

THE ECHO... December 2021



The church newsletter of Rossville United Methodist Church - Rossville, IN



I was thinking the other day. I was thinking about how another holiday season is upon us. And I realized how different things have been recently. This became apparent to me as I was talking with a fourth grade student on the way back to the school from Religious Ed on the Friday before Thanksgiving. And I told her that the next time we have religious ed, the church will be decorated for Christmas. I told her about the large Christmas tree especially. Then I realized that last year as third graders, these students were not here during the Christmas season. Everything, including in-person church services and events were closed down because of COVID-19. Normally, students who come to religious education receive a two year program of teaching and learning and fun and music and games. This covers their third and fourth grade years. This year's fourth graders missed out on the period from just after Halloween all the way through until right after Spring Break last year when they were in third grade. They were not present for any of the special units which are taught during the period in-between Thanksgiving and Christmas, nor for anything during the first three months of 2021. This is just one example of the effects of COVID-19 in the life of our church.

A year later, everything is pretty much back to a normal schedule even though participation in most events and activities is still not quite what it was prior to COVID-19.

Life is different now. I've lost track of how many people I have known who died from COVID-19. My close friend's 29 year old son was the first—on Christmas Eve 2020. Perhaps the world seems to turn a little slower without the people in it whom have passed. But Christ is still in control. God is still on the throne. I've seen countless prayers answered in the past almost two years since all of this started. I've known people who were near death but did not die. I've known people who thought they had COVID-19, but tested negative. I've known people who suffered quite dramatically from the disease but didn't have to go to the hospital. God still answers prayers.

As we come upon another season of anticipation, the season of Advent, we look forward to hopefully getting back to some semblance of normality—even though the number of cases appears to be on the increase again.

This year we have a full schedule of activities. Everyone who feels comfortable is invited to participate. Masks are available for those who would feel more comfortable wearing one.

In the meantime, let us prepare our hearts to celebrate once again the coming of the One who came as Emmanuel—God with us. Jesus Christ the Savior.

Advent and Christmas blessings to all!

Pastor Bob Raschka

Missions Dinner Baked Potato Bar December 5th

The Missions Committee is holding their semi-annual fund-raising dinner after church on December 5th. The meal will include a baked potato bar with all the fixings, fruit salad, green grape salad, cherry delight, brownies, cookies, and drink. Donation boxes will be on the tables for people to give to the cause of missions here at Rossville.



**Adventure Club
CHRISTMAS
PARTY**

Kids Pre K through 5th grade are invited to a Christmas Party at Rossville United Methodist church there will be food and crafts as we bring to life the Nativity Story. Tuesday Dec. 7th doors open at 5:45pm to sign in and event is 6-7:30pm

Christmas Melodies

PROGRAM

Sunday December 12th

This year our Christmas program will involve a handbell choir, some solos and a special presentation. Rehearsals began on November 28th at 3:00 pm. The performance will be at our worship service on December 12th. Invite friends and guests to this special service on the 12th.



LADIES DAY OUT December 10th

Ten ladies enjoyed lunch and fellowship at the County Café last month. The next Ladies Day Out will be Dec. 10th at Panara Bread in Lafayette on St. Rd. 26. Meet in church parking lot to leave promptly at 11am.

All Ladies are invited!

For Questions Contact Jane Emens (765-376-6176) or Connie Hinesley (765-379-2234).



Wednesday Fellowship at Mary's Annual Christmas Party

Fellowship at Mary's fall session is done but don't be sad the spring session will be here before we know it. In the meantime the fellowship group is having their annual Christmas Party and you are invited. Join us Wednesday Dec. 15th 6:30 pm. at the home of Mary Gray 304 E. Main St. Please bring a finger food to share and no gifts please.



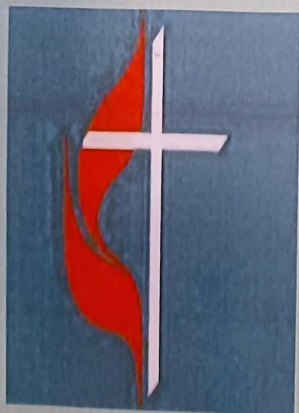


CHRISTMAS SONG SING - A - LONG



CLINTON COUNTY UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES SING - A - LONG

Join us in singing Christmas Carols
at Kilmore United Methodist Church
(4159 N CO RD O EW, Frankfort, IN 46041)
Sunday, December 19th at 6pm
Free Cookies and Punch



Presented by:
Colfax UMC
Forest UMC
Hopewell UMC
Jefferson UMC
Kilmore UMC
Michigantown UMC
Mulberry UMC
Rossville UMC



BISHOP’S CHRISTMAS OFFERING DECEMBER 19th

The Annual Bishop’s Christmas Offering for Children will be collected on Sunday, December 19th. This offering goes to support a myriad of ministries for children across the state of Indiana. Ministries such as Camping, our three United Methodist Children’s homes, missions projects for children, and emergency situations.



Our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight service is scheduled for Friday, December 24th at 7:00 pm. The service will include readings, carols, “a Story for Christmas 7”, special music, and the lighting of candles. Make plans to come an be a part of this special service as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.



SUNDAY MORNING CHRISTMAS PARTY WORSHIP SERVICE DECEMBER 26th

The second day of Christmas-DEC 26th- is on a Sunday this year. The worship team discussed what we might do to make this service a special one and decided to go with a casual party like service. This involves inviting people to wear ugly sweaters, or allowing children to come dressed in Christmas themed pajamas. Basically, wear your jeans or other casual wear as we gather to celebrate at our worship service on December 26th. Bring any family members who are visiting from out of town also.



Prayer requests for the church can be submitted to the church office. Pastor Bob or Brandy will start the phone tree system as soon as possible after receiving a request.

Financial Report



General Fund average offering received
 October 31- November 21: \$2357.40
 2021 year to date average received: \$2354.90
 Weekly Budget need: \$2337.43



- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Diane Miller Dec. 1st | Jeff Miller Dec 5th |
| Arlene Gangwer Dec 6th | Mimi Nicolas Dec 12th |
| Michael Hurley Dec 13th | Phyllis Patterson Dec 15th |
| Zoey Shelly Dec 14th | Grace Shireman Dec 14th |
| Rita Rothenberger Dec 16th | Aaron Rothenberger Dec 26th |

December Worship

- December 5th "Preparing for Home" Luke 3:1-6
 December 12th Christmas Melodies Program
 December 19th "The Blessing of Home" Luke 1:39-45
 Christmas Eve A Story for Christmas 7.
 December 26th "Lived!" John 1:1-14

Rossville United Methodist Church

110 W. Main St. P.O. Box 568
 Rossville, IN. 46065
 (765) 379-2981
 Adult Sunday School: 9:00 am
 Worship and Jr. Church: 10:30 am

Email: rossvilleum@gmail.com

Website: rossinumc.com

Pastor: Rev. Bob Raschka

Office Manager: Brandy Marlow

Pastor contact info:

Email: bob.raschka@inumc.org

Phone: (219) 851-3167 or

(765) 379-2982

Mailing address: P.O. Box 573

Rossville, IN 46065



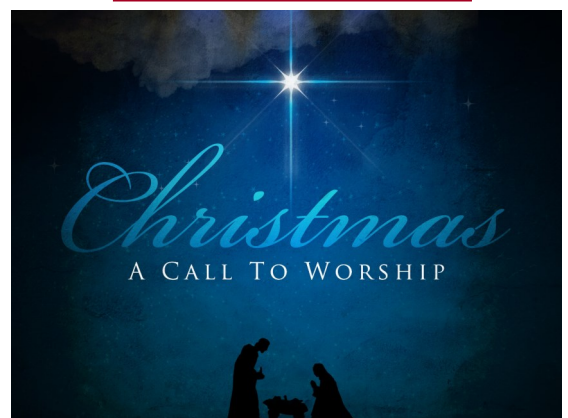
Find us on
Facebook

Adult Sunday School





9:00-10:15 a.m

Sunday Worship and

Jr. Church 10:30 a.m.



December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 Ladies Bible study 10am @ RUMC </p> <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	2	<p>3 Religious Ed 1-3pm</p>	<p>4  7:30am @ LSC Dinner Theatre @ Delphi 1st Assembly meet here 5:30. Doors open 6pm dinner at 6:30pm</p>
<p>5 Communion Sunday School 9 am Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am Missions Dinner after church HandBell 3:15pm Choir 4pm Prayer Group</p>	<p>8 Missions 6pm Trustees 7pm</p>	<p>7 Adventure Club Christmas Party 6pm Ladies Bible Study 7pm @ LSC </p>	<p>8 Ladies Bible study 10am @ RUMC </p> <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	9	<p>10  Ladies Day Out Meet at church parking lot 11am Religious Ed 1-3pm</p>	<p>11 HandBell & Choir Practice 10am-noon</p>
<p>12 Christmas melodies Sunday School 9am Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am Prayer Group 5pm</p>	<p>13 Administrative Council 7pm</p>	<p>14 Ladies Bible Study 7pm @ LSC </p>	<p>15 Ladies Bible study 10am @ RUMC </p> <p>6:30pm Mary's Fellowship Pitch-in  Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	16	<p>17 Religious Ed 1-3pm</p>	<p>18  7:30am @ LSC</p>
<p>19 Christmas Choir practice 10am Sunday School 9am Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am Prayer Group 5pm</p>	20	21	<p>22 Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	23	<p>24  Christmas Eve Service 7pm</p>	<p>25 </p>
<p>26 Christmas Party Service Sunday School 9 am Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am Prayer Group 5pm</p>	27	28	<p>29 Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	30	<p>31 </p>	