

West Waynesboro Church of Christ
2212 Cortland Street
Waynesboro, VA 22980

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Waynesboro, VA 22980

West Waynesboro Church of Christ
Chad Groundin, Sr. Minister
Andrew Fisher, Associate/Youth
Minister
Joann W. Kames, Administrative
Assistant



December 2016 West Waynesboro Witness

God Loves



As you reflect over this years blessings with a heart of gratitude and praise to our Lord, may He bring you grace and peace this Christmas Season!

**Deacons & Elders
will meet
December 13th
6:30 PM & 7:00 PM**



Hosts: John Opstad & Ruby Sprouse

Office Hours 9-3 PM - (540)949-8670 - FAX/INFO Line (540)943-4636
E-Mail office@westwaynesboro.com WEBSITE: www.westwaynesboro.com



*Christmas Caroling
Wednesday, Dec. 14th
Van leaves the church
building at 6:00 P.M.
We will visit Avante
and Birch Gardens.
Dress Festive, and join
the caravan. All are
invited to come praise
God together and share
some Christmas joy.*

COME LET US
ADORE
A READY TO SING
CHRISTMAS

Christmas Cantata
Sunday, December 11th
10:30 AM



**Christmas
Candlelight Service**
Wednesday,
December 21st
7:00 PM

*A night of remembrance.
Invite a friend to
celebrate!*



**Weekday Religious
Education
Christmas Concert**
Sunday, December 18th
7:00PM

Featuring the West Waynesboro
Quartet. We will be taking up a love
offering for Weekday Religious
Education. Please come out for a night of
good entertainment and fellowship.

Take Time To Remember

So much of being a follower of Christ is about remembering. For instance, our worship service each week is centered around the Lord's Table, where we remember what was done for us. Through the partaking of a piece of bread (representing the Body of Jesus) and a cup of juice (representing the blood of Jesus), we remember the fact that He died for our sins, so that we could live forever. We remember how He took the punishment each of us deserves, so that we could have victory and an abundant life. When we worship, commune, serve and love, we ought to remember He who first loved us. We ought to remember that through surrender to Jesus Christ and identifying with Him in Christian baptism, we are no longer what we used to be. While we are far from perfect and still a work in progress, we remember that we have been made new and that our past does not have to define us.

Yet, even though so much of the Christian life is about remembering, we often forget. As we enter into this Christmas season, I want to encourage you to make an intentional effort to remember. Commit to remembering what Christmas is truly about and why the Christ child entered into this world. Remember that this season and life, is not primarily about you, but rather the mission of God, to point all people to Jesus and how the Christmas season is perhaps the best opportunity to show the world around us a Savior who was born, died and resurrected.

I want to thank each of you who chose to participate in Operation Christmas Child, by packing shoebox gifts for impoverished children around the world. We packed 79 shoebox gifts, more than we have ever sent! Don't underestimate the power of these gifts, that will not only bless these children with a Christmas gift, but even more importantly share the hope of Jesus. On December 16th & 17th we will be sharing the hope of Jesus in another way, right here in our community, as WWCC has committed to ring the bell as part of the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign. I want to encourage you to participate either as an individual, a couple or a family, by signing up to take at least one, one hour shift. Perhaps, even your small group or Sunday school class, could commit to ringing the bell for multiple shifts. 82 cents of every dollar given to and spent by the Salvation Army, sustains life-changing programs in our community that bring hope to hurting souls. In the words of a young mother in our community, *"The Salvation Army has given me the gift of love, hope, and increased faith. When I felt most vulnerable, unloved and embarrassed, you showed us acceptance, generosity and hope."* When you do something as simple as ring a bell, you are remembering. Remembering that you have a God who meets your needs and has blessed you beyond anything you deserve and remembering that our community is filled with people who have needs, but most significantly, are in need of the hope and salvation that is only possible through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

On Sunday night, December 18th, the West Waynesboro Quartet will be putting on a Christmas concert to benefit Weekday Religious Education (W.R.E.). W.R.E. is one of our long time mission partners and is doing great Kingdom work, sharing the love and hope of Christ with children in our community, but they are struggling financially. So, we want to remember our God, our mission and all that He has and continues to do for us, by blessing this ministry, so that their Kingdom work can continue. During the concert, we will be collecting a love offering to benefit W.R.E.

What kind of people choose to do things like pack shoebox gifts, ring a bell or attend a concert and give to a love offering? People who remember that Christmas is more about giving than receiving. People who remember how great our God is!

Remembering with you,

Chad



Just a reminder to everyone that Christmas is right around the corner, so if you haven't started shopping for Christmas presents yet it's not too late. Remember, there are people that wait until Christmas Eve to go out and buy presents for their friends and family. I don't think I have ever intentionally waited that long to get a present for Laura. So there is your Christmas shopping public service announcement. :)

Even though we have been accustomed to getting gifts for our friends and family, this is not the real reason that we celebrate this awesome holiday. As Americans we have commercialized all of our holidays and made them more about us than what they are supposed to mean. It really bugs me that we seem to go straight from Halloween to Christmas, and skip right over Thanksgiving. I know people are excited to decorate for Christmas, but we seem to skip over the holiday where we give thanks for everything that we have. We have made Christmas an all about me holiday, where we make a list of "things" that we want. I for one really enjoy getting presents at Christmas, don't get me wrong. But we ultimately need to come back to what the true meaning of Christmas really is, and that is Jesus. I mean, when it's our birthday we get presents and we give presents to other people on their birthdays. And on Jesus' birthday (which really isn't December 25 by the way) we do the same thing and get each other presents, and Jesus doesn't get anything.

Jesus doesn't want any physical gifts, but he does want us to follow him and get to know him better. So, this Christmas season, let's not think only of ourselves while we are getting our presents from loved ones, but let's think of the one who came here to Earth to live among his creation to get to know them better and ultimately die for them. Let's remember how Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem, while she was pregnant and had to give birth in a manger full of animals. That is exactly how God's perfect plan worked out, and it's just the way he wanted it to work. Never forget, that God's plans are better than any of the plans that we can come up with. We just need to listen to him, just like Mary and Joseph.



Youth News



Elementary & Middle/High School Youth Groups



Remember to invite your friends!

ENGAGE (Elementary Youth Group)
Meets from 5:00 - 6:00 PM

CONNECT (Middle/High School Youth Group)
Meets from 6:15 - 7:30 PM

Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM (Unless there is no EQUIP U)



Youth Christmas Play Rehearsal

Dress rehearsal will be on Saturday, Dec. 3rd at 10:00 AM. A pizza & Kool-Aid lunch will be provided.



Youth Christmas Play Reception

"Manger Tales," the Youth Christmas play will be performed on Sunday, December 4th, during the morning worship service. Please, make every effort to attend and support our youth. Invite family & friends, and have your cameras ready. Immediately following there will be a light reception including finger foods, snacks, and desserts in the fellowship hall. A sign-up sheet is located at the Mickey Center/Information Counter for those willing to help provide these items, or you can let Karen Beegles 942-3835 or Nancy Slack (252)564-2600 know what you will bring.

*There will be no Children's Church on this day.



Youth Christmas Parties
@ Andrew and Laura's House.

The Elementary group will have their party on Saturday, December 17th from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. The Middle/High School group will have their party on Sunday, December 18th from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. For more information contact Andrew or Laura Fisher.

*We will have a white elephant gift exchange for both parties.



Family Sunday
December 25th

No Children's Church.

All children, except Nursery & Wee Worship, are to remain in the Sanctuary.

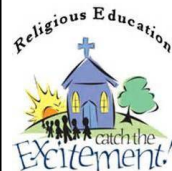


Waynesboro

Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 3rd @ 6:00 PM

We will be participating in the festivities this year. If you would like to be a part of this event, please contact Andrew Fisher.



Weekday Religious Education Graduation

Tuesday, December 6th
7:00 - 8:00 PM

Graduation will be held in the Sanctuary, everyone is welcome to attend.

What's Happening

"Glorious Christmas Nights"
Richmond Trip



All those who purchased tickets for the program at West End Assemblies of God, "Glorious Christmas Nights" in Richmond, please meet at the church building at 8:30 AM on Saturday, December 3rd. We will be taking the church van. We will have lunch in Richmond & return in the afternoon.

Bouquet of Blessings - Ladies Day
January 28th



Ladies mark your calendar. This is going to be a dynamic conference taking you into the presence of God through thanksgiving & praise, no matter what season of life you are enduring at the present time.

The conference will begin a journey bringing to your remembrance a list of benefits you receive daily from our Creator's generous hands that goes on and on.

The Pardon Jesus won for us in baring his cross would be more than enough "benefit" to create a lifetime of thanksgiving to God and thanksgiving in love to those around us. But the benefits our Savior earned for us don't end there. Christ's pardon brings peace. Life lived by faith in him brings fresh meaning and purpose to the minutes and hours of our days. And, of course, we dare not overlook all his many promises to protect, rescue, and help us in every time of trouble. Nor can we help but bring to mind the hope we have in knowing that in everything, even our worst problems, our Lord is at work for our good. (Romans 8:28)

Christmas Card Post Office
Opens December 4th



Save money on postage by placing your Christmas cards for those who regularly attend services, in the alphabetized box in the foyer. *Please, do not bring cards for people who do not or cannot attend service, in order to pick up their cards.



Please email the office or drop off a note with information you would like in the January Newsletter by Friday, December 16th @ 10:00 AM.



EQUIP U
Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM



David:
Developing a
Heart for God

Dec. 7th - "A Matter of Conscience"
1 Samuel 24

Dec. 14th - Christmas Caroling -
No EQUIP U

Dec. 21st - Christmas Candlelight
Service - NO EQUIP U

December 28th - No EQUIP U



www.westwaynesboro.com

If you miss a sermon, you can listen to or download it on our website. If you prefer a CD, contact the office and we will make you one.



Finance Committee Meeting

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12TH @ 7:00 PM



Any departments wishing to request an expense for the 1st Quarter 2017 are asked to fill out a "Purchase Request" form. These forms can be found at the Mickey Center/Information Counter. Please turn in the "Purchase Request" forms by December 11th.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED) & CPR Training

Saturday, January 14th @ 10:00 AM



Look for the sign-up sheet at the Mickey Center/Information Counter coming soon.

December

Sunday School 9:15 AM
 Worship 10:30 AM
 Equip U Wednesday 7:00 PM (Sept. - May)
 Office Hours 9-3

WEST WAYNESBORO
 CHURCH OF CHRIST
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2016

Who's busy in December ?

PREPARING COMMUNION

Rick & Cynthia Modlin

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

Tim Simpson & TBD

USHERS

Lyle Fitzgerald & TBD

SECURITY

Jim Hayes

WEE WORSHIP 1 (Ages 2 & 3)

Alyce McAllister

WEE WORSHIP 2 (Pre-K & Kindergarten)

TBD

GREETERS

Lelia Bolton & Virginia Bunch

IN THE NURSERY

4 Sunday School Debbie McCracken
 Worship Amy Emerson &
 Katilyn Duggins

11 Sunday School Debbie McCracken
 Worship Drema Rickard &
 Robbi Blackburn

18 Sunday School Debbie McCracken
 Worship Ashley Gauldin &
 Teresa Gauldin

25 Sunday School Debbie McCracken
 Worship Bob &
 Debbie McCracken

CONNECTION CAFE

John Opstad & Ruby Sprouse

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Winter Weather Cancellations <i>With the impending arrival of winter weather, we want to remind you of our procedure. If Waynesboro schools are closed on Wednesday, then all Wednesday church activities are canceled. If the decision is made to cancel Sunday services it will be posted on WHSV-TV 3 (Harrisonburg), NBC 29 (Charlottesville), CBS 6 (Richmond) and our Facebook page.</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 7:30 PM Men's Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 AM Glorious Nights Richmond Trip 10:00 AM Youth Christmas Play Dress Rehearsal 6:00 PM Waynesboro Christmas Parade 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Connection Cafe 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship/Youth Christmas Play 12:00 PM Youth Christmas Play Reception 5:00 PM ENGAGE (Elementary Youth) 6:15 PM CONNECT (Middle/High School Youth) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Weekday Religious Education Graduation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Congregational Meeting - Voting Only 7:10 PM Equip U 8:00 PM Choir 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Ladies Bible Study 7:30 PM Men's Bible Study 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship/Cantata 5:00 PM ENGAGE (Elementary Youth) 6:15 PM CONNECT (Middle/High School Youth) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Food Pantry 7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Deacons meet 7:00 PM Elders meet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Christmas Caroling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 AM Food Pantry 7:30 PM Men's Bible Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Deadline for Newsletter Information 10:30 AM Salvation Army Bell Ringing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Golden Corral 9:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast @ Panera Bread 10:30 AM Salvation Army Bell Ringing 5:00 PM ENGAGE Christmas Party (Elementary Youth) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 5:00 PM CONNECT Christmas Party (Middle/High School Youth) 7:00 PM Weekday Religious Education Christmas Concert  		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Youth Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Christmas Candlelight Service 	Sr. Minister Vacation - Out of Office			
Sr. Minister Vacation - Out of Office		Associate Minister Vacation - Out of Office					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 							

Newsletter Preferences

This newsletter can be received by postal mail, email, viewed on the church website or picked up from the Mickey Center/Information Counter in the church foyer. In an effort to be better stewards of God's resources, if you would like to opt out of receiving it by postal mail, please notify the office.