

What's Up Weekly 12/8/20

### **What's Going on at the church?**

This Sunday we will continue our in-person services at 10:00 AM. We will continue offering these services online, through our Facebook page (which ultimately will take you to our Youtube page). We encourage you to tune in!

This Sunday we continue our Christmas series, where we allow the Characters of Christmas to introduce us to the values of obedience, faithfulness, praise, adoration, and belief. Due to many families quarantining before the Holiday's, we have decided to make all services through the end of the year "family services" with children' attending upstairs with their parents. This will give our volunteers a much needed break, but will also help foster a spirit of togetherness in our families. We think this is a great time of year to make that happen!

As such, services will probably be shortened by about 15 minutes, but we will have a Children's Ministry Moment each week from our new Director of Family Ministries, Bekah, and we will have some craft bags to help keep the kiddos engaged for the 15 minutes we are focusing on the adults.

### **Winter Wassail Updates:**

The Winter Wassail was a huge success, we had over 800 folks come through to see our lights and sip on some hot cider! A huge thank you to everyone on the committee and everyone that donated lights. We expect to expand next year and we already have some great ideas for what things can look like. Mark Shadden and Penny Shadden also deserve special recognition for the amount of work they personally put into our display. Many folks in the community commented on the display and shared their thanks!

Also a huge shoutout to everyone that helped decorate the inside of our church for the holidays. It looks great!

### **Christmas Eve Services!**

We will be having three Christmas Eve services this year. That will give us plenty of room to maintain distance while celebrating our savior's birth. Those times will be on Thursday, December 24th, at 4:00, 6:00, and 11:00. No need to sign up ahead of time. We look forward to having you celebrate with us!

### **End of Year Congregational Meeting:**

The Budget for 2021 Passed.

Mark Shadden was voted in for a 1 year truncated elder term to satisfy an unfulfilled term.

Curt Carter was voted in for an additional three years as an elder (his second term).

I'm unsure of the results of the Trustee's, but I will get that information to you in next weeks edition. Given the events of Sunday, I still have yet to be filled in on all of the specifics.

**Krista Update:**

Unfortunately on Sunday, most of you are aware that Krista had to be transported via ambulance to Carle during Sunday morning services. She suffered a fall that resulted in a fairly significant blunt force to the head. After going through quite a few tests, she was cleared and released Sunday afternoon. She is still in a fairly significant amount of physical pain and is experiencing fairly severe headaches. Thankfully, it seems that we avoided any long-term effects. I want to thank you for being the type of church that allowed me to vacate the pulpit and attend to my wife as she was being transported to the hospital.

Krista is slowly getting better, and was even up and out of bed today. She is hoping to return to work by the end of the week. Thank you all for your prayers and offers of food and anything else we've needed. It was definitely a scary situation, but God was with us through it all and continues to be. She will make a full recovery.

I am as convinced as ever that our church is really making the enemy angry! While spiritual attacks can sometimes be difficult, it shows us that Satan isn't too happy with our church and he's flailing about trying to cause trouble. That's good news because it means we are on the right path! I want to remind everyone that we already have victory through the blood of Christ, and it is our right to stand up to the enemy and continue declaring that victory over our church, our families, and our community. Things like this won't slow us down, we are excited to push through and see spiritual fruit in 2021, and we couldn't ask for a better church family to go on that journey with!