



God is love and love lives here!

600 North Houston Lake Blvd., Centerville 31028
(478) 953-3090
www.thewellatcenterville.com
Office Hours: Mon-Thur 8:30a-12:30p
Rev. Tommy Odum
pastortommy@thewellatcenterville.com; 478/397-9491

Sunday, December 3, 2023 ~ First Sunday in Advent

Procrastination

Luke 12:40

40 You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Some people are gifted with special talents they display for everyone to see. They may be artistic, musically inclined, or capable of physical feats others wouldn't dream of. Now I always felt God had blessed me with a special talent, but my mother disagreed. I thought it was just her and her inability to see a gift this wonderful, but I was amazed to learn my wife didn't see my special talent either. Both of these people, of whom I've lived closely with my entire life, couldn't see the hidden gem I had somehow undoubtedly unlocked, like Superman developing his powers for the first time. What was my superpower, you might ask? Procrastination!

That's right it is a gift that keeps on giving. It gives life excitement and flare even in the mundane things. What good is a school project due date if you are done a week in advance. Noooo! The night before a science project is due is the perfect time to build an exploding volcano. Better yet, why buy Christmas presents months in advance when you can feel the rush of whether or not the store will have the only present your precious bride asked for this year? I am proud to say I've passed this gene on to my own children as day in and day out they wait until the last minute to tell us about school events and parties. The excitement of trying to buy a gift on the way to the event keeps us on our toes and makes us feel alive!

I pray you can feel the sarcasm in the tone of this article. Katie is right and so was my mother, my procrastination is not a gift but a hindrance. It may feel exciting to wait until the last minute and I've often said that I work best under the pressure of procrastination, but unfortunately, it's also how someone ends up disappointed on Christmas morning. Disappointment and procrastination tend to go hand in hand that way; something will be missed, and someone will be disappointed because we were not able to accomplish the job or do it as well as we should have. The author of Luke writes about the danger of procrastination in chapter 2. He tells us to be ready because Jesus' return will be unexpected and if we are not ready, we will be surely disappointed in the outcome.

Love cannot wait, patience cannot wait, forgiveness cannot wait; especially during the holidays. We need to be proactive in these things and not wait until the last minute. The gift is not as special if we withhold the giving or wait until the last minute. We don't know the day, or the hour Jesus will return or our life will simply end. Therefore, there is no gift in our procrastination, only disappointment. Love today, give today, pray today, encourage today; for some these things cannot wait for us to procrastinate.

Keep The Faith,
Pastor Tommy

Scripture and Sermon:
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Game Time:
Life Through Advent:
Giving Thanks

How can we PRAY for you?
New Concerns
Family of Barbara Pope
Sonny Watson
Warren McDow
Betty Estep
George Knowles
Continue Prayers for:
Family of Ann Stafford
Don & Sharron Schall
Bennie Wyatt
Christa Avret
Michael & Jennie Walston
Warren McDow
Betty Byrd
Leon Hudson
Mary Prater
Jim & Mary Leary
Virginia Eadie
Bill Reedy
Sarah Mayer
Cary Martin
Mac McNeal
James McNeal
Our Country, Leaders, Military

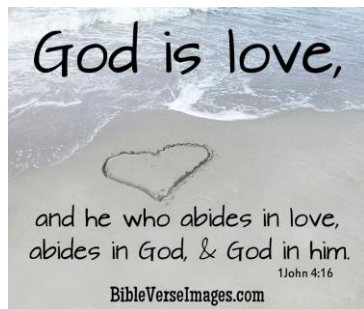
Finance Report for
November 26
Operating Budget..... \$3,606.43
Local Mission.....1,337.70
Total..... \$4,944.13
Worship Attendance:
116
Sunday School:
64

Gifts Given to the Glory of God

* In memory of Ann Stafford by Margaret Henley, Joyce Wyatt

Poinsettias for Christmas

We still have some poinsettias available for ordering... they will be delivered and placed in the church December 1 and taken home after Christmas Eve Service. We will be ordering 24 poinsettias, so be sure to order yours! Cost is \$12.50. Call or email the church to place your order.





Blessing of the Bears

The **Blessing of the Bears** will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 10th. We will accept donations of nice stuffed animals (in the box outside the office) starting next week until December 7th. These will be displayed near our altar and blessed so that they can be distributed to children in need by the Centerville Police and Fire Departments before Christmas. Thanks for your support!



- ✓ 12-02-23 at 9a-2p- **Christmas Festival**
- ✓ 12-02-23 at 11:30a **Called Administrative Council Meeting**
- ✓ 12-03-23 at 5p-7p- **Parsonage Open House**
- ✓ 12-07-23 at 6p- **Nominating Committee (if needed)**
- ✓ 12-09-23 at 9a-11a- Clothes Closet Toy Giveaway
- ✓ 12-09-23 at 1p-3p- Drop-in Baby Shower for Brooke McKeever at the Parsonage
- ✓ 12-10-23 at 8:30a- Staff Meeting
- ✓ 12-10-23 at 10:30a- **Blessing of the Bears**
- ✓ 12-17-23 at 10:30a- **Christmas Cantata**
- ✓ 12-24-23 at 6p- **Christmas Eve Service**
- ✓ 12-25/01-01-24- **Office Closed**
- ✓ 12-31-23 11:30a- 5th Sunday Lunch after Worship Service

Bible Reading Plan	
Week of December 3 rd :	
Sunday.....	1 John 1
Monday.....	1 John 2
Tuesday.....	1 John 3
Wednesday.....	1 John 4
Thursday.....	1 John 5
Friday.....	2 John 1
Saturday.....	2 John 2

Sweet Shoppe at the Christmas Festival

HELP NEEDED!! Our Church sponsored Sweet Shoppe booth at our Christmas Festival, December 2, is in need of food items to sell! We need cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, candies, snack mixes, jellies, etc. – anything that looks and tastes delicious! Buyers look for quick snacks for that day, or cakes and desserts that can be frozen for Christmas! Please bring wrapped and labeled items to the Social Hall by December 1st! (Cake plates for iced cakes will be available in the Social Hall next week!) All proceeds go to The Well at Centerville! The more you all bring in, the more we make; our success depends on our Church folks!! **Thank you!** Questions? Call Marilyn at 478-396-0735.

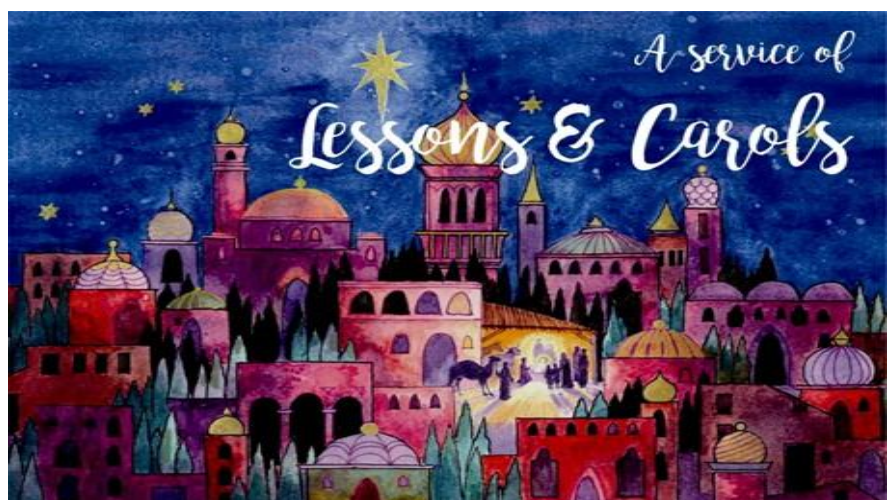
Community Missions

- November totals for the Food Pantry::Families served- 869; People served- 3047; Portions distributed- 1141; Weight of food distributed- 24,181 lbs. Yall rock!
- The next Food Pantry December 13, 11a, it will be the only one in December and will resume January 10, 2024... come on out and volunteer! You will be blessed. Our Food Pantry Team rocks!
- November totals for the Clothes Closet- 423 people served. Yall rock, too!
- Clothes Closet Volunteers for December 5- Lynn Mayfield, Becky Martin, Joy Fleming
- Our Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday, 9a-noon
- The Clothes Closet will be open 11a-1p on Food Pantry days, which is the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.
- Thank you for your generosity to the Open Door Clothes Closet. Each week we see more and more clothed and cared for because of your gifts of love. **Winter is Coming** and we will be in need of several items. If you're cleaning out your own closets or looking to donate items, please consider donating to the Clothes Closet. We also ask you to look for some of the specific items listed below as you are preparing for the change in season. Thank you again for all you do to support our ministry!
Winter clothes/coats/jackets/sweaters/hoodies/pants/shoes/socks/scarves/hats/gloves;
linens/sheets/blankets/throws/comforters; towels/washcloths; personal needs items; toys.
- Workers are needed in the Clothes Closet on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9a-12 noon.

Family Promise

If anyone is interested in being a volunteer please contact J.O. or Lynn, this is a very blessed ministry of our church... check out their website at <https://www.familypromisehoustonco.org/>

Christmas Cantata
December 17, 10:30a
Join us for a joyful,
Worshipful service of
Lessons & Carols by
The Chancel Choir and
Handbells of The Well.



Are you Looking for a place to serve? To get involved? We have it!

This Week's Schedule:

Sunday- December 3

Ushers

10:30a J.O. Miller, Tony Rozier
Mel Smeltz, Cheri' Cox, Roy Carter
Keith Mobley, Stevie Bowen
Joy Fleming, Sherrie Shell

9:15a Sunday School

10:30a Worship

5p-7p **Parsonage Open House**



Greeters

10:30a Joy Fleming, Susan Glidewell



Communion Servers

Eric & Gloria Nelson
Cheri Cox and LaWanna Porter



Finance Stewards

Paula Williams, Sherrie Shell, Kelly Evans



Assisting with Children

Sunday- December 3

Nursery- Linda Blanton, Dawn, Laura
Children- Katie Odum

Sunday- December 10

Nursery- Marie Davis, Dawn, Laura
Children- Sherry Armour



Monday- December 4

10:00a Quilters

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Tuesday- December 5

9a-12n Open Door Mission Closet

9:15a Movin' n Groovin'

10:00a Partners in Prayer

10:00a Yoga

6:30p Miss Terry's Circle

6:30p Bass Club



Wednesday- December 6

8:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast

1:00p Life Group I "Under Construction"

6:30p Choir Practice

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Thursday- December 7

9:15a Movin' n Groovin'

10:00a Yoga

5:30p Dulcimers

6:30p Handbells

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Friday- December 8

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Saturday- December 9

9a-11a **Christmas Toy Giveaway**

1p-3p **Drop-In Baby Shower for Brooke McKeever**

At the Parsonage
Registered at Target

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Sunday School at 9:15a

Are you looking to get involved in Sunday School? We have a great line up of classes to explore! Maybe you've been attending Sunday School regularly but see a topic you're interested in – it's okay to move around and try different classes – let's learn and grow together!

Sunday School Class

Seekers

Issues & Answers

New Beginnings

Christian Fellowship

Youth

Pilgrims

Studies

Christmas Story

Matthew

Revelations

Almost Christmas

The Scripture's Advice to Youth

Acts

Teacher

Kathy Rutke

Katie Odum

Nancy Hudson

Don Schall

Eric & Gloria Nelson

Kathy Blanchard

Open Door Mission Closet
is hosting a Christmas Toy
Giveaway on December 9th
9:00am until 11:00am.

Please support this mission
by donating a new
unwrapped toy for either a
boy or girl
birth to age 12.

Toys can be left in the
office or the
Clothes Closet.

Let's make some
children happy
this blessed season.