

Wesley Chapel Church
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Celebrating the Good News of the new-born King, especially to:



The Chapel Messenger

Volume 14 Issue 12

DECEMBER 2025

Do all the good you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as you can.
-John Wesley

*We send our love and Christmas greetings in
the matchless name of Jesus!*



Christmas Celebration

*"And suddenly there appeared with the angel a
multitude of the heavenly host praising God and
saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
peace among men with whom He is pleased.'
Luke 2:13-14*

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Nothing is quite like the smell of Christmas cookies. It can fill the heart with joy and the memory with thoughts of family, friends, good times, and gifts given. The moment you smell them, an announcement is made. The ordinary is no longer ordinary. No longer are we left to simply make it through the days before us. No, a new season has come, light has come, and joy fills the air. With the aroma of Christmas cookies, comes the singing of the carols of the season, which announce to us that freedom, peace, and joy have come to us in Jesus.

This month we celebrate the greatest gift given. The greatest of gifts we ever could receive, have received, and will receive. The cry of the baby Jesus in the manger is the answer of God to the cry of each and every human heart. Lean in close, look

(Continued on page 23)



- 1 Andy Sanner
- 2 Jarod Hoover
- 3 Barb Stark
Pete Sanner
Leslie Pletcher
- 4 Mary Beth Mitchell
- 8 Gunner Temple
- 9 Rex Temple
- 10 Pastor Tim Monteith
- 11 Charles King, III
Keaton Martz

- 14 Caleb Pritts
- 15 Michael Hardwig
- 16 Bob Miller, Sr.
- 17 Cole Henry
- 18 Hunter Shultz
- 19 Erika Pletcher
Holly Stene
- 20 Shane Pritts
Jake Ulderich
- 21 Rich Beahr
Madysen Maurer
Landon Henry
- 23 Tonya Ulderich
- 24 Riley Temple
- 25 JESUS
- 27 Dale Shultz



- 27 Charlie & Martha Mitchell



A Christmas Eve candle lighting service will be held Wednesday, December 24, at 7:30 p.m. Our youth bell and adult chime choirs will be delighting us with special music. Come and let your spirit be filled with joy!

into the face of the One who is given unto us, and listen intently. His cry declares salvation for each of us forever!

Let me invite you this month to come and rest in the presence of Jesus, much like the shepherds did when they arrived. Sing with loud voices the songs of the season, and present your heart as a gift, afresh, to the King born unto us. Stay at the manger for a while. Fight the urge to rush away. Receive the goodness, the Glory, and the faithfulness of God. Receive Jesus and worship Him. In His presence each of us will find peace everlasting, joy unending, rest unshakable and love unfailing. May we, truly, enjoy the Gift of the Christmas season as the people of God both in our individual hearts and as the church of the One born unto us, Jesus!

"I bring good news...for all the people."

Luke 2:10

Merry Christmas Everyone!
Pastor Tim



BUT THE ANGEL SAID TO THEM,

"DO NOT BE AFRAID.

I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS

THAT WILL CAUSE GREAT JOY

FOR ALL THE PEOPLE.

LUKE 2:10, NIV



Our Country/Leaders
 Our church/Wesley Chapel
 Pastor Tim Monteith & family
 Presiding elder James Golla
 Ethan, Forrest & Barb Stark
 Maxine Temple
 Ralph & Chop Pletcher
 Darlene Stevanus
 Gail Minerd
 Persecuted Christians
 Police officers
 Military
 First responders
 Medical personnel
 Unsaved loved ones
 Rex Temple
 Kristi Burkett & her family
 Jade Hetz Chun
 Emily Lemmon
 Amber Johnson
 Tina Yinkey
 Easton Pritts & family
 Tara Raley
 Christy Hay
 Myron & Jennifer Deal
 Terry & Kathi Schmuck
 Gary Weimer
 Maxx Stevanus
 Israel
 Travel mercies
 Unspoken
 Steve Long
 Don Judy family
 Pete Smith
 Justin & Cindy Likar

Henry Troyer
 Todd & Tracy Pritts
 Sam & Emily Wiatrak- baby
 Blaine & Shirley Walter
 Mark Sechler
 Ray & Deb Ankeny
 Ella Chinski family
 David McKinney family
 Darcy Waechter
 Donna Waechter family
 Steve Dvorchak
 Robin Bittner
 Hurricane victims
 Pam Baker
 Angie Tribuko
 Rene Temple
 Gunner Temple
 Cole Henry
 Kelly Faidley
 Candy, Carla & Charlene—
 Kim Smith's cousins
 Persecuted in Nigeria
 Atta Saghepour
 Lazarus Gate
 Marsha Kimmel
 Christine Singo
 Roxann Singo
 Paul Wilson family
 Mary Johnson family
 Roman Plants & family
 Tyler Pritts family
 George Henry family
 Tyson family health
 Clyde Pletcher family
 Matt Kessler
 Sadie Pletcher
 John Kreger family
 Marty Duppstadt



Military/Families

Jeremy Allan
 John Benford
 Stephen Bigler
 Ian Blevins
 Gabe Bluebaugh
 Kinzie Bungard
 Aaron Engleka
 Joe Gusbar
 Grant Hanak
 Keith Henry, Jr.
 Kristi Hopp
 Jake Johnson
 Jacob Keller
 Lexie Kerns
 Denton Lester, Jr.
 Conner Lisbon
 Kurt May
 Jamie Miller
 Ross Pletcher
 Randall Pritts
 David Rogers
 Max Strasiser
 Randi Thomas
 Charles Trimpey
 Families of
 fallen soldiers

Serving this month

ACOLYTES Brooklyn Monteith & friends

GREETERS

Dec. 7 Tim Latuch family
 Dec. 14 Tim & Jill Heiple
 Dec. 21 Jason Breegle family
 Dec. 28 Randy & Michele Klein

OFFERING TEAM

Tim Latuch family
 Heiples and friends
 Jason Breegle family
 Kleins & family

*If you are unable to acolyte, greet or usher on your Sunday,
 please find a replacement. Thank you.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

December 7	Luke 1:1-7	Tristan Pritts
December 14	Luke 1:17-23	Mark Temple
December 21	Luke 1:30-37	Jason Breegle
December 28	Luke 2:20-24	Mark Millin

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

December 7	Luke 1:8-16	Faith Millin
December 14	Luke 1:24-29	Rene Temple
December 21	Luke 1:38-45	Shanna Breegle
December 28	Luke 2:25-33	Angie Millin

*If you are unable to read on your Sunday,
 please find a replacement. Thank you.*

LOOKING FOR AWESOME, ENERGETIC, SPIRIT-FILLED persons to take part in Sunday services. We need greeters and ushers to fill a Sunday. A reminder that one of your membership promises is *SERVICE*. In case you're wondering, other promises with membership are *PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS* and *WITNESS*. Challenged yet? Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board.

"If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." -2 Chronicles 7:14



Born king of the Jews

Matthew 2:1-2 says that after Jesus was born, wise men came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?"

Complete the puzzle to discover what they found in Bethlehem.

Directions: In the grid below, draw lines by starting at the first number in each list and stopping at the last.



16-17	28-17-6	61-50-39	8-7-18	106-96-85-97-107-106	42-41-52-63-64-53
3-14-25	36-47-58	104-105-106	38-49-60	89-100-111-123	107-108-109-120-130
2-3-4	5-16-27	19-18-29-30	69-79-89	80-92-103-104	125-135-134-124-123-133-134
40-51-62-39	37-47-59	105-95-84-96		124-125-126-127-128	69-80-91-102-103
				129-130-142-141-129	141-140-128-129

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77
78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88
89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99
100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121
122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132
133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143

Christmas traditions around the globe

Although Americans celebrate the holiday with candlelight services, piles of gifts, large feasts, lights and trees, people in other countries mark Jesus' birth in many interesting ways:

- Nine days before Christmas in Mexico, Las Posadas processions reenact Joseph and Mary's search for a place to stay in Bethlehem.
- Instead of decorating trees, Italians place fruit on small wooden pyramids.
- On Christmas Eve, the streets of Caracas, Venezuela, are blocked off so people can roller-skate to church.
- Ukrainian Christmas trees often feature an artificial spider and web. According to a folk tale, a poor woman who couldn't afford decorations awoke one Christmas morning to find that spiders had "trimmed" her children's trees with delicate webs.
- In Brazil, the gift-bringer is known as Papai Noel (Father Noel), who lives in Greenland, according to legend. When he arrives in Brazil, he wears silk clothing because of the summer heat.
- It's considered bad etiquette to send red Christmas cards in Japan because funeral notices are customarily printed in red.

~ Taken from Word Content, Newsletter CD, 2014



November
2025

Wishing You Joy This Holiday Season!

As the holiday season draws near, Laura and I want to take a moment to thank you for your incredible support throughout the year. Your generosity, encouragement, and partnership have meant so much—and have helped us continue making a meaningful impact throughout the OMS world.



This season, we invite you to join us again for our GIVE HOPE initiative. During this time of year, more than ever, we want to focus on giving tangible gifts that bring hope and healing, light, love, and lasting change to those who need it most. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us extend hope to communities and individuals facing hardship.

This year's gift brochure includes seven practical ways you can give hope to people around the world. These tangible projects allow you to partner with us in helping transform lives physically, emotionally, and spiritually as the gifts often open doors to presenting the Good News of Jesus.

This Christmas will you join us giving the HOPE of Jesus to people around the world? Together, we can make a difference that lasts far beyond December.

Wishing you peace, joy, and a heart full of hope,
Jeffry Max Edwards,
Serving as President of One Mission Society

"Away in a Manger" **PLATE**



Make this special plate as a gift to give this Christmas.

What you need:

- Clear glass plate
- Acrylic craft paint
- Paintbrush and water
- Black permanent marker

What you do:

1. Turn plate upside-down on table. Paint one of your palms brown, and press it on the center of the plate.
2. Rotate the plate so fingers point down. Using yellow paint, make a straw bed in the palm.
3. Mix white and brown paint for Jesus' face. Use white paint for a swaddled body.
4. Paint a yellow star above Jesus and a yellow border around the plate rim.
5. When paint is dry, turn plate over. With the marker, draw dots for Jesus' eyes and write the words of Luke 2:12 around the plate rim.

Christmas Program

The Agape children are busy preparing for their annual Christmas program. They will be sharing it with you on Sunday morning, December 21st, during the Sunday school hour. A time of refreshments and fellowship will follow. Please plan to stay and support our young children!



What's the name of the angel who told Mary she would give birth to God's Son?

- A. Gabriel
- B. Raphael
- C. Michael
- D. Jonathan

Answer: A (See Luke 1:26)



Tracy and I would like to thank you so much for the gift basket. It was very much appreciated. It helps the healing process having a group of caring friends that are praying for you.

All our love,
Tracy & Todd Pritts



A NEW FLOWER CHART has been posted by the office door. You have the opportunity to reserve flowers for the sanctuary on a Sunday of your choice. Price is \$30 for two cut bouquets. Please make your check payable to Somerset Floral and give it to Shanna Breele or Kim Smith. Thank you.



A table for Christmas cards has been set up in the fellowship hall for your use. There are alphabetized tags to place your cards by church members' last names.



Deck the Halls **(of our church)**

On Sunday, November 23rd, many members of Wesley Chapel gathered together after the Sunday school hour and decorated the entire church for Advent/Christmas. A special thank you to all who organized and helped make our church festive for the upcoming Christmas season.



Angie Millin looks on as Ryan Sechler gives Jon Monteith & Glenn Millin directions.



Mary Ellen Hoover & Pam Weimer place the nativity scene at the church entrance.



Steve Pletcher & Gary Weimer decide on how to display the hallway nativity scene.



Russ Pletcher gets help from all the young ladies to decorate the tree.



On behalf of everyone at Wesley Chapel, we are so excited to welcome the Latuch family into our congregation. Tim, Lindsay, Kaitlyn, Natalie and Hannah became members on Sunday, September 28th during our regular church service. They have become an integral part of our church family, and if you have not introduced yourselves yet, please do so.



Our food pantry items for December are cookie making supplies and bagged candies. You may bring your donations to the church during the month of December. We are currently supplying the Rockwood Area Food Pantry located at Messiah Lutheran Church in New Centerville. Hours for distribution for December are 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. Thank you.

The Laurel Highlands Chorale will be presenting its annual Christmas Concert, titled "Hark! How the Angels Sang," on Sunday, December 7th, at 3:30 p.m. and Monday, December 8th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Somerset Church of the Brethren (606 Berlin Plank Rd, Somerset, PA). You are cordially invited to attend. Tickets are only \$5.00 and will be available at the door, or through any chorale member.



Please contact Dorene Friedline at (814) 926-3610 or (814) 442-0460 for additional information.

Please consider supporting this non-profit, non-professional chorale group. The Laurel Highlands Chorale is an affiliate of Laurel Arts.

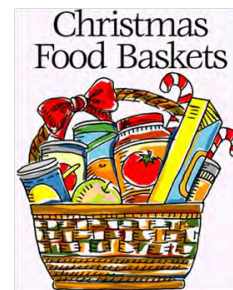


Ronald McDonald House Toy Drive

I will be collecting toys and supplies for the Ronald McDonald house again this year. I've been doing this for about 10 years now, and it's all about giving a little better Christmas to families with sick kids. We need toys and supplies for newborns to teenagers. Toys must be new and unwrapped. For families and their kids, this brings joy and hope that someone they don't even know cares enough to make things a little better when things are at their worst. There is no recognition for this, and for years I collected and donated anonymously until the last few years they wouldn't accept anything without knowing who I was. Last year we collected, bought and delivered two (2) pickup truck loads and supplied the Children's Aid home in Somerset as well.

Thank you, Steve Long

DECEMBER 17th FINAL COLLECTION DATE
Call or Text Steve Long @ 724-640-2075



Please join the New Generation Class as they assemble their annual fruit and goodie baskets. The assembling is scheduled for Friday, December 19, at 6:00 pm. A sheet will be on the bulletin board for names of folks to receive baskets. We will be asking for homemade goodies such as cookies, breads or candy to be donated for the baskets. A separate sign-up sheet for these items is also posted on the bulletin board. Monetary gifts will be accepted to help with cost of fruit and gift cards. If there are any questions, please see any New Generation Class member.



Get bundled up and join Wesley Chapel's Bible Study Group as they go caroling to loved ones around the area. The group had so much fun last year and are looking forward to spreading more Christmas joy again this season! We are currently planning on the evening of Sunday, December 14th. Time to be determined so if you are interested, please see Shanna Breegle. Also, if you know of an individual that would love a visit on this evening, please let us know.

The Wesley Chapel youth and other members of the congregation adventured to Beam Rocks Overlook located in the Forbes State Forest. They were led by Steve Long and his faithful yellow lab, Scout. Steve did a devotion based on courage and stepping out of your comfort zone. Many of the kids enjoyed climbing on and through the many rock formations. While there they also viewed a bog. Thank you Steve for helping to raise up our youth in the Word of God.



Above left: Reed Breegle helps to cart shoeboxes into the sanctuary.

Above right: Flint & Shanna Breegle pack shoeboxes.

Right top: Deb Ankeny places the labels carefully on each box.

Right bottom: Grace Sechler picks out hair accessories for her girl's shoebox.



Above left: Ada Sechler & Brooklyn Monteith pose while Amelia Sechler does the heavy lifting.

Above right: Pictured from left: Cameron Weimer, Canaan Sanner, Brooklyn Monteith, Caleb Weimer, Maddox Miller, Amelia & Ada Sechler, Hannah Latuch & Talon Miller all pose after loading 284 shoeboxes into cars. Great job Agape kids!

Just a few of the 310 shoeboxes packed by our Wesley Chapel Church family.





Wow! Another year has flown by and before we knew it, it was shoebox packing time! This year empty shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child were distributed in middle October to congregation members to pack and return by November 16th. Many donations were collected for a church packing party, some items were donated by Center Covenant Brethren Church. On Tuesday evenings during Bible study Flint and Reed Breegle, Hannah Latuch, and Brooklyn Monteith prepped many items for the packing party on November 8th. Both young and old came together to help pack over 200 giftboxes in just a couple of hours. On November 16th Mindy Singo, who is also the Area Coordinator for Somerset County Operation Christmas Child Team, led the congregation in a prayer over the shoeboxes that were present in the sanctuary. The Agape children on Wednesday evening helped Kaitlyn Miller and Mindy Singo load over 284 shoeboxes into their cars and they drove the boxes to Kingwood Fellowship Center where they were unloaded, counted twice, prayed over, then placed in large cartons. With a last minute push to the finish-line, Wesley Chapel Church was able to conquer their goal and ended up with a final total of 310 shoeboxes packed. We beat last year's total by 9. The giftboxes will wait until the final day of collection week which is November 24th. After the boxes are loaded onto the pup trucks, they will be driven to the Baltimore Maryland Processing Center and will be processed before heading to their international location and then onto the distribution events planned around the world. Thank you to everyone that prayed, bought, planned, prepped for the shoeboxes. A huge thank you to everyone that took boxes and packed them within your homes. For everyone that helped in any way, you are the hands and feet doing God's work and are puzzle pieces to help change a child's life. More importantly, you are giving them an opportunity to learn more about Jesus and inviting Him into their hearts.

With great appreciation,

Mindy Singo

Please see pictures of the packing party and Agape kids on next page.



Food for the Soul will be held on either Wednesday, Dec. 17th or Thursday, Dec. 18th at 6:00 p.m. Please stay tuned for the exact date and contact Barb Stark with any questions! Thank you.

Congratulations to our very own Jayna Burke on becoming Rockwood Area High School's 11th grade student of the month. Keep up the great work Jayna. We're all so very proud of you.



Rockwood Community Members,

Lazarus Gate Food Pantry has served the greater Rockwood Area since April; 2013. Our distribution site is Messiah Lutheran Church, 144 Jubilee St. Rockwood (News Centerville). Prior to Covid, we served 60-70 families twice a month. Our numbers post Covid average 30-40 families twice a month. We continue to distribute as a drive-thru pantry, the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month (with changes around holidays). Hours of distribution have are 3:30 – 5:00 in the afternoon.

We have been blessed with many volunteers who keep this ministry going. But there is always room for more people to serve. Attached is a list of volunteer positions. I, personally, am thankful for each person who contributes time to make this ministry a success.

Recent budget cuts have had a negative impact on our ministry. More people are feeling a need to visit food pantries, SNAP benefits have been reduced and in some cases have disappeared. The selection of foods available has been reduced and the price has gone up. Local businesses are not donating as much as they have in the past, some not donating at all. Local farmers are no longer paid to provide fresh produce, milk, and meat to pantries. Times are extremely uncertain times.

How can you help? First pray for this feeding ministry and the people we serve. And pray that the people making decisions that affect feeding ministries, might support more funding. I encourage you to contact our elected officials, asking for more support and sharing any stories surrounding food insecurity that you might have. I am suggesting a monthly donation drive. I have included that information. Monetary donations are always appreciated. Presently, we have monies. But with the uncertainty, we worry how long our monies will last. I encourage you to visit our food pantry to see how we operate and then decide if there is a way you could help.

Donations can be sent to Lazarus Gate c/o Messiah Lutheran Church, Box 126, Rockwood PA

Food donations can be brought to the church. Contact me at (814) 442-0297 and I will have some one meet you at the church. If you wish to become a volunteer, call me and I'll find a spot for you.

We continue to serve those in our area facing food insecurity through the generosity of this community. And I know that we will continue to be a presence in the Rockwood Area for years to come.

Thank you for all you do to help us!

Sincerely,
Susan Barclay



What greater proof could God have given of his mercy than by taking upon himself that which needed mercy? Where is there such fullness of loving-kindness as in the fact that the Word of God became perishable like the grass for our sakes?

Let man infer from [Christmas] how much God cares for him. The humanity of God shows the greatness of his kindness.

~ Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)

~ Taken from Word Content, Newsletter CD, 2014

Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.
To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"
Amen.
- Henri J.M. Nouwen

REFRESH - WOMEN'S GROUP

As the New Year approaches we would like to invite all ladies, from high school graduates and older, to join us the second Friday of each month for "Refresh"! A time of worship, devotion, prayer and fellowship. Our first gathering will be *Friday, January 9th at 6:00 p.m.* here at the church. A soup and sandwich supper will be served. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend. Please direct any questions to Amy Monteith, Kristen Sanner or Shanna Breegle. Hope to see you there...let's be refreshed!



If interested in helping out or making a donation, please call Susan Barclay at (814) 442-0297

FOOD DONATIONS



LAZARUS GATE FOOD PANTRY

January: Bars of Soap
February: Shampoo
March: Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
April: Laundry Detergent
May: Dish Detergent
June: Peanut Butter/Jelly
July: Canned Soups
August: Cereal
September: Boxed Macaroni and Cheese
October: Pasta Sauce
November: Spaghetti
December: Reverse Advent Calendar (see below / table will be set up in the church hallway)

Reverse Advent Calendar

Dec. 1: Box of Cereal	Dec. 13: Canned Green Beans
Dec. 2: Box of Mac & Cheese	Dec. 14: Canned Corn
Dec. 3: Applesauce	Dec. 15: Canned Peas
Dec. 4: Canned Tuna	Dec. 16: Pasta Sauce
Dec. 5: Peanut Butter	Dec. 17: Box of Raisins
Dec. 6: Chicken Noodle Soup	Dec. 18: Boxed Potatoes
Dec. 7: Tomato Soup	Dec. 19: Canned Diced Tomatoes
Dec. 8: Spaghetti Noodles	Dec. 20: Canned Peaches
Dec. 9: Elbow Macaroni	Dec. 21: Box of Soda Crackers
Dec. 10: Box of Instant Oatmeal	Dec. 22: Canned Sloppy Joe Mix
Dec. 11: Rice	Dec. 23: Box of Pancake Mix
Dec. 12: Canned Baked Beans	Dec. 24: Jelly



