



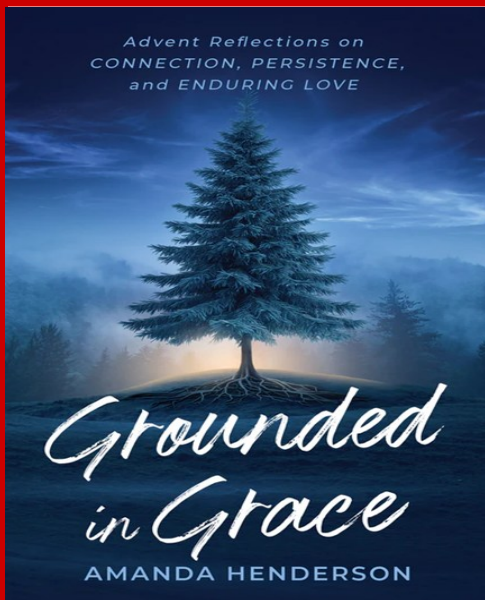
Disciples Care Newsletter DEC 2025

Office Hours are 9am to 2pm, M-Th
3100 N. St. Louis Avenue, Joplin, Missouri 64801



WELCOMING AND ACCEPTING ALL PEOPLE ALONG A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE.

“Welcoming and accepting all people” – is a reminder of our Welcome Statement and genuine hospitality, in the present tense so it is always relevant. “*along*” – is an invitation to join together side by side, “*journey of faith*” – implies that arrival is a myth; we are always growing, “*service*” – is a natural outcome of faith and inseparable from our commitment to discipleship.



ADVENT 2025 at Sojourners Christian Church will be centered around the devotional by Amanda Henderson, *Grounded in Grace*, “exploring how faith's daring stories of risk, birth, and radical trust can revitalize our connection to faith, community, and personal transformation.”

Published by Chalice Press, “*Grounded in Grace* offers a profound invitation to discover stability, connection, and purpose amidst life's complexities. This Advent journey is designed to help you find grounding in what matters most: your tie to God and one another through Christ. It's a path to active waiting and quiet transformation, preparing you for the days ahead and fostering resilience.”

Whether you purchased a copy of the daily devotional or participate in weekly worship only, we pray that your Advent season brings the growth, inspiration, and connection your heart needs and longs for.

Advent and Christmas Schedule

First Sunday in Advent – HOPE - November 30

Isaiah 2:1-5 “Grounded in Hope”

Congregational Meeting following Worship

Second Sunday in Advent – PEACE – December 7

Isaiah 11:1-10 “Growing in Peace”

Third Sunday in Advent – JOY – December 14

Isaiah 35:1-10 “Spreading Joy”

Christmas Offering for Regional Ministries

Followed by soup and sandwich lunch and Caroling

Fourth Sunday in Advent – LOVE – December 21

Isaiah 7:10-16 “Enduring Love”

Kids Bell Choir

Christmas Offering for Regional Ministries

Christmas Eve – GRACE – December 24; 5:00P

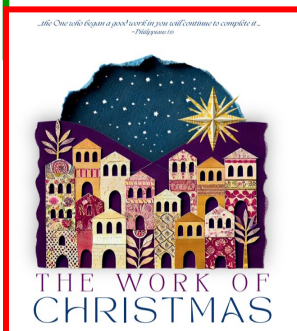
Followed by light potluck hosted by the Cullumbers

December 28 (no SS, Children Worship/Wonder or Kids Church)

Isaiah 63:7-9 "Saving Presence"



Kids' Faith Adventure Saturday, December 6 for kids K – 6th grade 9:00am to 12:30 pm
This is our last chance to enjoy a field trip on the church shuttle, so we are going to the Spiva Center to view artwork by four of our members, Richard and Debbie Reed and Alice and James Fletcher-Fierro. We'll hear about artists in the Bible who helped build the Jerusalem temple and make our own festive artwork. Please register in advance (by 12/4) to reserve a seat on the shuttle! Registration and permission forms for 2025-26 are on our website <https://forms.gle/>



Christmas Special Offering Sunday Dec 14 and Sunday Dec 21

There will be a Special Offering. Look for the insert in your bulletin. The funds raised from this Special Offering goes towards Regional Ministries. You will have two opportunities to give and be a part of our Region's goals and achievements.

CREATE

LEARN

VISIT

REGISTER NOW!

Sojourners Christian Church presents

KIDS FAITH ADVENTURE:

"Art is Spiritual"

DEC 6

9:00AM-12:30PM

Sojourners Christian Church

CREATE

LEARN

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REGISTER NOW!

Sojourners Christian Church

Sojourners Christian Church

Board Reports are DUE MONDAY Dec 8th, Please submit to Shelly by 2pm that day. Thank you!

EVENTS/OTHER

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Christian Women's Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, December 3 at 9:30am in the fellowship hall. The hostess is Ellen Traver and the special offering is for the Joplin Humane Society. Karen Kemp will have another Crismon craft to add to our treasured collection.



FELLOWSHIP Soup & Sandwich SUNDAY December 14th

Hospitality served a delicious meal of turkey, ham and all the side dishes and desserts to 60 people on Sunday Nov 16. The next Fellowship dinner will be Dec. 14, an easy meal of soup, sandwiches and desserts, followed by caroling. Three kinds of soup will be provided, and the rest of the members can fill in with half a dozen sandwiches, chips or crackers, and finger food desserts. Last names starting with A to D, please bring half a dozen sandwiches. Last names from E to Q, please bring crackers or chips (only 1 bag). Last names R to W, please bring finger food desserts--cookies, mini cupcakes, brownies, etc. Thank you!!

TIME CAPSULE: We are forming a small group of people to assemble and secure a collection of historical items for a time capsule for the church. If you are interested in this project, please notify Pastor Colleen.

Holiday Office Hours – The church office will be closed on December 24, 25 and 26, and again on January 1. Our staff wish you all the best of holidays!

Crosslines: We do not have a designated day at Crosslines in December but we continue to collect food for the pantry. Suggested items for December are peanut butter and jelly. Thanks for your faithful contributions!

Apple Pies are still available for purchase for \$20 each. A limited number of sugar-free pies are available. Ellen Traver is the contact person.



CHRISTMAS EVE: All are cordially invited to a soup and finger food supper after the Christmas Eve service Dec. 24, hosted by Shari and Jim Cullumber. This light meal after the service is an opportunity for additional fellowship, especially for those who might be spending the evening alone. Two soups will be provided and others are welcome to pitch in with finger food. If you plan on attending, let us know so we have plenty of soup. Please call or email Shari (317-408-2384, scullumb@gmail.com) or Jim (317-694-8267, jcullumb@gmail.com) with the number attending and if you are bringing something to share. We want to be sure we have enough places set and food prepared.



Coat Drive: The Omicron Delta Kappa fraternity is collecting winter coats through December 5. A box for your donations is located in the lobby next to the Crosslines cart.

New Members



We rejoiced to receive seven new members to our fellowship on November 2. From left to right they are as follows:

Kyle Ford, Penny Aldrighetti, Sandy Hays, Jan Stukey, Debbie and Richard Reed, and Mary Webb. Welcome, friends!

GREEN TIP- Avoid using wrapping paper and bows. Use and reuse gift bags, boxes, and ribbons. Sew simple cloth bags or wrap presents in pillow cases.

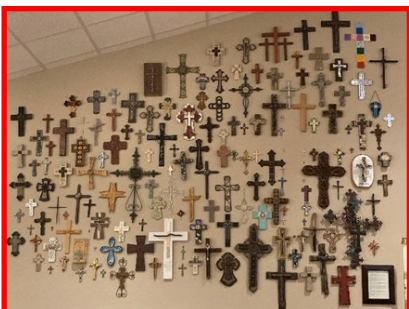


All Church Caroling



After worship on December 14, we will eat a light lunch of soup and sandwiches before loading up the church bus and vehicles to share caroling with our church folks who can't make it to worship. All ages are welcome to share in the fun! Note that this takes the place of our monthly potluck on the third Sunday of the month.

Beautiful Cross Wall!



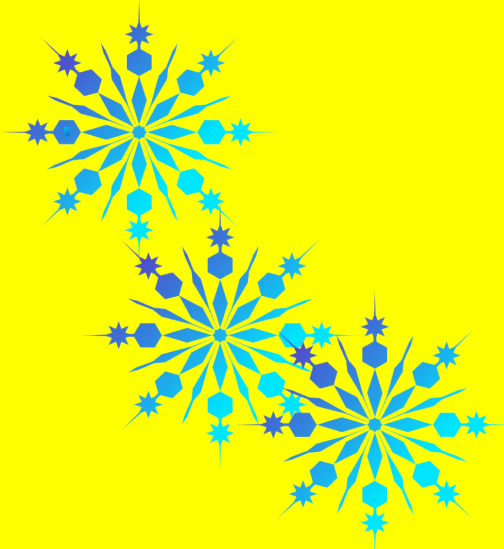
Thanks to Tom Wheeler for his dedicated work in arranging the crosses from our former church building along with those from Peace Lutheran Church on the rear wall of our sanctuary. The reminder of the "great cloud of witnesses" that accompany us in worship is beautiful and meaningful. If you have not contributed a cross for your household, you are welcome to bring one to Tom and he will see that it gets placed among the others.

Prayer Requests

Medical: Jan Heil Blankenship (Cullumber), Lea Beth Coit, Terry Hays, Brayton Louthan (White) Sandy Meadows, Don Smith, Evan Indigo Smith (Traver), Eden Snider (Meadows)

Other: Mark Felkins

Ongoing:
Kittie Blankenship; Bill Burns (Randall); Rachel Eckhardt; Joan Fitterling; Margie Fitterling; Kyle Ford (Wolfenbarger); Carolyn and Tom Fortson; Nancy Graham; Chris Greninger; Jones’ neighbor’s baby; James Knudtson; Sara Metts (Randall); Arlene Nash; Chastity Perry (White); Willa Randall; Jayne Sanders; Lou Starks; Sue Sterrett; Connie Sullivan; Pat Tikkanen (PLC) Roger Traver; Michael Wallace (Randall); Pat Wolfenbarger



Global Ministries Focus:
12/7 Indonesia
12/14 Taiwan
12/21 Nicaragua
12/28 Botswana

RESPONSIBILITIES



Elders

Dec 7 Patt Hinds
Dec 14 Mike Fitterling
Dec 21 Betsy Wheeler
Dec 28 Darlene Coit

Diaconate

Dec 7 Communion Prep-Connie Abraham and Judy Akeman
Homebound-Susan Wolfenbarger
Dec 14 Communion Prep-Jessica Fierro-Fletcher and Susan Wolfenbarger
Homebound-Donnie Smith
Dec 21 Communion Prep-Megan Bever and Robb Jones
Homebound-Tom Wheeler
Dec 28 Communion Prep-Sherry and Joyce Crumbliss
Homebound-Tom Hamm

Camera & Sound

Dec 7 Terry Plossl & Darryl Coit
Dec 14 Judy Schneider & Ken Moser
Dec 21 Jennifer Reaves & Ray Reaves
Dec 24 Terry Plossl & Darryl Coit
Dec 28 Judy Schneider & Don Smith

Kid’s Church Preschool thru 6th Grades

Dec 7 Darlene Coit & James Knudtson
Dec 14 Daniell Sanders & TBD
Dec 21 Children in Family Worship
Dec 28 Jessica Fletcher Fierro & Margie Fitterling

Children Worship & Wonder

Dec 7 Karen Kemp & Judy Schneider
Dec 14 Karen Fitterling & Taylor Reaves
Dec 21 Laney R & Taylor Reaves
Dec 28 Children in Family Worship








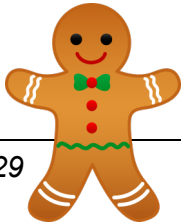


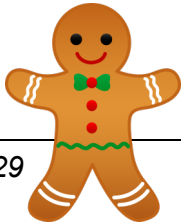

Birthdays

2 Spencer Cullumber
2 Will Delehanty
16 Briar Jones
24 Susan Wolfenbarger
30 Leanna Carrol
30 Kayci Evans

Anniversaries

18 Mike & Margie Fitterling



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov 30th <i>First Sunday in Advent</i> 	1 4:15pm Wor- ship Team Mtg (Theil Home)	2 (5:30pm WW)	3 9:30 am CWF 12:00pm <i>Decorating for Advent</i> 6pm Choir	4 	5	6 9am to 12:30pm Kids Faith Adventure
7 9:30am Adult Faith Formation 10:20am Fellowship 10:45am Worship/Kid's church CW&W <i>Second Sunday in Advent</i> 2:15pm Women's Cooking Circle (IJS)	8 <u>Board Reports DUE</u>	9 (5:30 pm WW)	10 6pm Choir	11 	12	13 2PM-5PM Kemp/ Poteet Event.
14 8:00 am Elders 9:30am Adult Faith Formation 10:20am Fellowship 10:45am Worship/Children in Wor- ship 12PM Light lunch & Caroling after! <i>Third Sunday in Advent</i>	15 	16 (5:30 pm WW)	17 (6pm PLC Potluck) 6pm Choir	18	19 	20
21 9:30am Adult Faith Formation 10:15 Kids Bells 10:20am Fellowship 10:45am Worship/Kid's Church CW&W <i>Fourth Sunday in Advent</i>	22 	23 (5:30pm WW)	24 Office Closed Evening Worship 5pm Sojourners 6pm Cul- lumber's Soup supper (6:30pm PLC)	25 Office Closed 	26 Office Closed 	27
28 10:20am Fellowship 10:45am Worship/Kid's Church No CW&W	29 	30 (5:30 pm WW)	31 No Choir re- hearsal	1 JAN Office Closed 	2	3

PLEASE NOTE

Office Hours For

Sojourners' Christian Church

3100 N. St. Louis Ave.

9am to 2pm

Mon-Thurs

**All activities at Sojourner's
 Christian Church, unless otherwise specified**

Our website address is: www.sojournerschristianchurch.org

And find us on Facebook!

