

News

from  Court Street United Methodist Church

Joy



³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ And you will say on that day: “Give thanks to the LORD; call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵ Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Isaiah 12:3-6 NRSV

In a survey of more than 700 subjects, Kathy Caprino — a senior contributor at *Forbes*, marriage and family therapist, and career coach — asked respondents to identify what they most desperately wanted in life. The question was: “If you could say in one word what you want more of in life, what would that be?” The number 1 response was happiness. Joy came in at number 5. Money was number 2. Other answers were freedom, peace, balance, fulfillment and confidence. The participants in the survey clearly identified a distinction between happiness and joy. Usually those who discuss this distinction say that happiness is a form of *conditional* joy. Happiness, according to this line of thought, is a momentary feeling of elation stimulated by some external yet positive event that has occurred in one’s life. Joy, on the other hand, is a stream that flows deep and steady and is not affected too much by whatever turbulence may be at the surface of one’s life. Caprino’s audience would rather have happiness than joy. They’d rather have freedom than joy; peace than joy. Most importantly, they’d rather experience periodic bursts of giddy insanity than anything else.¹

Isaiah was a prophet who gave God’s word to several kings of Judah during a time of crisis in the land. Judah was under threat of invasion by foreign powers, and, as God’s mouthpiece, Isaiah was to offer a sign from God to strengthen the people’s hope. To the surprise of everyone Isaiah didn’t tell them that God was going to provide more horses or chariots, swords or spears to keep at bay the invasion. Instead, the sign was a baby. “The young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and name him Emmanuel” (Isa. 7:14). “A child has been born for us; a son given to us. Authority rests on his shoulders and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isa. 9:6).

One night long ago, an event occurred that was both terrifying and exciting. The Lord of Heaven stopped by in a village, and the Lord stayed for about 33 years. His arrival was announced by angels, and notice a particular word that appears in the proclamation: *Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord (Luke 2:10-11).* Joy. Great joy. For all people. Advent! As we enter the Advent season, a time of expectation and preparation, may we receive God’s gift of joy found in Jesus Christ.

Grace,
Pastor Cal

The **Chimnes**

The

The mission of
Court Street UMC
is to be a
welcoming,
nurturing,
serving
community of Christ.



¹ homilecticsonline.com

The Chimes

Lay Leadership

Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

Diane Risley
David Risley

Alternate Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

Jeanine Wang

Administrative Council Chair

Joan Tunnell

Staff/Parish Relations Chair

Sue Cram

Finance Chair

Mike Davis

Stewardship Chair

Jeanine Wang

Treasurer

Gene Ferry

Endowment Chair

Mike Davis

Trustee Chair

DuWayne Stanis

Lay Leader

Georgalee George

Nurture & Outreach

Georgalee George

Worship Chair

Joan Tunnell

Local Missions Chair

Helen Gibbons

Christian Education Chair

Diane Lutmer

Arts Committee Chair

Richard Wang

United Women in Faith

Sue Cram

United Methodist Men

DuWayne Stanis

Jeremiah Ministry Reps

Kay Galloway
Krysta Tilges

JFON Liaison

Kay Galloway



Angel Tree Ministry is a program designed for children whose parent is in prison. This year we have 50 children. Many of these children live in our church neighborhood. We buy gifts for the children and give them on behalf of the parent who is in prison. Family members of the children will be contacted to determine needs. Each child will receive 2 gifts: one toy and one clothing item. You can help us by:

1. Volunteering to distribute angels following any worship service
2. Buying gifts for the children (\$15-\$25 each Retail) **Do not buy any gifts until you receive your angel(s)!**
3. Making a cash donation or a check payable to Court Street United Methodist Church with Angel Tree Ministry on the memo line and mailing it to Barb or Gene Ferry at 1321 Camp Avenue, Rockford, IL 61103
4. Shopping for gifts
5. Organizing and delivering gifts between Dec. 18th and Dec. 22nd
6. Praying for the prisoners and their families
7. Assisting with the administration of this program

To receive your angel, please look for Barb or Gene Ferry or an Angel Tree representative following the service in the Narthex starting Nov. 13th. The angels will be on a small green Christmas tree. For questions, contact Barb or Gene Ferry at (815) 965-6518

POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS



Like last year, we will adorn the altar for Advent with several large poinsettia plants. And like last year, we are taking dedications. If you would like to honor or remember someone at Christmastime, please submit \$5 and your dedication to the office by December 7th. Dedications will be published the week of the cantata, December 11th.

Like us on

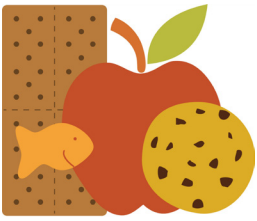
facebook

Follow us on

twitter

See pictures on

www.courtstreetumc.org



Thanks to all that helped with Methodist Monday this summer. The friends walking past Court Street UMC and those waiting at the bus depot were very appreciative of the free treats and for a bottle of water every Monday this summer.

THANKS TO Diane Lutmer and girls, Nancy Doran, Ray and Jan Baker, Jeanine Wang, Nancy Shindel, Lillian Knuckles, Stan and Joan Tunnell, Georgalee George, Perky Heath, Bruce Shindel, Pastor Cal, Judy Schmitt, Kay Galloway, Karen Brown and Chuck, Dave and Diane Risley, Larry and Annette Gillette, Teresa Field, Gene and Barb Ferry.

Bless each of you for caring,
Nurture Committee

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE UPCOMING SUMMER'S METHODIST MONDAY, PLEASE CONTACT GEORGALEE GEORGE BY EARLY MAY. NURTURE ALSO DOES A SPECIAL HOT CHOCOLATE METHODIST MONDAY IN THE WINTER.



Echo Ringers Christmas Concert

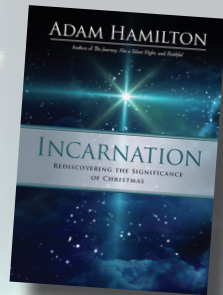
St. Peter Cathedral
1243 N. Church Street
Sunday, December 11, 2022
2:00 p.m.

Advent Special Study

Adam Hamilton

*Incarnation:
Rediscovering the
Significance of Christmas*

ABINGDON PRESS



4-week study begins
November 27, 2022

4 Study Sessions

1. Presidents and Kings
2. The Saviour and Our Need for Saving
3. Emmanuel in the Midst of a Pandemic
4. The Light of the World

After Service in the Parlor

Chatterbox Supper Group

Hoffman House Supper Club
7550 E. State Street
Rockford, IL

Thursday, December 8th @ 6:00 p.m.

All ladies are invited.

Contact Cindy Fisher at (815) 519-3653 by noon of the Wednesday before the dinner.

Health & Wellness: From our Parish Nurse

Has reflecting on this past year changed you? How does one's faith and lifestyle affect us and others? A definition of lifestyle is, "A way of life or style of living that reflects the attitudes and values of a person or group." No matter what your age or where you are in your life today, it is never too late to improve your lifestyle, to make the most of your health and wellbeing. This also applies to our faith journey. Being stronger both physically and mentally allows for greater resistance to illness and faster healing. We truly need each other and God in our lives.

Trusting in God is also a way of practicing optimism. Prayer is a gift for all of us to exercise that allows us to communicate directly with God. A sincere, frequent, and frank talk with God provides opportunities for introspection. Praying for help encourages us to examine what we truly need and what we are requesting from God. It is a personal act that can be performed alone or with others and can provide a great source of stress relief.

All relationships require good communication in order to be maintained and grown. It is no different when talking with God. Prayer should be a regular daily part of our life. What's nice about prayer is that it can happen anytime and anywhere. The more we choose this gift given to us and are thankful for prayer, the more we can see the benefits. Often, prayers are given at the beginning and end of each day. Prayers upon rising can help set the tone of the day, by being thankful for another day to grow and help others. Prayers at the end of the day acknowledge God's guidance through the day as we reflect on the day's lessons. It gives us the time to ask for strength through life's challenging circumstances we do not understand. God grows us as we use prayer. Prayers can help us avoid repeating past mistakes and gain confidence in the ability to make sound future choices. Praying with and for others can be an exercise in

having empathy. We may be surprised that in remembering others and dedicating prayers to others, we can have a positive effect on our own mood and feelings of well being.

There are many verses in the Bible that we can memorize to help us and to remind us of God's love for us. The Bible teaches us how to live our lives through grace. Reading the Bible and learning how God reaches out to us is another way of staying healthy.

The verses listed are just a few to help encourage us, and ones you may want to share with someone. Here is an exercise, and I hope these verses will spark the desire to read the Bible and to memorize your favorites.

- Psalm 9:9-10
- Psalm 16:8
- Deuteronomy 31:8
- Isaiah 40: 28-31
- Luke 12: 25-26
- John 16:33

Jeremiah 29:11 is one of my favorites: *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future* and *Psalm 46:10: Be still and know that I am God.*

Let the gift of reading the Bible or listening by CD enable us to trust God and grow closer to Him by exercising the power of prayer. Let our grace story and "lifestyle" continue to forge our family of faith at Court Street this December and beyond.

God Bless us all.....and Merry Christmas!

If you have additional questions or concerns, contact Teresa Field at (815) 298-8138.





December Church Newsletter

It's almost here! Jeremiah turns 15 years old in 2023. Keep a watch on our website and Facebook page for a year of celebration with our supporters and our neighbors! We are currently planning for the final LOVE Rockford of 2022. This LOVE Rockford will focus on services for children, and there will even be a visit from Santa himself! Thank you SecondFirst for hosting this one. The garden is shut down for the winter, small engines is in full swing, and we are planning programming for 2023.

As the year winds down, please remember Jeremiah Development in your end of year giving. Donations can be made at our website jeremiahdevelopment.org. No donation is too small, and it all goes directly into local programming that is community driven. Would you consider being a sustaining donor? A \$20/month sustaining donorship would fund the seeds and plants needed for the garden that feeds so many each summer. A \$10/month donorship would provide food for a week of small engines classes. Thank you so much to all who volunteered, donated, and supported us in 2022! Thank you to our sustaining donors! Your monthly donations give us an income we can count on.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,
The Board of Directors and Staff of Jeremiah Development!



◀ No More Big Blank Wall!

A big THANK YOU to the quilters of Court Street United Methodist Church! Last year, they came to our new office space and saw a great big white wall! What do a group of quilters do with a big white wall? Make the most beautiful, community cooperative quilt I've ever seen. They worked with the children at Haskell School to create a quilt full of handprint butterflies and a beautiful sun. It is stunning, and the butterfly handprints are a constant reminder of why we are here: To give the children a safer, better neighborhood. The quilter's handprints being the rays offering warmth as they emit light from the sun will be a forever reminder of the partnership we have with the churches and the neighborhood. Stop by and take a look at this piece of art. Look for information on our Facebook page in January for the official unveiling.



The family of Mabelann Fisher wishes to thank everyone for the kindness and thoughtfulness extended in our time of sorrow and grief.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

MIDWEEK SERVICES

NOV
30

Midweek Advent Service
Chapel @ 12:00 p.m.

DEC
07

Midweek Advent Service
Chapel @ 12:00 p.m.

DEC
14

Midweek Advent Service
Chapel @ 12:00 p.m.

DEC
21

Midweek Advent Service
Chapel @ 12:00 p.m.



DEC
11

SUNDAY

Christmas Cantata

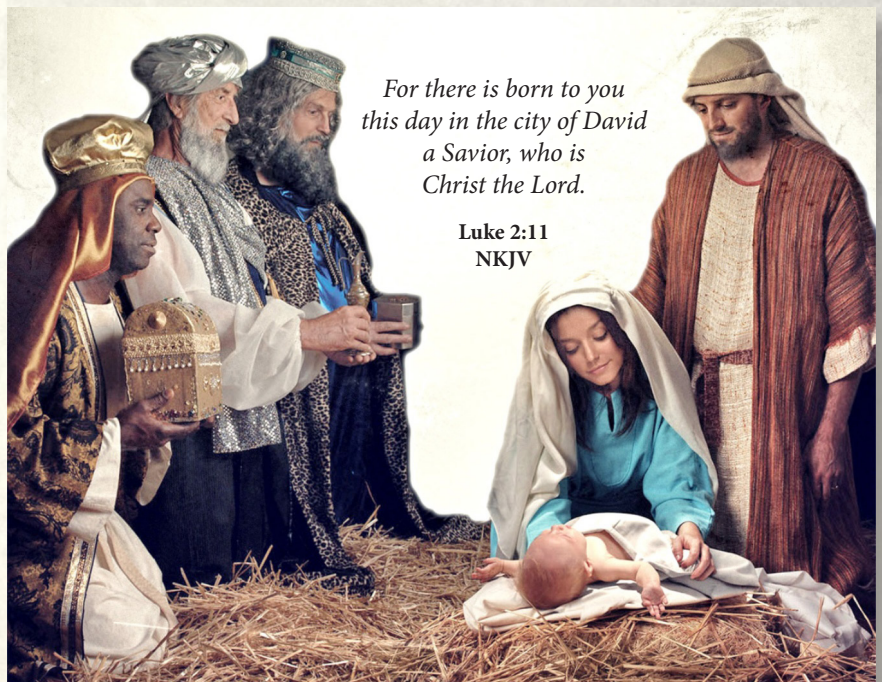
Jesus! The Advent of the Messiah
Mary McDonald & Rose Aspinall
(Orchestrated by Ed Hogan)

Sunday, December 11, 2022
Sanctuary @ 10:00 a.m.

Presented by Chancel Choir &
Jack Armstrong, *Director of Music*

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Saturday, December 24, 2022



Christmas Eve Family Worship

Chapel @ 4 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sanctuary @ 9:30 p.m.



DEC
18

SUNDAY

Christmas Pageant & Holidaze Happening

Sunday, December 18, 2022
Sanctuary @ 10:00 a.m.
&
Dining Room @ 11:15 a.m.



**DEC
21**

WEDNESDAY

Blues Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 21, 2022
Chapel @ 6:00 p.m.
Modern Seasonal Worship feat. Jazz



**DEC
25**

SUNDAY

Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, December 25, 2022
Chapel @ 10 a.m.

OFFICE CLOSURES

CHURCH CLOSED

Monday, December 26th
Christmas Day Observance

CHURCH CLOSED

Monday, January 2nd
New Year's Day Observance



Seasons Greetings from the Scrip Committee!

We hope you include purchasing scrip cards in your holiday shopping plans. We have cards on hand for Starbucks, Amazon, Target, Walmart, Mobil & Shell gas, Woodman's, and Valli. There are restaurant cards, including Applebee's, Culver's, Subway, Backyard Grill, Longhorn Steakhouse, Red Lobster, and Panera to name a few. We have AMC movie cards that someone on your list might enjoy. Also note that cards can be purchased for Pastor Cal to use for those in need. Please stop by the Scrip table before or after church to see if we can help you and benefit the church too!

Merry Christmas from Scrip to you!

HERE ARE SOME OTHER SCRIP IDEAS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

- Barnes & Noble
- Bath & Body Works
- Beef-a-Roo
- Best Buy
- Foot Locker
- GameStop
- Hallmark
- iTunes
- JC Penney
- Kohl's
- Macy's
- Marshalls/ T.J. Maxx
- Pottery Barn
- Talbots
- Ulta Beauty



United Women in Faith Luncheon & Carol Sing

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 12:30 PM

After the Mid-Week Advent Service, join the UWF for an afternoon of Lunch, Christmas Carols, and Christmas Trivia.

**No RSVP required. All are welcome.
Free-will donations appreciated.**



Court Street United Methodist Church
 The Chimes December 2022
 215 North Court Street
 Rockford, IL 61103-6897

Return Service Requested

Phone: (815) 962-6061 Fax: (815) 962-9754
 www.courtstreetumc.org

Thank you for volunteering!

December 4, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team
 Sound Tech: Ryan Welk
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Kaylee Bulliner
 Liturgist: Cindy Anderson

December 11, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team
 Sound Tech: Tim Welk
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Lili Breson
 Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

December 18, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team
 Sound Tech: Ryan Welk
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Ella Anderson
 Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

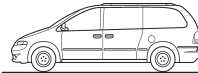
December 25, 2022

10:00 AM Ushers: The DuWayne Stanis Team
 Sound Tech: Tim Welk
 Video Tech: Steve Ripley
 Acolyte: Lili Breson
 Liturgist: Volunteer welcome.

Livestream Techs:

Krysta Tilges & Ella Anderson

If you wish to receive The Chimes electronically
 or to be removed from this mailing,
 please call the church office at (815) 962-6061
 or e-mail Communications@courtstreetumc.org.



Need a Ride to Church?

Riders, please call drivers for a ride by 6 p.m,
 on the Saturday before the Sunday you wish to attend.

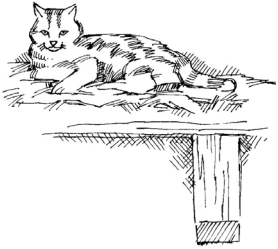
Riders must wear a mask, be fully vaccinated, and able to
 show their vaccine card to the driver if requested.

12/04/22	Bruce Shindel	815-397-1479
12/11/22	Jeff Mann	815-742-5444
12/18/22	Curly Thompson	815-988-2735
12/25/22	Tim Gorman	815-636-0514
01/01/23	Jeff Mann	815-742-5444

Please thank these men for making this ministry work!

Court Street United Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Calvin Culpepper	Pastor	ext. 220	cculpepper@courtstreetumc.org
Ryanne Ludington	Director of Christian Education		ludingtonryanne@gmail.com
James L. Crow	Director of Arts Ministries	ext. 209	jlcrow@live.com
Krysta Tilges	Director of Video Ministries		ktilges@gmail.com
Jack Armstrong	Director of Music	ext. 221	gogo234@att.net
Andrew Mertenich	Organist		andrew.mertzenich@gmail.com
Teresa Field	Parish Nurse		Teresabsf5@yahoo.com
Verlette Gorman	Church Administrator	ext. 202	ChurchAdmin1@courtstreetumc.org
Tiffany Wilken	Publications Secretary	ext. 200	Communications@courtstreetumc.org
Bert Cromwell	Nursery		
Mike Smith	Maintenance Engineer	ext. 295	Maintenance@courtstreetumc.org



Our prayers and sympathy go to the family of
Catherine "Kay" Pang who died on November 6, 2022

Birthdays

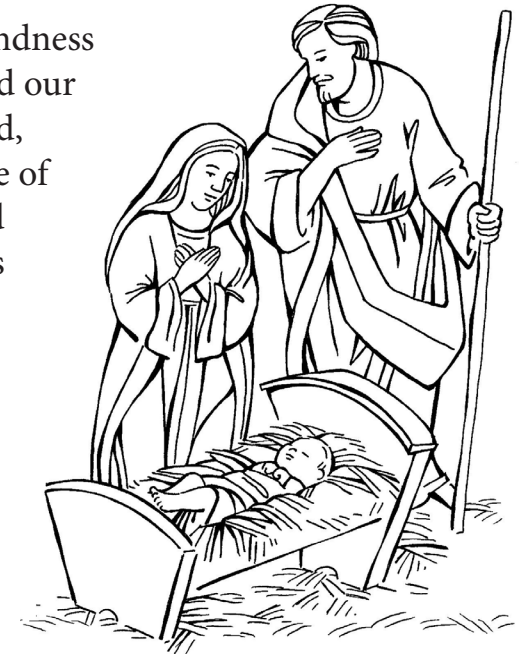
Wedding Anniversaries

Name	Date	Name	Date
Rodgers, Morgan	1	Froeber, Callie	11
Tkadletz, JoAnne	1	Ludington, Ryanne	12
Davis, Patricia	2	Scott, Keli	12
Mann, Jeff	2	Wilson, Heather	12
Enderly, Brenda	3	Gilmore, Gerald	13
Earnest, Cassandra	5	Nelson, Kimberly	13
Olsen, TJ	5	Gerber, Leta	15
Hagele, Carolyn	7	Meyers, Linda	16
Lundberg, Rozanna	7	Pearson, Linda	16
DeRango, Julia	8	Gibbons, James	21
Crawford, Douglas	9	Dingus, Tim	22
Korn, Verneal	9	Gelico, Logan	22
McCauley, Lois	10	Stanis, Nancy	22
		Rittmeyer, Glen	24
		Crawford, Marcie	25
		Froeber, Mariah	27
		Morgan, Jacquelyn	27
		Deleon III, Filomeno	29
		Hagele, Elliott	29
		Mott, Melissa	30










Name	Date	Year	Married
Lundberg, Rozanna and Quentin	5	2008	14
Ferry, Eugene and Barbara	27	1970	52

But when the kindness
and love of God our
Savior appeared,
he saved us, not because of
righteous things we had
done, but because of his
mercy.

Titus 3:4-5, NIV



December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 08:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 10:00 AM Stewardship Team 01:00 PM The Journeymen	2 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	3 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
4 09:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Advent Special Study 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell 11:15 AM Youth Activities	5 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	6 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Exercise Class 6:00 PM JuBellation Rehearsal 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7  08:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 10:30 AM UMW Leadership Team 12:00 PM Mid-Week Advent Service 12:30 PM UWF Luncheon 04:00 PM Staff Meeting	8 08:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 01:00 PM The Journeymen 06:00 PM Chatterbox Supper Group	9 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	10 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 8:30 AM United Methodist Men Breakfast
11  09:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service - Xmas Cantata 11:15 AM Advent Special Study 11:15 AM Facetime by the Big Bell 11:15 AM Youth Activities	12 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 4:00 PM Worship Committee	13 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Exercise Class 5:30 PM Trustees 6:00 PM JuBellation Rehearsal 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	14  08:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 12:00 PM Mid-Week Advent Service	15  CHIMES DEADLINE 08:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 01:00 PM The Journeymen	16 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	17 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment
18  09:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service (Christmas Pageant) 11:15 AM Advent Special Study 11:15 AM Holiday Happening	19 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 4:00 PM Finance Committee 5:00 PM Administrative Council	20 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Exercise Class 6:00 PM JuBellation Rehearsal 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	21  08:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 12:00 PM Mid-Week Advent Service 04:00 PM Staff Meeting 05:30 PM No IL Wood Turners 06:00 PM Blues Christmas Service	22 08:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 12:00 PM Jeremiah Exec. Board 01:00 PM The Journeymen	23 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	24  8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Service 9:30 PM Candlelight Service
25  09:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service in the Chapel	26  CHURCH CLOSED - CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE	27 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 9:00 AM History & Archives 9:00 AM Quilters 9:30 AM Exercise Class 6:00 PM JuBellation Rehearsal 6:15 PM Knitting Group 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	28 08:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	29 08:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings 01:00 PM The Journeymen	30 8:30 AM Beautiful Beginnings	31 8:00 AM Rockford Rhythm/Phantom Regiment