



Showing Up Like Jesus

Call to Worship

Invocation

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners. Isaiah 61:1

Scripture Reading, Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-21

Message

Pastoral Prayer

Offering

“King of Kings”

He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen. 1Timothy 6:15-16

Communion

Communion elements are gluten and dairy free

“Amazing Love”

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14


Benediction

We will show up like Jesus.

This Week

- Monday 7:00pm** AA, *the Schoolhouse*
6:30pm L.B.A. Meeting at East Leon
- Tuesday 9:00am** Neighbor to Neighbor
- Wednesday . . . 6:30pm** Prayer Meeting
- Thursday 10:00am** Bible Study
- Sunday 10:00am** Sunday School
11:00am Worship

Looking Forward

Advent is the practice of seeking God over the next 25 days to prepare for the incarnation of “God with us.” Jesus, the Messiah is the fulfillment of God’s promise. Historically Advent is given to the practice of quiet reflection, fasting and service to others. 

This week: Read, *John 1:1-18*, consider the identity of Jesus as **God, Creator, Light**. What does it mean that He is the **Word**? Read, *John 5:39-40* What can you let go of this week to create space for relationship with Jesus? What can you do that will help someone experience His love?

The pastor from East Leon, Rev. Karen Cleveland is retiring from her position. Our church has been asked to partner with them as they navigate this transition. Our board has been discussing the possibility. Please be praying with us. We will be meeting with their board on **Monday, December 2, 6:30pm** at East Leon.



Join us Thursday, December 5th at 10:00am for Bible Study. We will be looking at the family tree of the church and the purpose of the body of Christ.

Be a part of our prayer team. On the bulletin board there are sheets you can share prayer requests and put it in the offering plate. Join us on Wednesdays in the Family Care room for prayer together.



December 8th, 10:00am, “Breakfast in Bethlehem,” a fellowship meal and Sunday School program celebrating the birth of Jesus. Mark your calendar.

Saturday, December 14th, 8:00am, Men’s Breakfast at the schoolhouse. Don’t miss the opportunity.

Sunday, December 15th, 5:00pm Cookies and Carols in the Schoolhouse. Mark your calendar to gather and celebrate the birth of Jesus.




Christmas Eve Communion, please sign up for a time between noon and 6:00pm to share in this treasured tradition of quiet worship and remembering the gift of Emmanuel, “God with us.”



Neighbor to Neighbor will be closed for two weeks, Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve, and reopen on Tuesday, January 7th, 9:00am.

There will not be any Food Express in December.

Your giving is an essential partnership to our church. There are three designated areas to give: **General Fund**, covers all church expenses, ministries, salaries, utilities and insurance; **Building Fund**, covers building maintenance, repairs and projects, **Missions** which serves our global ministry partners and the needs of individuals in our community along with local outreach projects. 

Tuesday, January 14th, 6:30pm, Local Board of Administration Meeting in room 102.

Saturday, January 25th 10:00am Church Board Retreat at the Schoolhouse, please mark the day on your calendar.

Advent

Showing up like Jesus

We asked for a king....God gave us Himself.

The first half of the year we focused on the Gospel of Luke. We saw how Jesus showed up with humility, love and mercy. He rejected the way of earthly authority to become a servant. He proclaimed the goodness of God's presence found in oneness with Him.

The last half of the year was contrasted by how our misdirected desire is the pursuit of our own idea of good. The result is the defensiveness of self-preservation and holding on to our own power.

God's picture of flourishing is the transformation of desire to live in loving union with him and the pursuit of what He calls good.

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:1-8



Our Mission: To become lifelong followers of Jesus Christ bringing the new creation of His resurrection everywhere.

Our History: The name Wesleyan is in honor of John Wesley, a priest in the Church of England who became the inspiration behind the "Methodist Movement." Through their disciplined routine of spiritual devotion and social work, Wesley and his followers earned the nickname "Methodists."

In 1843, a group of pastors separated from the Methodist Episcopal Church because of their strong convictions to abolish slavery and their desire for a more democratic form of church government. This movement became known as the Wesleyan Methodist Connection.

An itinerant Preacher, G.W. Sibley was used by God in the summer of 1857 to begin a work that would span generations to come. Through his preaching the gospel here on what became known as "Ball Hill," the family of Daniel S. Ball established a lasting faith in Jesus Christ. Committed to the work of God's kingdom they organized the Forestville Wesleyan Methodist Church in 1858. He then returned in 1881 leading the congregation through the construction of the building, where we worship today.

Our Heritage has been forged by men and women who followed Jesus, trusted, served with love and selflessness. **May we be found faithful with this sacred trust, to carry the light of Jesus, to all who come behind us.**



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