

December 2016

DAWSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



FOR UNTO US

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CHILD

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BORN



MERRY CHRISTMAS

MITTEN TREE

Mittens, scarves, stocking hats, gloves ... things to keep little hands and heads warm this winter. Lets fill our tree in Findley Hall and we will get them to those who can use them in our neighborhood for this winter.



From the editor ...

Here we are again at the end of another year, that seemed to go by faster than the previous. I urge you to spend extra time this month and in the coming year with those that you love and those whom you gather to worship with. As we all know life can change in the blink of an eye. Don't let the opportunity to say I love you or I treasure our friendship pass you by. I wish for each of you a wonderful Christmas and a blessed new year.

Russell Brace

Sometimes the most wonderful time of the year is tough .. you are not alone ... we are here.

Blue Christmas Worship

A non-traditional holiday service for those who are stressed lonely or hurting.

Sunday, Dec. 18 @ 4 PM

This special service is a time to remember friends and family who have passed during 2016. It is also an important service for those that have difficulty facing the holidays for various reasons. Please consider joining us for this reflective, retrospective and intimate worship then stay for a "cup of comfort" gathering of serving a light supper of soup, bread and cookies. For more information .. please contact the church office.



CROSSWALK

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for CrossWalk the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Youth will have a meal together, then a time of biblical study, followed by closing worship. The Youth will meet from 12:30-2:00 pm at the church or parsonage. Please see Pastor Amy for more details.



WHAT DOES YOUR PERFECT CHRISTMAS LOOK LIKE?

Having the most brightly lit house or perfect snowmen cookies and gingerbread boys or the perfect tree that doesn't lean or perhaps shopping for the perfect gifts to put under the tree. For some of us it's all that and more, as we place so many expectations upon the season and ourselves.

This Christmas let's put away our expectations and let's make this year different. This Christmas, instead of expectations let us think expectantly, expectant in a miracle in the hope of Christ, expectant that there is a God who loves us and we don't have to be perfect, he loves us for who we are. Let us be expectant of the joy of our families when we gather to celebrate the birth of a king, whose life began humbly.

No matter what mess we find ourselves in this Christmas season, may we each remember that God is with us and God will work miracles through us. May we be expectant of miracles this Christmas. But before we can expect a miracle of a different kind of Christmas this year with lowered expectations and stress and pressure, we must begin to work on our image of Immanuel, God With us. We must also see a God who makes a priority of taking care of the poor, the hurting, the confused and abandoned as he cares more about his children than the size of our trees.

Christmas is a time to look way beyond the decorations and to look straight to the heart of the season and that is that every person matters to God. A popular song tells us that "it's the most wonderful time of the year." And that's true; Christmas is indeed wonderful but not because of us, our traditions or what we do, it's all because of the wonder of what Christmas tells us; God loves us and has come among us. This is the wonder of Christmas!

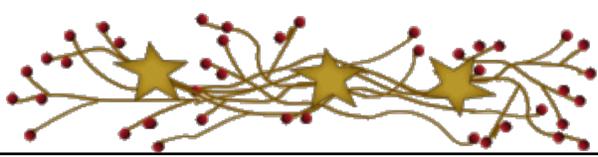
So many special things are being planned this month for you, your family, your friends and our neighbors to share the wonder of Christmas. Please take time to see how you can experience true Christmas hope, peace, joy, and love and bring the same to others. Let's all make this Christmas truly wonder-ful together!

Lord God, help us to see your face and feel your hand this Advent season...Let our hearts be broken by that which breaks yours. May we be the hands and feet for growing miracles...Amen

See You Sunday,

Pastor Amy





DECEMBER DATES TO SAVE

- Dec 3 -
Jingle Bell Sale - 8 AM - 5 PM
- Dec 11 -
Christmas Dinner - After Worship
- Dec 18 -
Christmas Cantata - During Worship
Teddy Bear Cookie Sale - After Worship
Blue Christmas - 4 PM
- Dec 24 -
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 5 PM
- Dec 25 -
Christmas Sunday Worship - 10:45 AM
No Sunday School

Join us each Sunday in Advent for a light breakfast in Findley Hall. A great opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to join us .. as all are welcome.

Advent Bible Study
"The Wonder Of Christmas"
Beginning Wednesday
Nov. 30



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Dec. 24th
5 PM



Pancake Breakfast

There will be no Pancake breakfast in December.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

This group meets every Tuesday at 10 A.M. They are studying of the book of Romans. Everyone is welcome to join us anytime. Come grow with us!



3D is in full

swing!

3D on Wednesdays.

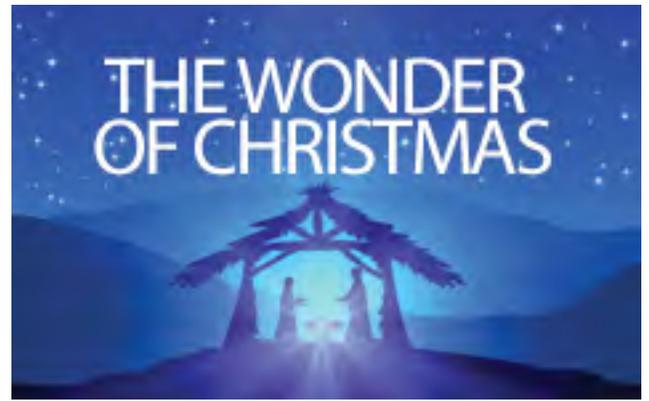
Join us for **DINNERS, DISCIPLESHIP, at DAWSON!!**
Dinner will be served at 5:30, Intergenerational worship at 6:00, then small group studies for Children and Adults from 6:15-7:00pm. Come and see how fun and meaningful church can be!

Teddy Bear Cookie Sale



Remember to bring your favorite batch of Christmas cookies to church on Sunday Dec 18th then you can buy back a different dozen or two cookies. It is always lots of fun.

Jesus's words, "whatever you did to the least of these you have done to me" both challenge and encourage us to look for ways in our lives to reach out to others. As a church, we have a great opportunity to share the love of Christ through our partnership with Family Promise of Greater Wichita. Our first week of service will be December 11-17. Currently six members of Dawson UMC have completed the required training with two more planning on completing theirs soon.



The Wonder of Christmas

Once You Believe, Anything Is Possible

The following is a list of food items that are in need for the end of the week lunches and the Tuesday evening meal for the program residents while they are staying with our host church, Derby Crosswinds;

- Large Bag of Tossed Salad
- Large Bottle of Italian Dressing
- 3 10oz Bags of Frozen Green Beans
- 2 Loaves of French Bread
- 8 oz package of Bologna
- 8 oz package of Turkey
- 8 oz package of Ham
- 8 oz package of Roast Beef
- 10 Green Apples
- 10 Bananas
- 10 Oranges
- 3lbs of Grapes

If you are willing and able to donate any of these food items, please place your name of the sign-up sheet that can be found on the table in Findley Hall. Please have these items to the church by noon on Tuesday, December 13.



Community Rewards

Be sure to update your Dillon's Community Rewards program designation so that Dawson gets the rewards. This really helps our budget and it is free to do. Ask Shirley Dieker for more details.

Advent began on Sunday, November 27 and between now and Christmas we will have exciting new Advent sermon series, The Wonder of Christmas. This series explores four elements of the Christmas story that teach us about the wonder of God's great love for us: a star, a name, a manger, a promise. As we look to these wonder-filled aspects of the Christmas story, we will rediscover that the true wonder of Christmas is found in the love of Christ and made real in our hearts when we share that love with others.

This sermon series will be enhanced by a study groups for adults, youth, and children on Wednesday evenings (November 30 and December 7, 14, and 21). A light dinner will be served each week at 5:30, followed by the study at approximately 6:10pm. Join us this Advent as we embrace and celebrate the true wonder of Christmas, believing that because of God's great love and light in Jesus Christ, anything is possible!

Also, don't forget that a light breakfast will also be served each Sunday morning prior to worship...this is a great opportunity to invite your friends to come and experience the WONDER of Christmas together!



The December Change 4 Change offering will go to our neighborhood Christmas family.

DawsonUMC+

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ADORE HIM



JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE JESUS THIS CHRISTMAS

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