5:15p Tai Chi-Arthritis 6:15p Tai Chi	9	10 8 Community Prayer Breakfast-NOT SCHEC
11 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Adult Sunday School ⬇️ 10:15 WCC Church Zoom Meeting 10:30 WCC Worship Service 11:30 Annual Congregational Meeting	12	13 6:30 Mens Bible Study	14 8:30 WMMA Pastors' Meeting-Weston Cafe 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	15 5:15p Tai Chi-Arthritis 6:15p Tai Chi	16	17
18 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Adult Sunday School ⬇️ 10:15 WCC Church Zoom Meeting 10:30 WCC Worship Svc-Children's Program 11:30 Christmas Caroling after church	19	20 6:30 Mens Bible Study 9:30 Yoga - Fellowship Hall	21 10 "In His Service" Soup Ministry (workers a 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	22 5:15p Tai Chi-Arthritis 6:15p Tai Chi	23	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day ⬇️ 10:15 WCC Church Zoom Meeting 11 WCC Worship Service	26 Christmas Day observed	27 6:30 Mens Bible Study	28 Choir Rehearsal (??)	29 5:15p Tai Chi-Arthritis 6:15p Tai Chi	30	31 New Year's Eve