



So All May Know Joy

BUMC Weekly Connection—Dec 8

This Sunday, Dec 10 @ 9:00 am

Also on Buffalo United Methodist Church's Facebook Page & YouTube!

Prepare | Sermon Series

Anyone who has hosted a Christmas dinner or party can tell you, there is a ton of preparation that goes into throwing these holiday celebrations. Many of us find ourselves doing lots of preparing in this busy season of lights, tinsel, and wrapping paper. Yet, what are we really preparing for? Who are we really preparing for? This Advent, hear God's call: "Prepare!" – for the coming one, Jesus. Hear this imperative as an invitation to strip away all the fuss and ready your heart and life for the change that is coming when Jesus gets here.



This Sunday – GET READY | MARK 1:1-8 To get ready is to prepare our hearts and lives for Jesus.

Scripture Reading

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way" "a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with[e] water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
Mark 1:1-8 (NIV)

Next Sunday— TESTIFY | JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28 To testify is to tell how our story is part of God's story.

Sunday Fellowship Check out the coffee, treats and great conversation after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Coffee and Worship

The two best things on Sunday morning are coffee and worship, and we welcome you to bring yours in to the sanctuary. However, in order to preserve our beautiful newly remodeled sanctuary we ask that you bring a covered coffee cup from home when bringing your cup into the sanctuary.





Other Ministry Updates

- Dec 10** 9:00 am Worship with Handbells
10:00 am Fellowship
10:00 am Education Hour
1:30 PM Christmas Caroling
- Dec 12** 7:00 pm Leadership Team Meeting
- Dec 13** 3:00 pm Guest Connection Meeting
6:00 pm Confirmation Focus Night
6:30 pm Handbells
- Dec 14** 12:00 pm Experiencing Christmas Study
- Dec 17** 9:00 am Worship with Handbells
10:00 am Fellowship
10:00 am Education Hour
10:00 am Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Christmas Caroling

There is still time to sign up for Christmas Caroling this **Sunday** afternoon!

We'll meet here at church at **1:30 pm** and spread some joy to our church family at home! The plan is to be back at church between 4:00 and 4:30.



Happy Birthday, Jesus Party



Everyone's invited to celebrate Jesus's Birthday on **December 17th** after worship in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us as we celebrate with cake, games, crafts and a photo booth too! More details coming your

way. Please bring any of the following items to donate in honor of Jesus's birthday celebration next Sunday: diapers, baby wipes, snack items for kids, cereal. All items will be donated the following week.

2024 Promise Cards Still Welcome

If you were gone or didn't turn in your promise cards for 2024, both for financial estimate of giving and Using My Gifts to Serve, please bring them in. We welcome them through the end of the year, but appreciate having them as soon as possible. Not only does it help the church in planning ministry, it also helps you find clarity and joy in your faith walk and spiritual growth.

Sparkle Box

Have you noticed others doing kind things or have you done something kind for someone else.? Take a moment to write it down and put it in the Sparkle Box in the entry way. This will be our gift to Jesus on Christmas.



Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

We will be having our regular **9:00 am** Worship service and also a **5:00 pm** Christmas Eve Candlelight service. Please consider inviting a friend who may be looking for a place to worship. If you're not able to participate in person, you'll find the service posted on YouTube and Facebook shortly afterwards. On Christmas Day at **1:00pm** we'll host our annual Christmas Day Dinner.

2024 Christmas Offering

This year our Christmas offerings will go to the Emma Norton Residence and the Simpson Housing Services. Emma Norton provides housing and growth for women and families on their journey to recovery and Simpson Housing houses, supports, and advocates for people experiencing homelessness.

2024 Offering Envelopes Available

If you requested offering envelopes for the coming year, they are available in the entryway. If you want envelopes but don't find any with your name on, please write your name down and take a book.

Thursday noon group study

Dec. 14 & 21

Things look, smell and taste differently during Advent and Christmas. These differences are a sign that God is about to do something radical and different.

Join us for *Experiencing Christmas: Christ in the Sights and Sounds of Advent* by Matt Rawle, on Thursdays at noon. We'll start each session with a short video then follow with discussion. Feel free to bring your lunch!

