Willoughby United Methodist Church
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Willoughby, Ohio 44094
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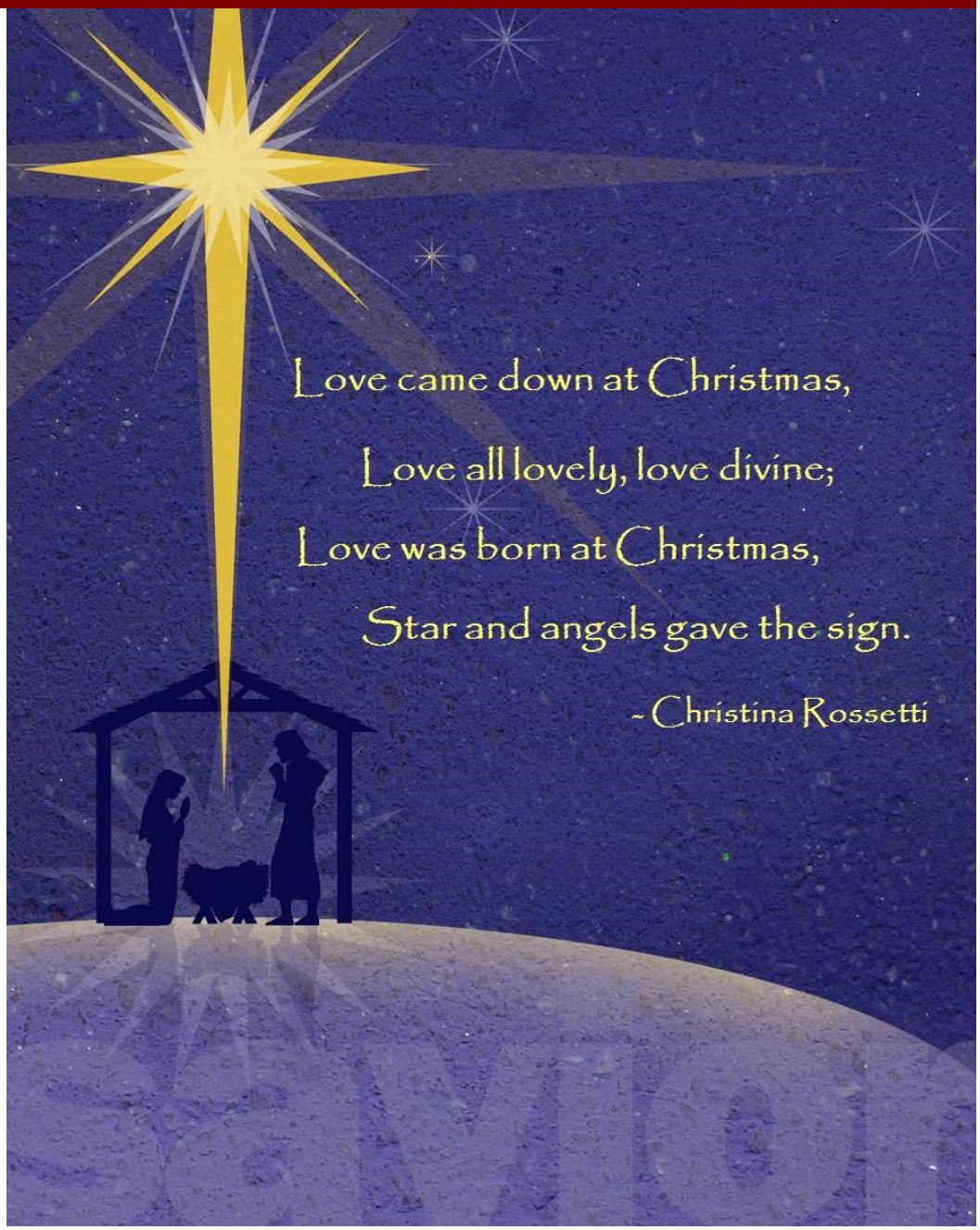
The Broadcaster

Willoughby UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 2016

Dates to Remember

- **December 1**
  Live Nativity
- **December 6**
  Fireside Chat
- **December 8**
  Trustees
- **December 10**
  McKinley Distribution
- **December 11**
  Blessing of the Bears
- **December 11**
  Caroling
- **December 12**
  Broadcaster Articles Due
- **December 13**
  McKinley Toy Dist.
- **December 16-17**
  Youth Lock-In
  Christmas Party
- **December 18**
  Children's Christmas Pageant
- **December 24**
  Christmas Eve Services
- **December 25**
  Christmas Day
  One Service-10:00 AM
- **December 27**
  Broadcaster Mails
- **December 31**
  McKinley Distribution



A Message from the Pastor

Pastor Don Perks
wumcpas1a@ameritech.net
440.942.9068

Hello family,

Not long ago I heard someone make a statement that caused me to stop and wonder (I do that a lot). He was talking about his marriage and his statement was, "When I married my wife, I married up." "I married up" really seemed like a strange thing to say. I suppose that what was meant is that his wife's family came from a higher economic bracket than that of his family, but to be honest I am not really sure.

So I began to wonder about our use of the word up. At McKinley Community Outreach Center we say we want to give people a "Hand up, not a hand out", and we try to do that. In some offices people climb "up" the company ladder hoping to reach the top floor one day. And some of you will remember the TV show, "The Jeffersons", their theme song talked about "moving on up to the east side".

In our culture it appears that we think up is better than down. We want to move up, marry up, climb up the pay scale and style of living. We spend our whole lives striving to keep climbing until we reach the top of the mountain, whatever that mountain may be for us, vocational, financial or political.

That is why our Advent Series is really intriguing to me, "The Down to Earth God." We will be taking a look at Jesus, the Son of God, who lived in heaven and one day came down to live on the earth as a mere man. He came down to be like us and experience what you and I experience. The question that arises in my mind is "WHY?"

I think He came down to our level so we could understand just how much God loves us. And I think there are many more reasons that I want to share with you throughout this season of Advent. So come take a look with me about "Up" and "Down" and see what God has to teach us this season.

- Pastor Don

Wise Men and Women Still Seek Him

Greetings from Pastor Hazel

Congregational Care Minister

FACT OR FICTION: What does the BIBLE tell us about Christ's birth? Many things that we associate with the Christmas story come from tradition or paintings. Do you know the facts?

1. Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem by
   - A. Camel
   - B. Donkey
   - C. Donkey Cart
   - D. Foot
   - E. Unknown

2. A manger is a
   - A. Shelter for domestic animals
   - B. Wooden storage bin
   - C. Feeding Trough
   - D. None of these

3. According to Scripture which animals were present at the birth of Jesus?

_____

Continued on Page 10

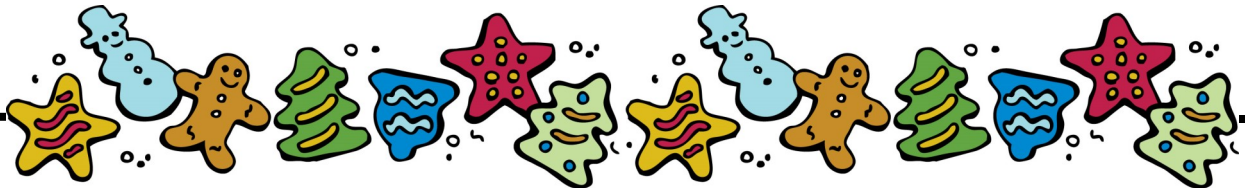
Christmas Pageant

The Fumbly Bumbly Angels

Please join us as four fumbly, bumbly angels set their sights on singing in the glorious Heavenly Choir, but instead find themselves singing in the tiny village of Bethlehem.

Sunday, December 18, 2016
3:00pm in the Sanctuary

There will be a cookie reception immediately following in the fellowship hall.



Sharing the true meaning of Christmas in our community!

WITNESS

Thursday, December 1st

6:30—8:30 p.m.

Live Nativity

Be a part of the tradition!

Actors (children, youth and adults) and behind the scene help needed.

Cookies or snacks for the participants are appreciated!

Sign up at the Welcome Center.

Contact Kris Knotts if you have questions! 942-4665

The City of Willoughby

Family Advent Activities

Sponsored by Faith Families

The Sparkle Box

You won't want to miss the Faith Family gift of your very own Sparkle Box. On November 27th, children heard The Sparkle Box, the heartfelt story of Little Sam and this magical & mysterious box written by Jill Hardie and illustrated by Christine Kornacki, The Sparkle Box celebrates the beauty and excitement of Christmas while bringing the true meaning of Christmas into focus. Sparkle Boxes were given out to families on Sunday, November 27th. If your family did not receive a sparkle box, please take one from under the Mitten Tree on the 2nd floor or contact Stacy Becker. Supplies are limited, please only one per family.

Faith Families Advent To Go Box

Advent To Go Boxes are a perfect way to bring families together during this Christmas season. Families can use these boxes to do simple, meaningful family devotions during the Advent season. Each box contains devotional cards and objects that go with the cards. It is as simple as pulling out the card, finding the object that goes with it and following the instructions. Willoughby U.M.C. wants to partner with parents to help their family grow in their faith and empower parents as the main spiritual leaders in their kids' lives. Faith Families Advent To Go boxes can be picked up at the Welcome Desks through out Advent.

Childcare Providers Needed

Wednesday Night L.I.F.E. Classes begin Wednesday, January 18th. We have several parents that are in need of childcare for their children 5 years old and younger for this 10 week session. If you are interested, please contact Stacy Becker at the Christian Education office prior to January 8th. This is a paid position.

The Mitten Tree Mission

The Mission-Minded Family Ministry will be sponsoring "The Mitten Tree" Mission throughout the advent season. Sunday School classes will be collecting new or gently used hats, mittens, gloves and scarves during the four Sundays in Advent. These items will be donated to McKinley Outreach Center to share with children and adults during the winter season.

MISSION-MINDED FAMILY

Fireside Chat

Tuesday, December 6th at 6:30p.m.

Children are invited to join Miss Stacy for a special night. Come in your PJs and enjoy stories and activities, cookies & milk and a special visitor. Parents – bring your camera!

Connection Classes for all Ages
SUNDAYS 10-10:50 a.m.

Kids BLAST
Bible Learning & Spiritual Transformation

1st & 2nd grade—Rm. 207 Mrs. Knotts & Mrs. Perks
3rd & 4th grade—Rm. 201 Mr. & Mrs. Pantaleano
5th grade—Rm. 203 Mrs. Weber & Mr. Lombardo

November Kids B.L.A.S.T. Memory Verse

November Memory Verse: Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

SPARKS

3 & 4 yr olds —Rm. 105 Mrs. Kneeland & Mrs. Miller
5 yr olds —Rm. 205 Ms. Crown & Mrs. Miller

re:form

6th—8th grade—Rm. 6
Mr. Kreger, Mr. Muranko,
Mrs. Kubiak and Mr. & Mrs. Fulginiti

YOUTH CLASS

9th grade and above—Youth Room
Mr. Lance Vene

adult connections

THE REDEMPTION OF SCROOGE

Room 3

The Redemption of Scrooge shows us how the teachings of Jesus can be found in Dickens' Christmas classic. From the ghosts of Christmas past, to the Life of the present, and the resurrection of Christmas future, this Advent study will "bless us every one" and reinvigorate our spiritual journeys as we look at this familiar story through the lens of faith.

REVELATION :
The Triumph of God

Room 101

Jesus gave John the strangely beautiful vision recorded in the book of Revelation to give us hope.

FAITH@HOME

Deuteronomy 6:7 states "Impress them (God's Commandments) on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." At Willoughby U.M.C. , we want to come along side you through a variety of opportunities to help equip parents to be the spiritual leader of the home through our Faith@Home Ministries.

Pick up a Children & Family Ministry Brochure at the Welcome Desk for this quarter's children & family upcoming events.

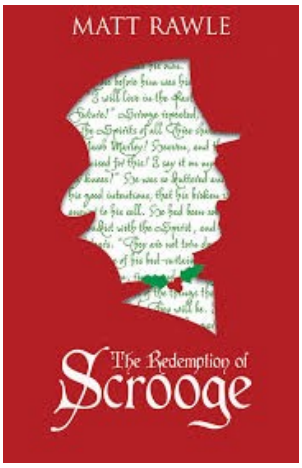
MISSION-MINDED FAMILY

Faith Families

Parent Pages

Parenting Classes Online

Connect with Children and Family Ministry Updates on Facebook.
https://www.facebook.com/wumcfaithathome/



Get Connected with Willoughby U.M.C.'s Advent OBS (Online Bible Study)

Mondays 7 p.m.

November 28th –

December 19th

Ebenezer Scrooge is a man in dire need of a second chance. Is redemption possible for such a greedy, dark and sad character? The Redemption of Scrooge shows us how the teachings of Jesus can be found in Dickens' Christmas classic. From the ghosts of Christmas past, to the Life of the present, and the resurrection of Christmas future, this Advent study will "bless us every one" and reinvigorate our spiritual journeys as we look at this familiar story through the lens of faith.

Contact Stacy Becker to be connected to this closed Facebook group. All are welcome and do not need to be a member of Willoughby

Meet the Pastors and More

is a monthly opportunity to meet with Pastor Don and Pastor Hazel and other leaders of WUMC to learn more about our church. Sponsored by our Welcoming Ministry team, it is not a formal meeting, but a casual conversation and Q/A time, and all questions are welcomed. Visitors and new members are encouraged to join us. In November we will meet on Sunday, November 27th in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour (10-10:45). If you wish, pick up a beverage and goody in the Parlor and head on down to FH.

Note: **There will not be a *Meet the Pastors and More in December*** *because the 4th Sunday falls on Christmas. That day there will be one family worship service, but no Sunday School. In January,* ***Meet the Pastors...****will resume its regular meeting time on the fourth Sunday of each month.*

I would like to thank my wonderful church family for all the cards, prayers, and good wishes. It means a lot to me that so many people have been there to support me through my fall and now to my journey with cancer. I am so blessed to be a part of this church family.

- Nancy Petrolewicz

The Wednesday Night Connection Group invites you to help decorate the Christmas tree in the Parlor! This year's theme is "All Hearts Come Home for Christmas." We have provided heart ornaments for you to write the name of someone you would like to remember or honor this Christmas to hang on the tree. Family, friends, loved ones who have passed - please stop by the Parlor any time this Advent season to fill the tree with hearts and memories!

Coffee Fellowship

Hi all! Every week we provide coffee, tea and pastries for fellowship between church services in the Parlor.

If anyone would like to bake for a Sunday that would be super. It's always nice to have home baked goods and a nice way to fellowship. I have a sign up sheet in the Parlor if interested. Thanks to Ian Barnes and Samuel Kreiger for baking for community service hours for youth group! This is always welcomed too.

Thanks all, blessings - Karen Ward

Missions & Social Concerns News

Thank you to all who packed Samaritan Purses' shoeboxes for children throughout the world! We appreciate your generosity in giving to these little ones! Also, thank you to all who took an Angel from the Angel Tree! These children all live in Lake County and will enjoy your thoughtfulness! Gifts need to be returned to the church by December 4.

Thank you all who donated to Sub-Zero Mission on the Stuff the Bus Day (hopefully now an annual event)! We will continue collecting through December 21 items to keep the homeless warm: sleeping bags, new socks, coats, scarves, gloves and hats. If you would like to give a monetary gift to that organization and/or to St. Mary's Church Code Blue Program (providing sleep area in Painesville), place that check in the offering plate through December.

Through your thoughtfulness, we were able to collect $623.25 to send to Haiti via UMCOR because of the October 30 Noisy Collection! Our January Noisy Collection will be given to our Wednesday night Community Dinners.

If you have Educational box tops for Education or Campbell's soup labels, please bring them in by the end of the year so that they may be sent to Redbird Mission.

In scripture, Jesus challenges us to live out his radical message of love by reaching out to the poor and marginalized. To feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and shelter the homeless.

WUMC has demonstrated this love by helping to feed the hungry through the Willoughby and McKinley Food Pantries and our Wednesday night Community Dinners. We help clothe the needy through McKinley Outreach Community Center.

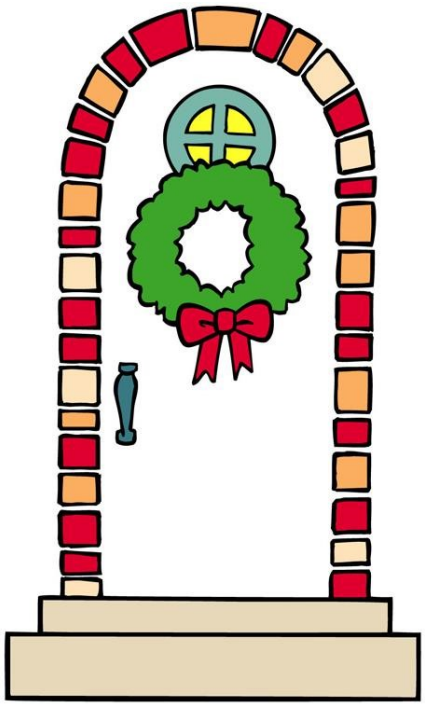
While several church members actively volunteer for Project Hope for the homeless and we continue our support, the Missions and Social Concerns Committee we would like to further invest our love in the homeless ministry.

Stepping in that direction, the Willoughby United Methodist Church, the Willoughby Outdoor Market and Adventure Jeep sponsored our first annual Stuff the Bus event to support those in need. We collected warming items, food and paper products to support Sub Zero Mission, the Willoughby Food Pantry and the McKinley Community Outreach Center. **Thank you to everyone who donated items and special thanks to Rae Kenne*y, Deb Tolar, Kenny and Samuel Kreger, and Ian Barnes who volunteered for the entire event.***

As winter approaches, please help **"Stuff the Box" for Sub Zero Mission.** We are looking for winter warming items such as winter coats, gloves, hats, sleeping bags and new socks which can be dropped off through December 11. The boxes are located in the Cloister and the side Sanctuary doors. Sub Zero Mission, a charity based in Ohio and run entirely by volunteers, distributes sleeping bags and other warming items directly to the homeless in Ohio and New York.

In furthering our outreach ministry, we request your support in the **Code Blue** program offered by **St. Mary's Catholic Church and Life Brand Cowboy Church**, both located in Painesville. Code Blue is a protocol that facilitates emergency overnight shelter for Lake County's homeless population when winter weather conditions become especially dangerous. Both St. Mary's and Life Brand Cowboy offer emergency overnight shelters and meals when winter conditions become especially dangerous. Their ministry welcomes volunteers as well as financial support. Checks can be made out to St. Mary's, with "Code Blue" in the memo line.

If you have any questions or would like more information on how you can become involved or support any of these organizations, please contact Susan Gerber at 440-289-1298 or sueandmarkgerber@gmail.com or any member of our Missions and Social Concerns Committee. Thank you.



OPEN DOOR

"I was a stranger and you invited me in" *Matthew 25:35*

WUMC's Open Door Ministry welcomed more than 2,700 people who came to the Willoughby Outdoor Market and special events in Downtown Willoughby including the Rib Cook -off, Classic Car Cruise-in, ArtsFest and Last Stop Willoughby. We also embraced two new opportunities to open our doors to the community for the Pokémon Go Party on August 6 and Food Truck Day on September 11.

Serving as an Open Door Greeter is an opportunity to show Christ's love to our neighbors and the community by welcoming them into our church to use our restrooms or inviting them to relax at our table and enjoy the shade. Several people who came through our doors during these events have continued to worship with us.

A heartfelt thank you to Johanna Stuehr and Edwina Jones who once again volunteered their time and energy to coordinate the weekly market calendars to ensure coverage during the market.

Thank you to those who volunteered as Open Door Greeters at the Willoughby Outdoor Market or special events including: Jerry Baumgardner, Mary Baumgardner, Dorothy & Ed Dietz, Marilyn Elmore, Elaine Ellsworth, Alex & Domenic Fatica, Susan & Mark Gerber, Mary Hewitt, Marge & Chuck Hoffman, Alison Huey, Mary Huey, Edwina Jones, Sally & Dana Kennedy, Beth Keeney, Rae Kenney, Joan & George Knotts, Ken Kreger, Carolyn & Bob Lingenfelter, Barb Lord, Marilyn & Christine Malenchini, Pat Norris, Jay & Bill Nuzum, Otto Penicka, Donna Potts, Juanita Rumora, Denise & Bill Small, Clare & Dayle Soukup, Beth & Tim South, Johanna Stuehr, Sue & Tom Thompson, Paul Turner, Cindy & Don Veneskey, Mae & Ed Warnock, Brady Wyant, Nancy Wilcox and Nancy & Ron Zabjek. We sincerely apologize if we missed anyone.

We especially appreciate those volunteers who served often and those we counted on as our "go to" volunteers who filled in when someone couldn't make their shift.

Please look for an invitation to an appreciation luncheon which will be sent out after the holidays.

Caroling and Blessing of the Bears

On December 11 bring in a stuffed bear or two to be blessed at the 11:00 AM service. We will distribute the bears when we go caroling to our shut-ins and area nursing homes. (Bears must be new with tags.) We will then meet at the church at 3:00 PM to go caroling. We need volunteers! Even if you are not a singer, join us to help pass out bears and interact with recipients. You will be blessed too!

Youth Christmas Party Lock-In

December 16 - 17

- ★ 6th grader to Seniors
- ★ Bowling
- ★ Dinner
- ★ Ugly Christmas sweater contest
- ★ Gingerbread house building
- ★ Movie and more
- ★ Only $12
- ★ Bring a friend!

Contact Lance Vene for more info @ Lancevene@gmail.com

Christmas Day dinner info here

McKINLEY COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER

Distribution hours

Saturday, Dec 10: 9:00-10:30 AM

Tuesday, Dec 20: 6:00-7:30 PM

Saturday, Dec 31: 9:00-10:30 AM

Used Toys Only Giveaway

Tuesday, Dec. 13: 6:00 PM -7:30 PM

(Volunteers Needed! Please RSVP!)

Food Pantry hours:

Mondays: 6:00-7:30 PM

Wednesdays: Noon-2:30 PM

Thursdays: Noon-2:30 PM

Feed the Body Feed the Soul Meal

Monday Dec. 26: 5:30 PM

Donation & Building Administration Hours

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Saturdays: 9:00 AM-11:30 AM

Greatest Current Donation Needs

TAXABLES:
Laundry detergent – 32 loads;
Dishwashing liquid – 25 oz.;
Liquid cleanser

PET FOOD:
Cat food, dog food

CLOTHES:
Winter, especially boys & men's and extra-large women's

BED SHEETS:
Queen & king sizes

BLANKETS & TOWELS:
All sizes

MISC:
Step stool

FURNITURE:
Beds – any size, but especially twin & queen

FOOD: Peanut butter, jelly, cereal, macaroni & cheese, Chicken noodle & tomato soup, tuna

Please note that the McKinley Community Outreach Center does NOT pick up furniture donations.

MCKINLEY CENTER IS IN NEED OF A SNOW BLOWER.
If you have one you no longer need and would be willing to donate to the Center, please call 440-269-8008. It would be a tax deductible donation. Thank you

COMING SOON!!

Many of you have noticed the Website is not functioning. Unfortunately our Website host went out of business unannounced. We are delighted to share that a new faith-based host has been selected and will be contracted shortly.

The new site will be up this fall. Thank you for your patience as we work through this situation. When one door closes, another one opens; and we are excited to be sharing the new Website with new features soon!

Communications Committee

Phyllis Culek, Terry Daniels, Russell Freeman, Erin Hendrix, Pat Meyer, Larry Morgan.

FACT OR FICTION: What does the BIBLE tell us about Christ's birth? (continued from Page 2)

4. Who saw the "Star in the East?"
   - A. Magi
   - B. Mary & Joseph
   - C. Shepherds
   - D. A,C
   - E. None of these

5. What "sign" were the shepherds told to look for?
   - A. A flashing arrow pointing to the stable.
   - B. A star
   - C. A baby that never cries.
   - D. A baby in a manger
   - E. A house with a Christmas tree and Santa out front.
   - F. B,D
   - G. None of the above

6. There was probably snow that first Christmas
   - A. Only in the snow belt in Ohio
   - B. All over Israel
   - C. Nowhere in Israel
   - D. Somewhere in Israel
   - E. Mary and Joseph only dreamed of a white Christmas

7. The baby Jesus cried
   - A. When the little drummer boy banged on his drum and startled Him
   - B. Never
   - C. Just like other babies

8. What is frankincense?
   - A. A precious metal
   - B. A precious fabric
   - C. A precious perfume (incense)
   - D. An Eastern monster movie
   - F. None of the above

9. According to Matthew, the Magi found Jesus in a
   - A. Stable
   - B. House
   - C. Holiday Inn
   - D. Palace
   - E. Matthew didn't tell us

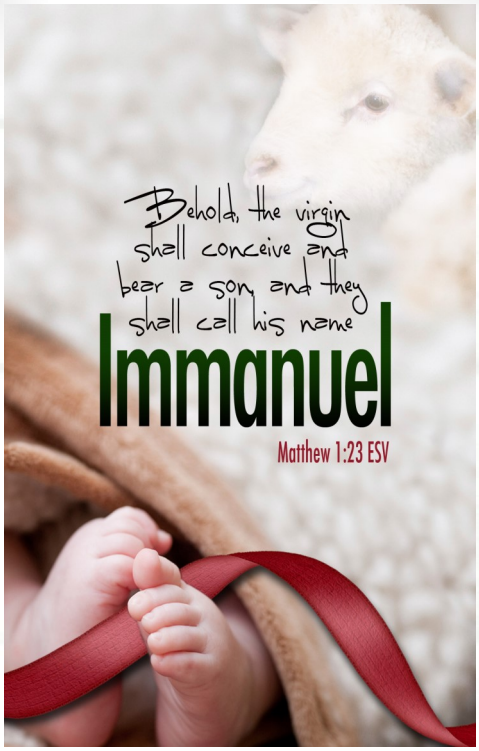
10. Myrrh was used as a(n)
   - A. perfume
   - B. embalming substance
   - C. oil for beauty treatments
   - D. A,B
   - E. A,B,C
   - F. None of the above

11. How many "wise men" came to Jesus?
   - A. Three
   - B. Unknown
   - C. Wise men still seek Him
   - D. A&C
   - E. B&C

12. True or False:
The "wise men" [Magi] were probably
   - A. from Persia (now the area of Iran)
   - B. kings
   - C. astrologers
   - D. wealthy
   - E. visiting Jesus as a toddler

13. Circle all the correct responses: The story of the birth of Jesus can be found in
   - A. Matthew
   - B. Mark
   - C. Luke
   - D. John

Answers: 1. E; 2. C; 3. None (Scripture doesn't list any animals.); 4. A; 5. D; 6. D; 7. C; 8. C; 9. B; 10. E; 11. E; 12. All true except kings. They probably held no governmental position. 13. Matthew, Luke

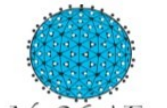


DECEMBER 2016

Pastor Don Perks - wumcpas1a@ameritech.net
Church Office - Judy Dort - wlbyumc@ameritech.net
Christian Ed. Director - Stacy Becker- wumceduc@ameritech.net
The Broadcaster—wumcbroadcaster@gmail.com

Willoughby United Methodist Church • 15 Public Square
440-942-9068 • willoughbyumc.com

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 AM - Service (Chapel)
9:00 AM - Contemporary (Sanctuary)
10:00 AM - Sunday School
11:00 AM - Traditional (Sanctuary)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. John 1:14				1 1:00 PM - Daytimers 6:30 - 8:30 Live Nativity 7:00 PM - Choir	2 9:30 AM - Food Pantry	3
4 *Sunday Worship Schedule* 1:00 –3:00 PM - Youth Group	5 9:30 AM - Alanon 6:30 PM - CWT 7:00 PM Advent Bible Study	6 10:30 AM - Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 PM - Fireside Chat 7:30 PM - River Street	7 9:30 AM - Food Pantry 9:30 AM - Library 5:30 PM - Meal 6:30 PM - Bells 6:45 PM - Intercess. Prayer	8 7:00 PM - Choir 7:00 PM - Trustees	9 9:30 AM - Food Pantry	10 9:00 AM **McKinley Distribution**
11 *Sunday Worship Schedule* 11:00 AM - Blessing of the Bears 3:00 PM - Caroling 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Youth Group	12 9:30 AM - Alanon 6:30 PM - CWT 7:00 PM - Girlfriends in God 7:00 PM Advent Bible Study **Broadcaster articles due**	13 10:30 AM - Pastor's Bible Study 6:00 PM - McKinley Used Toys Only Dist. 7:30 PM - River Street	14 9:30 AM - Food Pantry 9:30 AM - Library 5:30 PM - Meal 6:30 PM - Bells 6:45 PM - Intercess. Prayer	15 1:00 PM - Daytimers 7:00 PM - Finance 7:00 PM - Choir	16 9:30 AM - Food Pantry ***Youth Christmas Party Lock-In***	17
18 *Sunday Worship Schedule* 3:00 PM - Children's Christmas Pageant	19 9:30 AM - Alanon 6:30 PM - CWT 7:00 PM Advent Bible Study	20 10:30 AM - Pastor's Bible Study 7:30 PM - River Street 6:00 PM **McKinley Distribution**	21 9:30 AM - Food Pantry 9:30 AM - Library 6:30 PM - Bells 6:45 PM - Intercess. Prayer	22 7:00 PM - Choir	23	24 7:00 PM - Family Service 11:00 PM - Candlelight Service
25 ***10:00 AM - ONE SERVICE*** 	26 9:30 AM - Building closed 5:30 PM - McKinley Dinner	27 10:30 AM - Pastor's Bible Study 7:00 PM - Communications 7:30 PM - River Street **Broadcaster mails**	28 9:30 AM - Food Pantry 9:30 AM - Library 6:30 PM - Bells 6:45 PM - Intercess.Prayer	29 7:00 PM - Choir	30	31 9:00 AM **McKinley Distribution**