

December 2023 Newsletter

Batesville United Methodist Church

2023 Cross & Chi Encircled

The Gold Cross symbolizes the glory and majesty of God; the White Chi, the purity and perfection of our Savior; the Circle represents eternal life with Christ.

“For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.” John 6:40

We have an incredible group of dedicated individuals who have participated in making the 2023 Chrismons. They are Doris Brandes, Sharon Chia, Kin Choi, Bev Geisting, Ginny Hartshorn, Trish Hutchison, Charlotte Kothman, Amy Liter, Connie Miller, Marcy Moster, Kent Nettnay, Linda Straight, Mary Kay Roberts, and Nance Widdowson. Thank you!



106 South Park Avenue
Batesville, Indiana 47006
(812) 934-3137
batesvilleumc@gmail.com

Sunday Worship

8 a.m. Chapel Service
10 a.m. Sanctuary/Children’s Time

Nursery Available

Handicap Lift at the Alley Door #5
Ramp at Door #2 at the corner of
Park Street and South Street

Watch us live or check out our library at
www.batesvilleumc.org

Advent

Advent marks the beginning of our liturgical year. It is an important time in the life of the church and the life of disciples of Jesus Christ. Of course, you already are aware that Advent serves many purposes, as we have discussed in previous times. Advent is much more than a count-down to Christmas, our celebration of the Incarnation of the Christ. Advent is also about anticipation of much more, the second Coming of Jesus, it is about intentionality, preparation and the call of God in the life of all Christians.

I recently saw a video of a man who was leading a race, as he crossed the finish line he raised his arms and pumped his fist in celebration as he slowed to a stop. Only to have the other racers catch up and pass him. What he thought was the last lap, was actually the next to last lap. Rather than winning the race, he finished far back in the pack of racers.

What we celebrate and remember at Christmas is what God has done, a mighty and loving act for sure, but it was just the start of that work. So, we celebrate and remember but we must not forget that it is not the last lap. Advent reminds us of this, we remember what God has done, what God is doing but also what is still to come, the continuing call of God to work, to build, to grow and prepare for the next lap.

This has been a very good year! A lot has been accomplished, new people, more people, more kids, the building has been improved, people are engaged, Food Trucks are going out, the church is growing, and we celebrate and thank God for all of this. But we realize, it is another lap. We move forward to the coming year with the strength of faith that has grown this year and anticipate the continuing work of the Holy Spirit and the call of God in our lives and the life of the church.

So may we celebrate with hearts filled with joy as we also anticipate all the new things and ways God will work in us and through us in the coming year as we continue to work, to build and prepare for Christ final return and the fulfillment of all of God's promises!



Grace and peace

PC

Office Hours

Monday and Wednesday: by appointment with Pastor

Chris

Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m. to 1p.m.

Please Note: Pastor Chris is not in the office on Fridays.

Reminder

From our webpage you can watch our Sunday Services live or anytime with the archives!

www.batesvilleumc.org

Also on Facebook@Batesville United Methodist Church.

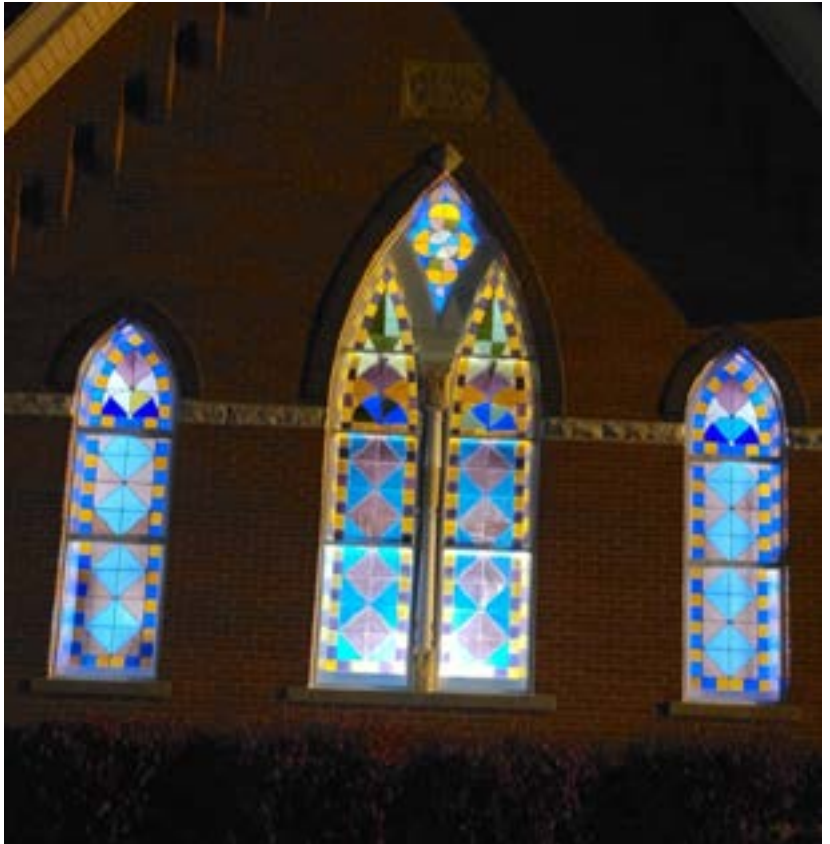
Trustee News

Trustees are mindful of keeping the church properties looking their best. The church cemetery looked very nice over Veteran's Day with flags placed on each Veteran's grave. Thank you to all who participated in honoring those who served. In keeping the cemetery grounds looking nice, the Trustees recently had two trees removed that had health issues and were causing concerns for grave sites.

If you drive past the church in the evenings after dark, you may have noticed that there are lights on in the sanctuary. Currently, two LED spotlights are shining towards the windows to light them up at night. They are on timers so they will turn on and off automatically. The idea is to illuminate those beautiful stained-glass windows. They are quite a site and make our church look even more inviting.

Blessings,

The Trustees



Thursday Evening Bible Study

We are meeting in person at 6:30 p.m. and currently topic is Confession, Repentance and Grace.

Food Pantry Update

Thank you for your holiday contributions to the food pantry. Through just before Thanksgiving, we have collected over 200 cookie and brownie mixes so far!

Please continue to drop off donations to the church.



Scriptures

December 3 - Mark 13:24-37 **Isaiah 64:1-9**

December 10 - Mark 1:1-8 **Isaiah 40:1-11**

December 17 - Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 **John 1:6-8, 19-28**

December 24 - 2 Samuel 7:1-11 **Luke 1:26-38**

December 31 - Galatians 4:4-7 **Luke 2:22-40**

(**Bold indicates sermon text**)

Birthdays

December 8	Nance Widdowson
December 10	Pastor Chris Renick
December 10	Kin Choi
December 14	Betty Lou Barber
December 15	Ron Simpson
December 19	Mary Weber
December 23	Val Stutler
December 26	Linda Crowell
December 26	Deb Obermeyer
December 30	Jim Rowland

Anniversaries

December 14	Chris & Jerilyn Lowery
December 23	Bob & Sheila Smith
December 24	Craig & Connie Summers
December 27	John & Vickie Greiwe

Calendar

Choir - Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Bible Study - Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

Sprouts - Wednesday, December 6 at 5:30 p.m.

Buds - Wednesday, December 13 at 5:30 p.m.

Administrative Council - Monday, December 18 at 6 p.m.

Flower volunteers

December 3	Bob & Carolee Barber
December 10	Todd & Yvonda Kramer
December 17	Pastor Chris & Angie Renick
December 24	Congregation
December 31	Congregation

Prayer List

Bishop Trimble
Rev. In Suk Peebles (CS)
Pastor Chris & Family
Shannon MacLaren

Susie Rowland

Family of Erleen Snyder

**Family of Marilyn Stanbrough and
daughter Rachel**

Kyle Hurtley

Rachel (Barb N. Niece)

Doris Brandes

Betty Lou Barber

Pam Walston

Craig Summers

Zayden

Mark Burkert

Rachael Hoff

Priscilla Elzey

Chris Schutte (Charlotte Kothman)

Tony Drummond (Susie)

Connie Summers

Mike Hultman

Vergie Bane

Nancy Dinnen

Hoagy Wright, John Lewis

Teachers and Students

Our Children and Youth

Batesville Community

Safe Passage

People in the Armed Forces

People of Ukraine

People in the Israel Palestine conflict

Susan Wonnell (Chateau)

Ginny and Ted Hartshorn (Chateau)

Gloria Riley (Chateau)

Ron Simpson (St. Andrews)

Naomi Melia (St. Andrews)

Virginia Smith (Aspen Place)



We are looking to update our prayer list. If you have any new information, please email the office or if you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please fill out an orange prayer card. You can find the prayer cards in the hymnal holders on the back of the pews.

Audio/Visual Team

Our team has been busy. We've put a lot of the work into our LiveStream service. We continue to make improvements. Our live 10 a.m. Sunday service is now available on the [Batesville United Methodist Church Facebook page](#).

Updates and improvements continue to be made on our new webpage.

Sprouts and Buds

Our youth are continuing to grow in their understanding of God’s love and the role of confession and repentance in the life of a disciple. Sharon has continued to teach a lesson in Chinese. Ga-Ga ball continues to be a favorite but we have also just recently added an axe throwing game (indoor and safe).

We are planning a Christmas party in December and a fundraiser in January for the Greenhill Amani School. Please continue to pray for our youth!

Blessings
PC

Batesville United Methodist Church is proud to announce that we will be funding the building of a fifth-grade classroom at Greenhill Amani School in Kenya. We are so blessed and thankful that through the support of BUMC not only are we nourishing the Batesville Community through our Food Trucks” we are nourishing others in the world.

To Love, Grow Share and Serve.

Share A Ride

- December 3 Bob & Carolee Barber
- December 10 Marc Emral & Kathy Newell
- December 17 Hoagy & Deb Wright
- December 24 Kathy Newell & Marc Emral
Sunday morning service
- December 24 Nance Widdowson
Christmas Eve Service
- December 31 Bob & Carolee Barber

Jacob’s Well

- December 3 Sean & Sarah Fitzgerald
- December 10 Hoagy & Deb Wright
- December 17 Gerry & Michele Werner
- December 24 Bob & Carolee Barber
- December 31 Kathy Newell & Marc Emral

Children’s Church

- December 3 Sharon Chia
- December 10 Kendall Messerschmidt
- December 17 Connie Miller
- December 24 Melissa Kramer
- December 31 Val Stutler

Liturgists

- December 3 Angie Renick
- December 10 Bob Barber
- December 17 Marc Emral
- December 24 Sean Fitzgerald
- December 31 Sarah Heppner

Greeters & Ushers

- December 3 Mary Kay Roberts & Keegan Moster
- December 10 Sean Fitzgerald & Betty Lou Barber
- December 17 Sean Fitzgerald & Sarah Fitzgerald
- December 24 Gerry Werner & Mary Kay Roberts
- December 31 Mike McIntosh & Teri McIntosh

Wreaths Across America

The Wreaths Across America initiative has a mission to Remember Our Fallen US Veterans, Honor those who serve, and Teach our children the value of freedom. This mission is fulfilled by placing a wreath on the graves of veterans during the holiday season.. This year, we are once again participating with the Ripley County Community Foundation to place wreaths throughout Ripley County by placing wreaths in our cemetery. Wreaths were purchased with our memorial funds.

If you would like to participate, we will be placing the wreaths on Saturday, December 16, at 9 a.m.



A wreath from last year's Wreaths Across America

Laying wreaths for Veterans Day



Community events

- Batesville Primary School Christmas Concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5, in the BHS gym.
- Holiday Spectacular, performances by BHS Concert Choir and Batesville Singers, BMS sixth-grade Choir, BIS Chorale and BHS Band at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, in BHS Auditorium. A free will offering is asked.
- A second Holiday Spectacular with performance by the BHS Concert Choir and Batesville Singers, BMS seventh- and eighth-grade choir and BHS Band will be at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, in the BHS Auditorium. A free will offering is asked.
- BMS Holiday Band Concert at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11, in the BHS Auditorium.
- Miss Shannon's Music Studio presents "Elf Jr. The Musical" at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, in the BHS Auditorium. Local children will be sharing their talents during the performance. The performance is free and open to the public.
- The BHS KSLA Festival of lights is at 5-9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, in the Liberty Park Pavilion. It will be a night of lights, live music, Santa and Christmas fun. There will be hot chocolate, cookies, and food trucks – Tacos 2 Go and That's a Wrap. Please try to take your own mugs.
- Socks for the Season – a sock drive – is going on through Saturday, Dec. 23. Help keep kids warm this holiday season by donating new socks. Accepting donations at the Memorial Building.
- Free holiday movies at the Gibson Theater. Movies are sponsored by the Coalition for a Drug Free Batesville and Batesville Mayor's Youth Council. Movies are:
 - "Home Alone" at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2.
 - "The Christmas Chronicles" starring Kurt Russell at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9.
 - "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" starring Jim Carey at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16.

Discipleship Pathway

