

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

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Permit No. 22
Waynesboro, VA 22980

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



December 2017 West Waynesboro Witness

God Loves

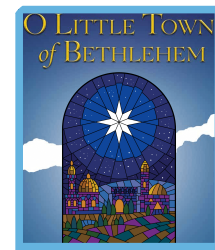


As you reflect over this years blessings with a heart of gratitude and praise to our Lord, may He bring you grace and peace this Christmas Season!



*Christmas Eve
Candle Light Service*

Sunday, December 24th
7:00 PM
A night of remembrance.
Invite a friend to celebrate!



Christmas
Cantata
Sunday,
December 10th
10:30 AM



*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 the Lord
together and share some
Christmas joy.*



Sunday, December 3rd
10:30 AM
**There will be a light finger food
reception in the fellowship hall,
immediately following.*

**Deacons & Elders
will meet
December 12th
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

Uncommon Devotion

As a church, we recently concluded a seven week teaching series on the subject of Heaven, with each message focused on the general theme that we find in Colossians 3:1-2, "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, **set your hearts on things above**, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. **Set your minds on things above**, not on earthly things." (If you missed any of those messages, you can watch or listen to them at westwaynesboro.com) The Bible instructs us to think about Heaven and what awaits us on the other side of this life, often, but with this preoccupation also comes serious responsibility. Each one of us has a mission, inspired by the Great Commission of Jesus Christ, to spread the Good News of the Gospel and share the amazing grace of God. With this as the back drop, we concluded our Heaven series, focused on the idea that the reason God wants us thinking about Heaven, is because it will affect the lives we live, decisions we make and will determine the things in which we invest.

As we looked at the example of the first followers of Christ, as recorded in the historical Biblical book of Acts, in that series concluding message, we were reminded that to do this effectively requires an uncommon devotion and a contagious faith. I shared during that message, that I am personally so thankful for each and every one of you that is living your life and living out your faith with an uncommon devotion. While we are in no way a perfect church, make no mistake about it, there are things happening at WWCC that are positively uncommon. In 2017, we have gotten to celebrate 10 baptisms!! In a culture where many churches are dying and have even closed, for a church of our size or even larger in some cases, to have celebrated 10 baptisms in one year is uncommon. These 10 baptisms represent God's Spirit moving in hearts and minds; challenging, encouraging, convicting and equipping. I also shared that your uncommon devotion has resulted in \$32,480 being committed in support of our mission partners for 2018, an increase of nearly \$8,000 over what was committed for 2017! (For a complete list of the missions/missionaries we support through these offerings, please visit our website or the bulletin boards located in the foyer and fellowship hall)

Collectively and individually we are also making an eternal difference and touching earth with a piece of Heaven in many other ways as well. This summer, in support of our mission partner Camp Rudolph, we were one of ten churches that collected food and other supplies to be used during the 2017 camp season. Your generosity resulted in saving the ministry budget of Camp Rudolph over \$2,000. As a church we supported the life affirming and defending ministry of Comfort Care Women's Health and 28 walkers (the most we've ever had) raised \$1,435 for this ministry. Through your Faith Promise missions giving, another one of our mission partners, Waypoint Church Partners, has been able to plant 6 new churches in Virginia and North Carolina in 2017, not to mention the 7 new churches that became 14, that were planted throughout the world in conjunction with the 2015 International Conference On Missions (ICOM)! In November, we packed 67 Operation Christmas Child Shoebox gifts and all together, the Shenandoah Valley region sent 22,625 shoeboxes, an increase of 11.45% over last year. And this December, our Helping Hands Food Pantry will be distributing Christmas food baskets to needy people in our own community.

I could go on and on about the many ways that your uncommon devotion is making a difference locally and globally, and how your contagious faith can and will grow the Kingdom of God, but for now I'll just say thank you! May each of us conclude this year and enter a new one, with a renewed sense of purpose, to live with an uncommon devotion, allowing our contagious faith to leave a heavenly imprint on a world where the imprint of sin is more than obvious. On behalf of my family and I, Merry Christmas!

Making A Difference Together,

Chad



Where has this year gone? It is already December, and people have started to get their Christmas decorations out and their houses all decorated. I am sure many of you have been listening to Christmas music for a month now, and that is ok, I think. Christmas is one of my favorite times of the year, because being with my family is something that I always look forward to throughout the year. All of the decorations, lights and music are all good things, but we also need to realize what this Christmas season is all about. We need to remember that Jesus is the reason that we are able to celebrate and that without him there would be no Christmas.

The birth of Jesus is one of the most miraculous events that has ever happened in history, and one of my favorite parts of the story found in Luke 2:8-20, is when the angels come and talk to the shepherds, telling them about the new Savior that has been born. Can you imagine just sitting there in the field, around the fire talking to your fellow shepherds and all of a sudden there is an angel standing there right in front of you? I am sure we would all want to run and scream and hide. Or we could all do like the shepherds and sit there in fear and listen to what the angel had to say. The angel tells them that the Savior has been born and he is wrapped up and laying in a manger. Then, another crazy thing happens, the whole sky lights up and there are angels all around them praising God. If I would have been there that night I might have fainted because I would have been so scared.

After all of the angels have left, the shepherds are probably sitting there wondering what just happened to them, and the crazy thing is, they decide to go and check this out for themselves. This just shows that the story of Jesus is not just available for one group of people. The story of Jesus is for anyone and everyone and all we have to do is have faith that He is who He says He is. I hope that everyone has a great Christmas, and that you are eager and willing to go out in the new year and share with people who Jesus is, and what he has done for you in your life.



**ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL
YOUTH GROUPS**



ENGAGE
(Elementary Youth)
Sundays @ 5:00 PM (Dec. 3rd & 10th)



CONNECT
(Middle/High School Youth)
Sundays @ 6:15 PM (Dec. 3rd & 10th)



***No Youth Groups on
Sunday, December 17th, 24th & 31st**

A small meal is provided for all youth from 5:45 - 6:15 PM
Questions? Contact Andrew.

*If you would like to contribute food or supply a meal, please sign-up at the Information Counter/Mickey Center.

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



**Youth Sunday - December 31st
No Children's Church.**

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

Youth Gingerbread House Making Party

Saturday, December 9th from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM.



All Youth are invited (children under the age of 5 will need a parent to help). Small finger food snacks will be provided.



**New Year's Eve Party
Sunday, December 31st
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

This is open to students of all ages (Pre-K - High School). Please bring a snack to share. Remember to invite a friend!



**Youth Christmas Parties
@ Andrew and Laura's House.**

ENGAGE (Elementary Youth Group) will have their party on Saturday, December 16th from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. CONNECT (Middle/High School Youth Group) will have their party on Sunday, December 17th 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.*

Background Checks



Effective January 1, 2018, everyone who works with youth and children in any capacity, must have a background check completed.
*If you have yet to receive, fill out & return, a background check form, please see Andrew ASAP.



VOLUNTEER BELL RINGERS NEEDED!
Ring a bell...help change a life

**Ring the Bell!
Salvation Army "Red Kettle" Campaign**

WWCC will be ringing the bell at the Waynesboro Kmart (2712 W. Main St.) on Friday, December 15th from 10:20 AM - 7:20 PM and Saturday, December 16th from 2:20 - 7:20 PM. Sign-up for a 1 hour shift at the Information Counter/Mickey Center.

**Christmas Card Post Office
Opens December 3rd**



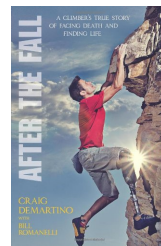
Save money on postage by placing your Christmas cards for those who regularly attend services, in the alphabetized box in the foyer.

***Please, do not bring cards for people who do not or cannot attend service,** in order to pick up their cards.

EQUIP U SCHEDULE

**WEDNESDAYS @ 7 PM
"AFTER THE FALL"**

A climbers true story of facing death and relying on God.



After the fall chronicles the horrific climbing accident that changed Craig Demartino's life forever. A tragic miscommunication sent Craig plummeting 100 feet off a sheer rock cliff onto jagged rocks below. Against all odds, Craig's life was spared and the only thing that saved him from certain death was a tree. We too have been saved by a tree, the cross.



**December 6th - "She's Like this Rock"
(Marriage and Family)**

**December 13th - "The Fall Was For A Reason"
(God's Will)**

**December 20th - NO EQUIP U -
Christmas Caroling**

**December 27th - NO EQUIP U -
Happy New Year!**



"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 2nd. We will be taking the church van and carpooling. We will have lunch in Richmond & return in the afternoon.



**Prayer Breakfasts
Saturday, December 16th**

Ladies will meet @ Panera Bread @ 9:00 AM. We will be having a \$10 Chinese Gift Exchange. All ladies are welcome to attend!

Men will meet @ Golden Corral @ 8:15 AM. All men are welcome to attend!



Our prayer room is located downstairs, in Room #101 and is available before and after services, as well as during the week (office hours 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM).

www.westwaynesboro.com

If you miss a sermon, you can now watch it on our website.



**Weekday Religious Education
Graduation Ceremony**

Tuesday, December 5th
7:00 - 8:00 PM

Everyone is welcome to attend.



**Box Tops for Grundy
Mountain Mission School**

Place labels in the box at the Information Counter/Mickey Center or give to Emma Houghton.



**2018 Faith Promise
Mission Pledges**

Thank you to everyone who made a Faith Promise Missions Commitment for 2018. Total committed is \$32,480.00.

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
 2212 CORTLAND ST.
 WAYNESBORO, VA 22980
 Email: office@westwaynesboro.com WWW.WESTWAYNESBORO.COM

(540)949-8670
 FAX/INFO LINE
 (540)943-4636

2017

Who's busy in December?

PREPARING COMMUNION

Carrie Leeson

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

Paul Gochenour & Al Taillon

USHERS

Lyle Fitzgerald

SECURITY

Paul Gochenour

GREETERS

Lelia Bolton & Virginia Bunch

WEE WORSHIP (Ages 2-5)

Alyce McAllister

CHILDREN'S CHURCH HELPER

Dylan Seal

IN THE NURSERY

3 Sunday School Debbie McCracken
 Worship Amy Emerson & Katilyn Duggins

10 Sunday School Debbie McCracken
 Worship Bob & Debbie McCracken

17 Sunday School Debbie McCracken
 Worship Susan Gochenour & Carrie Leeson

24 Sunday School Debbie McCracken
 Worship Drema Rickard & Amanda Estes

31 Sunday School Debbie McCracken
 Worship Ashley Gauldin & Teresa Gauldin

CONNECTION CAFE

John Opstad & Ruby Sprouse

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.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Winter Weather Cancellations						
 <p>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.</p>						
3 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 5:45 PM Youth Meal 6:15 PM CONNECT	4	5 7:00 PM Weekday Religious Education Graduation	6 7:00 PM Congregational Meeting 7:15 PM EQUIP U & Youth Groups 8:00 PM Choir	7	8 Sr. Minister Vacation	9 8:30 AM Glorious Christmas Nights Trip 10:00 AM Youth Christmas Play Dress Rehearsal 
10 Sr. Minister Vacation 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship/Cantata 5:00 PM ENGAGE (Elementary Youth) 5:45 PM Youth Meal 6:15 PM CONNECT (Middle/High School Youth)	11 6:30 AM Finance Committee 9:30 AM Food Pantry	12 6:30 PM Deacons meet 7:00 PM Elders meet	13 7:00 PM EQUIP U & Youth Groups	14	15 Salvation Army Bell Ringing 10:00 AM Deadline for Newsletter Information 	16 8:15 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Golden Corral 9:00 AM Ladies Prayer Breakfast @ Panera Bread 5:00 PM ENGAGE Youth Christmas Party (Elementary Youth)
17 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 5:00 PM CONNECT Youth Christmas Party (Middle/High School Youth)	18 9:30 AM Food Pantry	19	20 6:00 PM Christmas Caroling	21 MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES	22 Associate/Youth Minister Vacation	23
24 Associate/Youth Minister Vacation 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM Christmas Candlelight Service	25 Christmas Day Office Closed 	26	27	28	29	30
31 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	 					