



St. John UMC Satellite

Invite * Relate * Nurture * Send forth

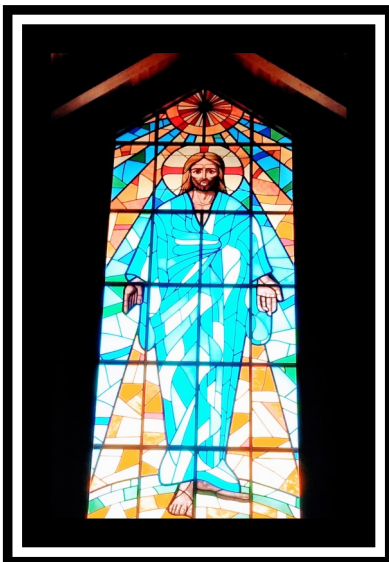
In the Fullness of Time

When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son.

Galatians 4:4 ESV

December 2022

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While our sense of time is shaped by our limited life spans, our impatience, our plans and agendas, our biological clocks, and the schedules imposed on us by others, God's sense of time is impeccable. Sometimes we wish he'd hurry up, and other times we think he's already too late. But God knows when the harvest is ripe and ready, and because our faith harvests more than we think—it involves other people, occasions for testimony, and ongoing ripple effects in peripheral facets of our lives—he waits until it has the maximum fruit for the greatest number of people. For us, that's hard to handle. For him, it's the fullness of time.

The long-awaited Messiah is the prime example. God's people surely thought many earlier moments would have been perfect for the deliverer to come, but God worked for centuries for the intersection of cultures, the expectations of his people, and the religious climate of an empire to come together in just the right way. In the minds of his people, this was long overdue. In the mind of God, the timing was perfect.

There are hints of pregnancy and

labor in today's verse—an appropriate metaphor for the seeds of faith that have been planted within us. God puts a promise deep within the soil of our hearts, and we wait until the time of labor for its birth to come. That wait can seem uncomfortably and even painfully long. So can the labor pains we experience at the time of fulfillment; his promises often come forth with a bit of trauma. But while we wait, we nourish those seeds, watch over them, and create the right climate for them to grow. We are pregnant with the promises he has given.

God is teaching us the way of faith, so we rarely experience immediate answers to our asking. But that doesn't mean nothing is happening. Seasons shift, plans develop, conditions ripen, and the harvest is never late. God—the master gardener, the fulfiller of divine purposes, the giver of life—is at work. And when the time is right, life comes forth. And it is always worth the wait.

The birth of Jesus is the sunrise in the Bible.

Henry Van Dyke

Devotion (cont.)

God's time and timing does not always match with my calendar boxes and my to-do list. Nothing has shown me God's fulfillment of a promise and how slow time seems to go than these last 2 months before my granddaughter is born. Seeing the ultrasounds and her development along the way has made the wait both exciting and extra long—she has hair and plays with her toes!! It is a miracle, truly, God's "harvest" of this tiny creature.

As I watch Piper grow and we enter this Christmas season, I can't help but think about God's timing for the birth of His Son Jesus Christ. What made that time perfect? The writer, and I am sure theologians, say God waited for the "intersection of cultures, expectations of his people, and the religious climate of an empire" to all meet in a perfect storm, so to speak, so that the TIME was right. Does that mean Mary was in the right place at the right time? Was Mary to be Jesus' mom all along? After all Jeremiah 1:5 says, "**Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.**" Either way, I can only imagine her anxiousness during the 9 months and wanting to see this Miracle, God's Son. An angel had to tell her Jesus was coming, so what a pregnancy she must have had!!

If THAT time, long ago, was perfect with all those "things" God deemed necessary colliding, how is today different? As I watch the commercials and see the commercialism of Christmas, haven't we forgotten why we have the season in the first place?

Isn't this time perfect again for God to remind us or do something to bring attention back to His Son? I realized as I was thinking this—we are meant to keep Jesus in the season. We as Christians, we as a church are meant to be a witness to others. God called us! Mark 16:15 says, **And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation."** What better time and opportunity to spread the love and word of Jesus Christ than during this Christmas season? Pray for someone, invite someone to church, witness to another, be kind to others in the long lines, or find a community of believers with whom to worship. These are just a few ideas I have for bringing the love of the Christ Child to others in a time that is really stressful to many.

May the blessings of God's Son, Jesus Christ, be upon you this December. May you find some time to reflect on FAITH, family, church, and friends.

Love,

Sondra Jones

In the Fullness of Time taken from **The One Year Praying in Faith Devotional** by Chris Tiegreen

Dec 25th

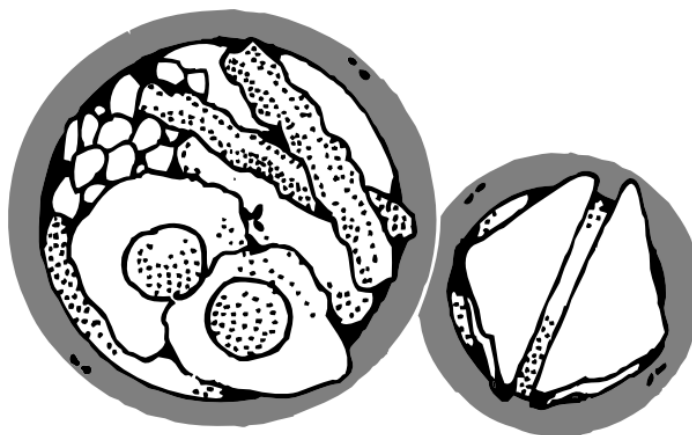


Methodist Men's News

After a few months of inviting political candidates to our breakfast, which was very much a success, we returned to our normal meeting agenda on Saturday. November 19, with a good attendance. After a great breakfast, Tony led in the devotional and prayer time.. There are several members of St. John, who are ailing and in need of our prayers. We will

meet next on Saturday Dec.17 at 8:30 am. We hope to see you there, and bring a friend!

Submitted by Jim H



ST Benedict's Dates

St. Benedict's is the first Monday of each Month @ 7:45pm

December 5	May 1
January 2	June 5
February 6	July 3
March 6	August 7
April 3	September 4

Not sure about the dates, check out the calendar feature on our website,

stjohnum.org .

_Submitted by, Vicki Hast



RECIPES

Easy Cinnamon Roll Casserole

Ingredients needed:

2 tubes Pillsbury Grand cinnamon rolls (17.5 oz size works best)

1/4 cup melted butter

2 eggs

1/2 cup heavy whipping cream

2 tbsp. flour

3 tsp cinnamon

1 tsp vanilla extract

1/2 cup finely chopped pecans

Icing from rolls

Powdered sugar

Creamy Chicken Tortilla Soup

Ingredients needed:

2 Chicken breasts

2 tbsp. butter

1 small yellow onion, chopped

1 jalapeño pepper, diced

3 cloves garlic, smashed

1 tbsp. tomato paste

1 15 oz can corn, drained

1 10 oz Rotel diced tomatoes with green chilies, undrained

1 15 oz can of black beans, drained & rinsed

5 cups chicken broth

1 pinch Cayenne pepper

1 tsp cumin

1 taco packet

1 1/2 cups cheddar cheese, softened

1/3 cup cream cheese, softened

Directions:

Melt butter and coat 9X13 pan. (Extra is fine.) In a bowl, beat eggs, cream, flour, cinnamon and vanilla.

Open canned rolls and cut into pieces. Place pieces into egg mixture and toss to coat thoroughly. Pour all of this into prepared pan. Sprinkle with pecans

Bake at 350 degrees until light golden brown. (Make sure middle dough is done.) Melt icing and pour over pieces. Sprinkle with powdered sugar.

Directions: In a skillet, soften onion, pepper and garlic.

I do this in a crockpot over low for 6 hours...Put all ingredients except cheese and cream cheese in crockpot with chicken on the bottom. After 5 hours on low, take chicken out and shred it and put back in the crockpot.

Add cheese and cream cheese, that are softened. Stir as it melts to combine. Let cook another hour.

Serve with tortilla chips, avocado, cheese, and sour cream, if desired.

**I have used Rotisserie chicken and cooked for 3 hours on low just so flavors combine.

December Choir Notes by Sondra Jones



I was reading from Today in the Word, many have gotten out of the habit of attending church and think that they can get the same experience watching or listening to a service. Church is not only about the sermon, music, and prayer—it is about meeting together with a community of believers who encourage each other in love, prayer and fellowship. That to me is what lifts me and sets the tone for my week. If you have gotten out of the habit, COME back!! We miss you!

The church is beautifully decorated. The Hanging of the Greens Service was special and got my heart ready for the season. AND Jesus' birthday is very near! What a wonderful time to be a Christian and believer in our Lord! This time of year, the music, scent of cookies baking, twinkle of lights, decorations all around, excite me, even at my age. Don't get me wrong—I wish the traffic lines were shorter and grocery lines were faster, but all-in-all, I love this time of year. (NOT the cold, though.)

I can only imagine Mary and Joseph's excitement as they awaited the birth of their child. Adding to the excitement

and nervousness of a first baby, is the fact he's God's Son—JESUS!! Whew! I remember thinking when I came home from the hospital with Emily...OK, now what do I do with her? Imagine being as young as they say Mary was, having God's one and only Son and also having all the normal anxiety new moms have. She and Joseph must have made a powerful team to do what they did.

Our choir is "caroling" Christmas music for the Cantata on Wednesday nights in preparation for Sunday, December 18th. We will present the Cantata during the morning service. Make plans to attend and invite someone. Many new faces and voices have joined us but there is a seat for YOU!! If you like to sing and haven't joined us, please do so! There is still time to join in the Christmas season celebration with song.

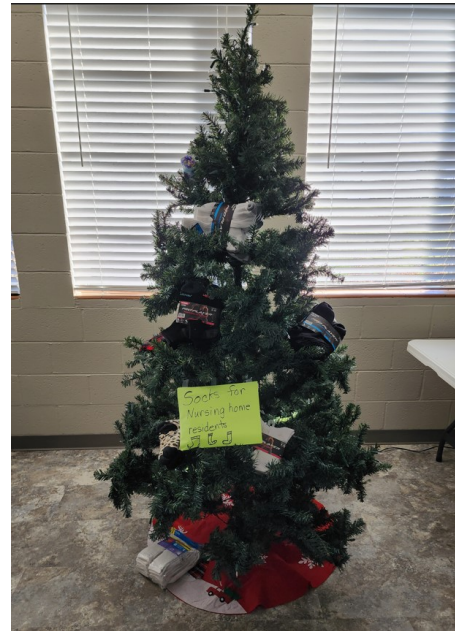
May all the blessings of the Christ Child come to you and your loved ones during this season. May you find some time to reflect on the season's true meaning in all the hurry and scurry!

Hugs to all,

Sondra Jones

Got Socks??

Help cover the “Sock” tree in the fellowship hall! Sock donations are being accepted for Nursing Home residents during this Christmas season. The socks do not have to be slip-resistant, just warm and useful. Please continue to bring in socks to adorn our tree!



New Pastor

The new pastor, David Turner will preach his first Sunday on December 11. We are so happy to welcome them to our church family! A welcome meal is planned for Sunday, December 18 at Old Hickory

at 5 pm. Please make plans to attend and welcome David and his wife, Linda to St. John. What better way to introduce them to Owensboro than with wonderful fellowship, fun and BBQ?!

United Women in Faith News

Ladies of the church, you are invited to join the United Women in Faith at 2 pm on December 11 for our annual Christmas Party to honor the Mary Kendall Home. An offering will be taken to help provide Christmas for the girls. Come join

us as we celebrate with food, fellowship and fun.

Our next regular meeting will be in January. We meet the first Tuesday of the month.

Family Life News

Our church was blessed with a great gathering for food and fellowship in November. Our love for each other was so evident in the coming together for the Harvest Dinner. Thanks to all who made it a success—from helping to set up tables and decorate, volunteering to cook the turkey and ham, bringing yummy sides and fabulous desserts and—not least of all, helping do clean-up! Thank you! Every year you all make it a wonderful occasion.

This year the committee has a few openings to fill. If you would like to join us in this important work in the church, please contact me. We will be planning next year's activities and events and would love some new input! Tentatively plans are in the works

for a family game night on January 15th (perhaps with a chili cook-off). There will be no planned activity in December so that we all may share a blessed holiday season with family and friends.

Merry Christmas!

Submitted by
Dorothy Koeplinger, Co-Chair
270-401-8702

Welcome,
Pastor David
and Linda
Turner

Nativity Scene

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Small One

Sheep

Donkey

Peace

Glory

Christ

Good Tidings

City of David

Hay

Lord

Taxed

Judea

Inn Keeper

Inn

God

Messiah

Savior

Joy

Angels

Bethlehem

King Herod

Caesar Augustus

Wise Men

Shepherds

Joseph

Virgin

Mary

Star

Jesus

Christmas

Food & Fellowship

Supper Club meets once a month for dinner at a local restaurant. Food and fellowship is had by those who attend! We will not be meeting in the month of December due to all of the holiday activities and busy schedules but look forward to seeing everyone in the new year. Here is the new schedule of places to eat coming starting in January 2023! You will, also, find the restaurant choices in our Satellite issues, bulletins and on the calendar on our website stjohnum.org.

Have a great Holiday and see you soon!!

Here are the new dates:

Jan 24 New China
 Feb 28 Briar Patch
 March 28 Old Hickory
 April 25 Cracker Barrel
 May 23 Olive Garden
 June 27 Colby's
 July 25 New China
 August 22 Briar Patch
 Sept 26 Old Hickory
 Oct 24 Cracker Barrel
 Nov 28 Moonlight
 Dec No supper Club



Nursery workers needed!! Sign-up sheet is outside of the church office. If there are more volunteers, each would only need to work once a month. Please be in prayer about your chance to help in this wonderful Outreach Program!! You can now do the Safe Sanctuary training online. See Beverly

Plain for more information.



Budget Boosters

Got coins?! Ms. Beverly, aka. Memaw knows where you can put them....in the Silver Dimes for Golden Dreams jar. That jar holds coins other than dimes too! It will



hold quarters, nickels and pennies. I am pretty sure it will even hold paper money. All the money stays here and is used for needed items. See Beverly Plain if you have a question.

Christmas Shopping Made Easy!!

Miss Beverly is playing Santa by helping you Christmas shop once again this year.

Check out the book in the Narthex and place your order by Sunday, December 4.

Rada Knives are great gifts for those who love to cook!



Knives will be in before Christmas, so you can plan to give them as a gift!

Thank You!!

A sincere thank you goes out to those who have blessed us with their sermons and presence during November and December! Our church is very grateful. We enjoyed each of your visits and hope

you return to see us again soon....Thank you, Keith Switzer, Dr. Jay Smith, Shawn Tomes and Chris Toney. We are so lucky to have people like you willing to serve.



Open hearts.
Open minds.
Open doors.

St. John United Methodist
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Editor: Sondra Jones
Editor

Dec 11, Welcome new Pastor & wife, David & Linda Turner.

Dec 11, 2-4 pm, Women in Faith Christmas Party

Dec 18, 10 am, Christmas Cantata

Dec 18, 5 pm, Old Hickory

We're on the Web!
www.stjohnum.org

Check us out on Facebook!

Twitter: stjohnumc1

FOR UNTO US A

Child is born

UNTO US A *son* IS GIVEN
and His Name shall be called

Wonderful Counselor

THE MIGHTY GOD
the Everlasting Father

Prince of Peace
ISAIAH 9:6