



Jefferson United Methodist Church
125 East Jefferson Street
Jefferson, OH 44047
440-576-4561
admin@jeffersonumc.com
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

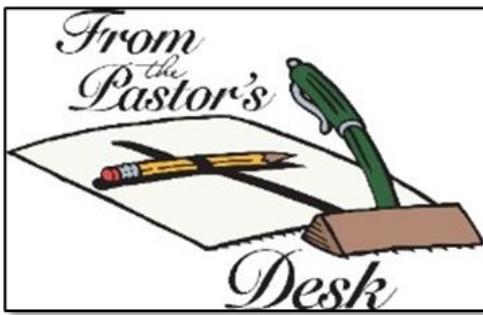
**Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.**

Our Motto: Love God ~ Love Others ~ Serve the World

December, 2025

Volume 137





Florida United Methodist pastor Jorge Acevedo wrote an Advent book and study many years ago called *Sent: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas*. The book focuses on the idea that God sent Christ at Christmas and we in turn are sent into the world by Christ to be his hands, feet, head, and heart. Each chapter contains a first-hand story from one of five pastors and their ministry – a story which talks about a different aspect of being sent. In one chapter, the story of a woman by the name of Ms. Ruby was told. Ms. Ruby helped serve dinner to homeless men one Christmas Eve and then stayed all night with the pastor at the church as they housed these men overnight. Throughout the evening, Ms. Ruby kept calling all

the men, “Jesus” – “Hi, Jesus. Good night, Jesus. Goodbye, Jesus.” The idea the reader is supposed to come away with is that Ms. Ruby saw Jesus in these homeless men and made sure she shared it with everyone.

When I first read this chapter, I was reminded of a performance of the musical, *Godspell*, I once saw. In this particular performance, the entire musical took place in a subway after the blackout of 2003 which hit most of the northeastern part of the United States. The character who ended up being Jesus in the show was the Goth, homeless, teenage boy. And the most well-dressed, proper character ended up being Judas.

So where am I going with all of this? Well, I believe far too often we look for Jesus in the wrong places. We expect to find him in the most extravagant situations and hidden inside the best-dressed, popular people. But the truth of the matter is, Jesus comes to us in many different forms – many times in the ways we least expect it. He can be found in the homeless man under the bridge . . . the single mom at the grocery store . . . the soldier overseas . . . the teacher . . . the coach . . . in anyone!! After all, remember that Jesus wasn't the Jesus who everyone expected in the first place – he wasn't some rich and powerful religious leader; rather he was a carpenter . . . an everyday Nazarene. And he spent his time in the margins – working with the homeless, sick, and oppressed. Thus, the same thing bodes true in today's world – Jesus can be found anywhere!

As we enter the Advent season and prepare to celebrate his entrance once again into the world, let us remember the truth that Jesus came to us in a form no one expected. He came to us as a baby boy born in a manger in a stable. He came to us as the child of a young, poor virgin girl and her carpenter husband. He came to us to set us free.

That last statement is one of the most defining statements of our faith – Jesus came to set us free! And he continues to come to us, pouring out his love in new ways each day. Jesus visits us in many different forms all the time. We just need to welcome him in. How? By welcoming others!

This Advent and Christmas season, I challenge you to welcome Jesus into your homes. Look for where you may find him and then ask him into your heart this year. Remember that Jesus came to us to set us free. That is why he humbled himself as a baby boy and entered this world in a lowly manger. Jesus was born for you and for me, and he continues to come to us to show us how much he loves us.

Jesus came to set us free! Let us make room for him this year as we prepare and wait once again for the Christmas celebration! O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!! May you all have a truly blessed Advent and Christmas season!





Game Night with Carols & Cocoa

Friday, December 12 at 6 p.m.

Come sip some cocoa, sing some carols, and enjoy our Monthly Game Night all at once!!!

Bring your favorite game(s) and maybe some Christmas goodies to share!!!



CHRISTMAS PARADE

Come check out our float during the Jefferson Community Christmas Parade!!!
Saturday, December 6 at 6 p.m.



JEFFERSON ROTARY CLUB PRESENTS

Christmas CHURCH WALK

DECEMBER 6TH, 2025

Guided Historic Tour – Music - Festive Decor - Holiday Spirit

12:30PM TO 4:00PM

CHECK IN: 11:30AM-12:30PM

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO BENEFIT
THE MANNA FOOD PANTRY





DECEMBER

Birthdays

1	Jim Kreig
3	John King
5	Kiden Housel
5	Lynette Seith
8	Lori Ford
17	Mike Fenton
21	Judy Ebersole
21	Mindy Kerzic
21	Carin Roseberry
22	Joey Misinec
25	Courtney Leininger
26	Melynda Litwiler
28	Dale Christ
28	Jack Howe
29	Michael Brail
29	Danielle Jackson

Happy Birthday!





Verse of the Day

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

- 1 Peter 3:8

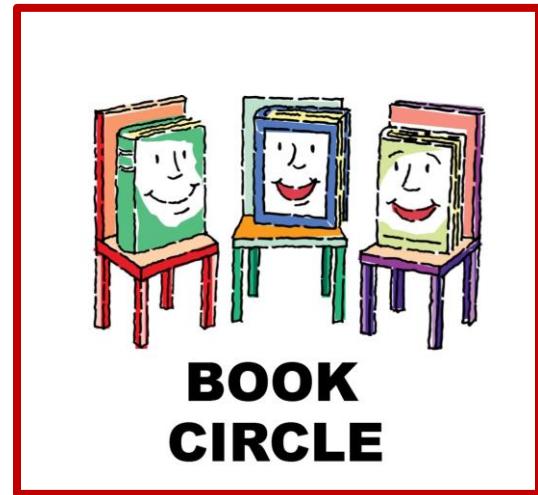
Voice of the Day

True community is based upon equality, mutuality, and reciprocity. It affirms the richness of individual diversity as well as the common human ties that bind us together.

- Pauli Murray

Prayer of the Day

God, bring us to a place of mutual understanding and care, so that our sincere efforts lead to the common good.



Book Circle for December

December 18 at 12:30pm meet at Mary's Diner in Geneva & then go to Catherine's Christmas (they are closing after this Christmas)

Bring your lunch & beverage at Noon in January & following months & keep reading!

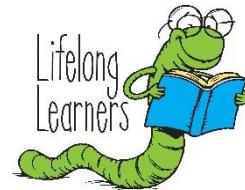
January: Something to Look Forward To by Fanny Flagg

February: Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

March: Buckeye by Patrick Ryan (big hold line at libraries, so we put it off a month)

April: Lulu Dean's Little Library of Banned Books by Kirsten Miller ?

Join us!!



MISSION Corner



Susanna has, indeed, been blessed to become a blessing. You, dear JUMC people, have poured out your hearts, your shopping carts, your cupboards, and your wallets to supply those in need this season. Food insecurity is widespread and real in this county, and you have responded to that with alacrity. We have received so many thoughtful gifts that are not in our budget: toddler foods, children's "fun" cereals, cocoa, sauces, and condiments (the first to go when money gets tight) are pouring in. **THANK YOU, DEAR ONES!**

AND THE HATMAKERS! Edna Williams, Ruth and Rich (yes, Rich!) Rea, Donna Hurn, and perhaps some we do not even know, have knitted and crocheted not only hats, but scarves and mittens, and gloves.

And through it all, our faithful shopping crew, June and Dennis Marlow, have toted, hauled, and carried case after case of basics to fill our storeroom. Last summer our shoppers were Danielle and Glenn Jackson, and their grandchildren and did a wonderful job keeping up with the need. Without these steady volunteers and donors, Susanna would not be able to offer what she does. **THANK YOU ALL!**



MANNA DRIVERS

After some deserved vacation time, our crew is back to full strength. This is holiday basket season at MANNA. So, this means that drivers carry not only the regular orders to each family, but the holiday baskets, which include frozen turkeys and hams. These deliveries make the holidays possible for some families, and we are honored to be able to help.



Thank you to all of you who have faithfully donated to our Save the World fund over this year either by your loose change offering or a simple donation. The last 4 months, we have highlighted our missions in this country, in this nation (Univ. of Pitt) and our world (Pakistan and Cambodia.) We will let you know who much we've sent to each organization in the new year after we count all of it at the end of December.

Another way to help those in need here in our community is to help with the HALO program, helping those who need a little extra at Christmas time. You can take a card from the HALO tree set up in the church, thanks to Lisa Ebersole. Or you can help a family or single person by yourself or your group by contacting Mary Howe (omahowe@gmail.com) to ask for someone who has applied and met the income levels.



For all you do, I praise God!!



American Red Cross

The Blood Drive is coming to Jefferson UMC on Monday, December 8, between Noon and 6 p.m. The Red Cross reports that there is a critical shortage right now. Consider giving the gift of life this Christmas. Schedule appointments at 89-800-RED-Cross.



The following is an excerpt from a letter received from the board. "On behalf of the Ashtabula County Children Services board, our staff, and management team, I would like to thank you for the use of your space and services over the last year. In our time of need your community welcomed us with open arms in the most accommodating fashion providing space for our Christmas program, trainings, meetings and workers to ensure we were able to continue with our work during our office renovation project. A part of our mission statement calls for our work to be done 'with the support of the community', and you all showed us that support above and beyond what we expected." The complete letter is on the bulletin board outside of Pastor Jeremy's office and the flowers on the altar on November 30 were given by ACCS in grateful appreciation.

Come Join Us
For A Day with Mrs. Claus

Sunday, December 14
3-5 p.m. - sensory friendly
5-7 p.m. - open for ALL

Jefferson United Methodist Church
125 E. Jefferson St.
Jefferson, OH 44047

(440) 576-4561 or
admin@jeffersonumc.com
to register

Christmas Eve Service

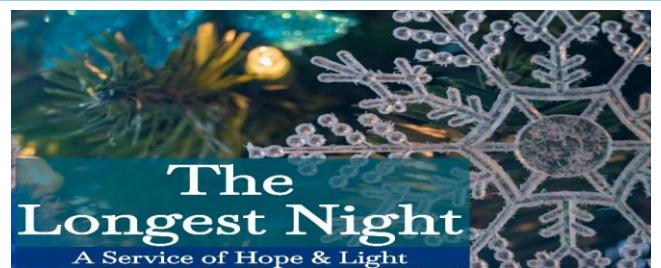
Hear the Bells Ring!



**Jefferson United Methodist
Church**
125 E. Jefferson St.,
Jefferson, OH 44047

carol stories Scripture candlelighting

Christmas Message Communion music



Are you dealing with the loss of a loved one, or some other type of loss, this holiday season? Are the holidays always a difficult time of year for you, for whatever reason? Does the stress and craziness of this season burden you? Is the wide range of emotions which come with this time of year hard for you to handle?

If so, then the Longest Night Service is for you. Or even if you aren't feeling any of these feelings, we all could use a reminder of the hope Jesus brings to us in our loneliness and during the holiday season. All of us could serve to bear in mind that Jesus came to us at Christmas as light to a darkened world.

Jefferson United Methodist Church (125 E. Jefferson St.) is holding a Longest Night Service on
Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Come experience this service of light in the midst of darkness!!!





Christmas Luncheon

JUMC Senior R & R Christmas Luncheon Wednesday, December 17 Noon in Angels Wing

Join us for a meal followed by entertainment provided by the Jefferson High School Stage Band directed by Fred Burazer.

Menu

**Original Broaster chicken or Roast Beef
Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
Green Beans Almandine/Corn
Josephine's Fruited Coleslaw
Rolls and Dessert**

You are welcome to bring guests. The cost of the meal is \$8.00 per person or \$12.00 a couple/two. Payment will be received at the door. Reservations are required and should be made by December 12.

R.S.V.P. to the church office at 440 576-4561

or

Barb Heath at 440 812-3262 or 440 576-5716

Dec 2025 (Eastern Time - New York)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div data-bbox="300 418 323 447">30</div> <div data-bbox="300 447 323 475">Loose Change Sunday</div> <div data-bbox="300 475 323 502">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="300 502 323 528">6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div data-bbox="300 528 323 555">6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div> <div data-bbox="300 555 323 582">10:30am - Sunday School</div>	<div data-bbox="342 418 365 447">1</div> <div data-bbox="342 447 365 475">10am - Ministry Team</div> <div data-bbox="342 475 365 502">4pm - Christian Cafe @</div>	<div data-bbox="386 418 408 447">2</div> <div data-bbox="386 447 408 475">6:30pm - Bell Choir Practice</div> <div data-bbox="386 475 408 502">7:15pm - Choir Practice</div>	<div data-bbox="429 418 452 447">3</div> <div data-bbox="429 447 452 475">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="429 475 452 502">10:30am - Advent Study</div> <div data-bbox="429 502 452 528">4:30pm - Girl Scouts</div> <div data-bbox="429 528 452 555">6pm - Advent Study</div>	<div data-bbox="471 418 494 447">4</div> <div data-bbox="471 447 494 475">8am - WIC</div>	<div data-bbox="514 418 536 447">5</div> <div data-bbox="514 447 536 475">Rudolph Christmas Festival</div> <div data-bbox="514 475 536 502">8am - Men @ Mugs</div> <div data-bbox="514 502 536 528">12:30pm - Christmas Church</div> <div data-bbox="514 528 536 555">2:35pm - Jefferson UMC Tour</div> <div data-bbox="514 555 536 582">8pm - Jefferson Annual</div>	<div data-bbox="556 418 579 447">6</div>
<div data-bbox="300 606 323 635">1</div> <div data-bbox="300 635 323 663">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="300 663 323 688">11am - Care for Caregivers</div> <div data-bbox="300 688 323 715">12pm - Blood Drive</div> <div data-bbox="300 715 323 743">6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div data-bbox="300 743 323 770">6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div>	<div data-bbox="342 606 365 635">2</div> <div data-bbox="342 635 365 663">10am - Ministry Team</div>	<div data-bbox="386 606 408 635">3</div> <div data-bbox="386 635 408 663">6:30pm - Bell Choir Practice</div> <div data-bbox="386 663 408 688">7:15pm - Choir Practice</div>	<div data-bbox="429 606 452 635">4</div> <div data-bbox="429 635 452 663">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="429 663 452 688">10:30am - Advent Study</div> <div data-bbox="429 688 452 715">12pm - Quilters</div> <div data-bbox="429 715 452 743">4:30pm - Girl Scouts</div> <div data-bbox="429 743 452 770">6pm - Advent Study</div>	<div data-bbox="471 606 494 635">5</div> <div data-bbox="471 635 494 663">6pm - Game Night with Carols</div>	<div data-bbox="514 606 536 635">6</div> <div data-bbox="514 635 536 663">8am - Men @ Mugs</div> <div data-bbox="514 663 536 688">9am - Stephen Min.</div>	<div data-bbox="556 606 579 635">7</div>
<div data-bbox="300 796 323 827">8</div> <div data-bbox="300 827 323 853">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="300 853 323 880">10:30am - Fellowship</div> <div data-bbox="300 880 323 908">10:30am - Sunday School</div>	<div data-bbox="342 796 365 827">9</div> <div data-bbox="342 827 365 853">10am - Ministry Team</div>	<div data-bbox="386 796 408 827">10</div> <div data-bbox="386 827 408 853">6:30pm - Bell Choir Practice</div> <div data-bbox="386 853 408 880">7:15pm - Choir Practice</div>	<div data-bbox="429 796 452 827">11</div> <div data-bbox="429 827 452 853">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="429 853 452 880">10:30am - Advent Study</div> <div data-bbox="429 880 452 908">12pm - Quilters</div> <div data-bbox="429 908 452 933">4:30pm - Girl Scouts</div> <div data-bbox="429 933 452 960">6pm - Advent Study</div>	<div data-bbox="471 796 494 827">12</div> <div data-bbox="471 827 494 853">8am - WIC</div>	<div data-bbox="514 796 536 827">13</div>	<div data-bbox="556 796 579 827">14</div>
<div data-bbox="300 988 323 1017">15</div> <div data-bbox="300 1017 323 1045">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="300 1045 323 1072">6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div data-bbox="300 1072 323 1098">6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div> <div data-bbox="300 1098 323 1125">3pm - A Day with Mrs. Claus-</div>	<div data-bbox="342 988 365 1017">16</div> <div data-bbox="342 1017 365 1045">10am - Ministry Team</div>	<div data-bbox="386 988 408 1017">17</div> <div data-bbox="386 1017 408 1045">6:30pm - R & R Christmas</div> <div data-bbox="386 1045 408 1072">5:30pm - Praise Team</div> <div data-bbox="386 1072 408 1098">6:30pm - Bell Choir Practice</div> <div data-bbox="386 1098 408 1125">7:15pm - Choir Practice</div>	<div data-bbox="429 988 452 1017">18</div> <div data-bbox="429 1017 452 1045">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="429 1045 452 1072">10:30am - Advent Study</div> <div data-bbox="429 1072 452 1098">12pm - Book Circle</div> <div data-bbox="429 1098 452 1125">4:30pm - Girl Scouts</div> <div data-bbox="429 1125 452 1153">6pm - Advent Study</div>	<div data-bbox="471 988 494 1017">19</div> <div data-bbox="471 1017 494 1045">8am - WIC</div>	<div data-bbox="514 988 536 1017">20</div>	<div data-bbox="556 988 579 1017">21</div>
<div data-bbox="300 1176 323 1208">22</div> <div data-bbox="300 1208 323 1235">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="300 1235 323 1260">6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div data-bbox="300 1260 323 1288">6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div>	<div data-bbox="342 1176 365 1208">23</div> <div data-bbox="342 1208 365 1235">10am - Ministry Team</div>	<div data-bbox="386 1176 408 1208">24</div> <div data-bbox="386 1208 408 1235">Christmas Eve</div>	<div data-bbox="429 1176 452 1208">25</div> <div data-bbox="429 1208 452 1235">Christmas Day</div>	<div data-bbox="471 1176 494 1208">26</div> <div data-bbox="471 1208 494 1235">8am - Men @ Mugs</div>	<div data-bbox="514 1176 536 1208">27</div>	<div data-bbox="556 1176 579 1208">28</div>
<div data-bbox="300 1269 323 1300">29</div> <div data-bbox="300 1300 323 1328">8am - Pickle Ball</div> <div data-bbox="300 1328 323 1353">6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div data-bbox="300 1353 323 1381">6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div>	<div data-bbox="342 1269 365 1300">30</div> <div data-bbox="342 1300 365 1328">10am - Ministry Team</div>	<div data-bbox="386 1269 408 1300">31</div> <div data-bbox="386 1300 408 1328">New Year's Eve</div>	<div data-bbox="429 1269 452 1300">31</div> <div data-bbox="429 1300 452 1328">New Year's Day</div>	<div data-bbox="471 1269 494 1300">1</div> <div data-bbox="471 1300 494 1328">8am - WIC</div>	<div data-bbox="514 1269 536 1300">2</div> <div data-bbox="514 1300 536 1328">8am - Men @ Mugs</div>	<div data-bbox="556 1269 579 1300">3</div>

