



November 20, 2023

## The Good News!

With Pastor Clark Cundiff

The Apostle Paul in his letter to the church in Ephesus says, “with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you. (Eph 1:18)” Paul is asking us to open the eyes of our hearts so that we can see God in everyone and everything. As our hearts are enlightened, our spiritual path and awareness shifts revealing the nuances of the world that would otherwise be impossible to see or grasp. As we gather in worship this it is a participatory enlightenment that takes place within community, shaping wise knowledge of true and mature hope. The Christian life is about discipleship and the gaining of heart knowledge through the spiritual realities of hope and of power. As we come together in worship each Sunday praying for our hearts to be enlightened to see the riches of God’s blessing in each and every one.

Pastor Clark

## WORSHIP

This week in worship we will focus on Ephesians 1:15-23. We will explore how God wants our hearts to be open. Join us for worship in the Sanctuary or online at 9am & 11am in person or on Facebook Live & YouTube (Baylake United Methodist Church).

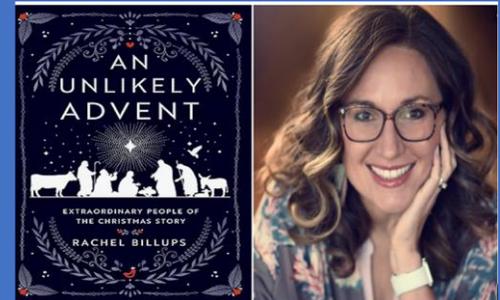


(Children Blessing the Operation Christmas Child Boxes)

<sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him.

Eph 1:16-17

## ADVENT 2023 STUDY



Join a Small Group as we explore “An Unlikely Advent”. This four-week Advent study focuses on the experiences of four sets of often overlooked characters in the Nativity story. During this Advent season, Rachel Billups guides readers through the themes of hope, love, joy, and peace by sharing the stories of Elizabeth and Zechariah, Herod, the Magi, and the shepherds. Each set of unexpected characters has something to teach about living faithfully on the journey to Christmas. Groups launch on November 29<sup>th</sup>!

## CONSECRATION SUNDAY CELEBRATION!



THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this year’s Consecration Sunday one of the best! We are grateful to Rev Gary Shaw for sharing the message, to the Choir and Praise Band for the special and very fun music, to those who provided the catered meal, BSA Pack and Troop 67 for serving us, and setting up and cleaning up, for all the hands and feet that lovingly packed the Thanksgiving Food Bags for the families at Bayside Elementary School, the children for their help with blessing the Operation Christmas Child Boxes, the team who remembered and honored our Veterans, and to all who made a commitment to support the ongoing ministry at Baylake UMC!

## CHRISTMAS TREE LOT OPENS NOV 25<sup>TH</sup>!



This year's Community Outreach Project through the Christmas Tree Lot is upon us, and we need many volunteers to make the project a success! We have a reduced number of trees again this year, so we expect the trees, especially the larger ones, to sell quickly. Opening weekend, especially on Saturday, we need a lot of volunteers as the truck gets unloaded, trees set up on the lot, so that selling can begin! We need Tree Handlers and Greeters for ALL shifts! The hours for the first week will be Saturday 8am to 8pm, Sunday 12-8pm, Mon-Fri 4-8pm. Contact Wendy Howard at [wendyraehoward@gmail.com](mailto:wendyraehoward@gmail.com) to sign up!

## CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH WINTER SHELTER

In conjunction with "People in Need" Ministry, Baylake UMC will host Winter Shelter this year beginning with dinner on December 27<sup>th</sup> and ending with breakfast on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will be hosting a *New Year's Eve* party with our guests on December 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:30-9:30pm so we hope that you will join us! Servers are also needed for breakfast with an early start time of 5:30am. Contact Wendy Howard at [wendyraehoward@gmail.com](mailto:wendyraehoward@gmail.com) if you would like to serve!



## PRAYER NEEDS

Peace in the Middle East, Gretchen and Bob Scholar, Flynn Kornegay, Naomi Cummings, (Lynne German mother), Paul Webb, Bob Rieve, Caye Spalding (Sue Rieve's sister), Becky Daniels, Susan Pittman, Zoe Scaduto, Esther Briner, the Gray family, Nancy Pelton (Bob Edmunds sister), John Barnes, Maddie Long, Bill Stevenson, Ukraine, Martha Kornegay and Sherry Harrington. Send your prayer requests to [prayerbumc@aol.com](mailto:prayerbumc@aol.com)

## MISSION PROJECT OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2023!



We exceed our goal of 100 boxes packed to share God's love around the world! Thanks to all who packed boxes, physically and online, and to our project team leaders Sherry Harrington, Amy Townsend, and Cindy Wilkins!



Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

Worship at 11am



Sunday,  
December 24,  
2023

11am – 4<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday in  
Advent Service

5pm –  
Candlelight  
Service



- November 25, 2023, at 9am – Community Engagement on the Tree Lot – Join us as we spread God's love on the Christmas Tree Lot!
- December 3, 2023 – First Sunday in Advent – Family Advent Wreath Making – After 11am Worship in the Fellowship Hall.
- December 5, 2023 – Blue Christmas Service (Grief Share) – Baylake Retirement & Assisted Living – 6:30pm
- December 17, 2023, at 11am – Christmas Cantata "Carols" written by Heather Soronson (Sanctuary)
- December 24, 2023, at 11am (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent Service) and 5pm (Candlelight) – Christmas Eve Services (Sanctuary)