December

Merry Christmas Midwest City Church

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

We are in the midst of Advent, the season of anticipation, as we look forward to the celebration of Christmas, and rejoice in the promise that Jesus will come again. This is a season to experience the joy of the Lord—and pass the joy on to someone whose life is missing joy right now. Throughout this newsletter you will see many ways that we can share the joy. Check dates and times for:



Children's Christmas program, December 20 Christmas Eve Candlelight service, December 24 Christmas Sunday with baptisms, December 27

Many have expressed joy at the results of the sanctuary renovation, as we had our first services with the new "look" and new equipment, November 22. If you have not worshiped with us recently, be sure to join us on a Sunday morning soon to enjoy the renovated atmosphere and find inspiration through the Advent and Christmas scriptures and songs. And plan now to recommit your life to serving God with all your heart, at the annual John Wesley Covenant Service, Wednesday evening, December 30, at 7:00 PM.

Each year, many make end-of-year gifts to the church budget, building fund, and special ministries. We can all review our giving patterns for the year and ask the Lord what more we can be doing! Last year our budget ended the year in the black with a gift received in the mail December 31. A little less suspense would be welcome this year!

And finally, words of thanks and congratulation: At the annual Anniversary Service on November 22, this year's Christian Service Award was presented to **Martha Borgers**. THANKS, Martha, for faithful service at the piano, at the Bread of Life Food Bank, in leading a Women's Bible Study group, hosting with your husband the Del City Community Life Group—and so much more! Congratulations, also to Associate Pastor **Jeremy Smith**, for successful completion of the six-week class for military chaplain assistants, in South Carolina. We missed you and are glad to have you back! A blessed Christmas season to all!

In the Love of Christ, Pastor Dwight T Gregory



Christmas Sunday
On Christmas Sunday, December 27th
we will celebrate the birth of Christ with
a baptism service. Please join us as we
celebrate the Savior's birth.

Christmas Eve Service

We are planning a Christmas Eve service of music and scripture to celebrate the coming of Jesus our savior, at 7:00 PM on December 24, in the sanctuary. This short and simple service is a wonderful way to help your family center on the real meaning of Christmas. It is also a great time to invite a friend for a friendly introduction to our church and to the message of Jesus. Some surveys have indicated that for young families who are thinking about visiting a church, Christmas Eve is the number one time to take that brave step!









You are invited to join us Sunday, December 20th at 6:30PM to this year's children's Christmas Program A Shepherds Story.

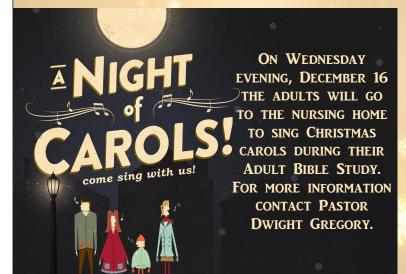
Senior Adult Luncheon

The Senior Adults will meet Friday,
December 11th at the church at 12:00PM.
Please bring a covered dish to share.
Contact Mary Nixon if you have any
questions at 974.1250.

Holiday Cheer, to celebrate this time of year.

The youth will meet at the Church on Saturday, December 12 at 6PM to have their annual Christmas Party!

Please bring \$3 for pizza and a wrapped ornament for an ornament gift exchange.



DRESS REHEARSAL

On Saturday, December 19, at 1:00pm, the children will have a dress rehearsal for the children's Christmas play. All children who are part of the play are required to attend. The van will not be picking children up for the rehearsal.

Christmas Caroling

Following the Dress Rehearsal on Saturday, December 19th, the children will go sing Christmas carols to some of our senior adults.

Please pick your child up from the church at 4:00PM. For more information contact Anita Baird at 659.3322.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The office will be open Monday, December 21-23.

The office will be closed on January 1st. If you need pastoral care please contact Pastor Dwight Gregory.

JOHN WESLEY COVENANT SERVICE
Join us Wednesday, December 30th at 7PM
for our John Wesley Covenant Service—
a Traditional service that has been conducted
since the 18th century. The service will last
approximately one hour with worship,
singing and Communion.



