

Return Service Requested  
Broadway United Methodist Church  
PO Box 386, 301 W. Broadway  
Plattsburg, MO 64477  
816-539-3246  
bumcoffice301@gmail.com



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DECEMBER 2024 - VOLUME 190 - ISSUE 12

# The Saltshaker

BROADWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PASTOR MICHAEL DUNLAP

[www.plattsburgbumc.org](http://www.plattsburgbumc.org)

*YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH  
MATTHEW 5:13*



## Pastor's Pen:

Advent Greetings!

I'd probably get some funny looks if I went around town telling everyone "Happy New Year" here at the beginning of December, but Advent is technically the start of the Christian year. Advent is a season of four weeks before Christmas in which we practice patience as we wait. Although the signs of Christmas surround us already, our practice of Advent draws our attention to the broader signs of God's presence in our lives and in our world. As we ready ourselves for Christmas and the celebration of Jesus's birth, we also learn what it means to seek and share the Kin-dom of God in our weary world.

Our sermon series this December is called "An Advent Like No Other." We're taking a closer look at the people who played a part in Jesus' birth and the lessons they teach us about hope, peace, joy, and love. What makes these people and their stories so powerful is that they were poor, powerless, and marginalized. Each of them sought the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love in the face of their daily challenges as they waited for God's promises in Christ to be fulfilled. Their witness inspires us in our walk with Christ as we seek God's promises for our own lives, sometimes desperately. Advent is all about refocusing our eyes on Jesus, whose gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love have the power to transform every aspect of our lives—and even our world.

Come celebrate the season with us at BUMC. In this month's newsletter, you'll find several opportunities to get into the "Christmas spirit" with us. Personally, I'm looking forward to my first "Forever Christmas." Our worship services will be inspiring and relevant. I especially want to invite you and your family to attend our Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 7 p.m. We are proudly a church where all are welcome; we love because God first loved us (1 John 4:19), and we are confident that love is the answer to most of the things that distract and prevent us from our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Merry Christmas to you and your family,  
Pastor Michael

AN  
ADVENT  
LIKE  
NO  
OTHER

## In this Issue:

- YOUTH NEWS
- GIVING TREE UPDATE
- FOREVER CHRISTMAS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

## MISSION

To make new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

## VISION

To grow in the faith of Christ by reaching out and connecting with others through intentional service and witness.

## Youth Group:

- The youth group enjoyed an outing at an escape room in November. They beat the clock with only five minutes and 20 seconds to spare (See picture below).
- The youth's annual Christmas Lock-In will take place on Dec. 13th. Please invite your friends ages 6th-12th grade for an overnight event full of faith, food, and Christmas fanfare!
- Regularly held Sunday night youth group has been postponed until after the holidays, beginning again on January 5th, 2025.

Scan the QR code to provide dinner for the Christmas Lock-In or for future youth nights in 2025!



## Giving Tree:

With your help, the 2024 Plattsburg Giving Tree is providing gifts to 99 children within our community, bringing joy and relief for 37 families this Christmas season. We understand that this year has been a struggle for many, so we greatly appreciate you using your money and resources to do good for others. Thankfully, we received exactly the amount of funding and sponsors needed to pull off this task. Keep a lookout in the Leader for our business sponsors who helped carry us through this year. To round out the 2024 Giving Tree, please check out the following reminders:

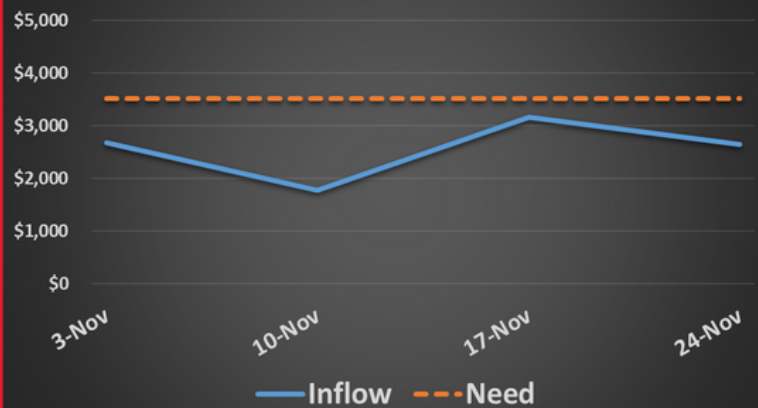


- Gifts are due back to the church, unwrapped, on Dec. 8th
- The Wrapping Party will take place on Dec. 14th at 9:00a.m. Breakfast will be served before the work begins. We will need all hands on deck to get the wrapping done quickly. Please bring your own scissors and tape if you have it. We are also in need of:
  - Boxes (cardboard boxes and clothing boxes)
  - Wrapping paper
  - Gift bags and tissue paper



# BUMC Giving Summary

BUMC Weekly 2024



## Weekly Attendance:

**11/3: 52**

**11/10: 38**

**11/17: 49**

**11/24: 49**

## DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Celebration Sunday is always the last Sunday of the month. We invite those with birthdays and anniversaries during the month to "Feed the Fish" and make a special offering to support the Plattsburg Food Pantry.

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Lisa and Clayton Lollar

### Forever Christmas:

We look forward to celebrating our 25th Anniversary of Forever Christmas with you on Dec. 6th and 7th. Join us for the vendor fair, Sweet Shop, kids activities, and Cafe Noel. Thank you for all of the love and support (25 years of it!).



### BIRTHDAYS:

Julia James  
Gil Sander  
Bruce Gollnick  
Teresa Bingham  
Sam James  
Celya Milliken  
Ryan Jensen  
Natalie Garr  
Craig Mattke  
Robert Stayton  
Craig Schaffer

### Food Pantry News:

The Second Harvest Mobile Food Pantry will be at the Plattsburg Fire Department on Monday, Dec. 9th at 10:00am. Christmas Baskets will be given out but the date and time has not been determined yet. Please keep an eye out in your email for that information when it becomes available.

### November Board Meeting Minutes:

- The Youth are in need of dinner, snacks, candy, and coffee for the Christmas Lock-In on Dec. 13th
- Attendance has held steady throughout the months with our interim pastor, looking forward to an attendance uptick with Pastor Michael and the holiday season
- Pledge cards were created and sent out, due back January 12th, 2025
- A Christmas Eve service will be held 12/24 at 7:00pm
- Emergency response plans (creation and posting) discussed as 2025 goal
- Listening sessions with Pastor Michael to be scheduled after the Christmas season
- Several parsonage repairs have been completed in preparation for Pastor Michael

### PRAYER LIST:

Caitlin & Hazel Bakker  
Loretta Rohrbach  
Russell White  
Julia Knauss  
Gary McQuerrey  
James Hamilton  
Aimee McLallen  
Sandy Jones  
Tammy Barnett  
Vi Bowling  
Jerry Moore  
Melissa Jones  
Jaxson Grayson  
Tonya (Shoemaker) Lopez family

### LITURGIST SCHEDULE:

12/1: Amanda Schaffer  
12/8: Nichole Hageman  
12/15: Bill Jones  
12/22: Beth Garr  
12/29: Christel Gollnick

# December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Good Grief 7:00-8:30pm	3	4	5 AA Meeting 6:30pm	6  <b>Forever Christmas</b>	7
8 Giving Tree gifts due	9 Good Grief 7:00-8:30pm	10 Council meeting @ 7:00pm	11	12 AA Meeting 6:30pm	13	14  Wrapping Party 9:00am
15 Oakridge	16	17	18	19 AA Meeting 6:30pm	20	21
22	23 Dinner on Broadway @ 5:30pm	24 Christmas Eve service @ 7:00pm	25 	26 AA Meeting 6:30pm	27	28
29	30	31	<b><u>Office Hours</u></b> Tuesday/Thursday - 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Monday//Wednesday/Friday - By Appointment			
<b>Home Delivered Meals</b>						

**Want to stay up-to-date on everything happening at Broadway?**  
**Text the following codes to the number 81010.**

Care Portal: @carebumc

Immediate Requests: @irbumc

Announcements: @infobumc

Prayer Requests: @prayerbumc

## Sunday

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Worship - 10:40 a.m.

Music Rehearsals - After church

Youth Group - 6:00 p.m.