



# St. Paul United Methodist Church

## *The Goodnews Letter*

*December 2020*

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Dear Church Family,

I offer blessings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! How blessed and thankful I am to be part of this church family. Our church family, as with many others, has been challenged over these past ten months. I speak with some who feel isolated and lonely. Others are trying to keep up with work, children, and school. Some are even homeschooling and caring for their grandchildren. All of us have missed out on something; whether postponed weddings, funerals, birthday parties, reunions, graduations... the list could go on. The point is we have all experienced some form of loss during this time.

Now the season of Advent has arrived and we wonder how Christmas will unfold for the church and for our families. I hope that instead of looking at our losses that we will look to the true meaning of Advent. Advent means “coming”. It is the season where we anticipate the celebration of the birth of our Lord and we prepare our lives for His second coming.

In this season of hope let us not allow the things we cannot do to get in the way of the things we can do. We can worship! We can draw near to our Lord! We can simplify our lives. We can slow down and remember the real reason for this season.

I am reminded of that corny phrase----— Jesus is the reason for the season. I would argue that I have never experienced an Advent season when this mattered more. Let’s do our best to put Jesus at the center of all of our plans. In doing so, may we be reminded that everyone has and is suffering in some way during this time. Perhaps that will bring out the kinder, gentler, more loving side of all of us.

I pray faithfully for God’s blessings for this church family. I pray we are reminded during this season of Advent season that Emmanuel, God, is with us.





## Christmas Eve Service

Join us Thursday, December 24

at 6:00 PM

in our Family Life Center.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 15

Call the Church Office 803-652-2547

or

Email us at [office@umcne.org](mailto:office@umcne.org)

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Karen Owens
- 3 Swede Sundstrom
- 8 Kristy Summer
- 10 Minnie Goodman
- 14 Teresa Parchen
- 17 Lynn Alexander
- 19 Jan Benson
- 24 Charlie Wyont
- 25 HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS
- 26 Connie Jones
- 31 John Stamey



## **December 2020 Volunteers**

### **Acolytes**

12/06 Eve Morrow

12/13 Lauren Akins

12/20 Zoey Hall

12/27 J.B. Morrow

### **Advent Readers**

12/06 Amber & Zach Temple

12/13 Melinda & Jimmy Brinkley

12/20 Pat & Don Matera

12/24 Mary Lib Pennock & Maddie Pennock

### **Lay Servants**

12/06 Jimmy Brinkley

12/13 Mason Morrow

12/20 Charles Goodman, Sr.

12/27 Melinda Brinkley

*Substitute: Jennifer Akins*

If you are unable to serve on the Sunday you are scheduled for, please find a replacement and contact the Church Office.



**ST. PAUL**

**United Methodist Church**

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