



# Leap of Faith

DECEMBER 2020



The season of Advent is the time that we prepare our hearts to receive anew the gift of the Christ Child into our lives. It is a time of anticipation, preparation, and joy.

The hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" helps us to express and understand our deepest longings for God. This hymn of Christmas was written by Charles Wesley in 1744. It was later popularized by Charles Spurgeon in one of his Christmas sermons in the 1850's.

In this beautiful hymn, we acknowledge that the prophets spoke of the coming Messiah to Israel, not as a king over their country, but as a constant companion who would rule in our hearts.

In the coming of Jesus Christ, all humankind is set free and delivered from our sins and fears. With everything that we have been through this year, this is the message that we need right now.

Yes, the celebration of Christmas will be different this year. We will find new ways to see others, and new ways to give. We will have to be flexible as well as creative. Jesus Christ will still come this Christmas, bringing to mind The

Kingdom of God and our place in it. In the words of Charles Wesley, Jesus is "the hope of all the earth", and the "joy of every longing heart"! Come, thou long-expected Jesus into each of our hearts!

Amen Pastor Laura

Do not let a building confine your faith because we will never change the world by just going to church, we need to be the church!

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting will be on Wednesday December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6PM on Zoom. If you would like to join us please get with Mary Ellen Harris

## CONSISTORY MEETING

Will be on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> directly after the congregational meeting.

**Please note that both meetings will be on Zoom and not Messenger.**

## DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

- December 06 Laura Doty, Pastor  
Liturgist –  
13 Jamelle Godlewski, Guest Speaker  
Liturgist –  
20 Laura Doty, Pastor  
Liturgist –  
27 Laura Doty, Pastor  
Liturgist –

*Thank you to everyone for helping out!*



### CONSISTORY MEMBERS

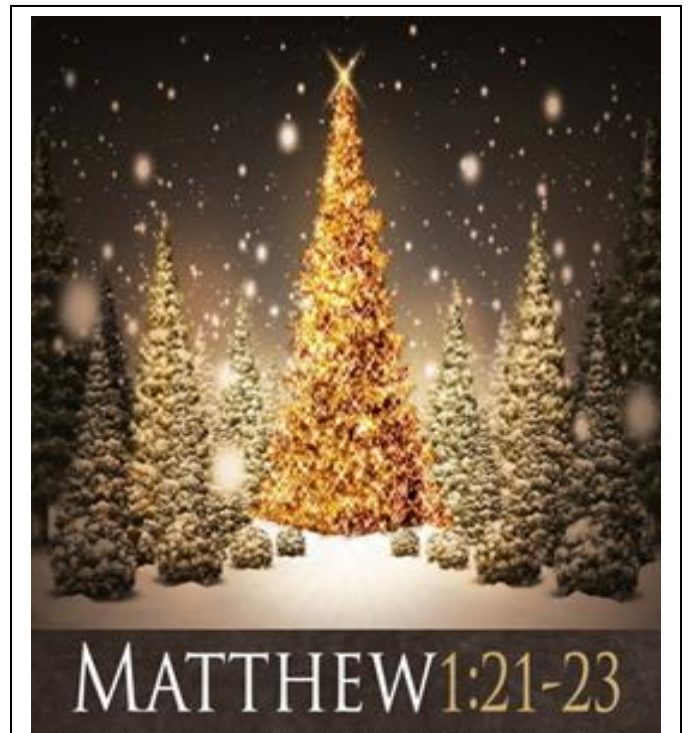
Mary Ellen Harris (Pres)	Jean Quillin
George Adamson (Treas)	Edward Quillin
Dennis Harris	Kelly Harris (Sec)
Courtney Papa	
Wayne Knudson (VP)	

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR DECEMBER

- 06 – Second Sunday of Advent – **PEACE**
- 07 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 10 – Hanukkah Begins
- 13 – Third Sunday of Advent – **LOVE**
- 20 – Fourth Sunday of Advent - **JOY**
- 21 – Winter Begins
- 24 – Christmas Eve – **The CHRIST CANDLE**
- 25 – Christmas Day
- 31 – New Year's Eve

### OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY

Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Rosa Stone and Fannie Miller. May God give you the comfort and peace that you seek and may the soul of your loved one rest in peace.



Advent Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<a href="#">First Sunday of Advent</a> November 29, 2020 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 64:1-9</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19</a>	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 1:3-9</a>	<a href="#">Mark 13:24-37</a>
<a href="#">Second Sunday of Advent</a> December 6, 2020 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 40:1-11</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13</a>	<a href="#">2 Peter 3:8-15a</a>	<a href="#">Mark 1:1-8</a>
<a href="#">Third Sunday of Advent</a> December 13, 2020 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 126</a> or <a href="#">Luke 1:46b-55</a>	<a href="#">1 Thessalonians 5:16-24</a>	<a href="#">John 1:6-8, 19-28</a>
<a href="#">Fourth Sunday of Advent</a> December 20, 2020 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16</a>	<a href="#">Luke 1:46b-55</a> or <a href="#">Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26</a>	<a href="#">Romans 16:25-27</a>	<a href="#">Luke 1:26-38</a>
Christmas Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<a href="#">Nativity of the Lord - Proper I</a> December 24 & 25, 2020 Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid- Day <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 9:2-7</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 96</a>	<a href="#">Titus 2:11-14</a>	<a href="#">Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)</a>
<a href="#">Nativity of the Lord - Proper II</a> December 24 & 25, 2020 Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid- Day <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 62:6-12</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 97</a>	<a href="#">Titus 3:4-7</a>	<a href="#">Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20</a>
<a href="#">Nativity of the Lord - Proper III</a> December 24 & 25, 2020 Christmas Eve, Morn, or Mid- Day <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 52:7-10</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 98</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12)</a>	<a href="#">John 1:1-14</a>
<a href="#">First Sunday after Christmas Day</a> December 27, 2020 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 61:10- 62:3</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 148</a>	<a href="#">Galatians 4:4-7</a>	<a href="#">Luke 2:22-40</a>



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### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Face Book - *St. John's United Church of Christ*

Northwest Association IKC - [www.nwaikcucc.org](http://www.nwaikcucc.org)

Indiana-Kentucky Conference - [www.ikc.org](http://www.ikc.org)

United Church of Christ – [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)