



# *VOYAGEUR*    *December 2020*

Dear Church family,

This is not an easy time for any of us. Social isolation, illness, and fear have reshaped our lives and our world. We've been living in crisis for what feels like a long time. While every crisis presents opportunity, it's not something most of us would choose. We weren't asking for COVID-19, but here we are.

From the outset I have been emphasizing the opportunity for growing in faith, and I believe it to be true. But, we also need to be done with living this way, even if it will probably not mean living exactly the way we did before the pandemic. We need hope to take us in a different direction.

We need the advent of a new day. More than ever, we need the Christmas hope of new possibilities birthed into our lives. Ordinarily I reflect on the significance of waiting during Advent -- but this year is different. Enough waiting. May this entire month be a time for celebrating Christmas. We've been waiting long enough. If you have not done so yet -- get out the Christmas music. Decorate the tree. If you're inclined, drink eggnog. Open presents early. Whatever it takes, experience Christmas in the here and now. Greet each other with "Merry Christmas" all month long.

And in the midst of all our vulnerabilities, worries, and insecurities, may God's spirit be at work in those developing and distributing vaccines. May God be at work in our mutual care for one another. May this Christmas month deliver us to a hopeful new year.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Rob

# BEMIDJI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

10:00 AM – 2:00PM (M – F)

Office Phone: 218-751-3503

Pastor Rob Cell: 218-766-8744

Email Addresses: Church Office [umcbji@paulbunyan.net](mailto:umcbji@paulbunyan.net)  
Pastor Rob: [revrmkopp@gmail.com](mailto:revrmkopp@gmail.com)

Mailing Address: PO Box 607, Bemidji, MN 56619  
Street Address: 924 Beltrami Ave. NW Bemidji, MN 56601

### December Birthdays

Fulton Gallagher- December 03  
Aaron Frenzel- December 05  
Michael Johnson- December 05  
Nolan Coyle- December 07  
Robert Anderson- December 10  
Margene Parkos- December 13  
Gerald Pickett- December 15  
Linda Phillips- December 17  
Jean Slinkman- December 17  
Delayna Dauner- December 19  
Pat Baird- December 20  
Carson Danielson- December 20  
Dannette Kimble- December 20  
Jack Spangenburg- December 22  
Elizabeth Thompson- December 30  
William Weis December 31



### JUST A REMINDER....

Articles for the January Newsletter are due in to Karen no later than

**9:00am on Tuesday, December 15, 2020**

You may text, email or call her at  
(218) 766-9700

## Happy Anniversary

December 21- Lorne and Verna Lofberg 58 years

December 21- Leroy and Diane Morris 45 years



If an Anniversary was missed on the list, please contact Karen in the office.

- ...at Neilson Place: Jean Slinkman
- ...at Trillium: Judy Comstock
- ...at Windsong: Wag Collins, Bert Clark, Dotty Naramore and Evan Hazard
- ...at Baker Park: Kathleen Magsam
- ...at Havenwood Care Center: Patty Boyer, Mary Conner, Vern Ditty and Betty Howard
- ...at Goldpine: Marjory Beck, Laura Hays, Ruby Hausauer, Helen LeClaire
- ...at BirchHaven Village: Betty Brooks
- ... Noli and family
- ... Fulton and Nancy Gallagher on their move to Rochester, MN
- ... For those members recovering from COVID.
- ... For a speedy COVID vaccine that could potentially stop the spread of this pandemic



### Offerings and Misc. Received for November 2020



General Offering.....Nov. 10, 2020	\$11,003.00
Nov. 24, 2020	\$10,057.75

On-line Giving for November..... \$1,429.40

IT'S NOT TOO LATE  
TO GET A FLU SHOT



# Re-Gathering Plan for Churches

## Current Phase: Red



**WE HAVE DIALED BACK TO RED AS OF 11-19-20. THIS IN ACCORDANCE TO THE CHURCH CONFERENCE AND BISHOP OUGH.**

**Dear Minnesota United Methodists,**

**I am alarmed and frightened. The coronavirus pandemic is out of control in Minnesota and most of the country. Our hospitals are overwhelmed. Our front-line health care workers are exhausted. The Minnesota Department of Health told faith leaders in their most recent call that when you gather with others outside your home, you are not just at risk for exposure, you can expect to be exposed to COVID-19. That is how rampant the community spread currently is across our state.**

**As you might know, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz on Wednesday announced a four-week shutdown of bars, restaurants, entertainment venues, and fitness clubs, starting Friday, Nov. 20. Weddings and funerals are permitted, but wedding receptions and post-funeral gatherings of any size are not.**

**Although in-person worship is still permitted, it is strongly discouraged by health officials and thus we are turning the dial on our Phased Re-Gathering Plan back to red for the foreseeable future. I ask that all churches return to virtual worship if you have not already done so, that all clergy and staff work from home, and that in-person activities in our buildings be limited to pre-schools, daycares, and emergency relief activities.**

**I urge you in your personal life and activities to re-double your efforts to keep people safe and help suppress the community spread of this terrible disease. Wear a mask. Stay home. Do not gather for Thanksgiving beyond your immediate household. There is no room for delay. Now is the time to act. Now is the time to set aside our personal and political preferences for the common good. Now is the time to lead the way.**

**The Minnesota Department of Health is reporting increasing numbers of new cases daily. Here are some sobering statistics for our state:**

**In May, we were averaging 800 new cases a day. Today, it is 8,000.**

**It took us six-and-a-half months to reach 100,000 cases. It only took six weeks to reach the second 100,000, and we are on a path to surpass 300,000 by Thanksgiving. We are in a snowball.**

**There are cases in every county in Minnesota and we are averaging a 30 percent positivity rate across the state. That means in a group of 10 people, three are likely to have COVID-19. A 30 percent or higher rate of community spread is considered high-risk.**

**In just two days, on Monday and Tuesday of this week, nearly 200 persons were admitted to hospitals statewide due to COVID-19. Our hospitals are reaching maximum capacity, and our healthcare shortage is growing due to staff persons being out sick after contracting the virus.**

**The next six to 12 weeks will be critical, according to Dr. Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota and one of the nation's leading infectious disease experts.**

**Group and family gatherings have been the most significant source of the spread of COVID-19 in recent weeks. We have the power to help change the trajectory of the pandemic in Minnesota. Doing no harm, acting for the common good, and protecting the most vulnerable among us is how we love our neighbors. We can give rise to the light in the midst of the darkness of this disease.**

**So, I am making a difficult ask. Advent and Christmas is a season when we most want to gather, but this year, we need to be a light to others to by continuing to worship at home and online, and limiting our personal activities to what is absolutely essential.**

**We can do this hard thing. We can do it because we do not rely on our own strength and capacities. We rely on the promise made real in the incarnation: God is with us. The birth of the Christ child we celebrate this season proclaims that. So now we live it.**

**Thank you for all the ways you are continuing to be creative in ministry and faithful to our call to heal a broken world!**

**Bishop Bruce R. Ough  
Resident Bishop  
Dakotas-Minnesota Area of The United Methodist Church  
November 19, 2020**

I would like to say a BIG Thank you to Betty Brooks for her many years of service to our church and the Prayer Chain. She has now retired from our group, but I'm pretty sure she continues to pray in her own way. She has provided such a steadfast example to all of us and I think we are all blessed by her service and friendship. We love you Betty!!!

Jan Grimm and the Prayer Chain members



WE ARE  
**Meals On Wheels**  
So no senior goes hungry...



**A Big Thank you! to our Meals on Wheels volunteers, who delivered meals with a smile during Thanksgiving week. They are: Randy Burg, Carol Nielson, Leroy and Diane Morris, Tony and Carla Nicholson, Sandra Krantz & Vic Mosser. And a big thank you to all our 2020 Meals on Wheels volunteers, who worked during this challenging, 2020 pandemic year.**

**MOW is considered an essential service, and we are happy that the Bemidji United Methodist Church is one 11 area churches that support this mission in our community. In addition to the above volunteers, the rest of our MOW's team is Jeff and Charlene Anderson, Jerry Pickett, Marshall and Barb Johnston, and Terry Thomas and Gerry Manley. Two long time volunteers, Red Wilson and Vince Freborg have taken a pause in activities this past year, and we appreciate each and every one of our team. If you are interested in knowing more about this mission project, and would like to join us, call Terry Thomas, 444-9580, MOW coordinator.**

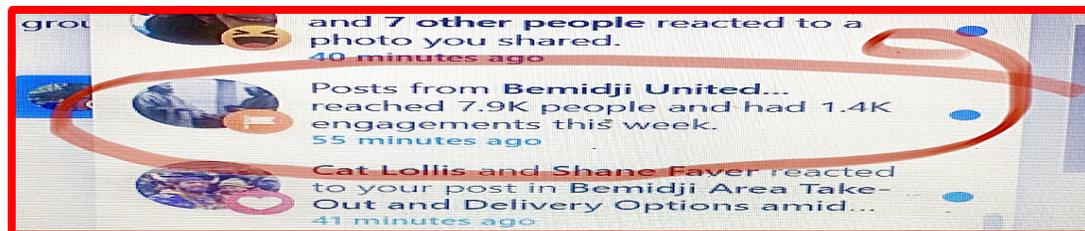
## Merry Christmas!

**Our small church has made quite a difference in the lives of many during this pandemic time. As the person who does Facebook and Instagram, I hear so many stories from people who have been reached. Because of technology of the internet, we are reaching far beyond the boundaries of Bemidji, Minnesota and even the USA. Just last week (November 8-14, our FB posts reached 7.9K people and had 1.4K engagements (which means, not only are people seeing, they are reacting & responding too.) I have many favorites, but one is a precious infirmed elder from Sweden who regularly reads our posts, readings, writings and tunes into the service when she's able too. She has shared with me how it saved her life. She was in despair, alone and in pain from the arthritis that plagues her, when she heard a poetry reading, from our FB site. She "friended" me and explained that she was near suicide, planning how best to do it, and the reading made her rethink. She's been a loyal fan of our pages and our public groups ever since.**

**There are young folks, unchurched, but deeply seeking some foundation, some permanence in a world they feel has turned its back on them, who have come to our FB groups to watch, be distracted, entertained, informed, comforted and uplifted. We have one young family, also not formal members of our church, who use our Children's Channel posts as part of their weekly school curriculum. I've had the opportunity to locate a local Methodist church ministry for a woman with young children in Africa. There has been online counseling and referrals going on for months. We may not be meeting in person, but we are meeting persons, right where they are. We are telling them that they are not alone, that they are deeply and profoundly loved. We are CERTAINLY not alone, in fact, we are reaching the world, one post at a time. Let's not lose hope; our ministry is strong. Is it different than it was before? Yes, aren't we all!**

**Blessings always. You are not alone. You are deeply and profoundly loved,**

**Deborah Davis  
BUMC Coordinator**



# December Parish Health News

## 12 Ways to Have a Healthy Holiday Season

Brighten the holidays by making your health and safety a priority. Take steps to keep you and your loved ones safe and healthy—and ready to enjoy the holidays.

1. **Wash hands often to help prevent the spread of germs.** It's flu season. Wash your hands with soap and clean running water for at least 20 seconds.
2. **Bundle up to stay dry and warm.** Wear appropriate outdoor clothing: light, warm layers, gloves, hats, scarves, and waterproof boots.
3. **Manage stress.** Give yourself a break if you feel stressed out, overwhelmed, and out of control. Some of the best ways to manage stress are to find support, connect socially, and get plenty of sleep.
4. **Don't drink and drive or let others drink and drive.** Whenever anyone drives drunk, they put everyone on the road in danger. Choose not to drink and drive and help others do the same.
5. **Be smoke-free.** Avoid smoking and secondhand smoke. Smokers have greater health risks because of their tobacco use, but nonsmokers also are at risk when exposed to tobacco smoke.
6. **Fasten seat belts while driving or riding in a motor vehicle.** Always buckle your children in the car using a child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt according to their height, weight, and age. Buckle up every time, no matter how short the trip and encourage passengers to do the same.
7. **Get exams and screenings.** Ask your health care provider what exams you need and when to get them. Update your personal and family history.
8. **Get your vaccinations.** Vaccinations help prevent diseases and save lives. Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine each year.
9. **Monitor children.** Keep potentially dangerous toys, food, drinks, household items, and other objects out of children's reach. Protect them from drowning, burns, falls, and other potential accidents.
10. **Practice fire safety.** Most residential fires occur during the winter months, so don't leave fireplaces, space heaters, food cooking on stoves, or candles unattended. Have an emergency plan and practice it regularly.
11. **Prepare food safely.** Remember these simple steps: Wash hands and surfaces often, avoid cross-contamination, cook foods to proper temperatures and refrigerate foods promptly.
12. **Eat healthy, stay active.** Eat fruits and vegetables which pack nutrients and help lower the risk for certain diseases. Limit your portion sizes and foods high in fat, salt, and sugar. Also, be active for at least 2½ hours a week and help kids and teens be active for at least 1 hour a day.
13. **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2021.** *We sincerely pray that the next year will be much healthier for us all. Pandemics bring much pain and suffering to so many. Restrictions on gatherings during this Joyous Season are most painful for families this year. Family gatherings at holidays, weddings and funerals are the cause of much pain when COVID 19 is introduced. If we want our seniors to celebrate with us next year, we need to meet virtually this year. ☹️*

God Bless,

Judy Lightowler, MS, RN, CLM PN North Star District Parish Nurse

It's not too late to take advantage of the close out sale of our existing Fair Trade Coffee inventory. We still have coffee in the light roast category: Breakfast Blend and Mind, Body & Soul, and in the dark roast category: French Roast. All available in whole bean, for just \$5.00 per bag! Vacuum pack bags are 10-12oz.

To order, please call or email: Terry Thomas, 444-9580, [gerrym@paulbunyan.net](mailto:gerrym@paulbunyan.net), and we will make arrangements for delivery.



*Light Roast...Decaf...Espresso...Percolator...Tea...Chocolate...Groceries...Single Serve...Mexican...Africa Guatemalan...Cold Brew...Sumatran...French...Flavored Coffees...Single Serve...Bulk...Colombian...Beans.*

We will continue to support Fair Trade as a church community, but revise our model of delivery to a "buying club" model. This means that our Fair Trade customers would have to buy coffee (6 bags-10-12oz) or chocolate (12 bars) by the case. You could arrange to split a case with a fellow church member, or friend.

It would be helpful, if you could give me some advance notice of your upcoming needs. There is a shipping charge on small orders, so I would like to combine requests to qualify for free shipping.

You can go online: <https://equalexchange.coop/> and browse their online offerings. Also, our local grocery stores may stock Equal Exchange coffee and chocolate. I know Harmony Food Coop regularly stocks both the chocolate bars and coffee, and sometimes have sales that equal the good buy you have been receiving at our UMC coffee cart.

I hope you will continue to choose Fair Trade items when you consider your grocery needs, and we, as the UMC Fair Trade Committee, have appreciated your commitment to this project for these many years. Thank you.

Terry Thomas, Chair, Fair Trade Committee



**Q: What did Adam say to his wife on Christmas?**

**A: "It's finally Christmas, Eve!"**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The answer key can be found on page 8 of this December Newsletter

### Christmas Word Scramble

Instructions: Unscramble the letters to find the Christmas words.

e h s l g i	—	—	—	—	—	—
r y e m r	—	—	—	—	—	—
c i s n o k t g	—	—	—	—	—	—
t r w e h a	—	—	—	—	—	—
i t w r e n	—	—	—	—	—	—
d e e n e r r i	—	—	—	—	—	—
l h t s i g	—	—	—	—	—	—
e t r e	—	—	—	—	—	—
a t a n s	—	—	—	—	—	—
e l s v e	—	—	—	—	—	—





# MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE BUMC OFFICE STAFF 2020

We hope you enjoy our Christmas Memories from years past!

Christmas was my mother's favorite holiday. She loved "Santy Claus," all of her 97 years on earth. She would start right after Thanksgiving with paper, glue and glitter and we'd made happy sparkly images of Santa Claus and reindeer. Our tree was ridiculously tall, usually over 15 feet, as we had an open beamed high ceiling. My oldest brother Ron, 13 years my senior, would hold me out on the balcony so I could put on the star. It was one he'd made in elementary school, a plaster star covered with aluminum foil, with many layers of glue and refoiling over the years. Mother and my sisters would spend HOURS placing individual foil icicles on each branch, and we'd save them year after year. Mom maintained that the "newfangled" icicles just didn't hang right.

For my dad, Christmas was his hardest time. He had spent a horrifying Christmas as a POW years prior. His ulcer would flare, and he'd be unable to join in eating the feast, usually having to settle with milk toast and broth. But Dad always made sure there were many presents. We sang, tobogganed, we took sleigh rides and long walks in the snow. Dad, who co-owned the radio station, always filled the air over Portage lake with Christmas music from giant Motorola Speakers outside. He did this for the full month of December; Nat King Cole, Perry Como, Bing Crosby and Tony Mattola were his favorites. On New Year's Eve, he never failed to blast the dropping of the Atom Bomb album, FULL VOLUME, at midnight.

The moods of my parents were often opposite at Christmas. Still, there was always magic, always Christmas Eve at the United Methodist Church in Park Rapids, where we would do our best to look and sound like angels with gowns made of white sheets and voices as innocent as new snow. One Christmas, when I was about 8 years old, I asked our choir director if I could do a solo. I wanted to sing my then favorite song, "The first Noel." That night, I picked up the microphone, looked out into the dark church over the glowing candles and began my solo. Immediately babies began crying, and elderly folks gasped. Our good and wise choir director motioned for me to move the microphone down, and I was able to finish the solo with less congregational eardrum loss. Still, my family was proud of me even if my church mates had a good laugh.

For me, Christmas remains a time of hope, a time to show your love to others, a time to create magic and miracles for those around you, especially for children, old and young, who always watch for "Santy Claus" in the night sky. It's a time to hear the sounds of hope, to understand the promise of that star that shone so bright from the dark skies of the world, then, now and forever.

Merry Christmas from Deborah Davis  
Volunteer & Events Coordinator

RIP Bjorn and Gramma Bea



Pastor Rob and Karen (Bubbles) Christmas memories are on the back page. I had so much fun reading Deborah's memories that I wanted to share her entire writing with you. 2020 is a year to remember for sure and if you haven't seen some of the commemorative Christmas ornaments, here is one to share and smile at. Found on Amazon.

## Christmas Memories continued from the BUMC office staff!



I'm really pleased with the effort Karen Thompson has put into this newsletter. When she asked me to share a story about a favorite Christmas I was perplexed. I've been remembering a Christmas experience, but it's not what I would call a favorite. But in light of what we've been experiencing this year, it's what I am reminded of. The year was 1972. I know the year not because of having a great specific memory, but because years later I would be looking through family photos and notice the year. Like many families, we ordinarily took photos at Christmas gatherings. But the photos from that year really stood out. Everyone looked really pale, sickly even. It was only photos of our immediate family, not the usual extended family. We all had influenza that year. We were all quite sick. My mom had enough to do taking care of sick children while she was ill herself. There weren't shared meals and socializing in the usual way.

But we did celebrate Christmas. We had a tree; there were gifts; we ate together. Funny thing, until I saw the photograph, I had forgotten how different it was that year. The misery of the experience faded. I don't remember much about Christmas that year, but I do know we celebrated it. Because we celebrated it every year. It was an ordinary expectation. It's what we do.

Years later, my experience of Christmas was shaped by serving others. I worked over Christmas and Christmas Eve many times: In the care center, the hospital and providing home care. I never regretted it. I was able to celebrate Christmas with people who were often not able to celebrate in the way I had as a child. But celebrate we did. We had each other, and we were open to how God is always bringing hope into the world-- hope we experience in the birth of a vulnerable child-- born into the midst of our own vulnerabilities. Perhaps we need to celebrate Christmas even more when we are feeling vulnerable. I wouldn't wish the Christmas we had in 1972 on anyone, nor would I wish for anyone to be in the Hospital during Christmas. But I am grateful for the ways God connects us in our vulnerability-- and how this vulnerability is sacred to God-- sacred enough so that God comes to us each year in celebrating the birth through the vulnerability of baby Jesus.

It's important to celebrate. This year is going to be different. Like my Christmas in 1972, you may find your celebration more confined to members of your household. You may find a phone call or a zoom gathering the means to be most safely connected.

Years from now, we will probably not want to recall all of the specific details of COVID-19 Christmas. But it will be important to remember God's presence in our lives. It will be important to remember we celebrated Christmas. May your celebrations be blessed.

Pastor Rob  
BUMC

Christmas was the best time of the year in my house! It was exciting and mom reminded us what the real meaning of Christmas was and still is about. I attended a parochial school in Alexandria, VA and the church was the biggest one I've ever been a member of. In first grade, our teacher explained why we must never write out Xmas. You've all heard it before, but to this day, I HAVE to spell out CHRISTmas. Even if I'm taking notes for the office, I will NOT write Xmas. (technically this is being typed, so no pointing fingers, haha!) To take Christ out of Christmas just doesn't make sense, does it? I've kept that in my head for over 50 years and yes, I taught my children to do the same.

After my dad passed away in 1971, my mother and I moved back to Minnesota, where she was from. We lived with my Grandmother and both of them loved to decorate for Christmas. Once again, Christmas was exciting as always. Mom taught the junior choir and eventually the Senior choir at St. Paul Lutheran in Waseca, MN. The best part of being in the children's program was caroling on Wednesday nights and then getting ready for the big production of Luke 2 vs. 1-14. During Sunday school, we would learn a verse at a time. Then on a Sunday afternoon, we presented Luke 2 vs. 1-14 at our children's program. Every one of the kids knew the verses and stood in front singing them. After all these years, you just don't forget something that amazing. Now, we weren't the Rockettes but it felt just as exciting as the first time I heard The Living Nativity on video or saw another church version in the Twin Cities. If you've never seen the Rockettes version, you should watch it. This year is the first time since 1933 that Broadway will not present this fabulous production due to COVID. However, a Christmas Spectacular At Home Holiday Special will air at 9pm Central time on NBC, Wednesday, December 2, 2020.

### Jesus' birth Luke :2 vs. 1-14 KJV

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. 2(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) 3And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 4And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) 5To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. 6And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. 7And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. 8And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (ask me to sing Luke 2 sometime because you just don't forget, like those of us that have sang Handel's Messiah "Hallelujah.")

Karen (Bubbles) Thompson  
BUMC Office Admin.





# Christian Christmas Word Search

M A D R A W E D L I H C T S I R H C  
 E S C I L E L J E B S R S H T B C M  
 Y O A H A E B O L Z D Y P T N F R E  
 D P R P R V A K C F R T O R E R H H  
 O E P I M I T E A X E R O I V A S E  
 H M C G D W S M R I H X Y B D N S L  
 A M R A O S C T I K P D T C A K E H  
 J A H M E L L R M J E F I G S I N T  
 U N Y Y P P A E O A H J V K L N R E  
 L U D R G Y F S G L S M I M O C E B  
 E E R R U O R O N N C D T P R E H P  
 L L O H R H L D E Z R W A S A N T H  
 L T N O A E P D Q C O O N Y C S E E  
 A O E T T S E F U Y N S D B Y E G R  
 H O L Y S P I R I T K I F D A T O T  
 I P Y K U O T G R A I K R G I F T S  
 T S E L D N A C T B B R L P W D O W

- |               |              |                 |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| advent        | emmanuel     | myrrh           |
| angels        | frankincense | nativity        |
| bethlehem     | gifts        | prince of peace |
| birth         | gold         | savior          |
| candles       | hallelujah   | shepherds       |
| Carols        | holy spirit  | stable          |
| christ child  | magi         | star            |
| christmas day | miracle      | togetherness    |

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December 2020 VOYAGEUR  
Published Monthly  
Welcome to December

Web Site: www.bemidjiumc.com

**Answer Key to Word Scramble: 1. sleigh 2. merry 3. stocking 4. wreath 5. winter 6. reindeer 7. lights 8. tree 9. Santa 10. elves**



**PLEASE NOTE THAT DEBORAH DAVIS HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS. YOU CAN REACH HER AT: [bumccordinator@gmail.com](mailto:bumccordinator@gmail.com)**

**So there's no confusion, last months Voyageur told of an upcoming Book Study with Pastor Rob. Those books cost \$11 each. It will be held by ZOOM, on Wednesdays at 6:30pm, December 2, 9, 16 and 23. Let Deborah know if you still need one.**

**\*\* There is also a YEARLY Devotional Book that is put out by The Upper Room. They publish our *monthly* devotional books but "Disciplines" is their in depth read and study of the bible for 365 days a year. If you would like to donate for the "Discipline," they are \$15. Books have already arrived. Again, let Deborah know if you are interested and we can mail one to you.**

**Table for 7 is starting a food program for individuals over 60 years old.** We hope that anyone can enroll in this program no matter their financial situation. The purpose of this program is to help ease food access issues for our elders during the winter months of the Covid-19 pandemic. This program is expected to go to May 1 and then we will reassess. If this program goes well, we may extend it to be something we do, either during the winter months each year or even all year round.

We are reaching out to you, hoping that you can help spread the word. We are still looking for both clients and sponsors.

Please feel free to call 218-444-2586 (restaurant) or 218-760-3212 (Amber Lynne's cell) with your questions.

Thank you very much for your time. We look forward to partnering with you to help provide healthy meals for our community!



open hearts  
open minds  
open doors



*The People of the United Methodist Church*

Church Staff

Reverend Rob Kopp  
Pastor  
[revrmkopp@gmail.com](mailto:revrmkopp@gmail.com)

Karen Thompson "Bubbles"  
Office Administration  
[umcbji@paulbunyan.net](mailto:umcbji@paulbunyan.net)

Deborah Davis  
Volunteer & Events Coordinator  
[bumccordinator@gmail.com](mailto:bumccordinator@gmail.com)

Trustees  
Custodial

Leisa Bragg  
Accompanist

Chancel Choir Director

# December

# 2020

United Methodist Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 1:00 - Staff Meeting 2:00-5:00 Stamping 5:00- Community Table 6:30- Book Study	3 1:30- Virtual Coffee on Zoom 5:00- Community Table	4	5
6 10:15-Coffee with Pastor Rob and Pastor Michelle 10:30-Worship	7	8 6:30- Trustees Meeting	9 1:00 - Staff Meeting 5:00- Community Table 6:30- Book Study	10 1:30- Virtual Coffee on Zoom 4:00- SPRC 5:00- Community Table	11	12
13 10:15-Coffee with Pastor Rob and Pastor Michelle 10:30-Worship	14	15	16 1:00 - Staff Meeting 5:00- Community Table 6:30- Book Study	17 1:30- Finance Meeting 5:00- Community Table 5:30- Virtual Coffee on Zoom	18	19
20 10:15-Coffee with Pastor Rob and Pastor Michelle 10:30-Worship  7pm- Blue Christmas Service	21	22	23 1:00 - Staff Meeting 5:00- Community Table 6:30- Book Study	24  Christmas Eve	25  Merry Christmas!	26
27 10:30-Worship Presented by: The Cabinet and Conference Staff	28	29	30	31  New Year's Eve		