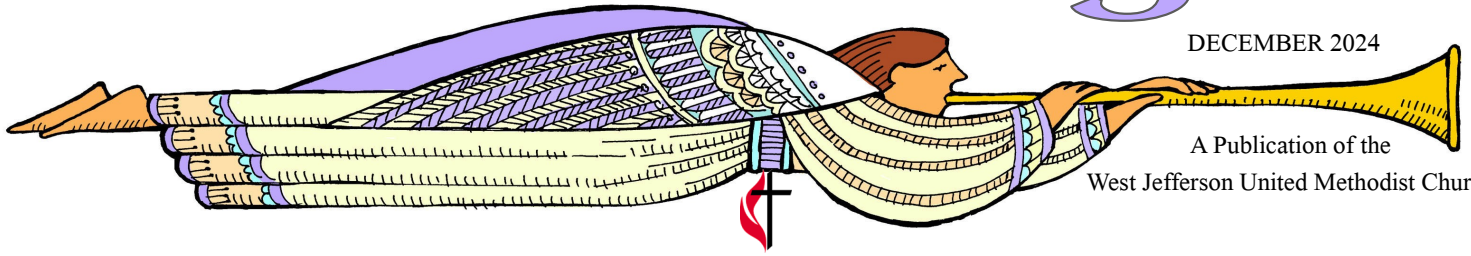


# Messenger

DECEMBER 2024



A Publication of the  
West Jefferson United Methodist Church

## *Waiting and Anticipating*

*By Pastor Ruth Tribe*

### **The Coming Of God**

*Our God is the One who comes to us in a burning bush, in an angel's song, in a newborn child.  
Our God is the One who cannot be found locked in the church, not even the sanctuary.  
Our God will be where God will be with no constraints, no predictability.  
Our God lives where our God lives, and destruction has no power and even death cannot stop the living.  
Our God will be born where God will be born, but there is no place to look for the One who comes to us.  
When God is ready God will come,  
Even to a God-forsaken place like a stable in Bethlehem.  
Watch...  
For you know not when God comes.  
Watch, that you might be found whenever, wherever God comes.*



Ann Weems "Kneeling In Bethlehem"

Waiting, watching, and anticipating. That's what Advent is about. We are waiting, watching, and anticipating the arrival of God in our midst. The coming of God into this world to be human must figure among the greatest events in all history. Yet in our over-Christmased culture we have trivialized the true Nativity Story in favor of images of Santa and gushing about the warmth of the true Christmas spirit.

Christmas, of course is not, at its core, about spiced cider, gaily-wrapped presents, and shining ornaments. It is about the incarnation, the en-fleshment of the Son of God as a human being. This story did not take place in a decorated villa of Nazareth or a sterilized stable in Bethlehem. The story unfolded among real people whom God called for a purpose beyond themselves -- and who responded, "Yes," when called. It is a story of discipleship and risk, of faith and hope, of intimate, caring love, and bold never-to-turn-back decisions. The true story of Christmas has the power to re-ignite living faith in you and deepen the quality of your discipleship.

May you and yours look for the coming, not in the midst of the shopping, the hurrying, and the craziness that can usurp the season of joy. Look and He can be found. Make some room in your life for the Babe who is to come. Come to worship and special programs here at church and in our community and you will begin to see and feel the Christmas spirit and the glow of the season.

Have a wonderful, anticipatory Advent, and a holy Christmas!

***This Advent let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that the Lord has made known to us.***

***In the midst of shopping sprees let's ponder in our hearts the Gift of Gifts.***

***Through the tinsel let's look for the gold of the Christmas Star.***

***In the excitement and confusion, in the merry chaos, let's listen for the brush of angel's wings.***

***This Advent, let's go to Bethlehem and find our kneeling places.***

**Ann Weems "In Search Of Our Kneeling Places"**

**See you in church!**

**Pastor Ruth**



**FINANCIAL NEWS ; Duane Stokes, Treasurer**

General Fund 2024

OCTOBER YTD

GF Income	13,834.31	131,306.83
GF Expenses	12,611.38	148,523.63
	1,222.93	-17,216.80

Making a donation is as easy as scanning the code!

Here are the current giving options:

- General Fund
- Youth Ministry
- Altar Flowers
- UMCOR—United Methodist Committee on Relief



*Whether you choose to give online or in person, your support is vital to the continued success of our church community. We are so grateful for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission.*

*Thank you again for all that you do.*

*Blessings!*

*WJUMC Finance Committee*

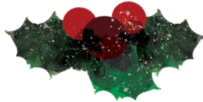


*Be sure to pick up your poinsettia orders after the cantata on Tuesday, December 24th!*



*High School Chamber Choir Concert!*

Sunday  
December 15th  
2pm  
36 S Center St  
West Jeff UMC



**Youth Schedule**

Jan 15th	6-7:30p
Jan 25th	Winter Jam @ Schott.
Feb 7th	Youth Outing @ Powell UMC
Feb 12th	6-7:30p
Mar 12th	6-7:30p
Apr 9th	6-7:30p
May 14th	6-7:30p



**UMC Women**

Saturday, 12/7 9am	Breakfast Meeting @ Der Dutchman
Saturday, 12/21 9am	Breakfast Meeting @ Community Breakfast



*Christmastime*

*Verses*

CANTATA 2024



*rob't. pearce*

Verses & Artwork by Robert Pearce





**West Jefferson  
United Methodist Church  
2024**

**It's poinsettia season!** The cost of each poinsettia is **\$Z** for a 6.5" pot, and the deadline to order is **Monday, December 9th**.

If you wish to purchase a poinsettia, please complete the order form below. Checks should be made **payable to West Jefferson UMC** and indicate **"Poinsettia"** on your check or offering envelope. Place your order form in the offering plate or in the church office. Thank you!

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**# of Red:** \_\_\_\_\_ **# of White:** \_\_\_\_\_

**# of Plants** \_\_\_\_\_ **x** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amt Paid:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Church office: 614-879-8130; wjumc@att.net**  
**\$7 per plant.**  
**Checks payable to West Jefferson United Methodist Church**

# Christmas Party

**DECEMBER 1ST**  
**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING**  
**THE CHURCH SERVICE**

**WEAR YOUR**  
**FAVORITE CHRISTMAS**  
**SWEATER AND BRING**  
**A DISH TO SHARE!**

Baked potato bar will be provided.  
Enjoy some fun and fellowship! Make  
an ornament for your tree, decorate a  
cookie and grab some friends for a  
holiday photo!

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

# December 2024

## West Jefferson Upcoming Events

<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Worship 10a God's Kids 11a Alleluia Ringers 11:15a</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Boy Scouts 6:30p</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Food Pantry Set-up 7:30a Shawl Sisters 9a</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Food Pantry 2-3p Choir 7p</p>		<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Food Pantry 10-11a UMW@ Der Dutchman 9a</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Worship 10a God's Kids 11a Alleluia Ringers 11:15a</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Boy Scouts 6:30p</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Food Pantry Set-up 7:30a Shawl Sisters 9a</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Food Pantry 2-3p Choir 7p</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>		<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Food Pantry 10-11a UMW@ Der Dutchman 9a</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Worship 10a God's Kids 11a Alleluia Ringers 11:15a</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Boy Scouts 6:30p</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Food Pantry Set-up 7:30a Shawl Sisters 9a</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Food Pantry 2-3p Choir 7p</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Girl Scout Service Unit 6:30p</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Food Pantry 10-11a UMW@ Der Dutchman 9a</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Cantata 10a Alleluia Ringers 11:15a</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Leadership 6:30p Boy Scouts 6:30p</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Merry Christmas! No office hours Cantata 7p</p>		<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Food Pantry 10-11a UMW@ Der Dutchman 9a</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Worship 10a God's Kids 11a Alleluia Ringers 11:15a</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Boy Scouts 6:30p</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Happy New Year! No office hours</p>				



# December 2024

*West Jefferson* Birthdays & Anniversaries



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <i>Sarah Froncek</i> <i>Bob &amp; Jeanne Godden (A)</i>	<b>2</b> <i>Bentley Adkins</i>	<b>3</b> <i>Julie Alcott</i>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <i>Kelly Clark</i>	<b>6</b> <i>Maggie Bumgardner</i>	<b>7</b> <i>Chip &amp; Karen Salyer (A)</i>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <i>Curtis Laferty</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <i>Matt Rossi</i>	<b>12</b> <i>Chris Harper</i> <i>James West</i>	<b>13</b> <i>David Darding</i>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <i>Eric Clark</i> <i>David Detrow</i> <i>Kevin Ellinger</i>	<b>17</b> <i>Allyson Looby</i> <i>Jackie Looby</i>	<b>18</b> <i>Kerry McMahon</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <i>Duane Stokes</i>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <i>Vince &amp; Sarah Melfi (A)</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <i>Ed Braithwaite</i>	<b>28</b> <i>Sara Neufarth</i>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

# *Hello* WINTER

# Inclement Weather POLICY

As we enter into another winter season, always use discretion regarding travel to worship.

We will cancel for a **Level 3 Snow Emergency** and will always send out a mass email and phone call for any updates and changes

Remember services are posted weekly on YouTube and can also be accessed on the church's facebook page and website: [wjumc.org](http://wjumc.org),

*God bless and be safe!*



*Remember all our homebound members this season with an uplifting card or phone call ❤️*

Frank & Dixie Adkins	81 Mary Street, West Jefferson, OH 43162	614/879-9618
Sue and Ed Braithwaite	681 W Jeff Kiousville Rd, PO Box 42, West Jefferson, OH	614/879-9735
Geoff DeLong	71 Jones Street, West Jefferson, OH	614/309-7082
Gene & Barb Ellinger	169 Kings Way, West Jefferson, OH	614/879-9111
Charles Harbage	49 N Franklin Street, West Jefferson, OH	
Irene Kelley	4160 Trueman Blvd, Apt 301, Hilliard, OH 43026	614/345-9818
Helen Norris	517 Brookdale Dr, West Jefferson, OH	614/879-7398
Wanda Parks	744 Brookdale Dr, West Jefferson, OH	614/879-8217
Bob Pearce	77 S Chester Street, West Jefferson, OH	614/218-2136
Howard Southall	The Ashford of Grove City 3197 SW Blvd, Grove City, OH 43123	614/871-8222



## West Jefferson United Methodist Church

36 South Center Street

West Jefferson OH 43162

614-879-8130

Email: [wjumc@att.net](mailto:wjumc@att.net)

Rev. Ruth Pribe, Pastor

Email: [preacherlady@aol.com](mailto:preacherlady@aol.com)

Worship 10AM

Sunday School 10AM

YouTube, Facebook, or by CD (audio only)



**2024**