



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

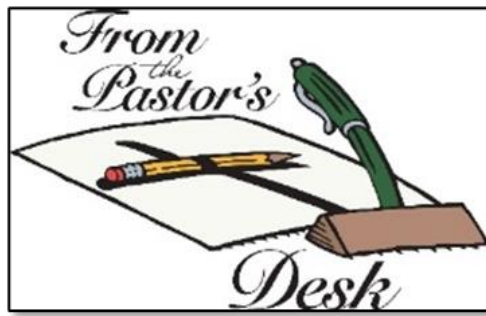
Office Hours:  
Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**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!!!

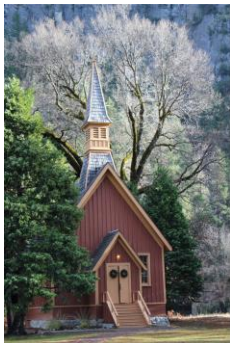
Bring your favorite game(s) and maybe some Christmas  
goodies to share!!!



## 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



Folks will be  
visiting JUMC  
between 2:35 and  
2:50 p.m.





# 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

### 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!

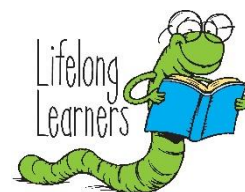
January: Something to Look Forward To by Fanny Flagg

February: Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

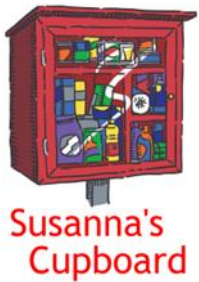
March: Buckeye by Patrick Ryan (big hold line at libraries, so we put it off a month)

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 county, in this nation (Univ. of Pitt) and our world (Pakistan and Cambodia.) We will let you know how 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](mailto: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**

crafts  
photos  
treats



music  
stories

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

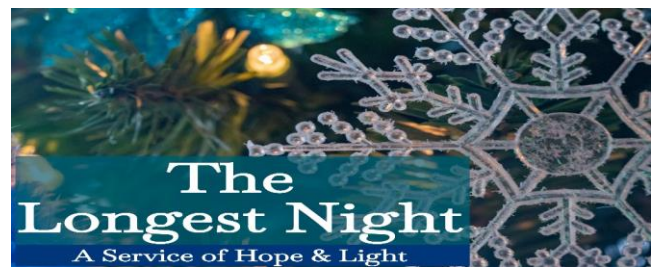
## ***Christmas Eve Service Hear the Bells Ring!***



**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!!!





**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**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>30</div> <div>Loose Change Sunday</div> <div>8:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:30am - Fellowship</div> <div>10:30am - Sunday School</div>	<div>1</div> <div>9am - Pickle Ball</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div>	<div>2</div> <div>10am - Ministry Team</div> <div>4pm - Christian Cafe @</div>	<div>3</div> <div>6:30pm - Bell Choir Practice</div> <div>7:15pm - Choir Practice</div>	<div>4</div> <div>9am - Pickle Ball</div> <div>10:30am - Advent Study</div> <div>4:30pm - Girl Scouts</div> <div>6pm - Advent Study</div>	<div>5</div> <div>8am - WIC</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Rudolph Christmas Festival</div> <div>8am - Men @ Mugs</div> <div>12:30pm - Christmas Church</div> <div>2:35pm - Jefferson UMC Tour</div> <div>6pm - Jefferson Annual</div>
<div>7</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:30am - Fellowship</div> <div>10:30am - Sunday School</div>	<div>8</div> <div>9am - Pickle Ball</div> <div>11am - Care for Caregivers</div> <div>12pm - Blood Drive</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div>	<div>9</div> <div>10am - Ministry Team</div>	<div>10</div> <div>6:30pm - Bell Choir Practice</div> <div>7:15pm - Choir Practice</div>	<div>11</div> <div>9am - Pickle Ball</div> <div>10:30am - Advent Study</div> <div>12pm - Quilters</div> <div>4:30pm - Girl Scouts</div> <div>6pm - Advent Study</div>	<div>12</div> <div>6pm - Game Night with Carols</div>	<div>13</div> <div>8am - Men @ Mugs</div> <div>8am - Stephen Min.</div>
<div>14</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:30am - Fellowship</div> <div>10:30am - Sunday School</div> <div>3pm - A Day with Mrs. Claus-</div>	<div>15</div> <div>9am - Pickle Ball</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div>	<div>16</div> <div>10am - Ministry Team</div> <div>4pm - Christian Cafe @</div> <div>7:30pm - Longest Night</div>	<div>17</div> <div>12pm - R &amp; R Christmas</div> <div>5:30pm - Praise Team</div> <div>6:30pm - Bell Choir Practice</div> <div>7:15pm - Choir Practice</div>	<div>18</div> <div>9am - Pickle Ball</div> <div>10:30am - Advent Study</div> <div>12pm - Book Circle</div> <div>4:30pm - Girl Scouts</div> <div>6pm - Advent Study</div>	<div>19</div> <div>8am - WIC</div>	<div>20</div> <div>8am - Men @ Mugs</div>
<div>21</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:30am - Fellowship</div> <div>10:30am - Sunday School</div>	<div>22</div> <div>9am - Pickle Ball</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div>	<div>23</div> <div>10am - Ministry Team</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Christmas Eve</div> <div>7pm - Christmas Eve service</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Christmas Day</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <div>8am - Men @ Mugs</div>
<div>28</div> <div>Loose Change Sunday</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:30am - Fellowship</div> <div>10:30am - Sunday School</div>	<div>29</div> <div>9am - Pickle Ball</div> <div>6:30pm - Scouts</div> <div>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow flow</div>	<div>30</div> <div>10am - Ministry Team</div>	<div>31</div> <div>New Year's Eve</div>	<div>1</div> <div>New Year's Day</div>	<div>2</div> <div>8am - WIC</div>	<div>3</div> <div>8am - Men @ Mugs</div>

