



December 13, 2021

The Good News!

With Pastor Clark

As we continue through our Advent Study looking at the commercialization of Christmas through the story of the Grinch, this week we focus on shining a light on God's love. In Luke 1:30, we read the story of Mary and how an angel appeared to her to tell her that she would bare the Son of God. Out of Mary's love for God, she said yes and was willing to be held accountable to God. While God holds us accountable, God does not withhold gifts like the Grinch did in Whoville. God loves us no matter what we do, and through redemption, God forgives us. The light of God's love shines through the darkness. I don't think it was an accident that when Cindy Lou Who asks the Grinch what he is doing with Christmas Tree that his response is that the lights are not working. The Grinch's heart is too small to tell the truth to Mary Lou Who. The absence of light can hide things that we do not want people to see. My challenge for you this week is let the light of God shine upon you so that you can experience the fullness of God's love!

Pastor Clark (757-615-0732 ccundiff@bavlakeumc.org)

Spiritual Practices –Ministries

Advent 2021



We invite you to journey with us through the season of Advent and engage in the following ministry opportunities:

- December 19, 2021, at 11am – **Christmas Cantata** - Musical performance (Sanctuary)
- December 19, 2021, at 12pm – **Beach Bag Packing** for families at Bayside Elementary School (Fellowship Hall)
- December 19, 2021, at 3pm – **Blue Christmas Service** - to honor people who have lost loved ones during the year (Sanctuary)
- December 19-21, 2021, at 5am & 7pm – **Winter Shelter Ministry (People In Need)** to care for the homeless in our community (Fellowship Hall)
- December 24, 2021, at 5pm (Family) 7pm (Candlelight) – **Christmas Eve Service** (Sanctuary)

A LIFE OF DISCIPLESHIP

Worship

This week we will continue our journey through the season of Advent by exploring how we find joy. Join us on Sundays at 9 am on Facebook & YouTube and in person, and 11 am in-person, with masks and social distancing if not vaccinated.



Scripture Luke 1:41-44

41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit **42** and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. **43** And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? **44** For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.

Christmas Cantata

Join us on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 11am in the Sanctuary to hear the Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata – "A Celebration of Christmas" by Donald Moore and Ruth Elaine Schram.



Administrative Teams

So that we can continue our ministry to those in the Shore Drive area, all our committees and teams have continued to meet via Zoom Church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9am to 2 pm, Wednesday 12pm to 5pm and Friday 9am to 12pm.

Church Council – Our **MISSION** is to “Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World”! We will do this by executing our **VISION** to connect with our community by praying, asking, worshipping, and serving others (PAWS).



COMMUNITY OUTREACH ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE LOT

Wow...what a fun and exciting year on our tree lot! While we have fewer trees this year, due to a national shortage resulting from the economic downturn in 2008, that did not dampen our ministry on the tree lot. In record time, 4 days, we sold 240 trees and 65 wreaths! As we engaged with our community members, we kept Christ in the Christmas Tree lot sharing our Baylake UMC Advent Devotional booklet and engaging in conversation with families and couples about the opportunities to serve our community at Baylake UMC. Many people come to our lot year after year as they want to support the ministry and mission work that we do in the community! We also want to express our gratitude to BSA Troop 67 and all the manpower and fellowship that they provided to us on the tree lot!



PRAY!

Prayer: Please keep in your prayers: Ray Anderson and wife Sally as Ray is in hospice, Paul Webb and family in the death of wife, Charlotte, Patricia Strait, Patty Waller, Brenda Barnes, John Barnes, Nan Cooke, Jon Groff, Mary Mattice’s mother, Sherry Harrington, Sue Rieve’s sister Caye, and Wendy Howard. If you or someone you love needs prayer, please send your prayer request to prayerbumc@aol.com.

Mission & Community Outreach Ministry Impact – Winter Shelter (People in Need)

We are excited that Winter Shelter is returning to Baylake UMC this year! Our days to be in ministry with the homeless in our community are December 19th, 20th, & 21st. We need volunteers to help with breakfast (4:30 – 8am), Dinner (5-8pm), overnight male chaperon, and bathroom and laundry clean up in the mornings. There are also fellowship opportunities including bible study, games, and music. If social distancing is required, we will have 30 guests, and if not, then we will have 60. Monetary and sock donations are needed! Contact Marley Nacey at mnacey42@gmail.com



Community Outreach

Our Community Outreach and Missions Team invites everyone to join in our upcoming outreach and mission projects! On these dates, join us after the 11am worship service to pack **Beach Bags** for the children at Bayside Elementary School on December 19th. Look for future communication about this volunteer opportunity!



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