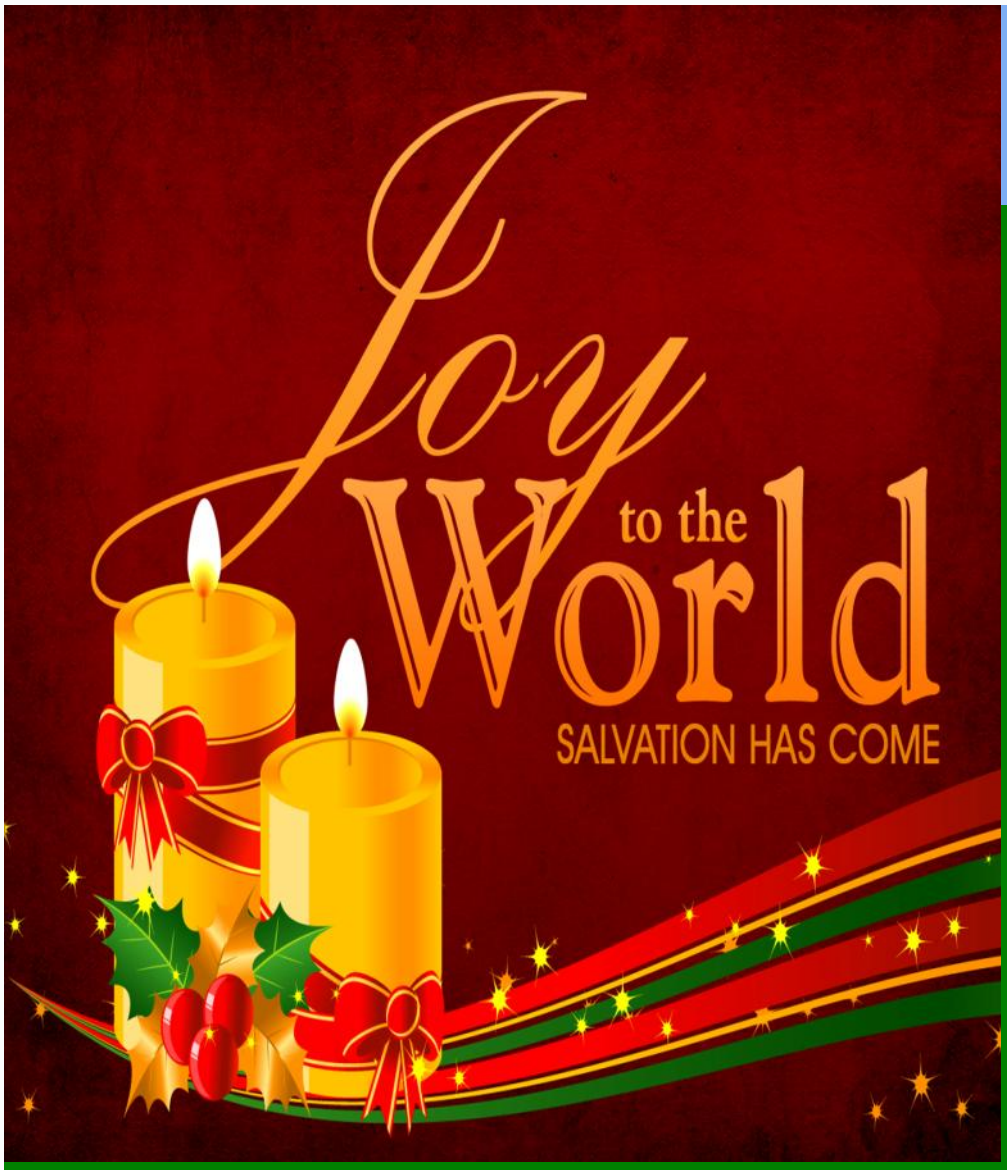
The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

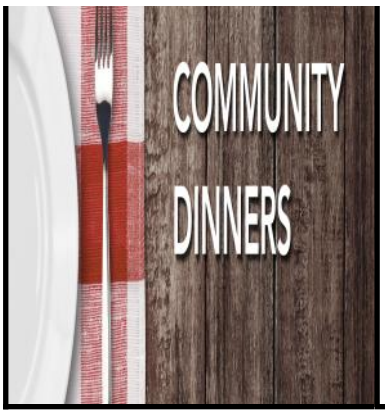
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



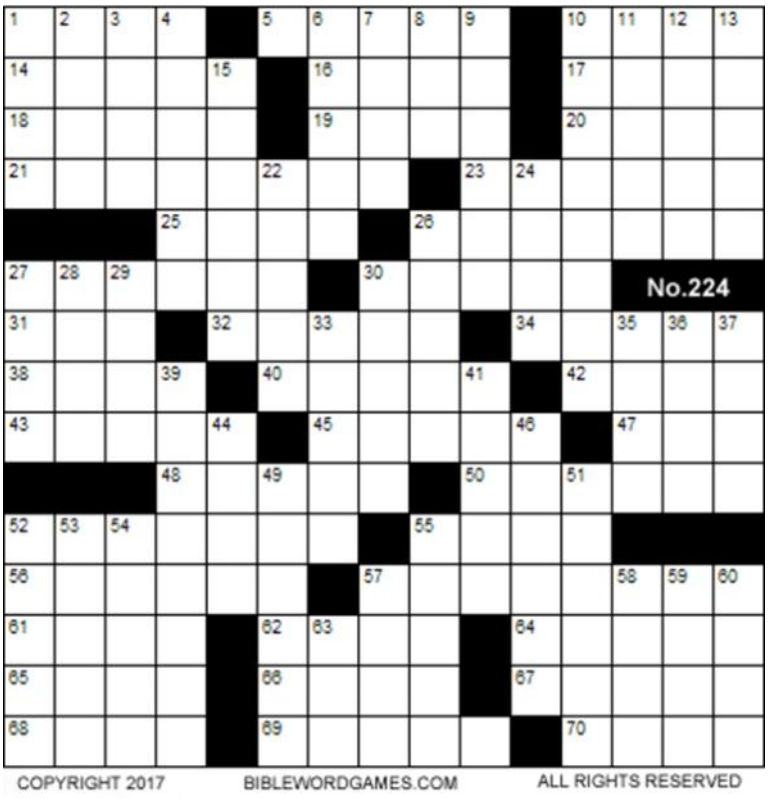
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

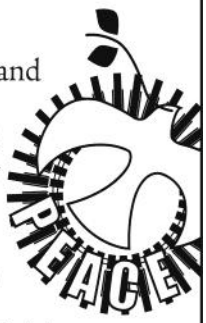
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

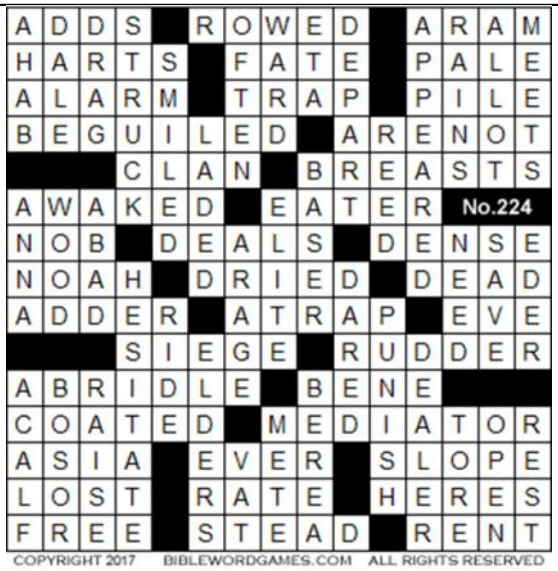
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



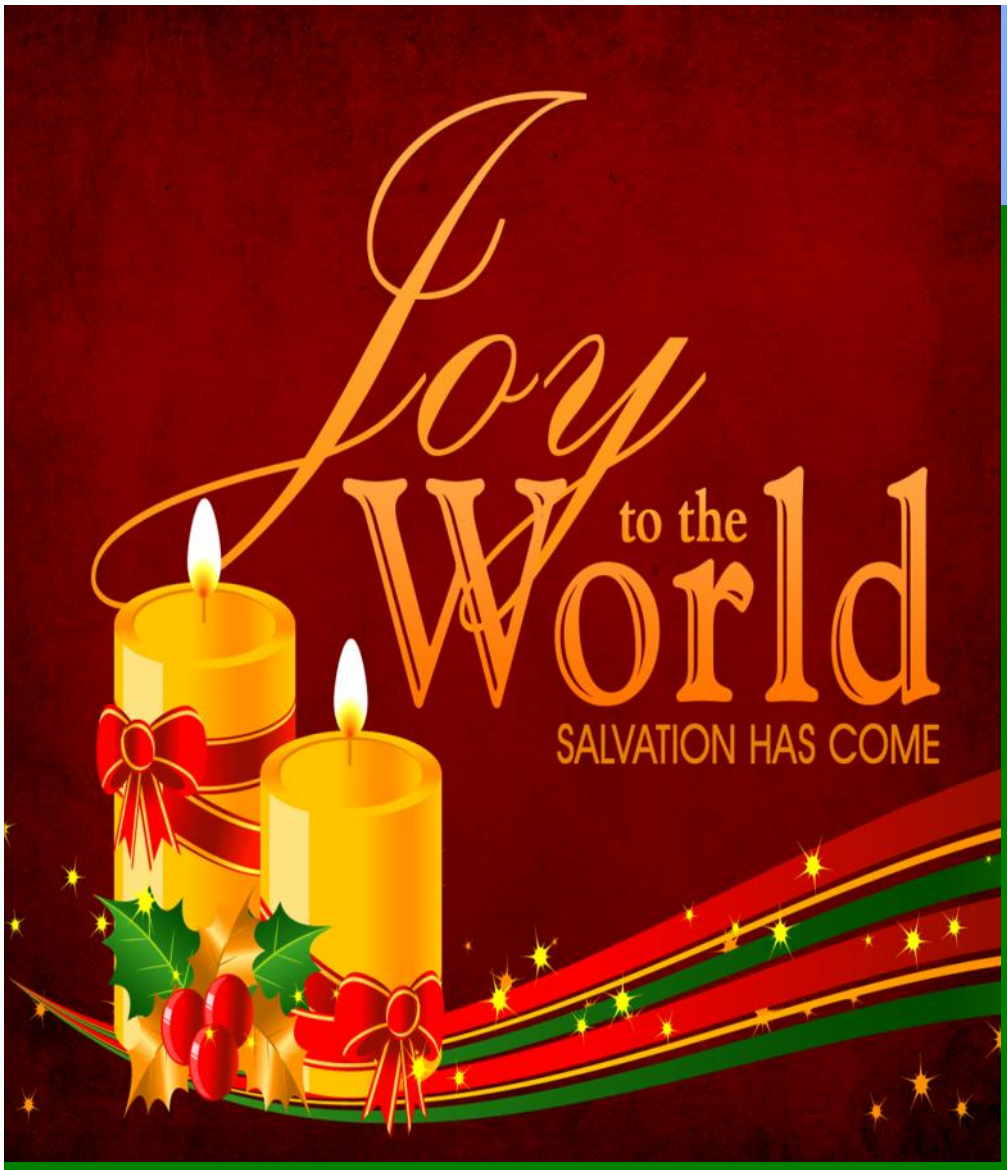
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

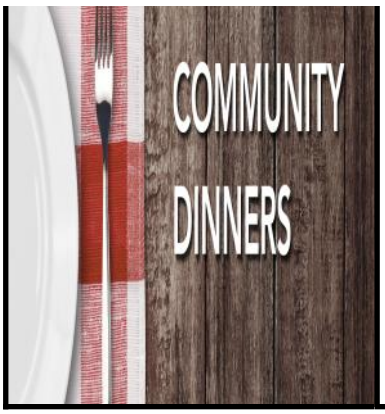
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



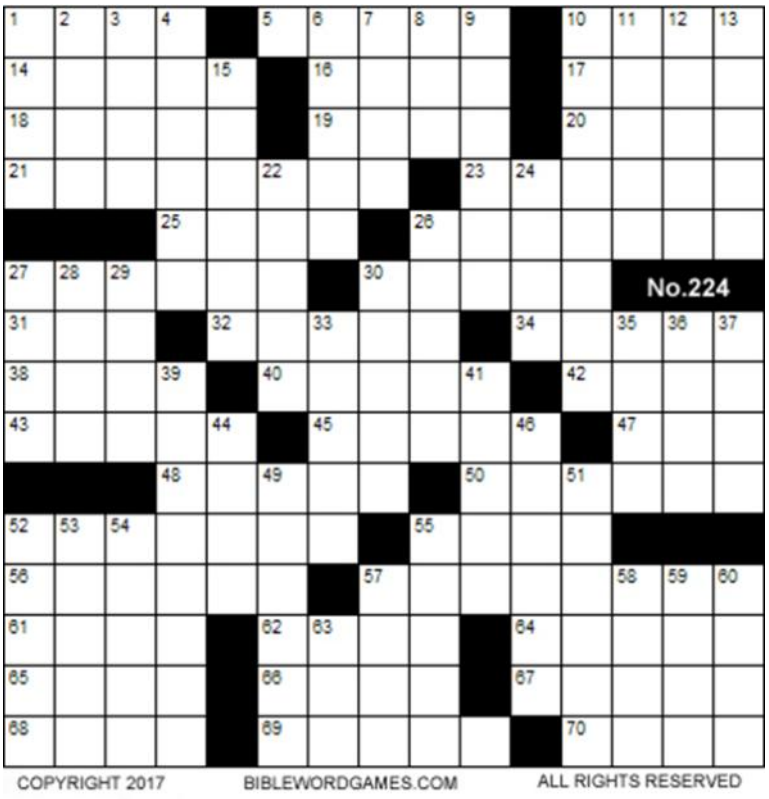
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

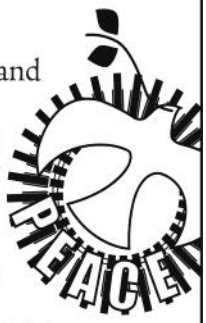
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

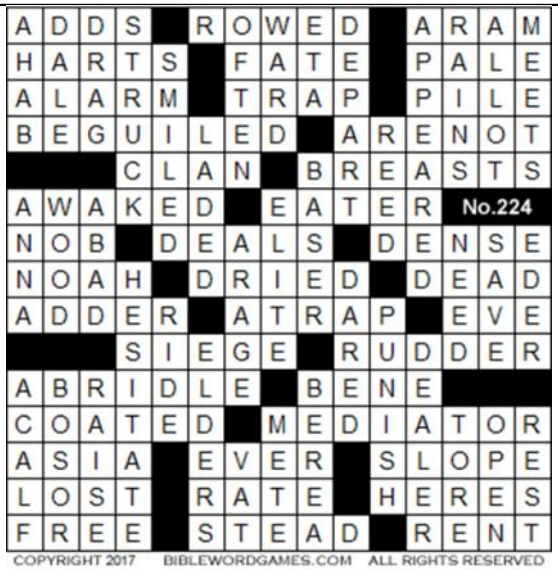
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



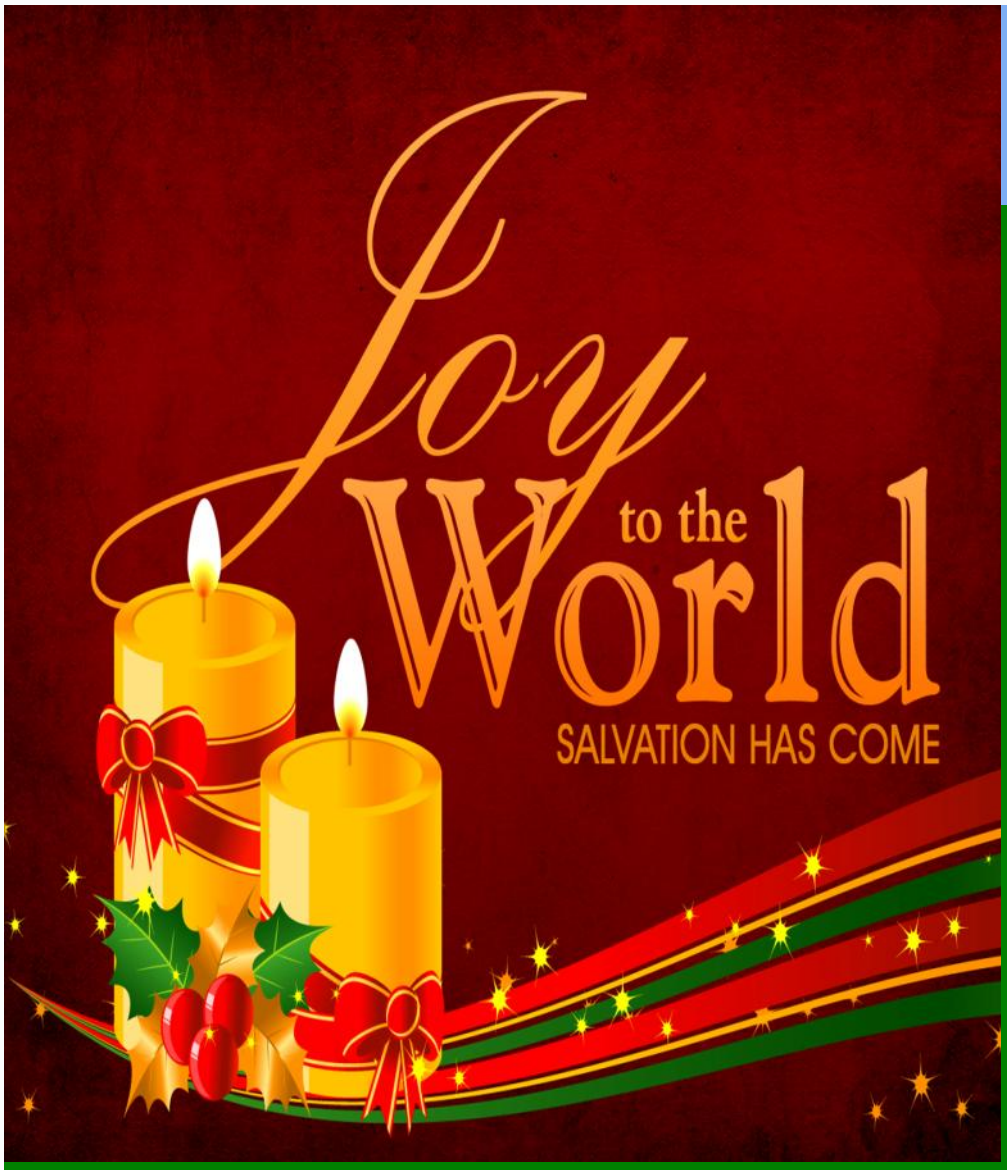
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

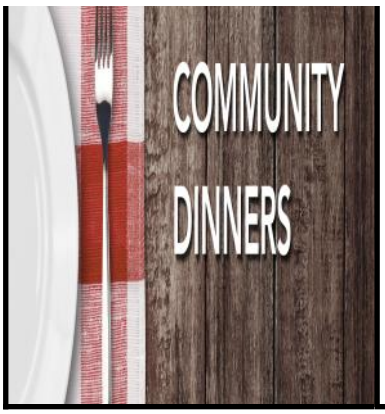
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



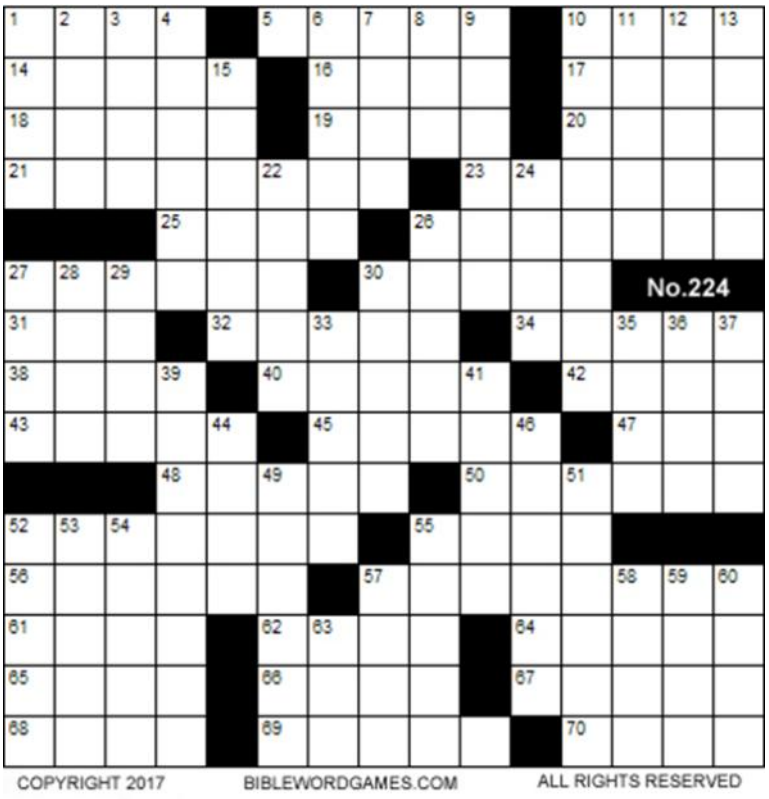
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

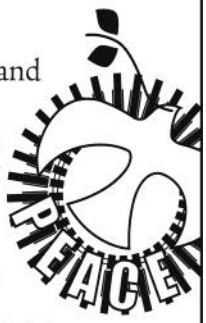
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

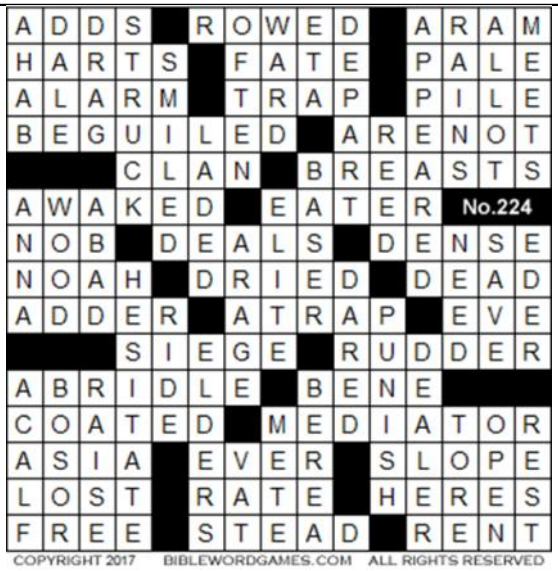
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



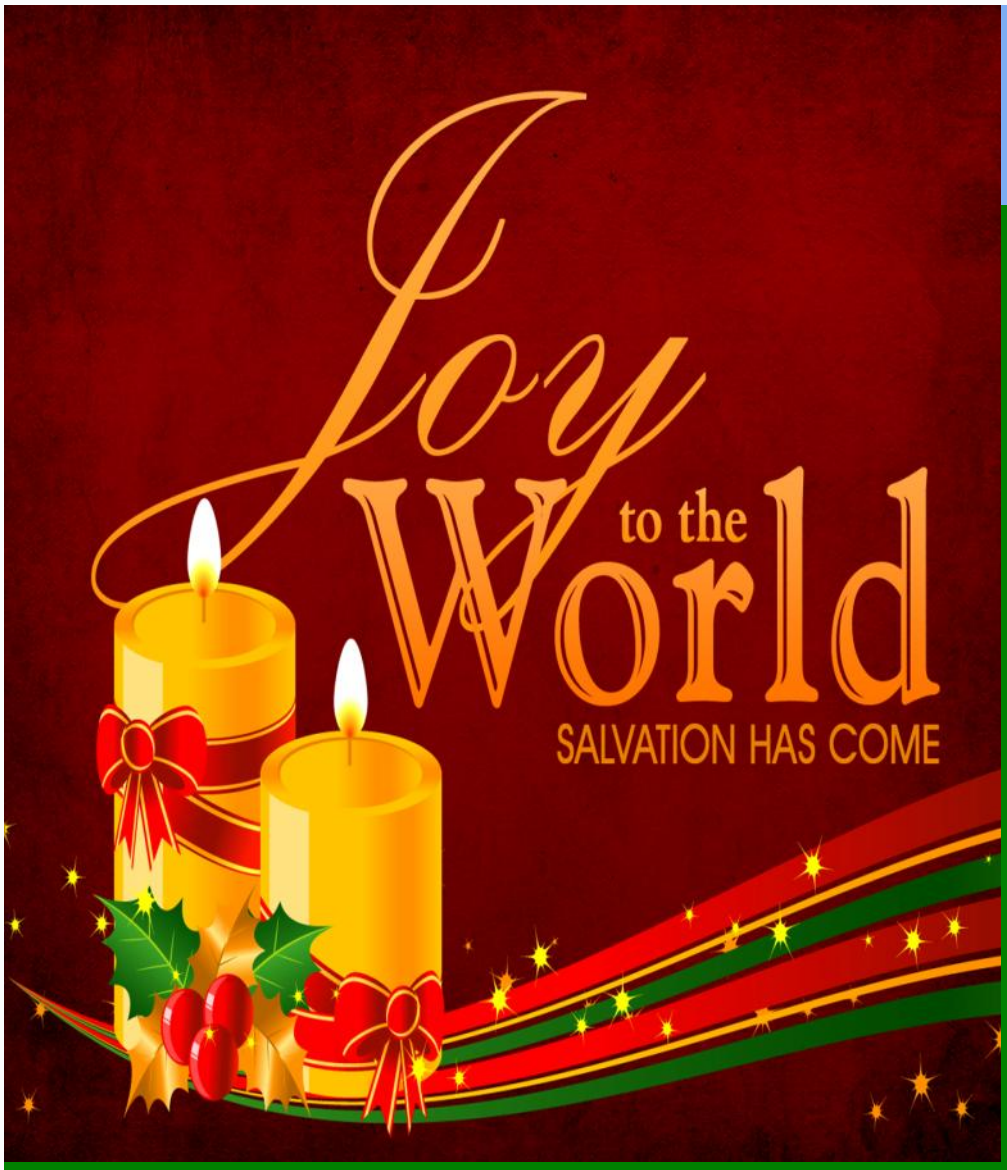
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

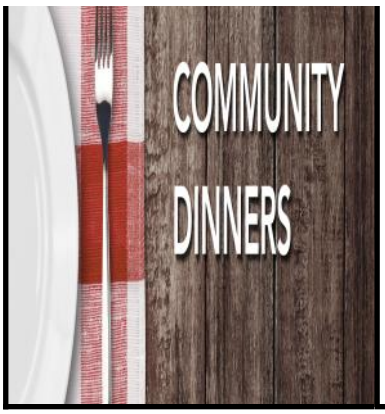
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



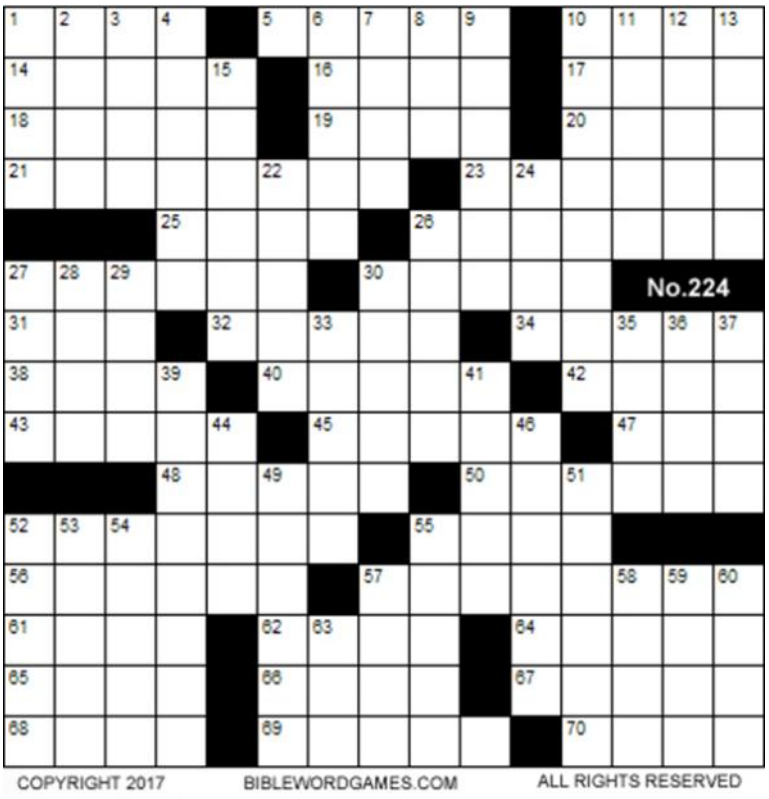
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

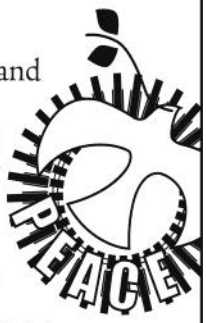
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

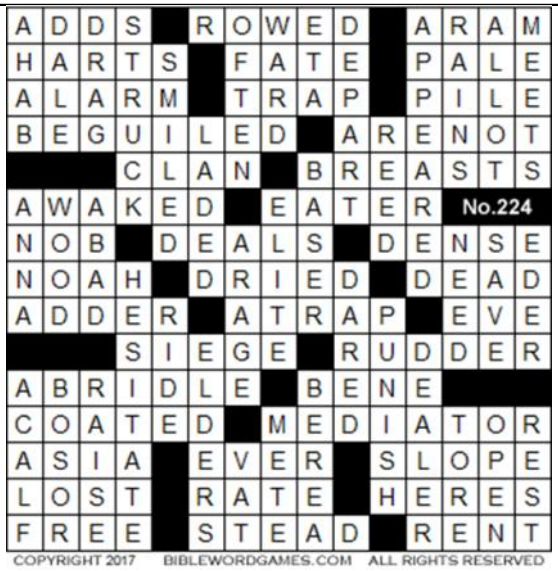
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



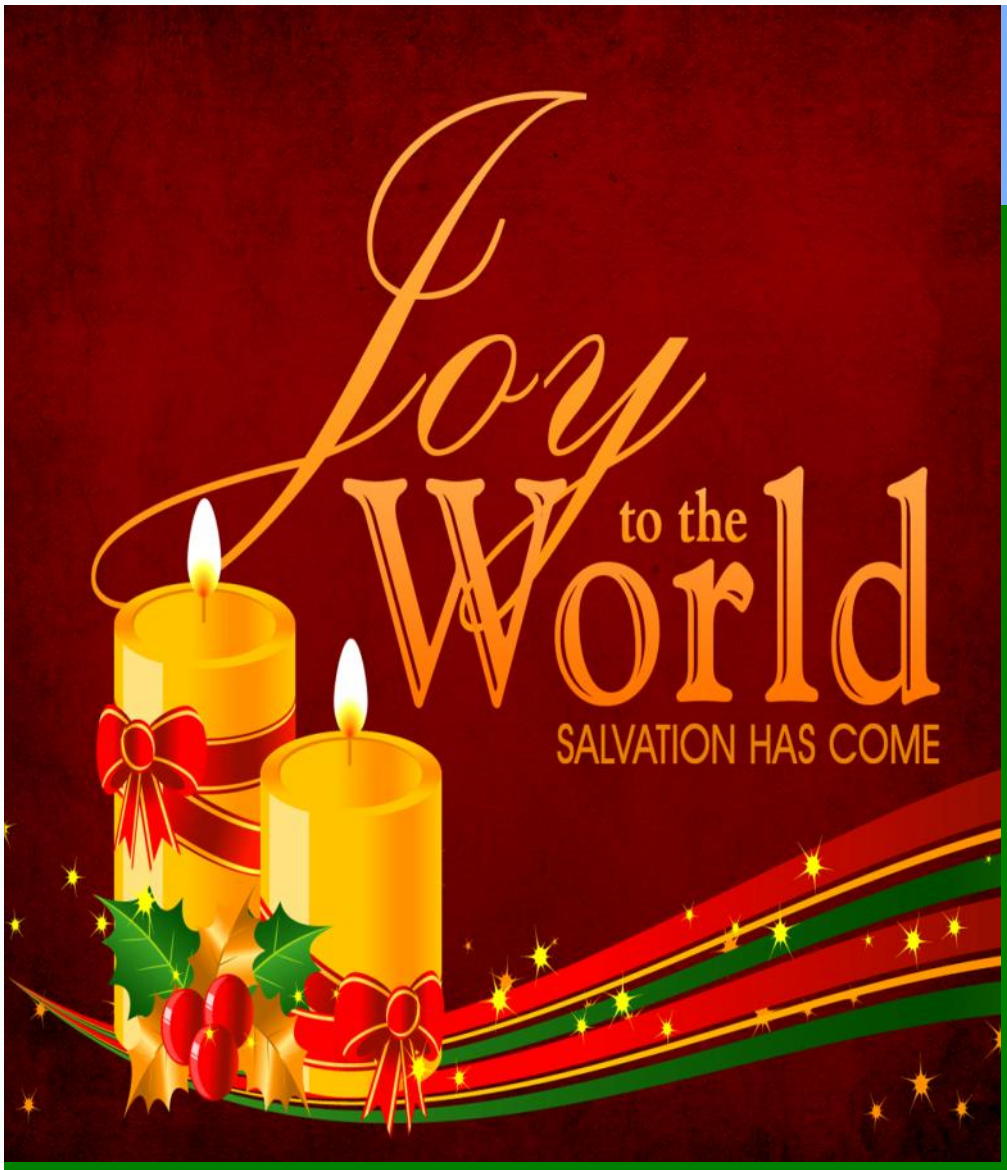
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

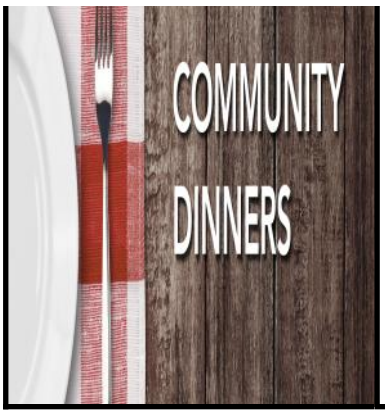
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



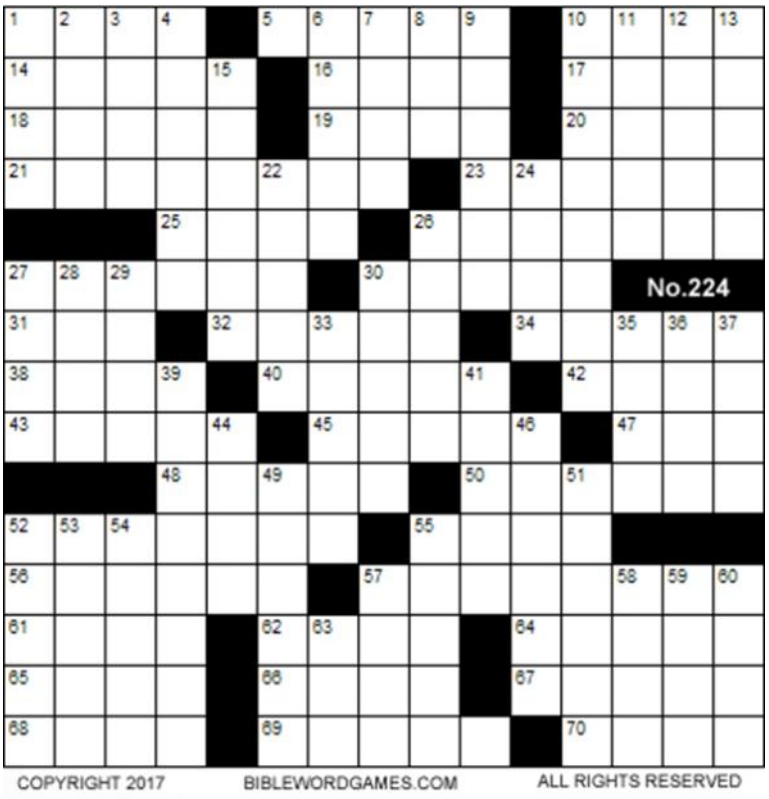
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

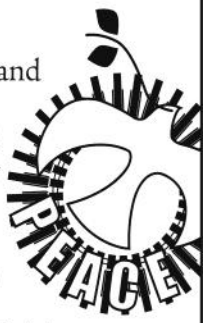
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

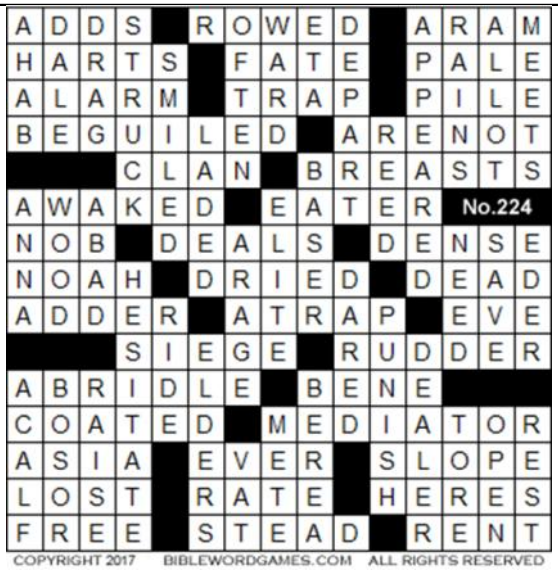
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



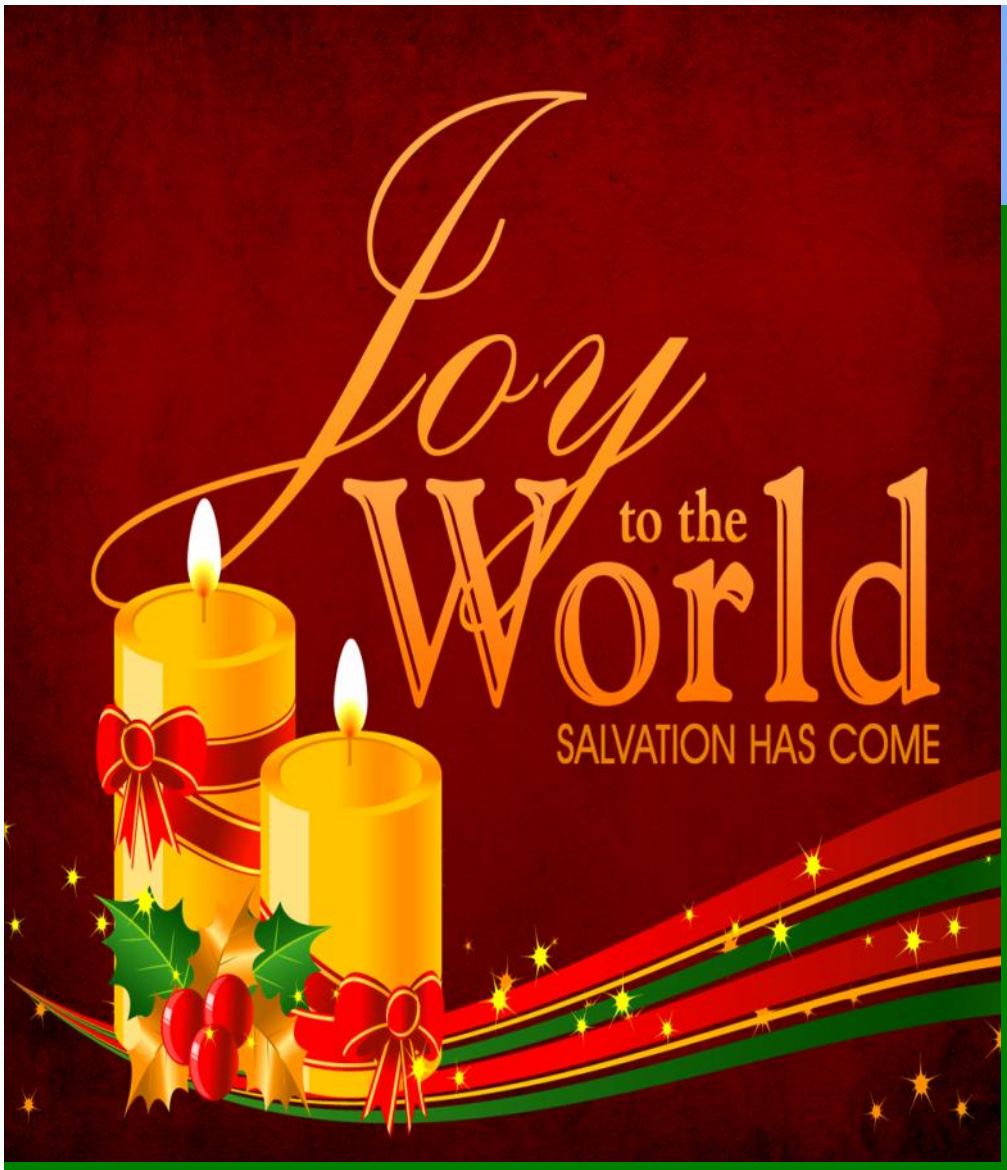
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

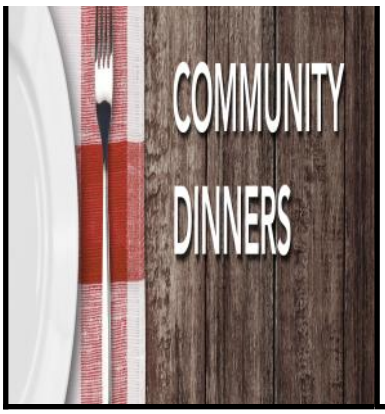
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



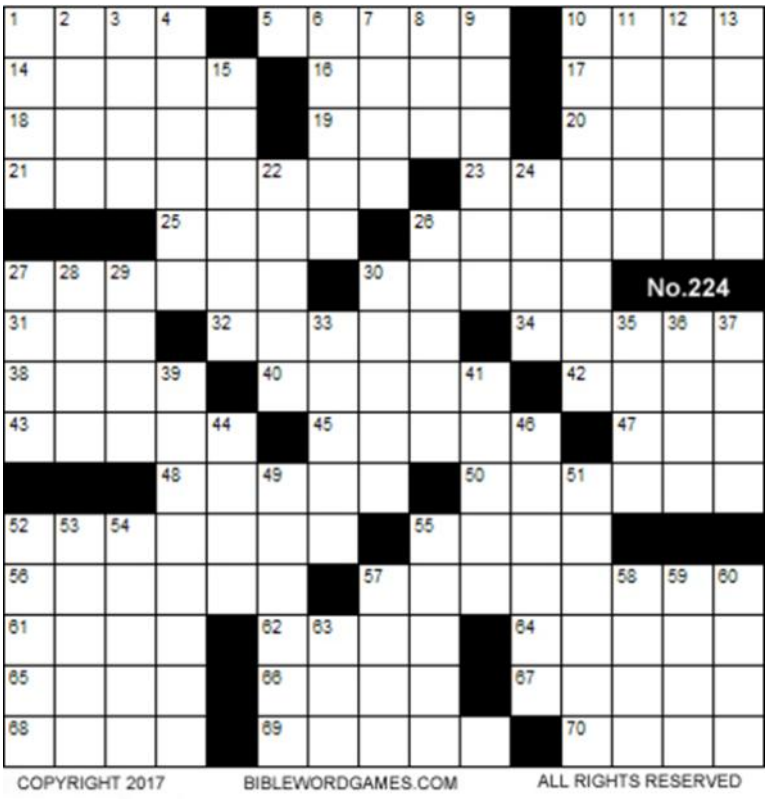
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

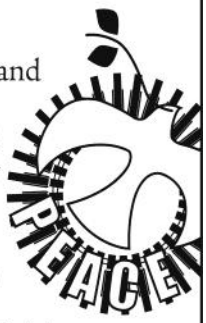
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

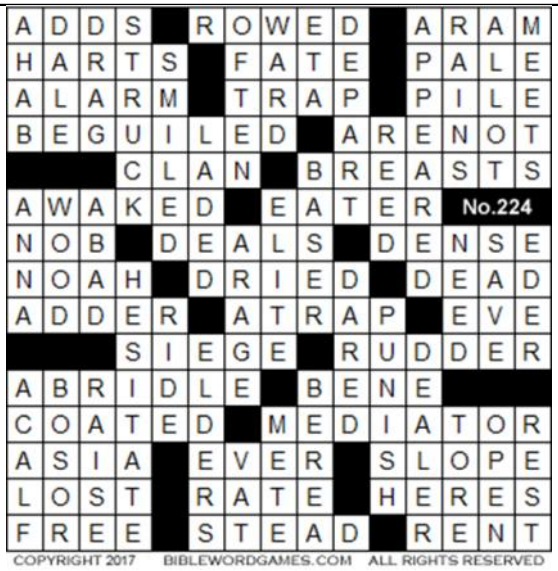
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



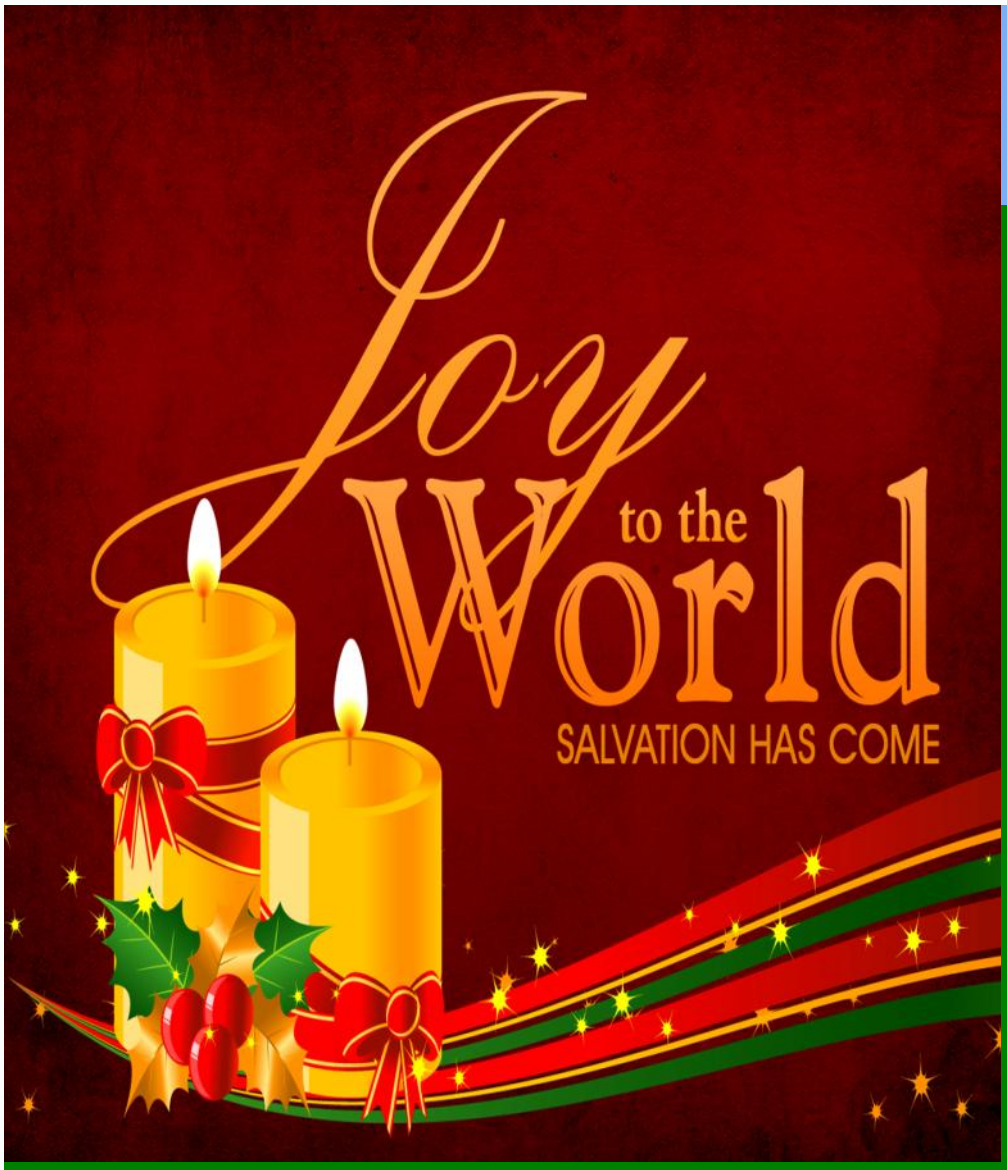
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

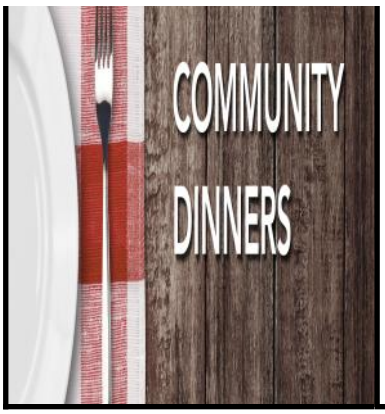
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



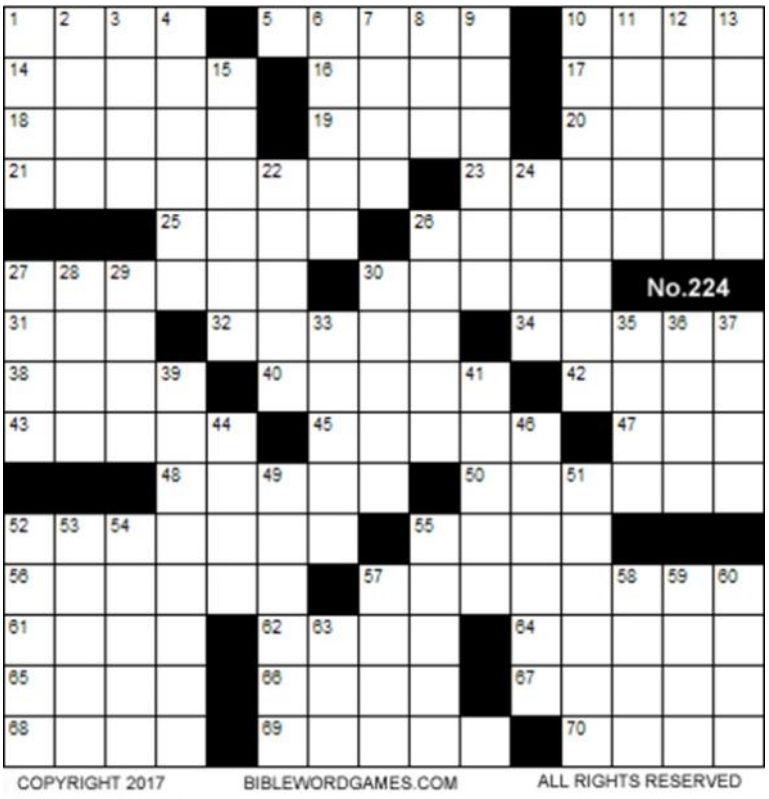
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

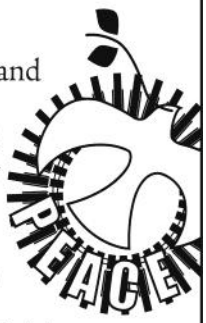
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

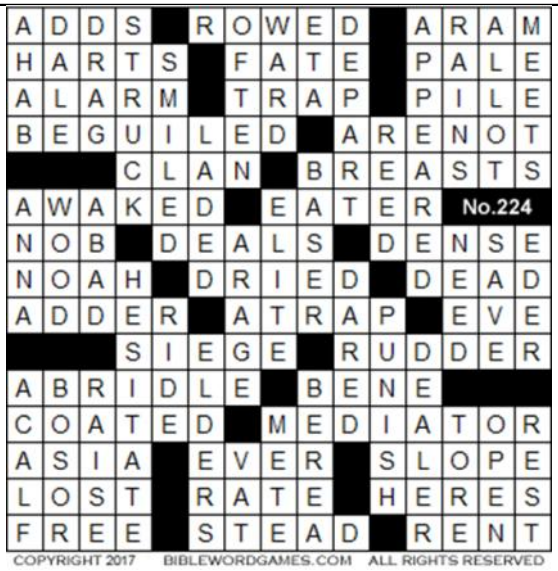
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



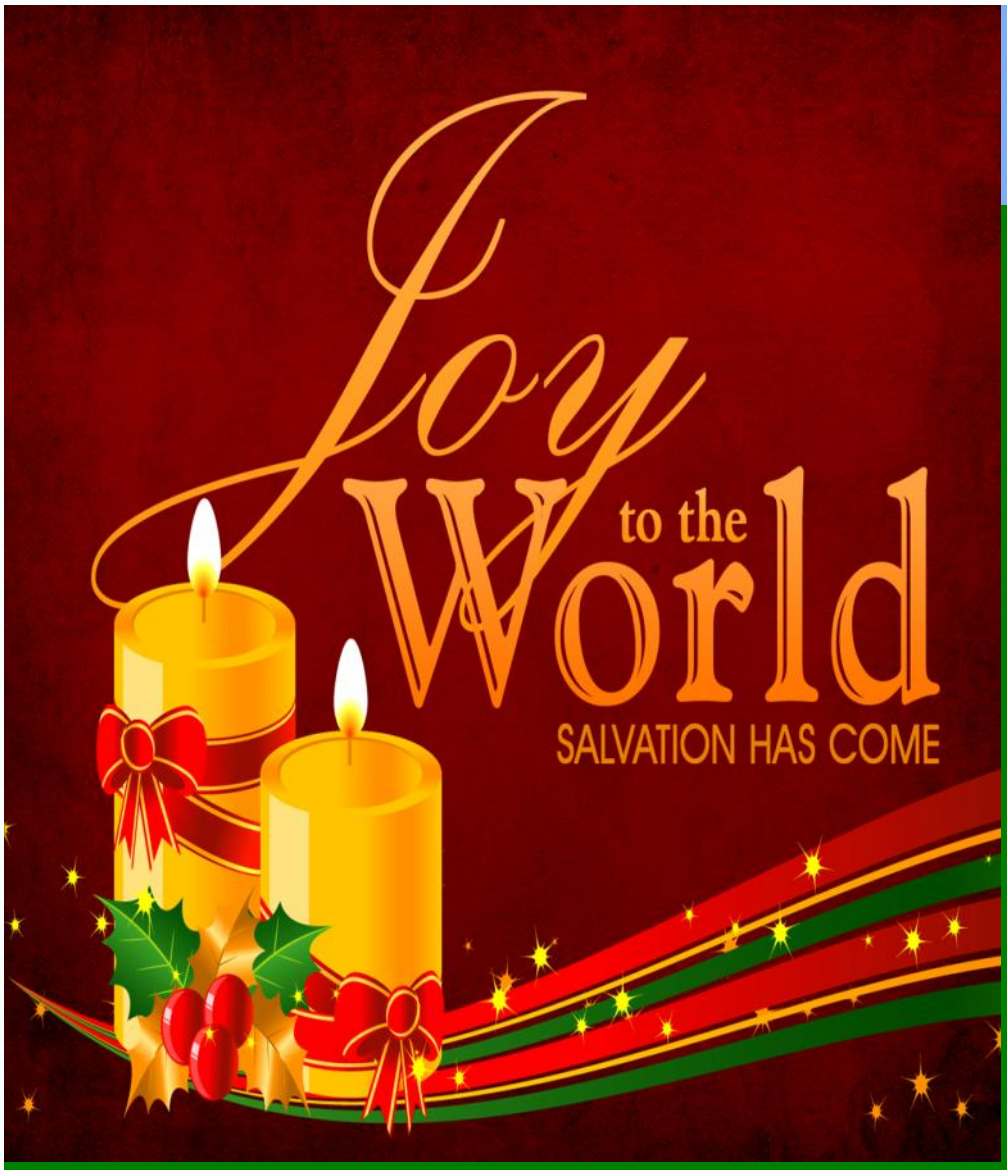
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

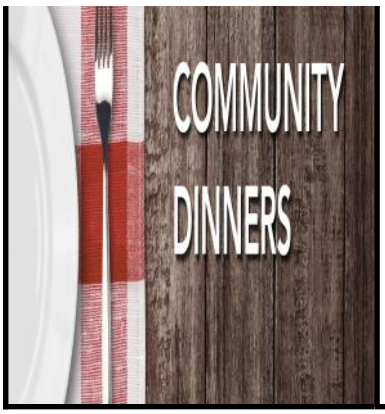
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



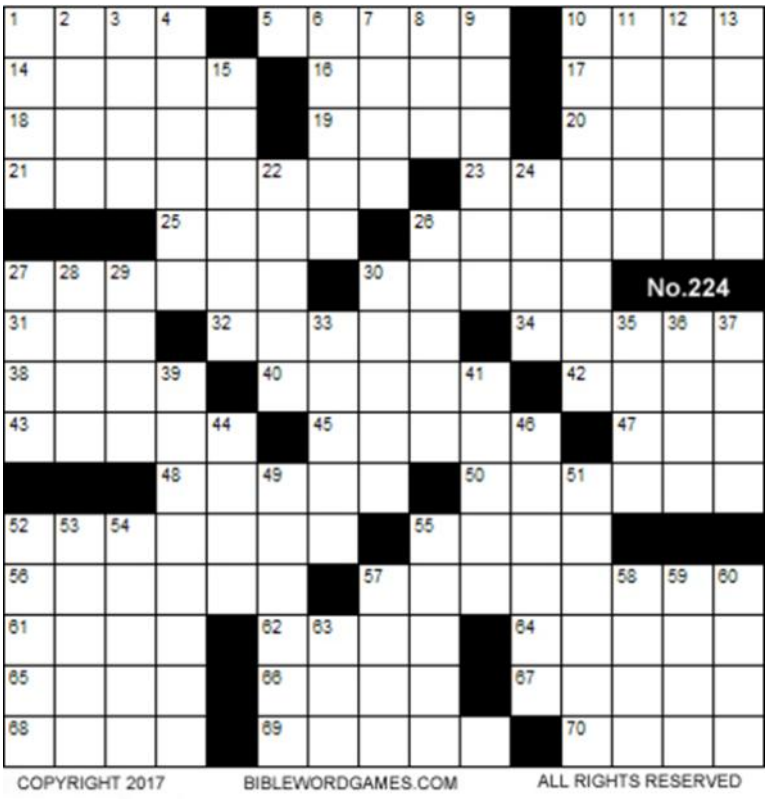
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

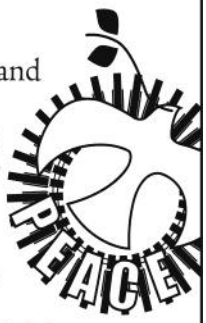
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

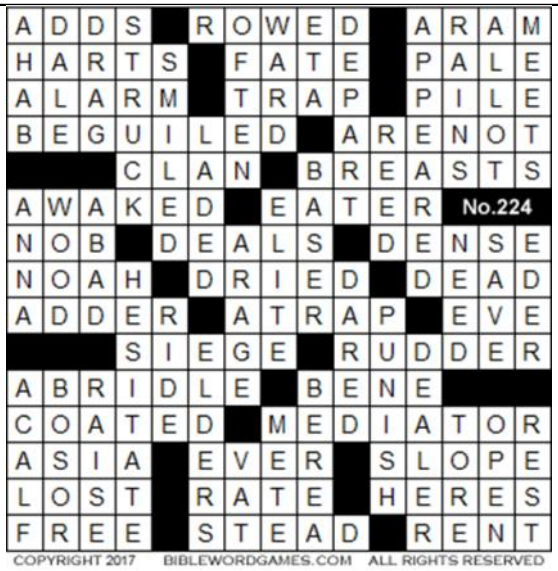
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



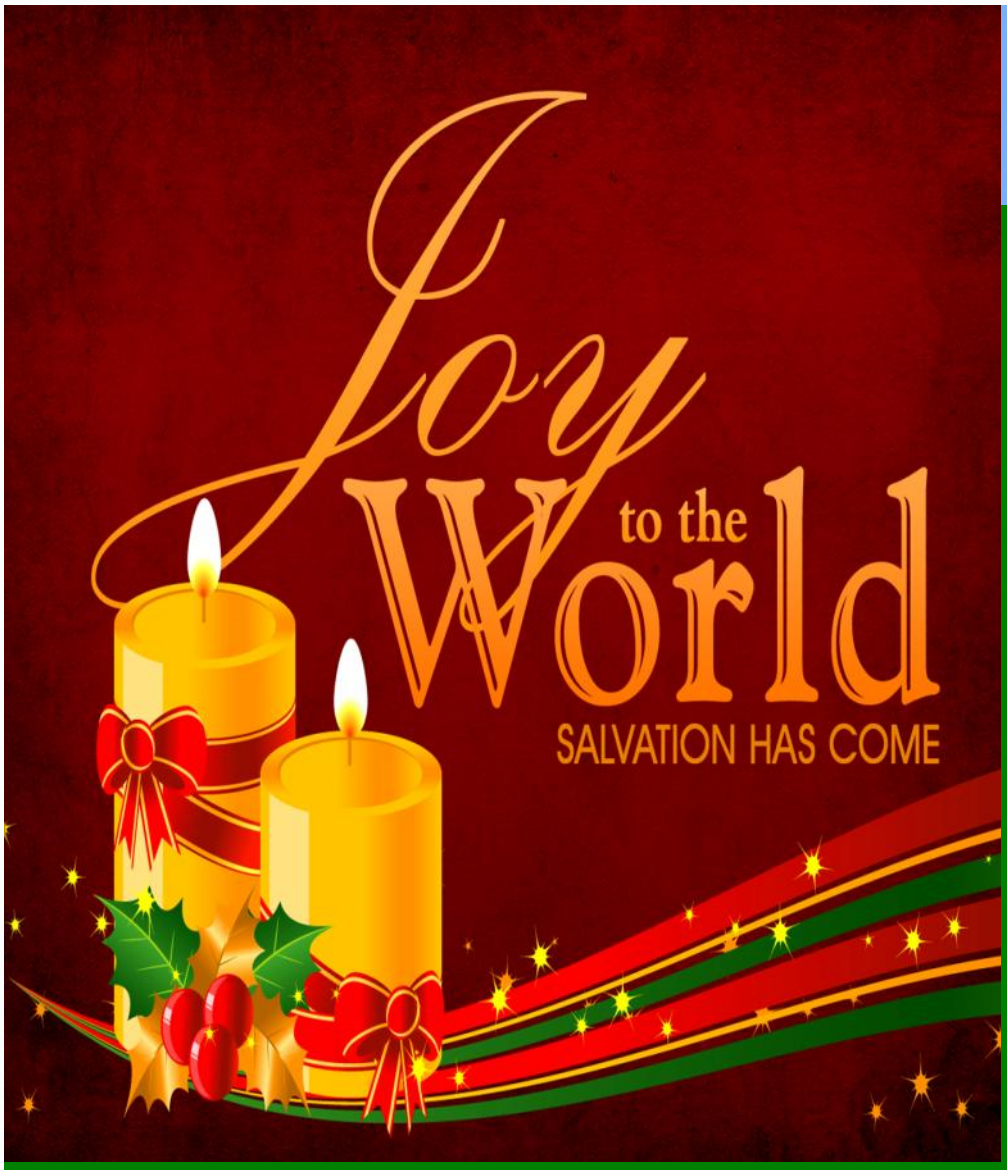
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

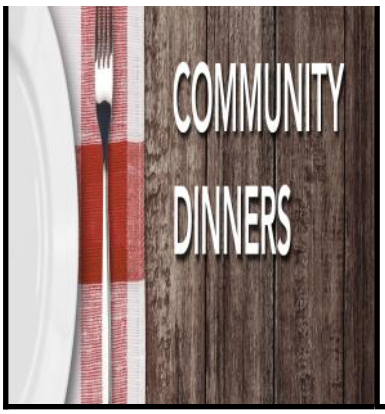
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



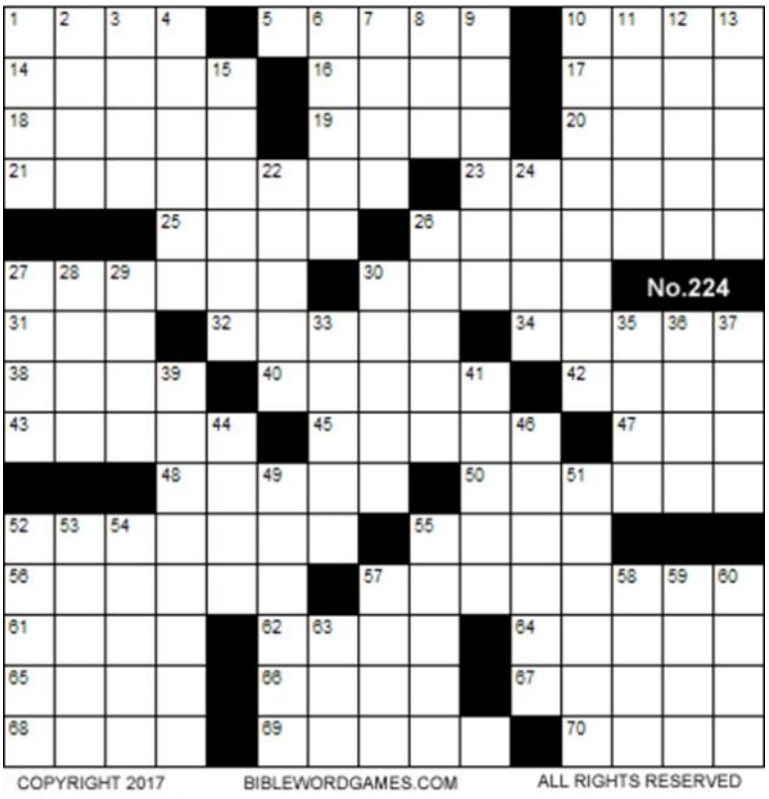
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

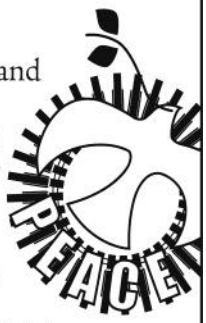
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

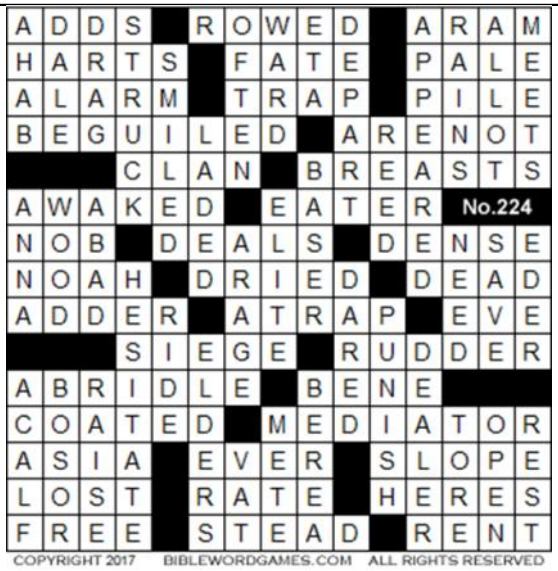
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



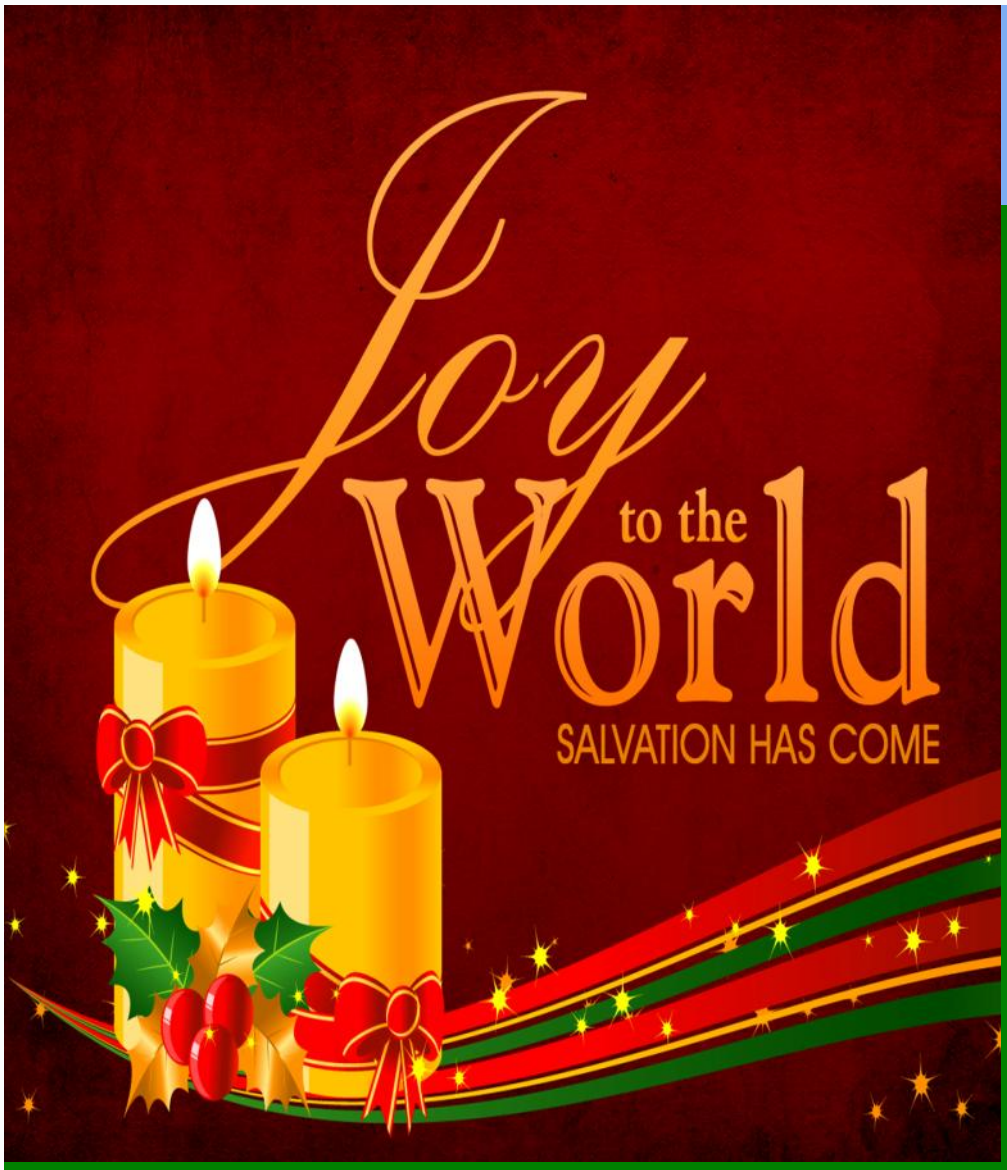
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

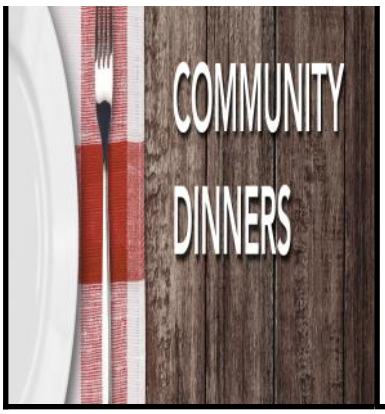
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



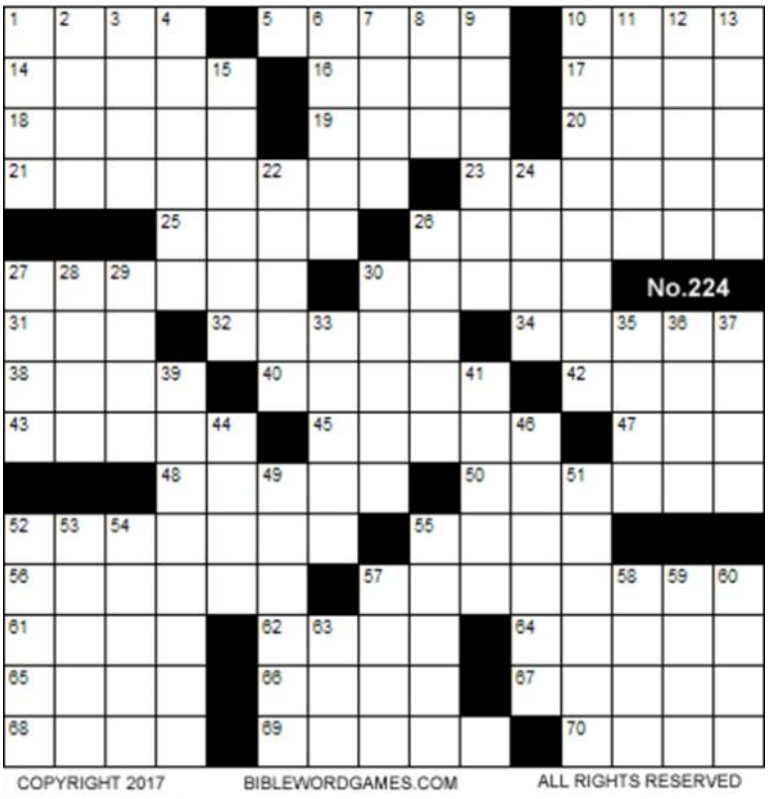
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

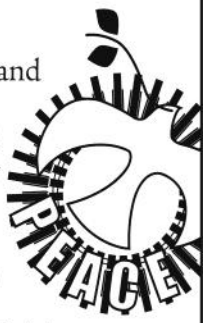
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

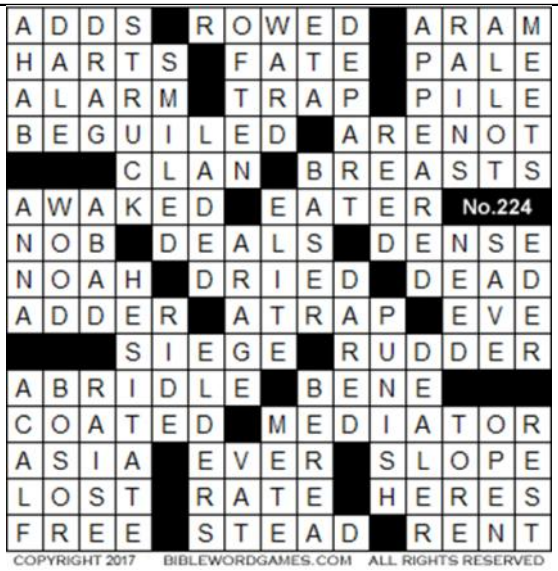
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



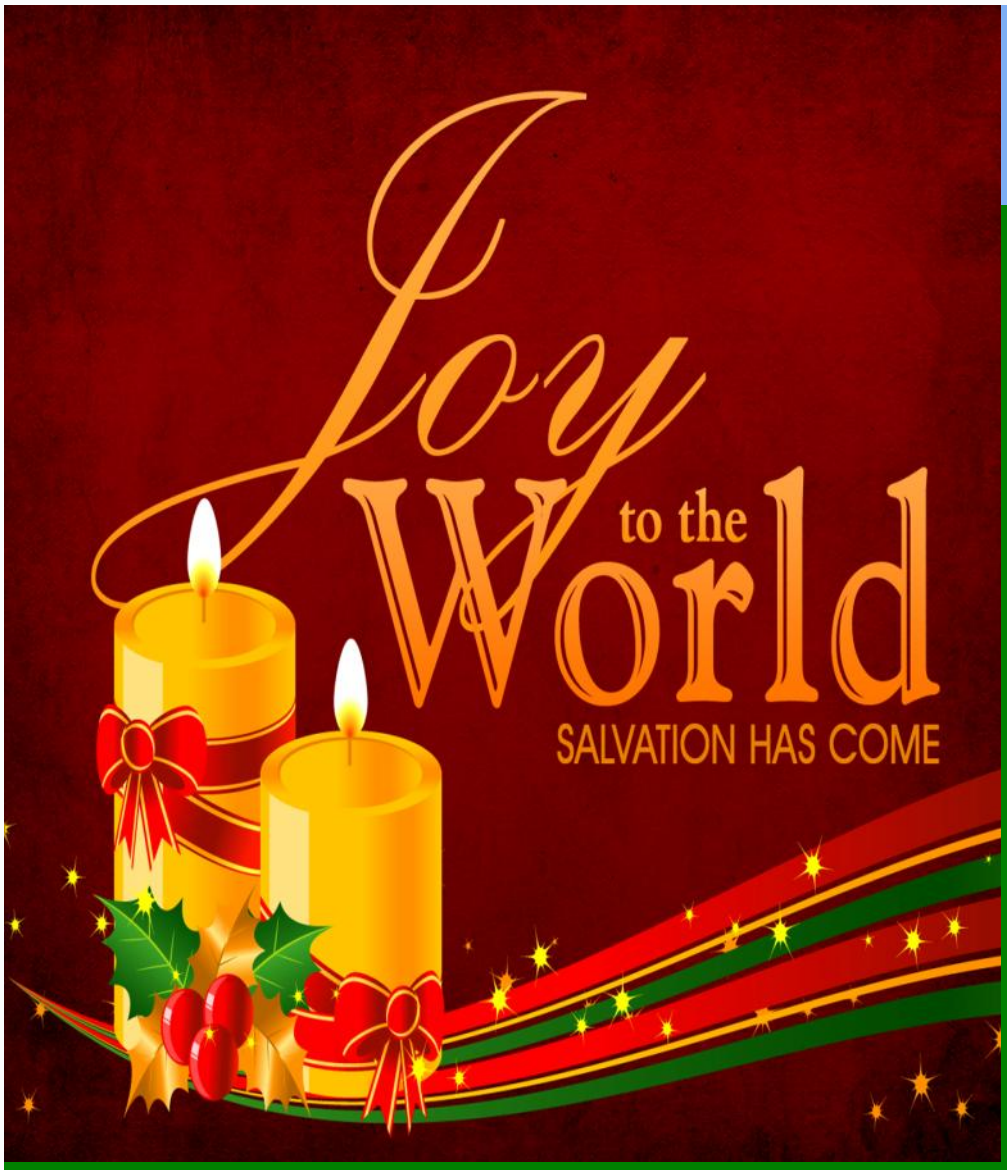
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

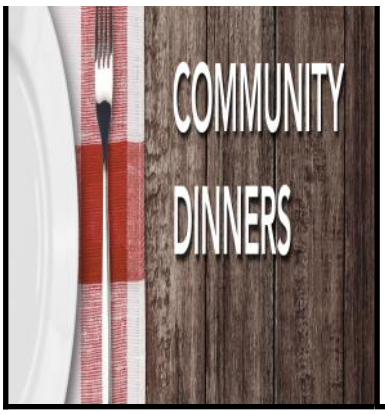
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



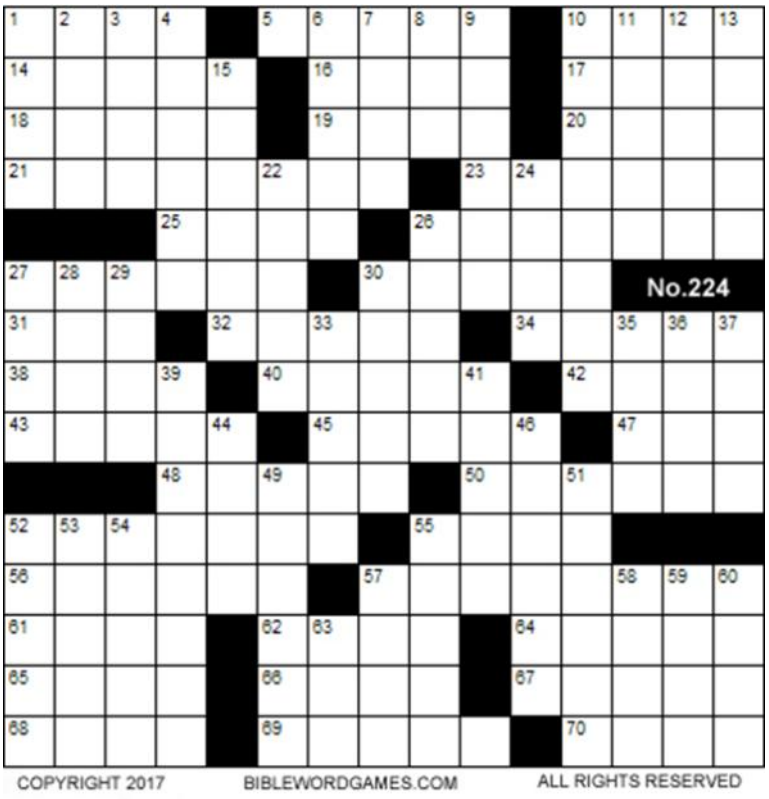
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

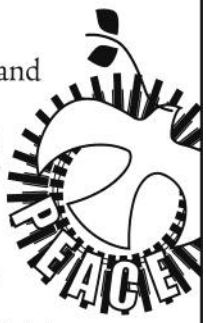
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

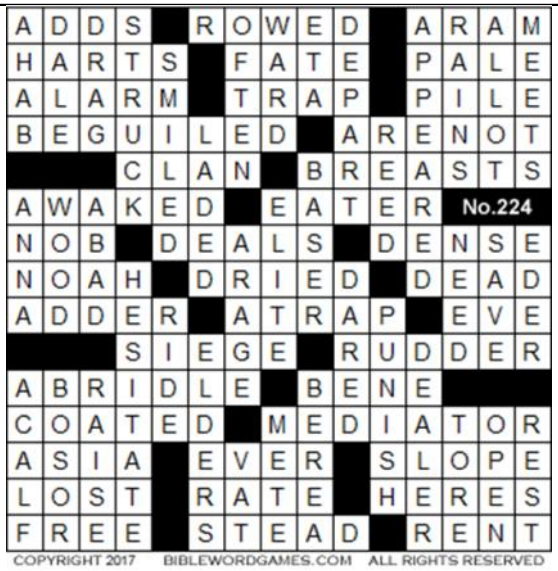
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



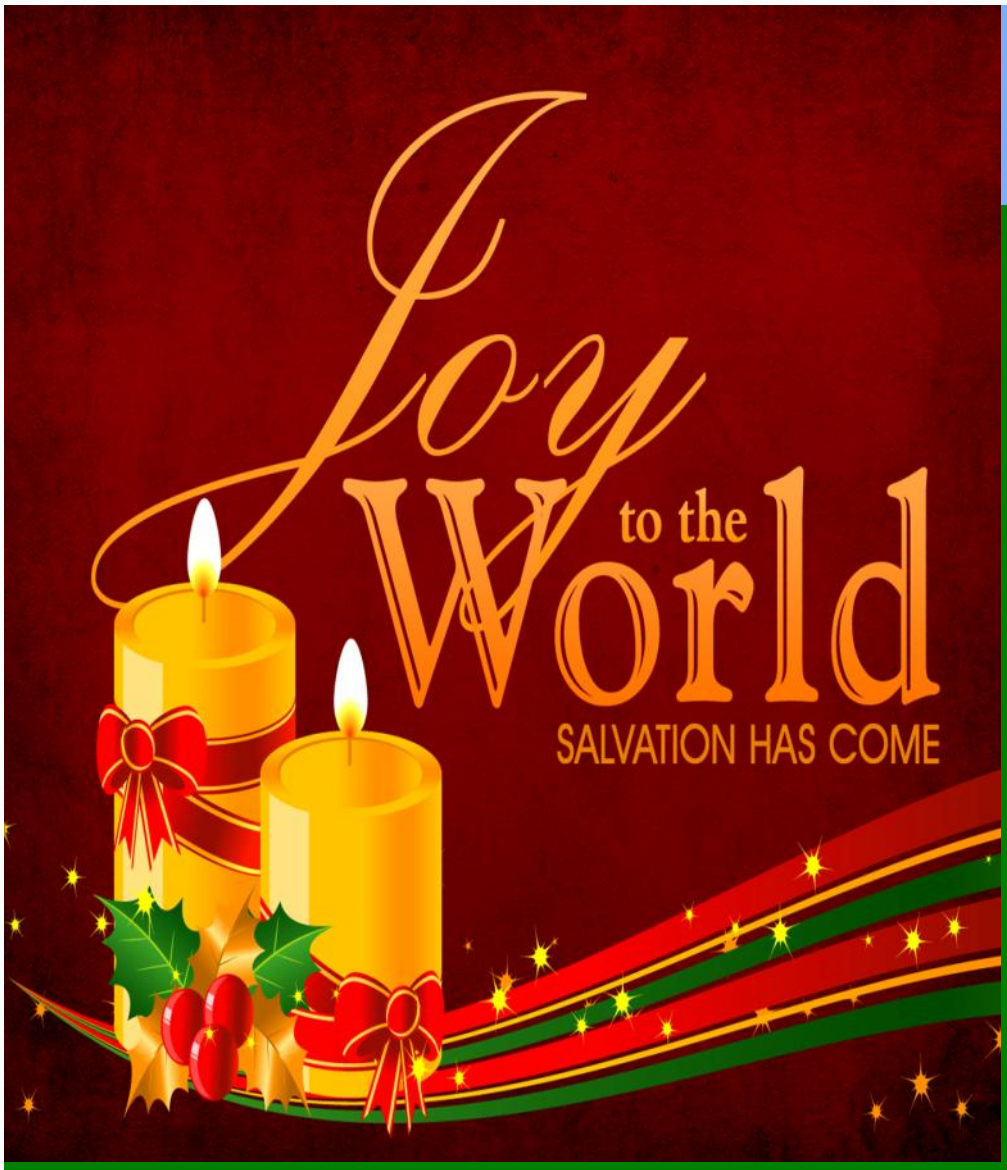
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

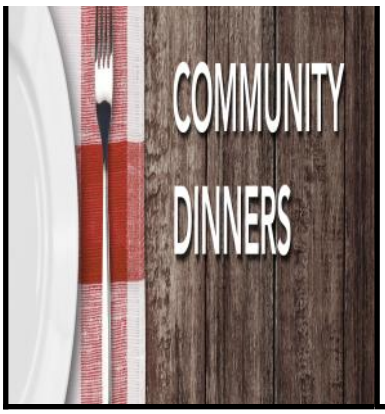
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



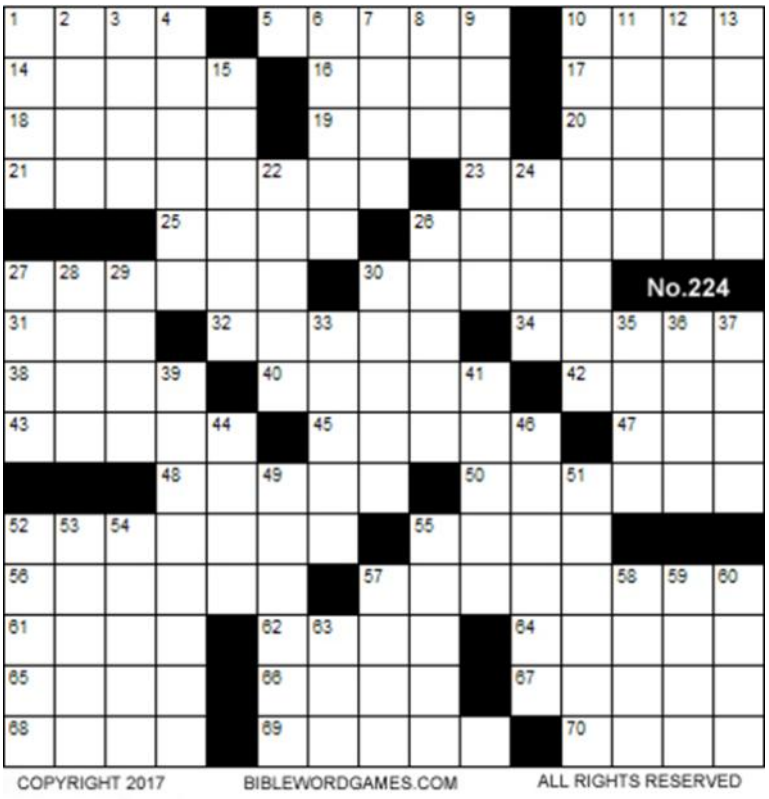
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

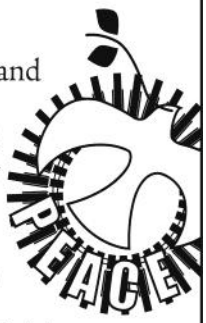
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

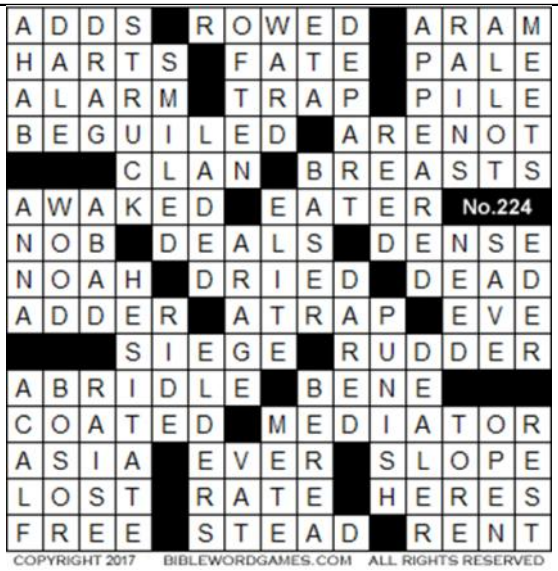
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



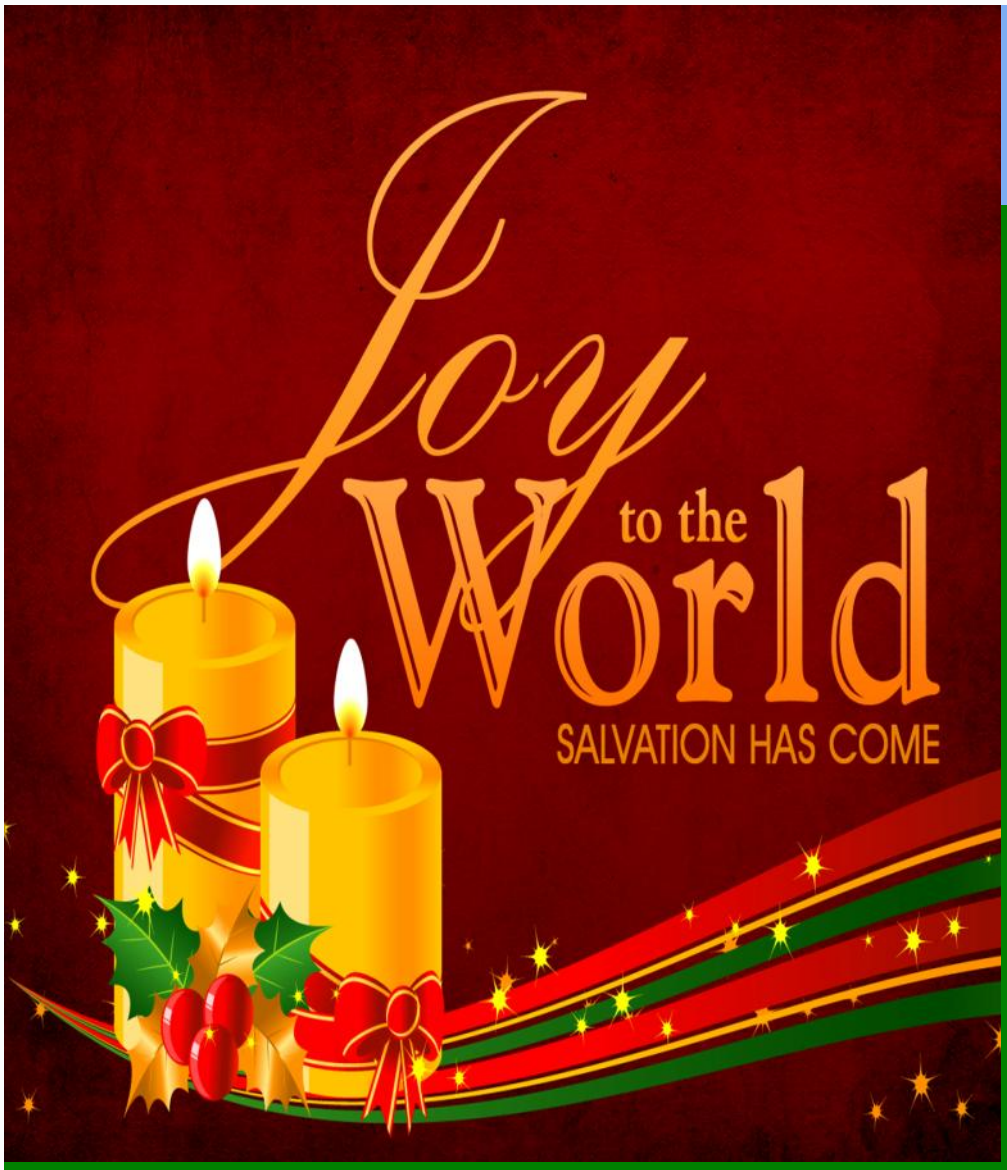
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

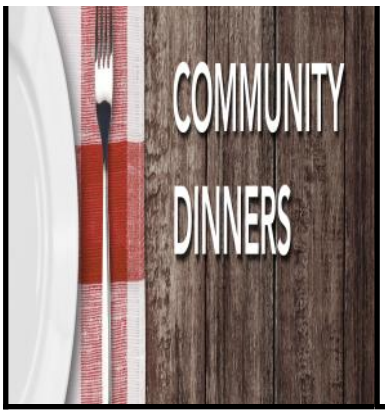
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



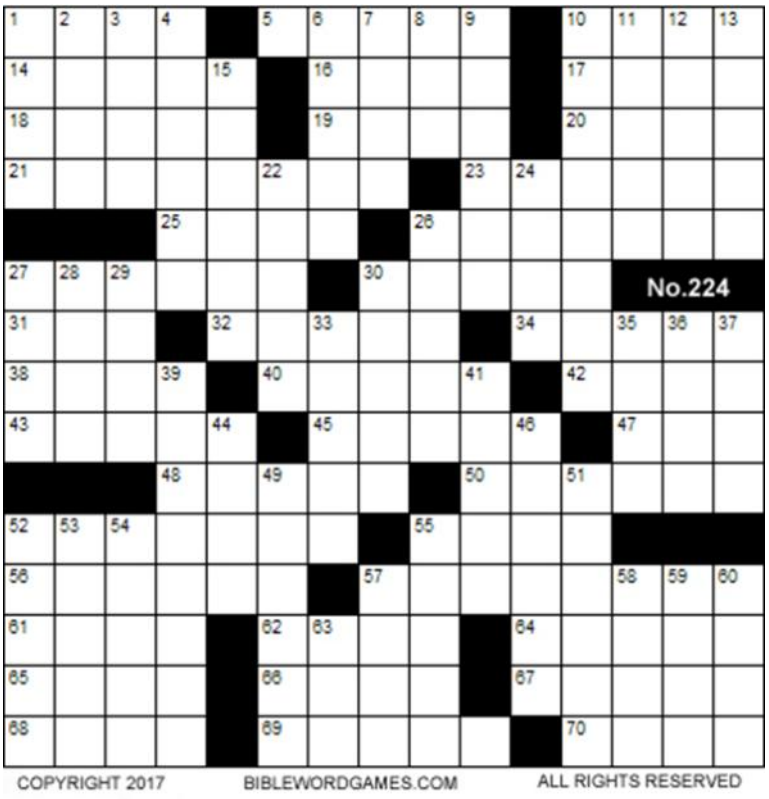
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

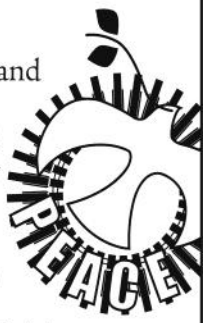
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

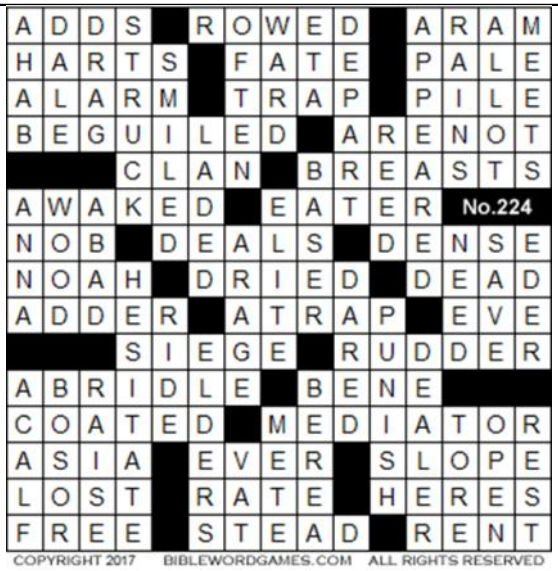
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



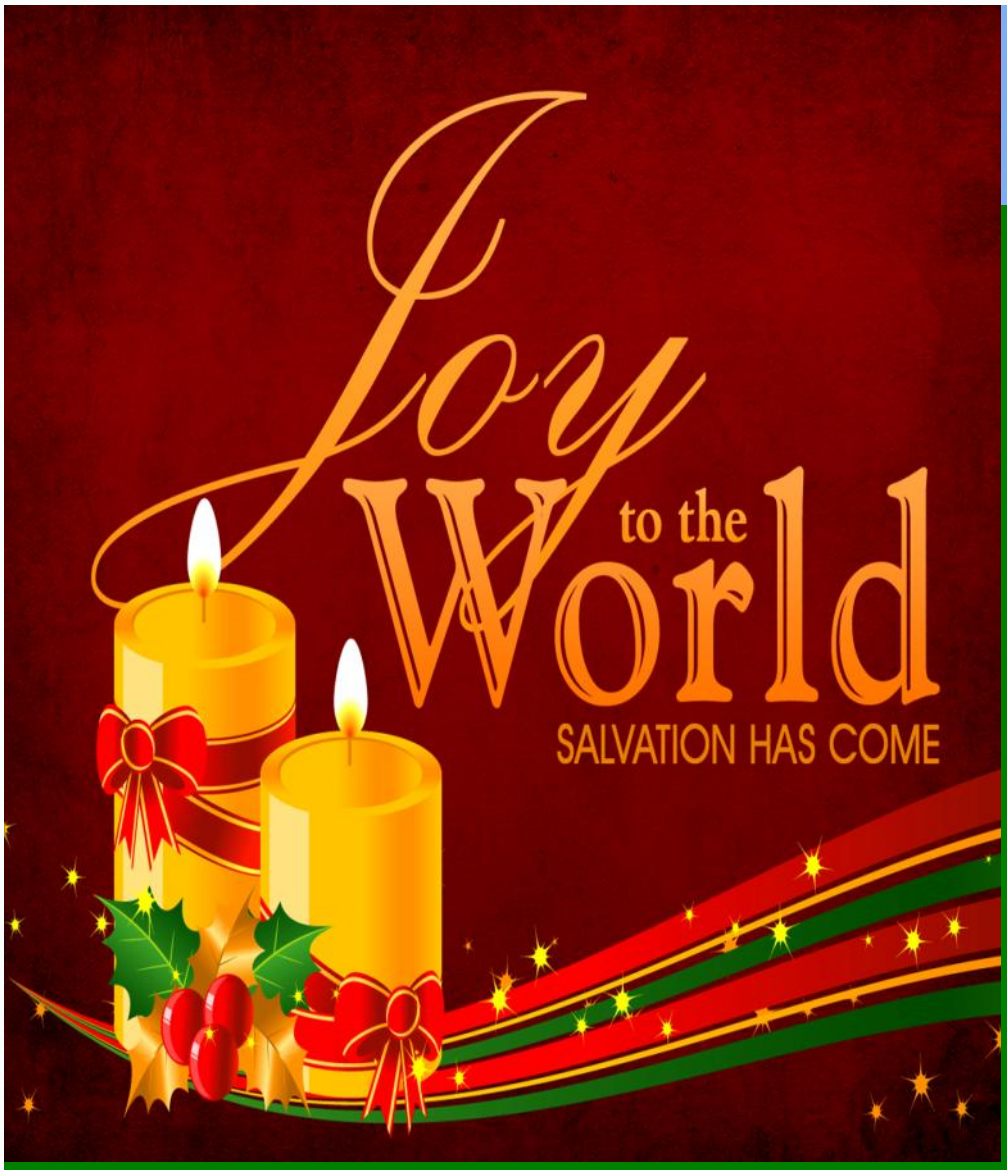
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

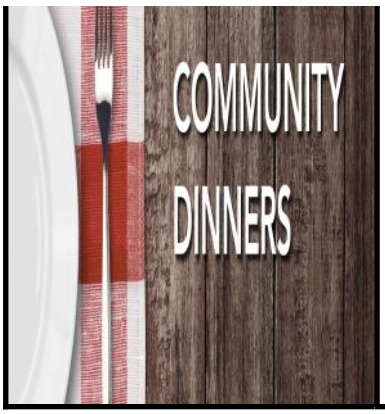
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



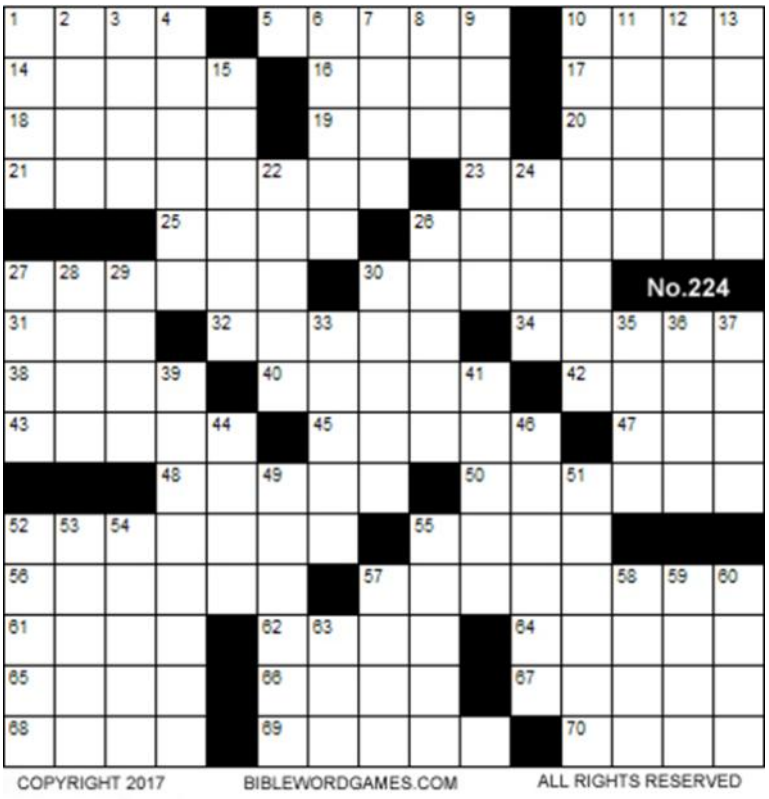
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

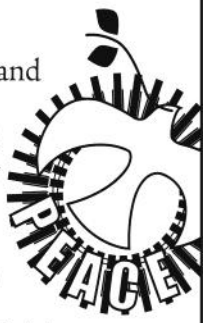
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

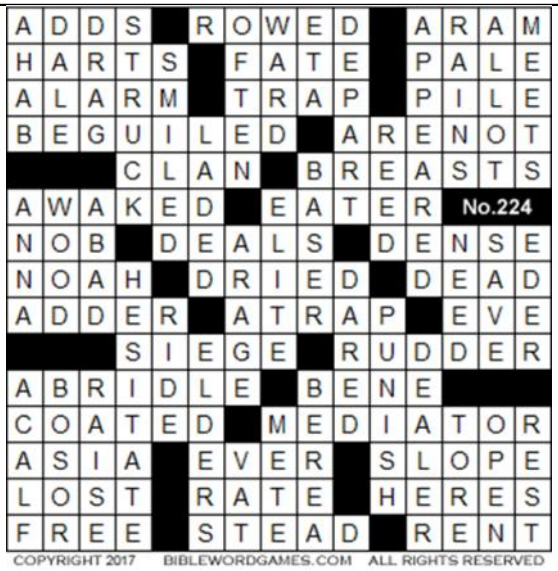
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



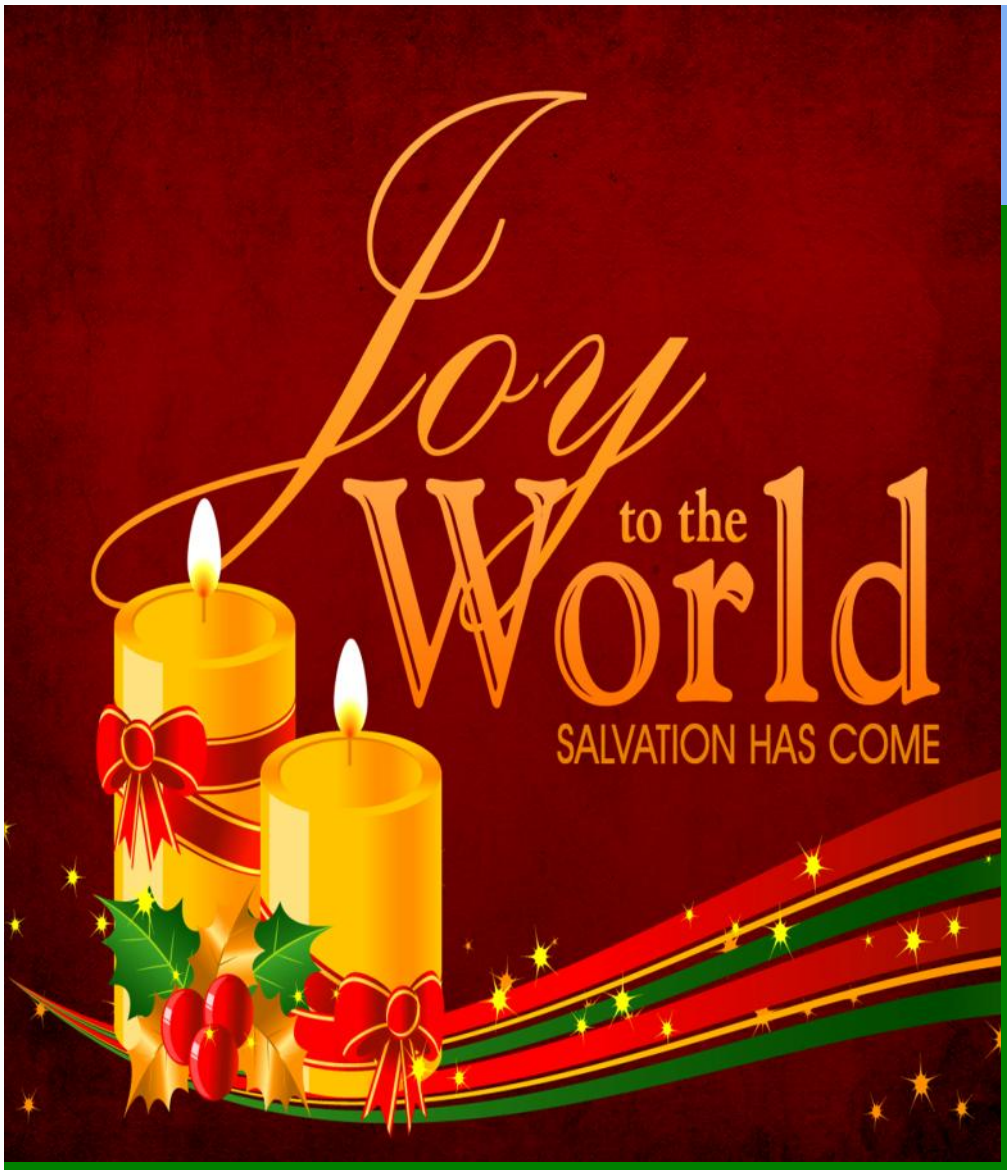
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

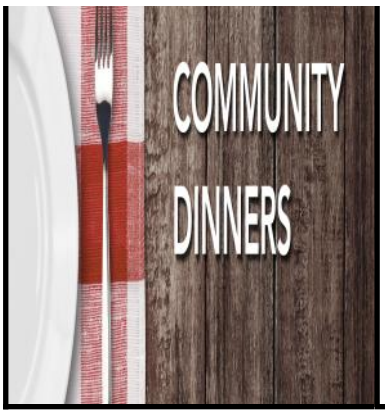
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



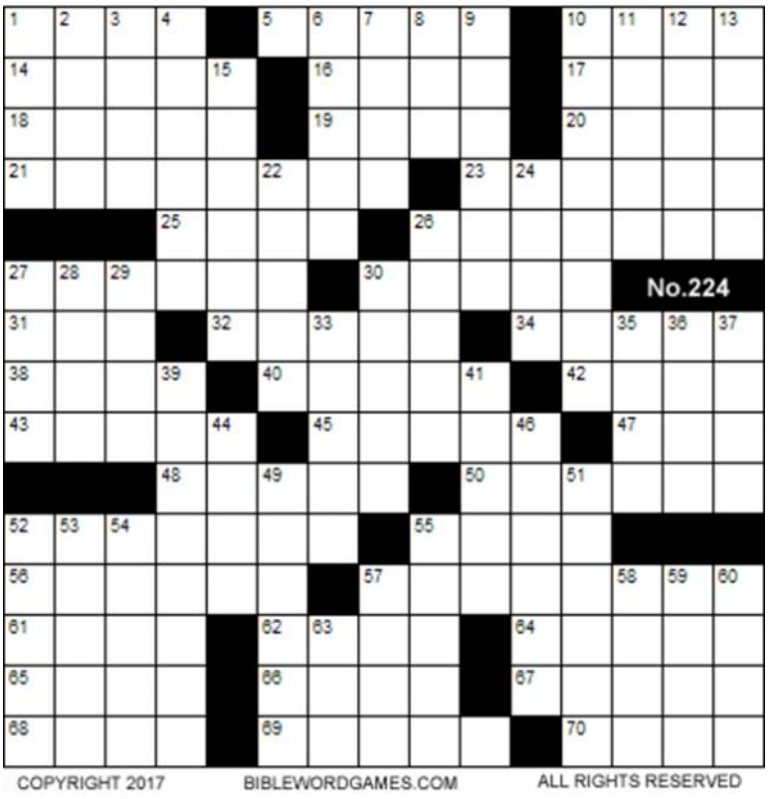
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

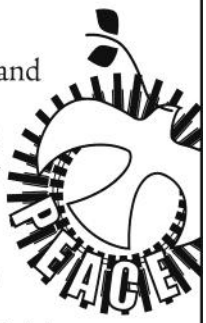
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

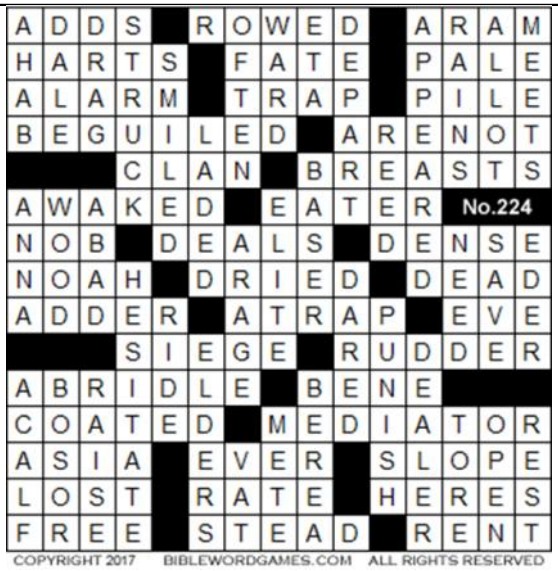
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



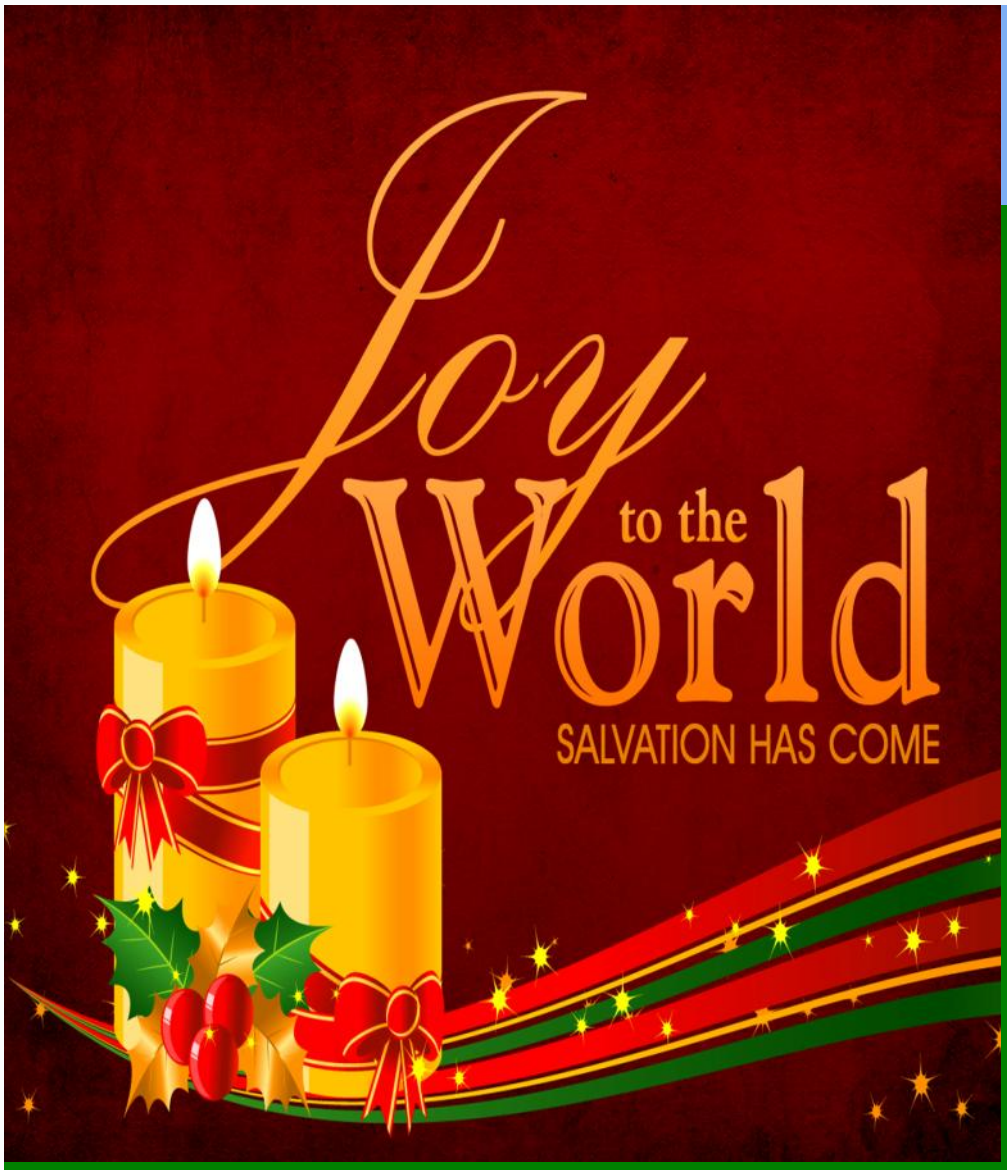
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

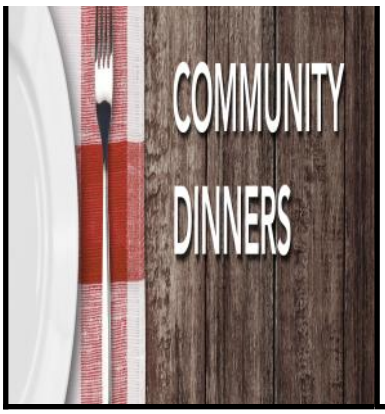
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



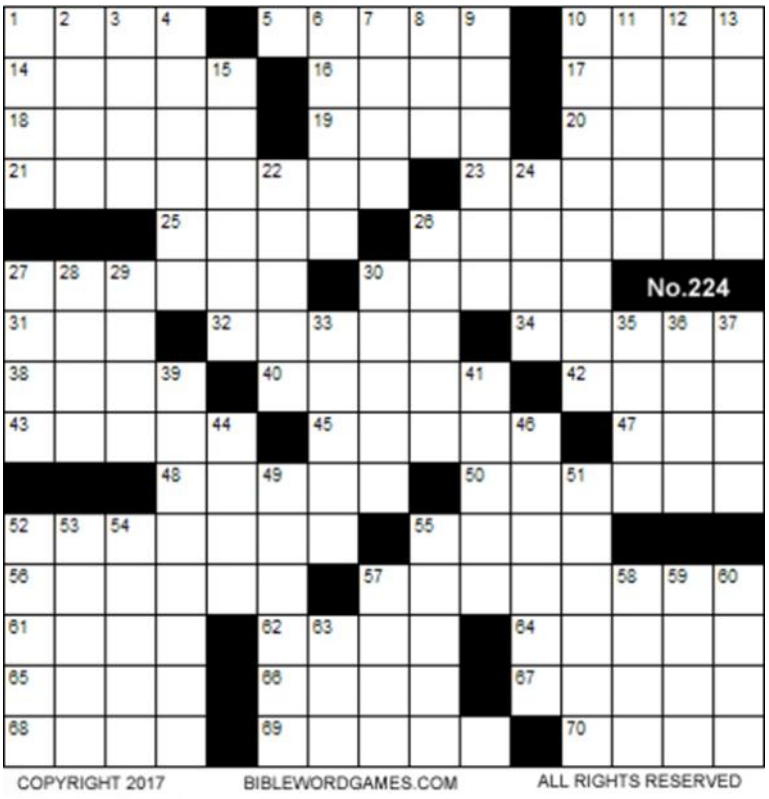
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

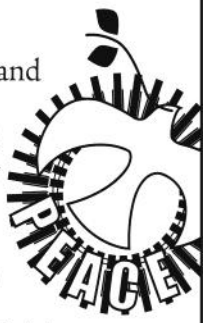
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

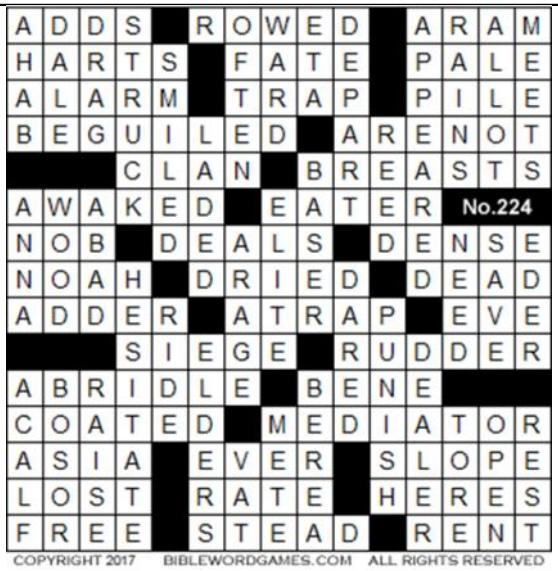
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



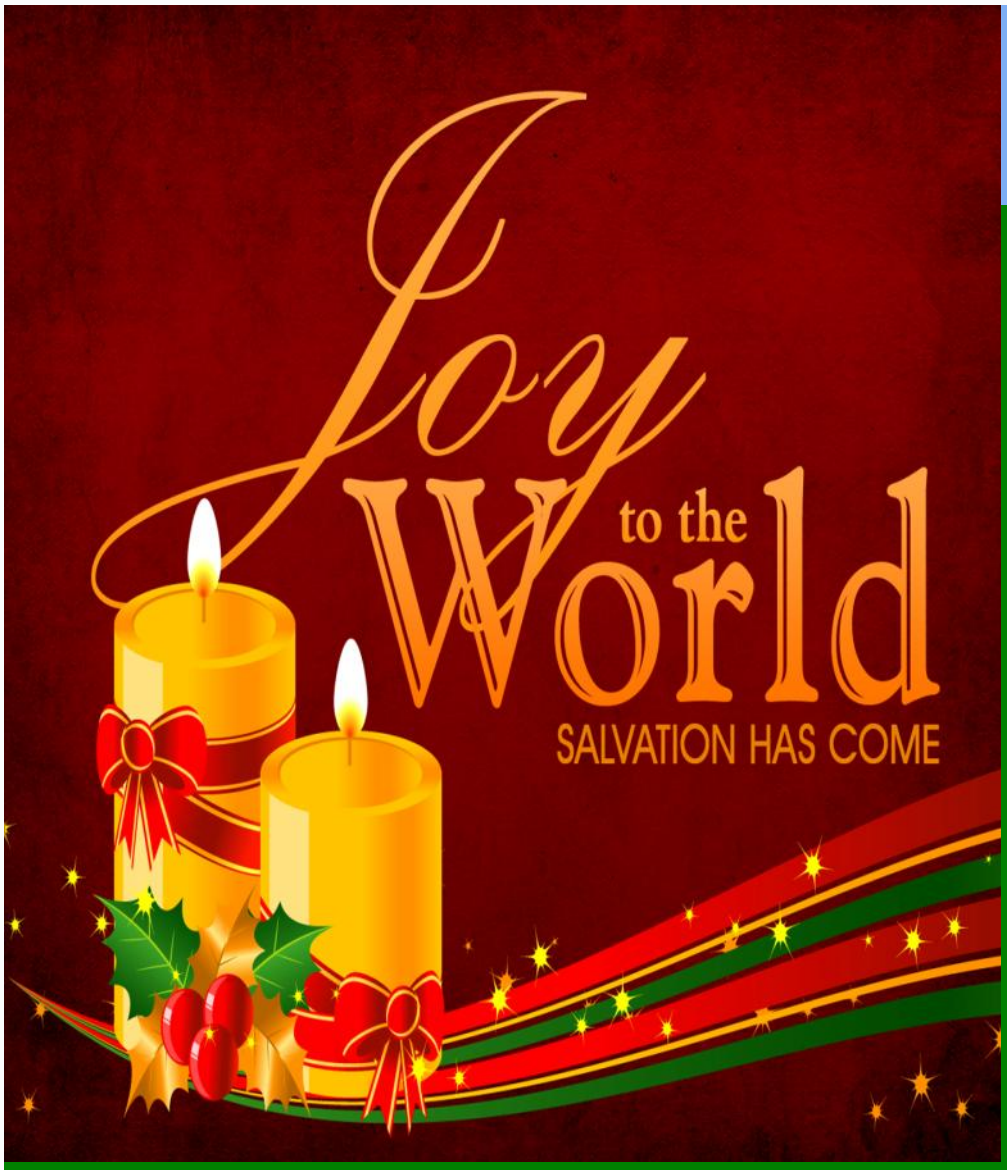
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

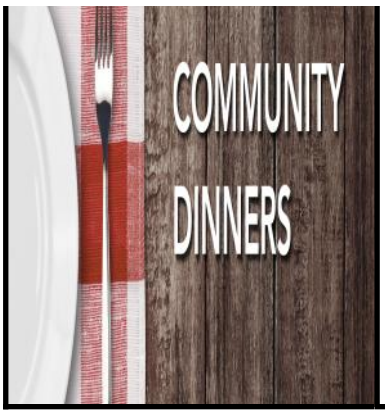
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



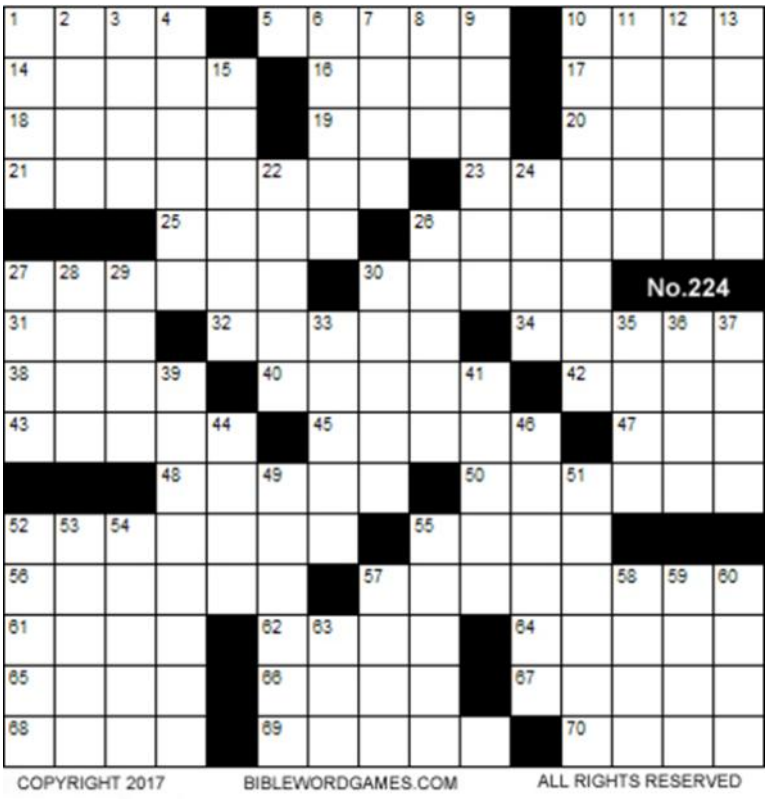
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

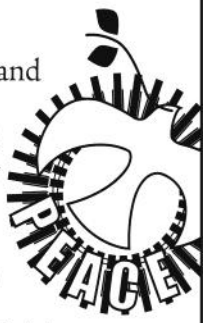
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

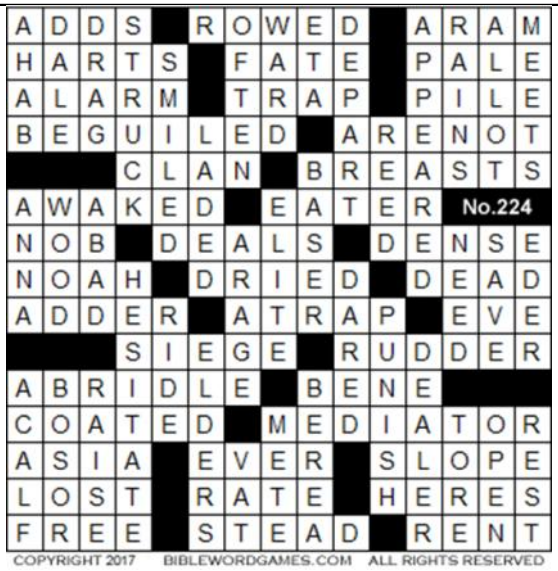
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



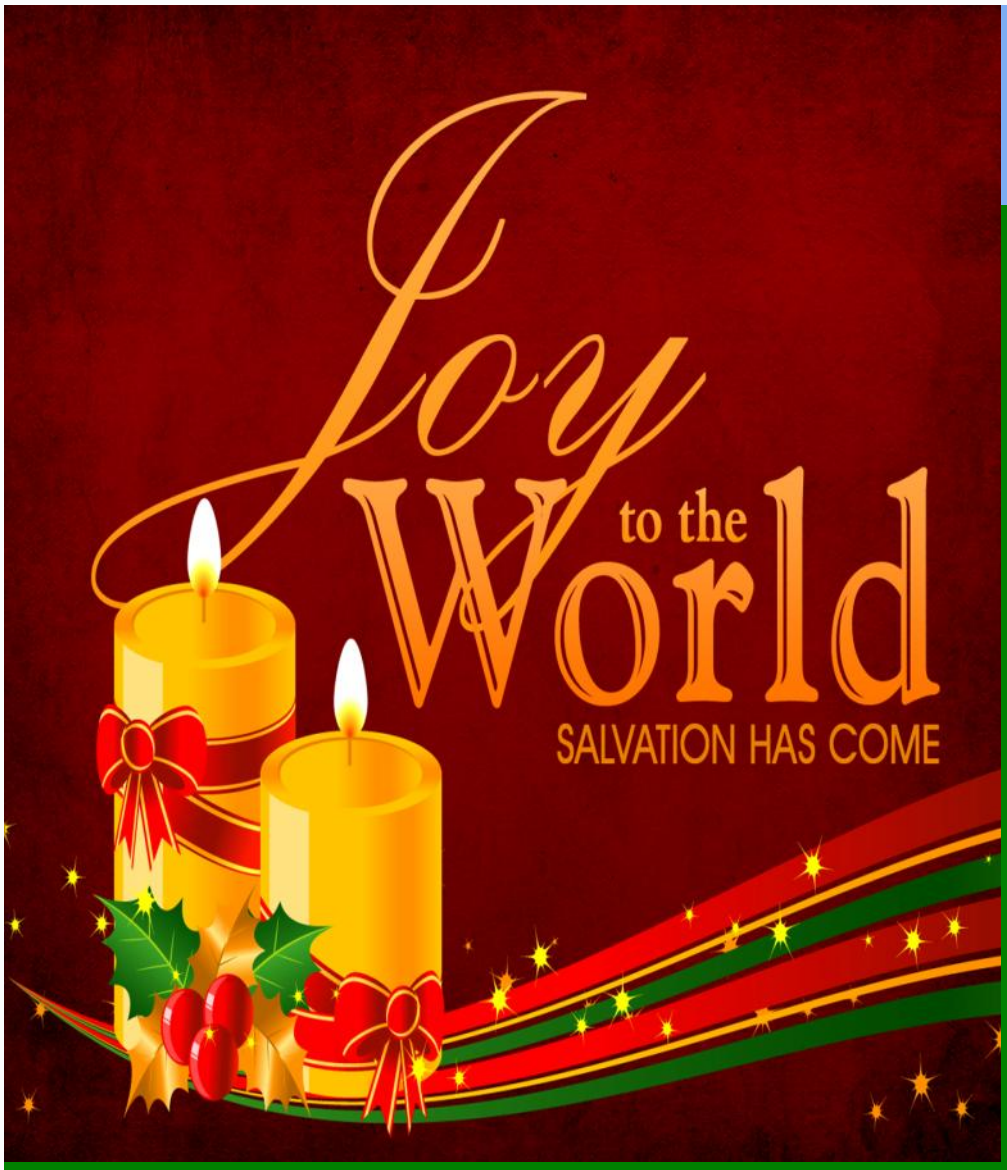
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

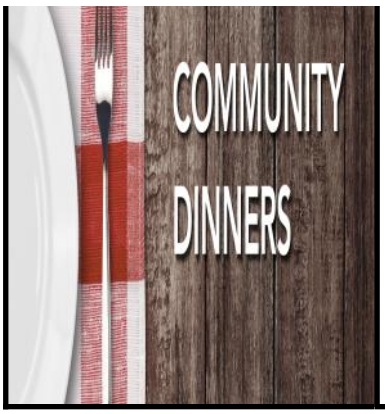
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



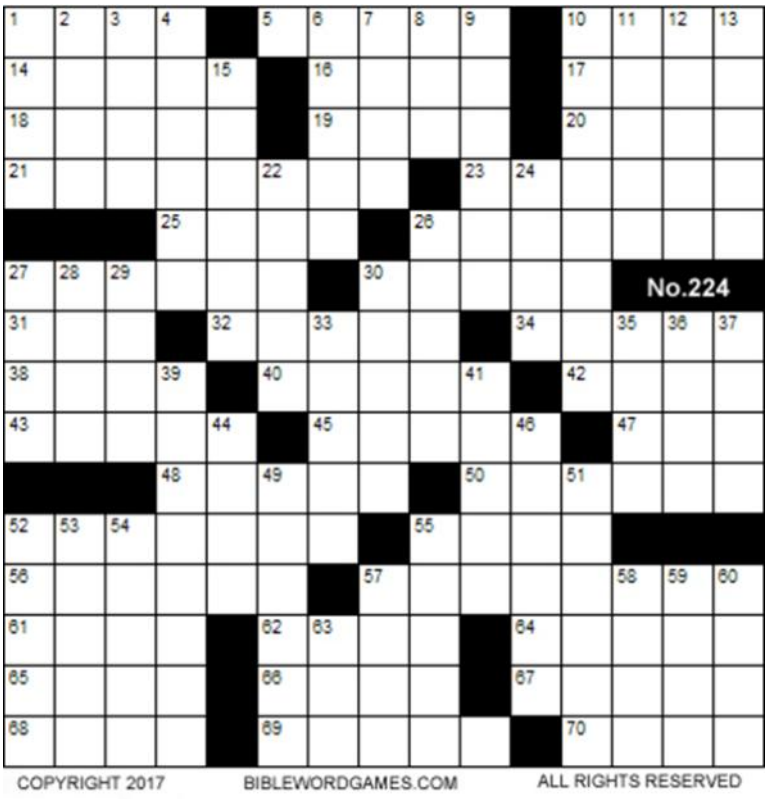
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

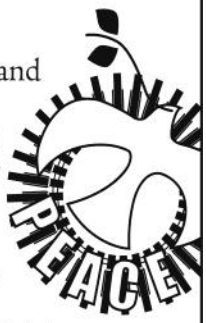
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

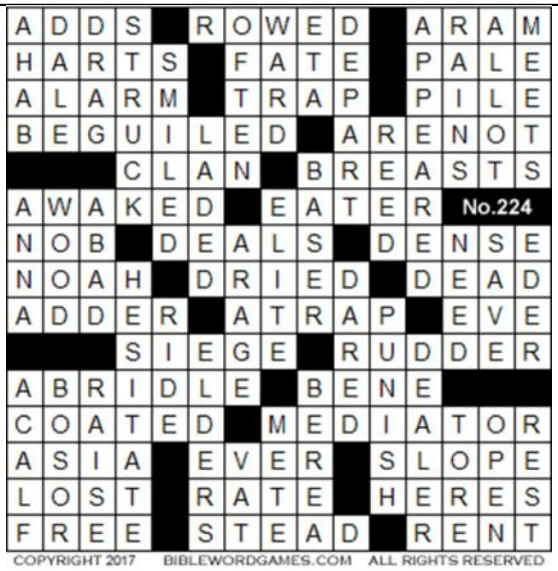
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



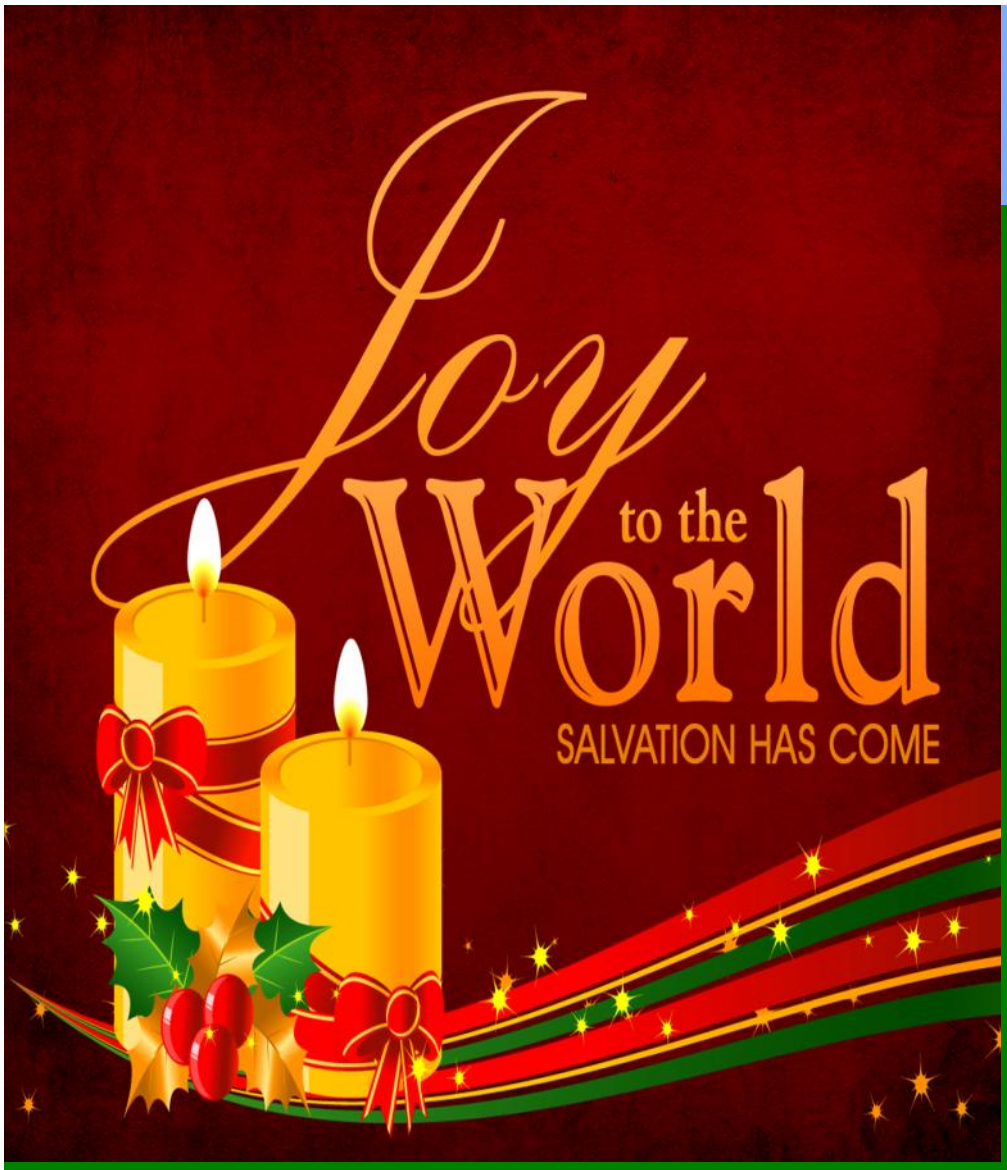
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

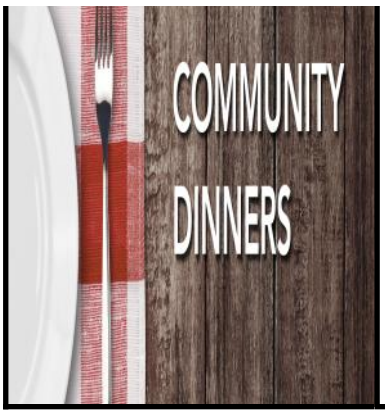
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



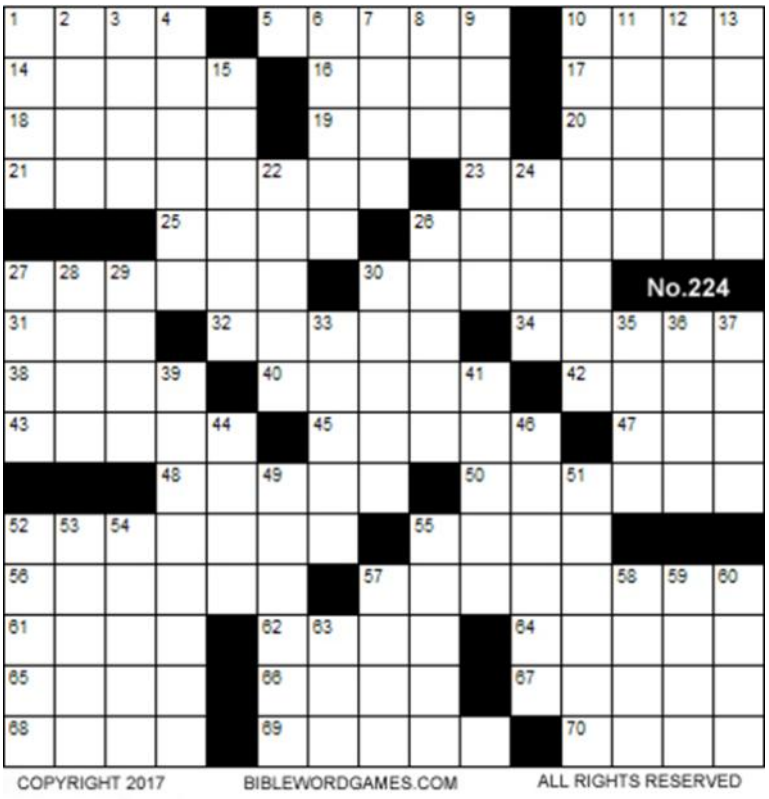
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

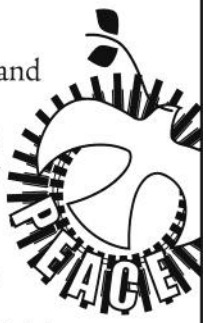
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

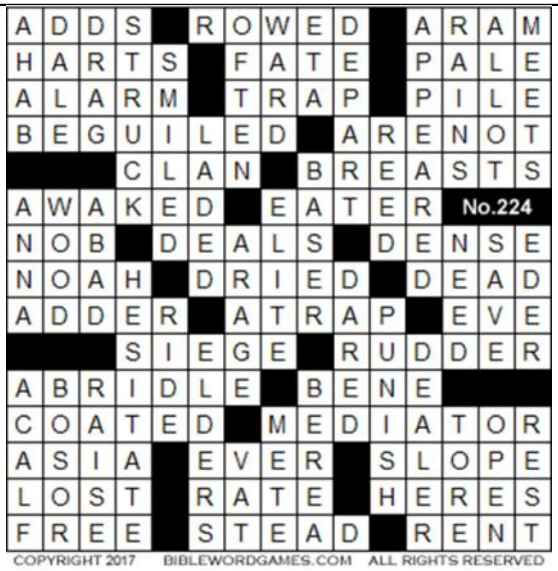
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



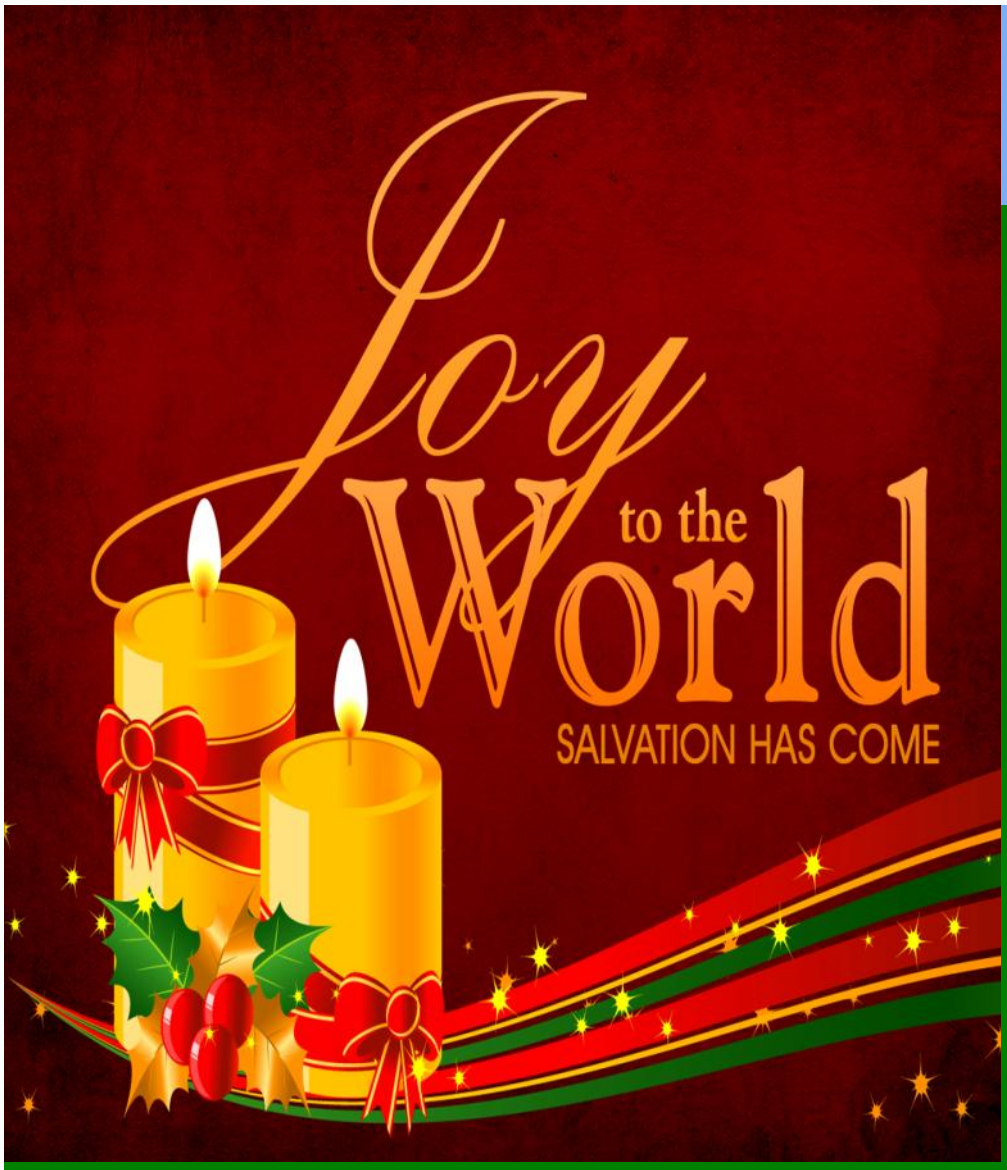
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

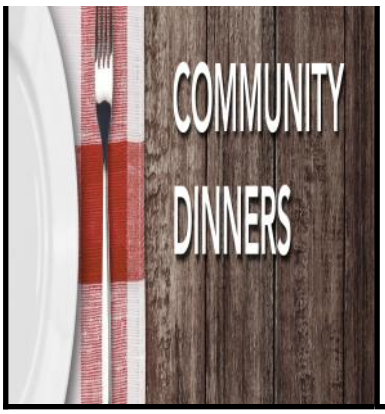
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



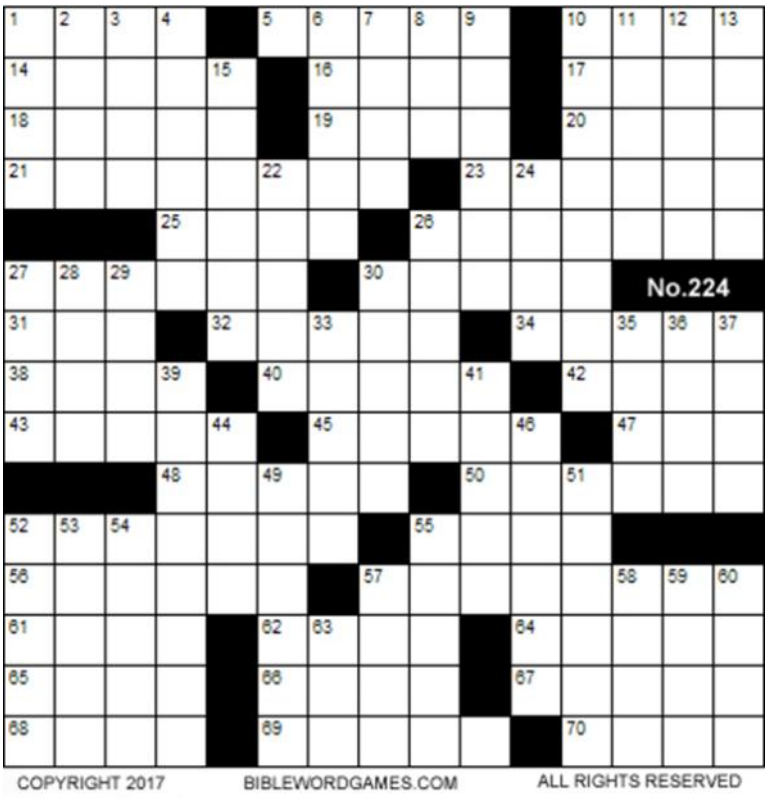
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

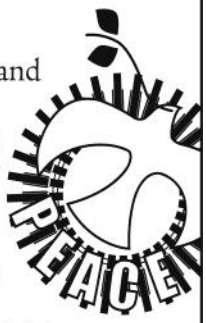
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

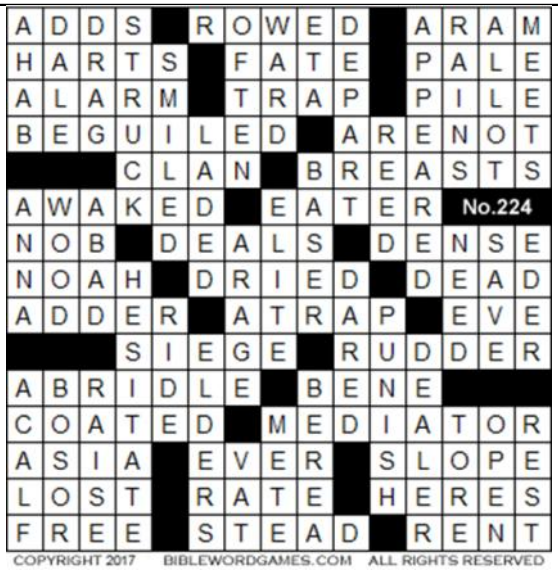
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



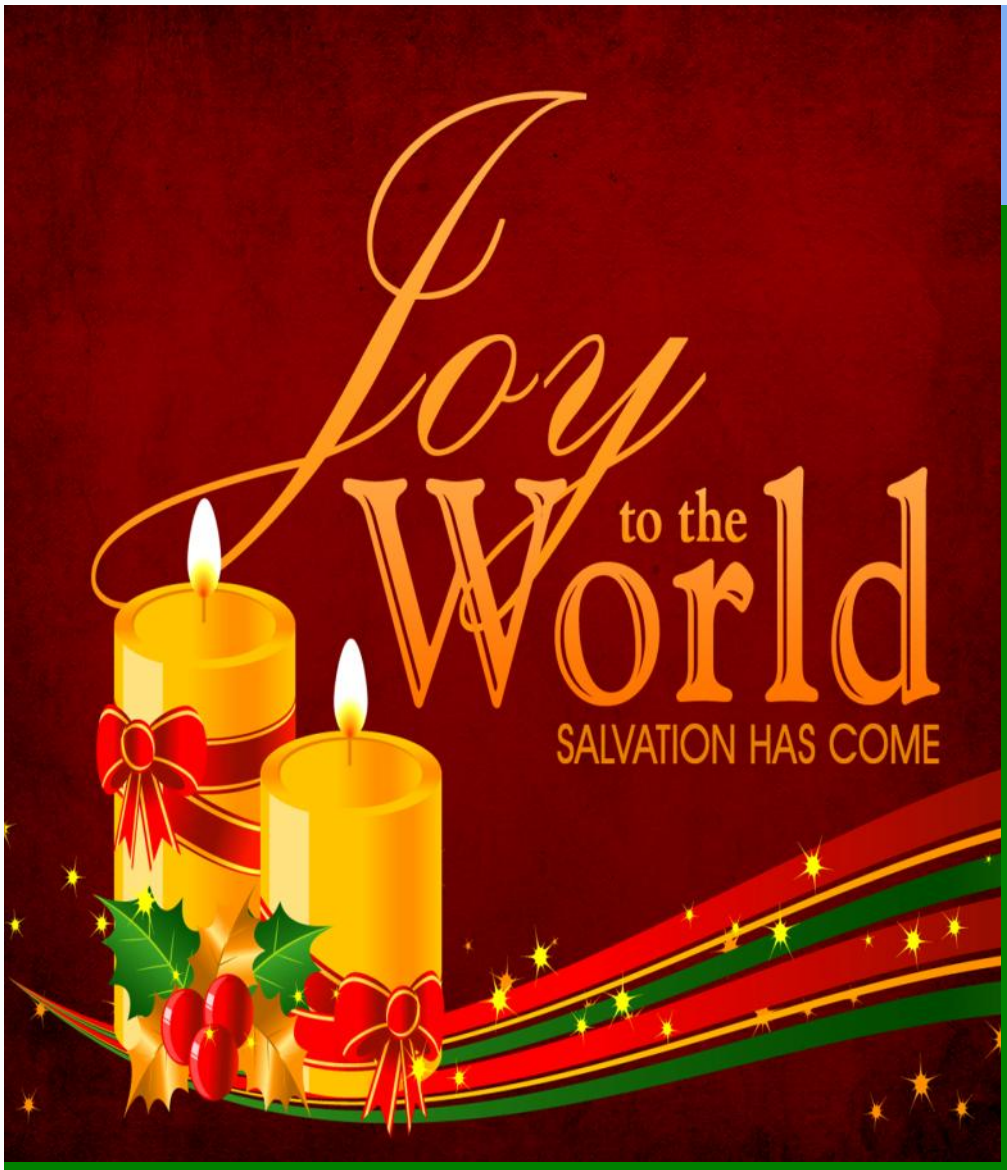
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

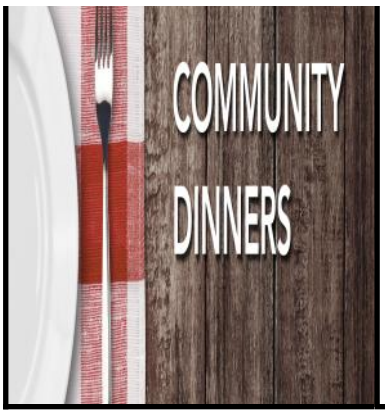
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



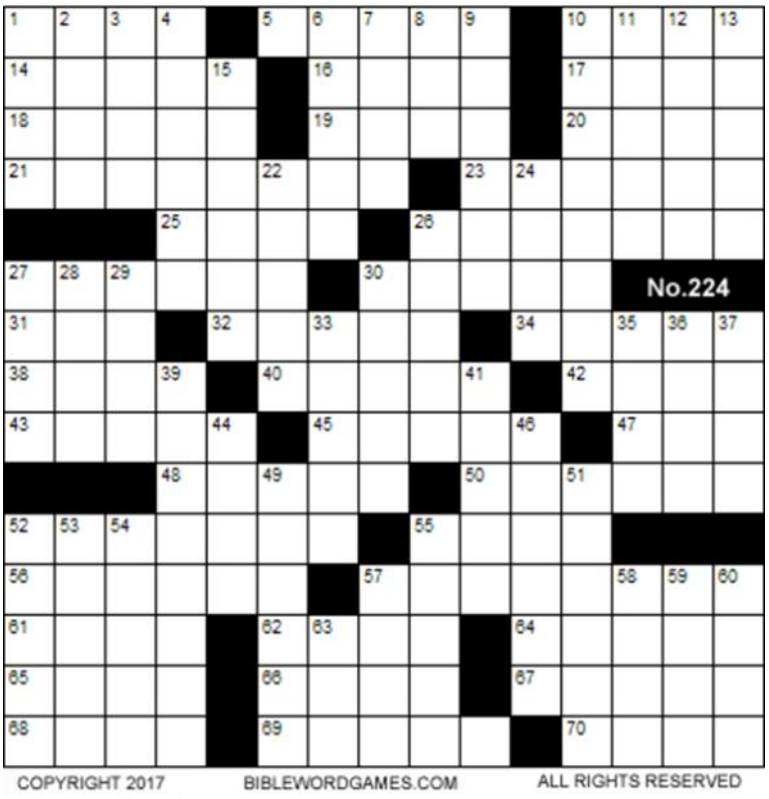
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

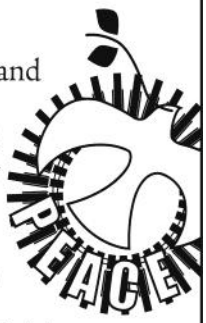
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

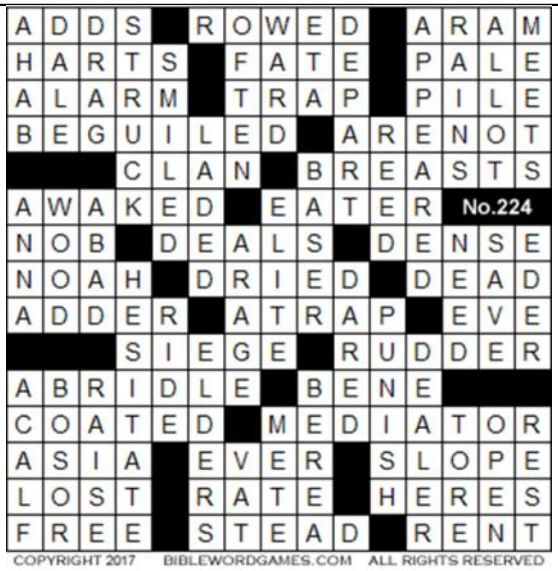
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



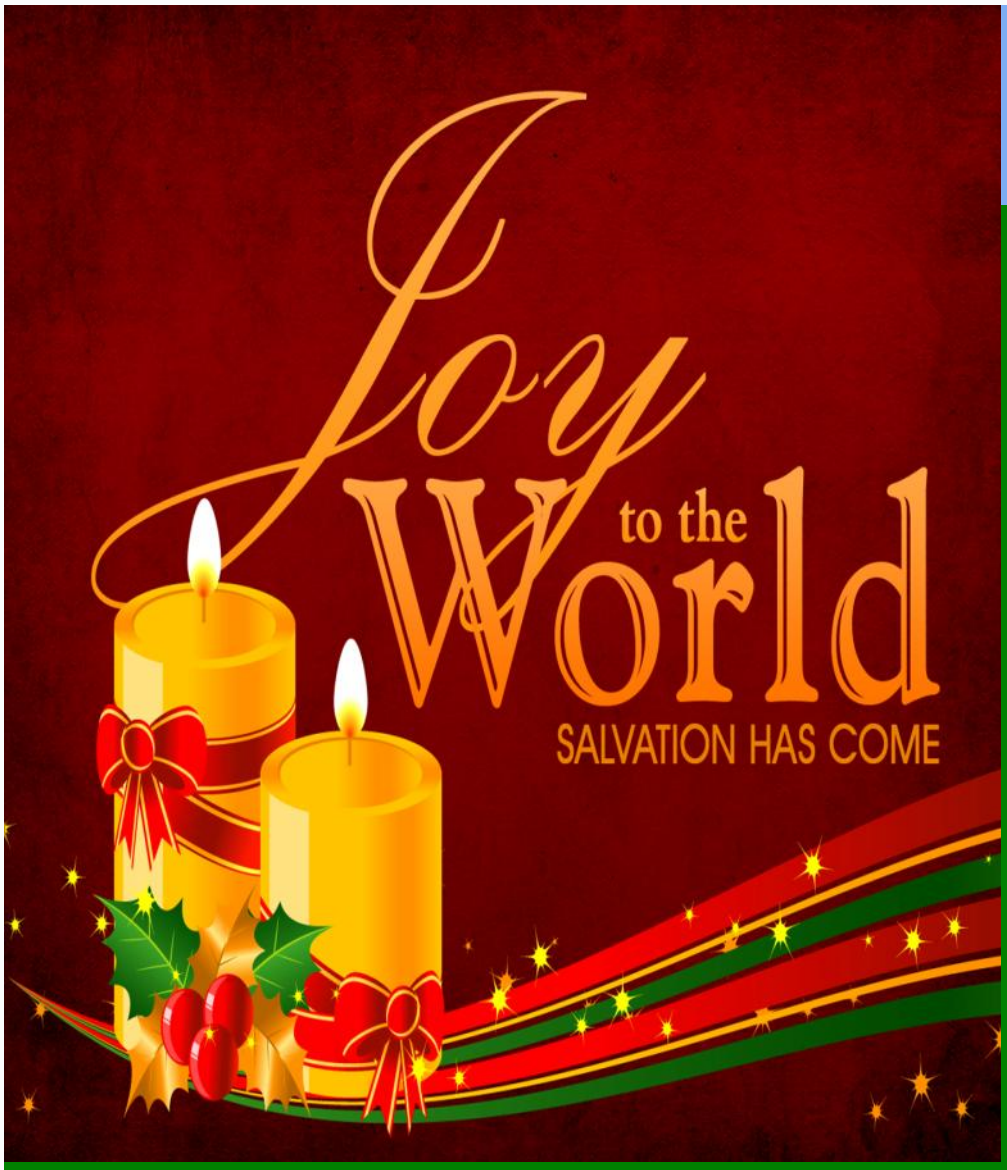
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

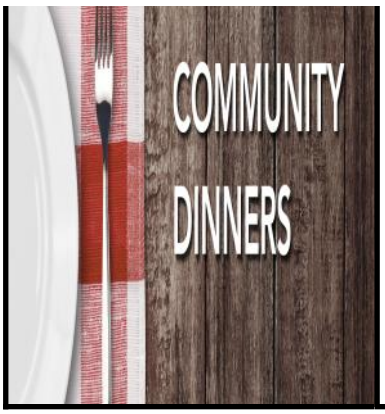
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



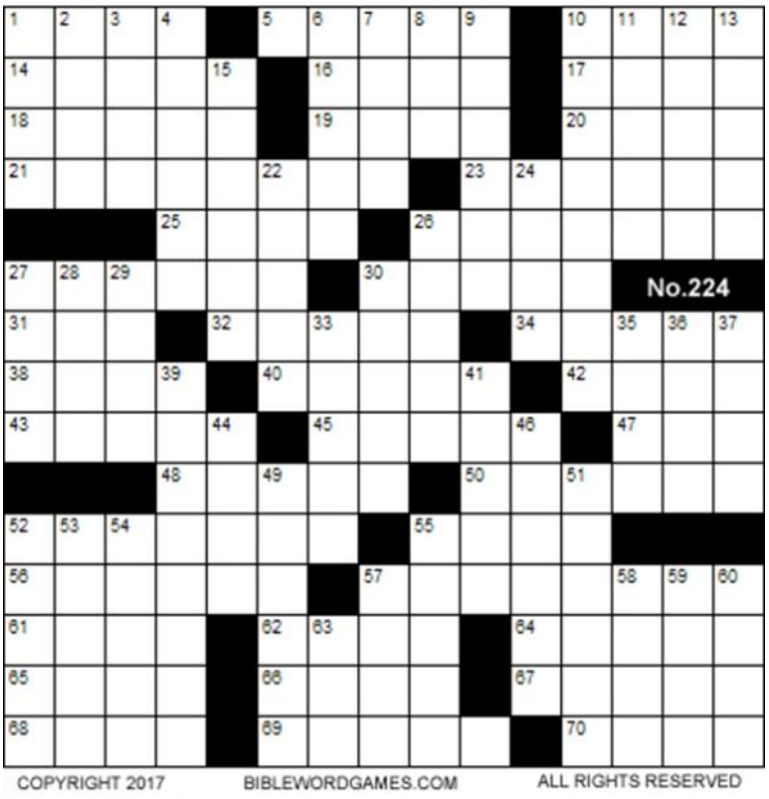
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

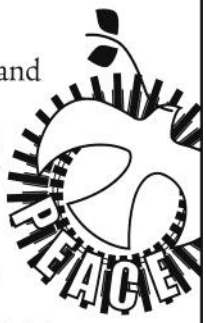
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

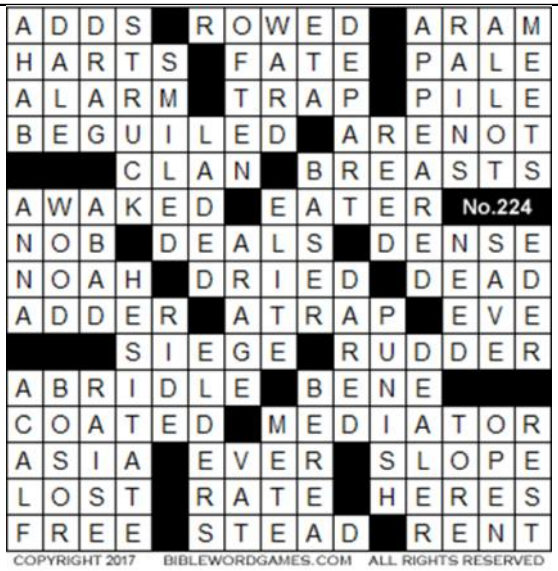
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



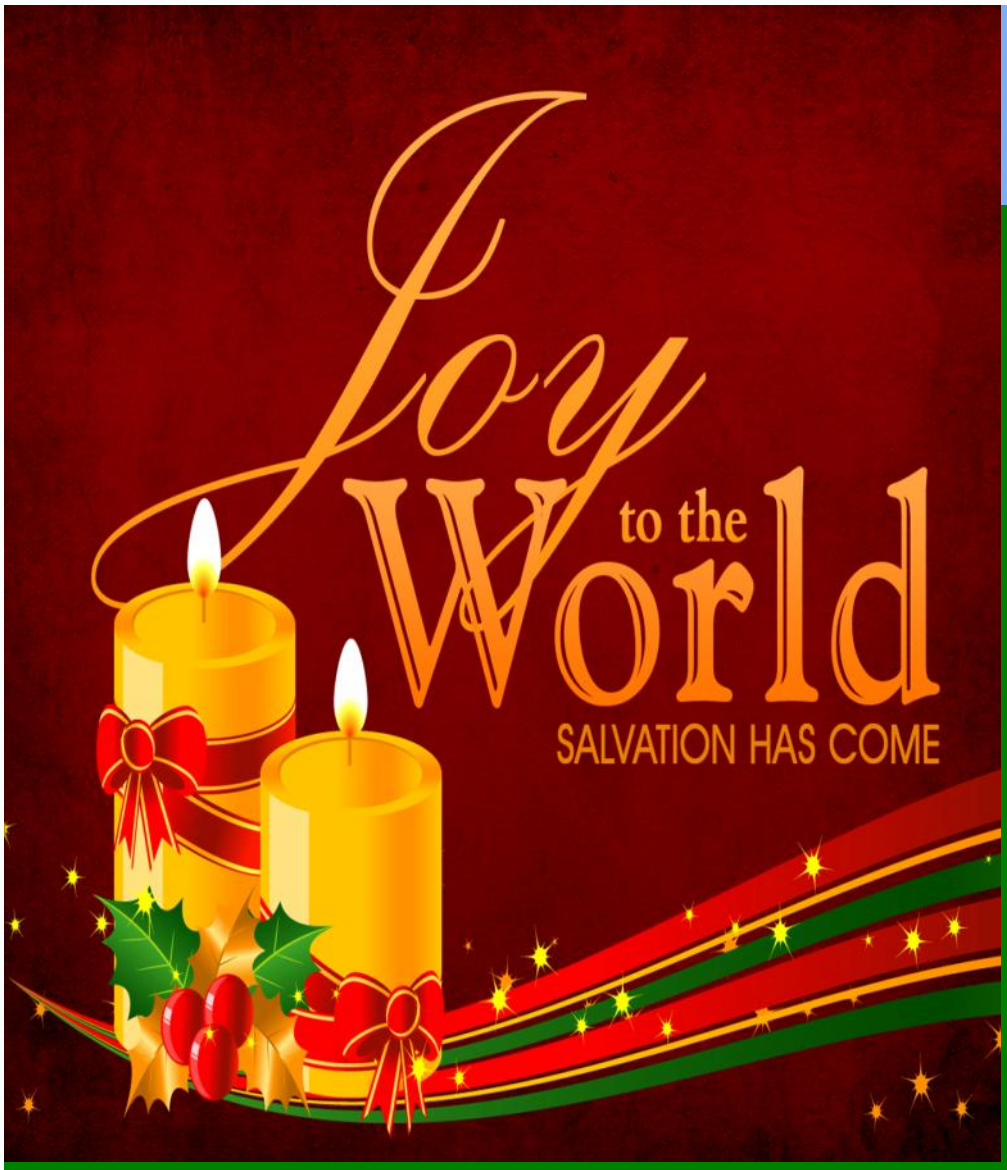
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

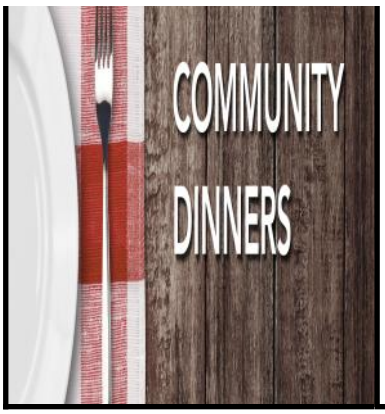
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



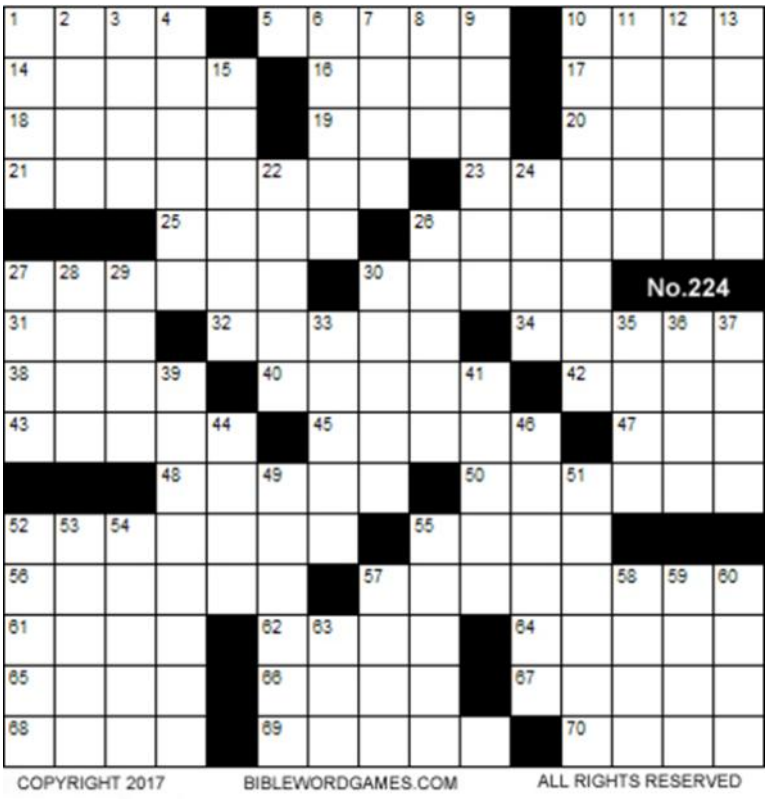
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

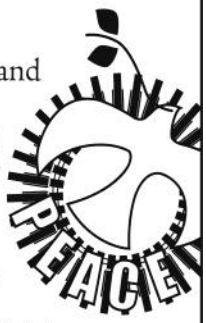
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

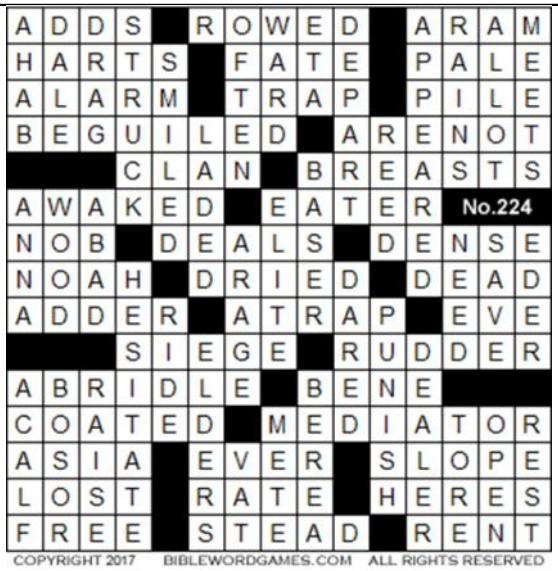
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



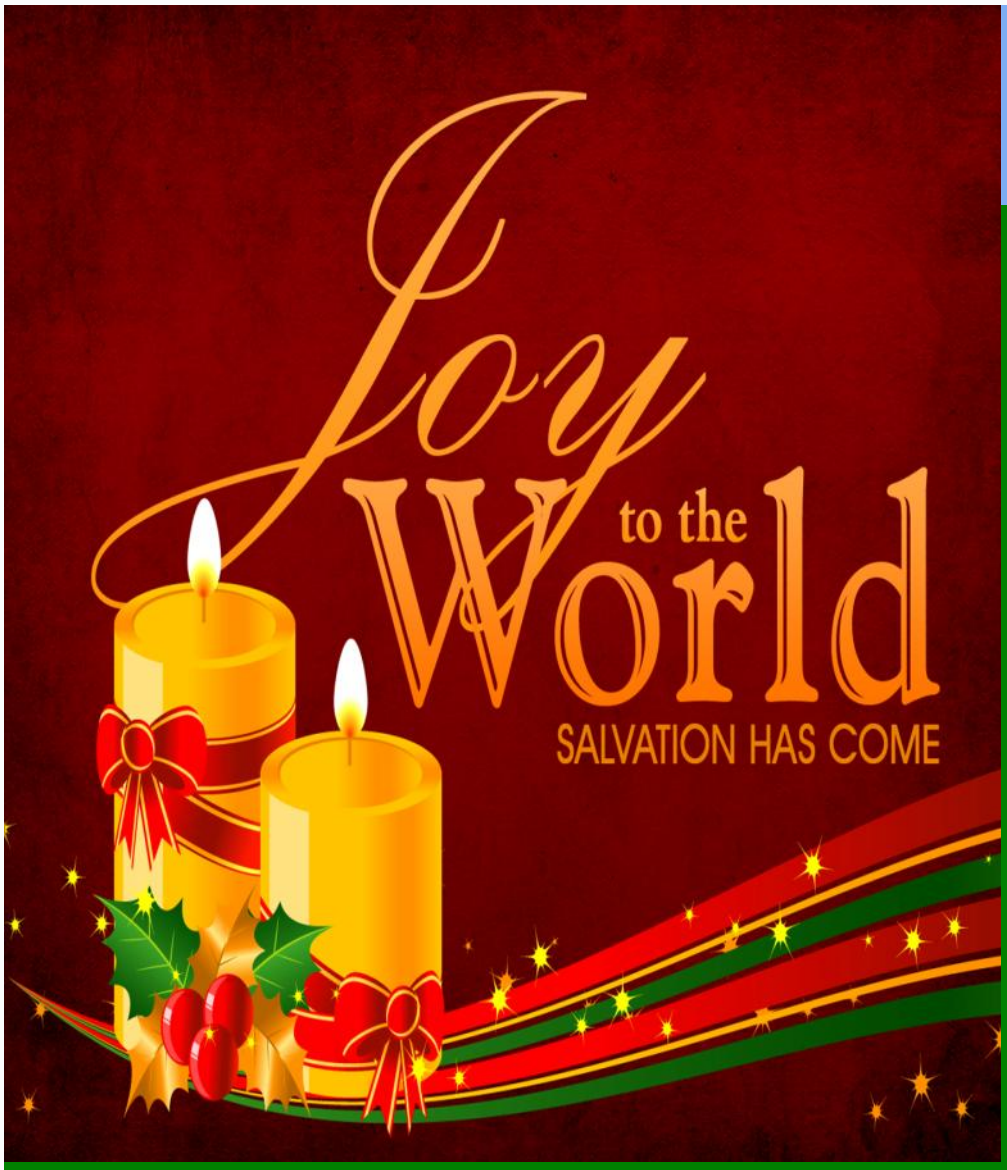
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

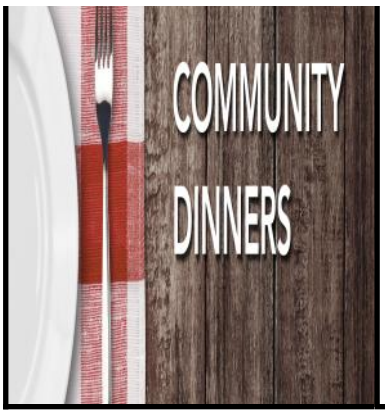
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



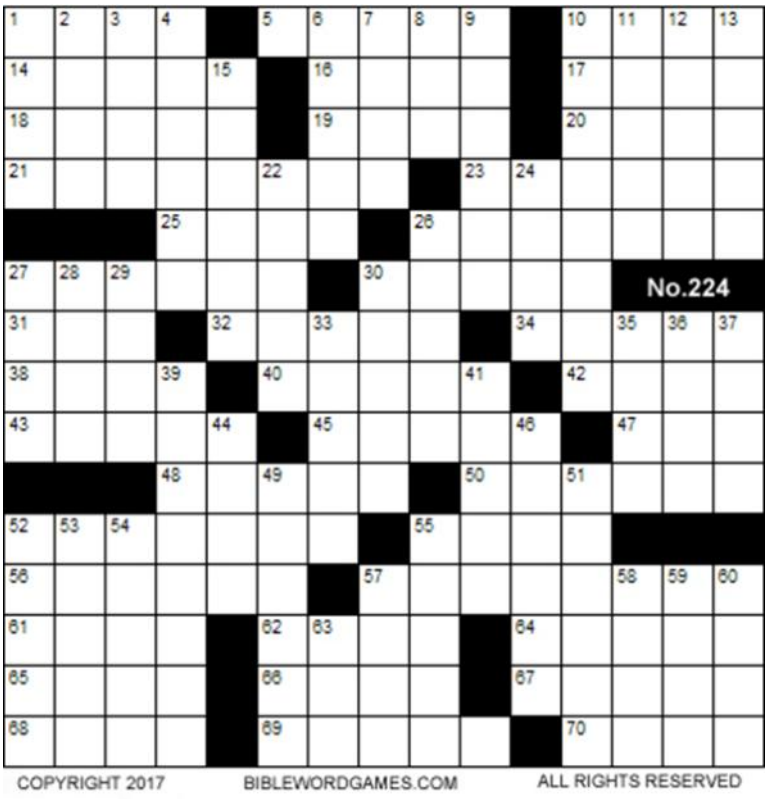
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

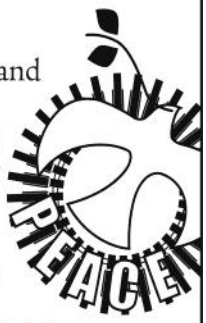
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

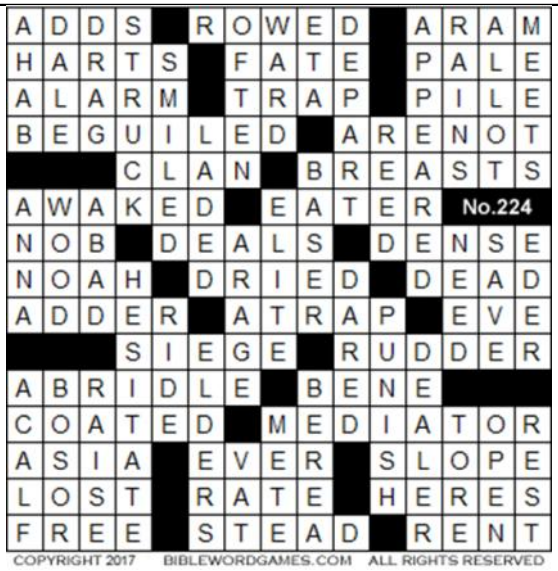
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



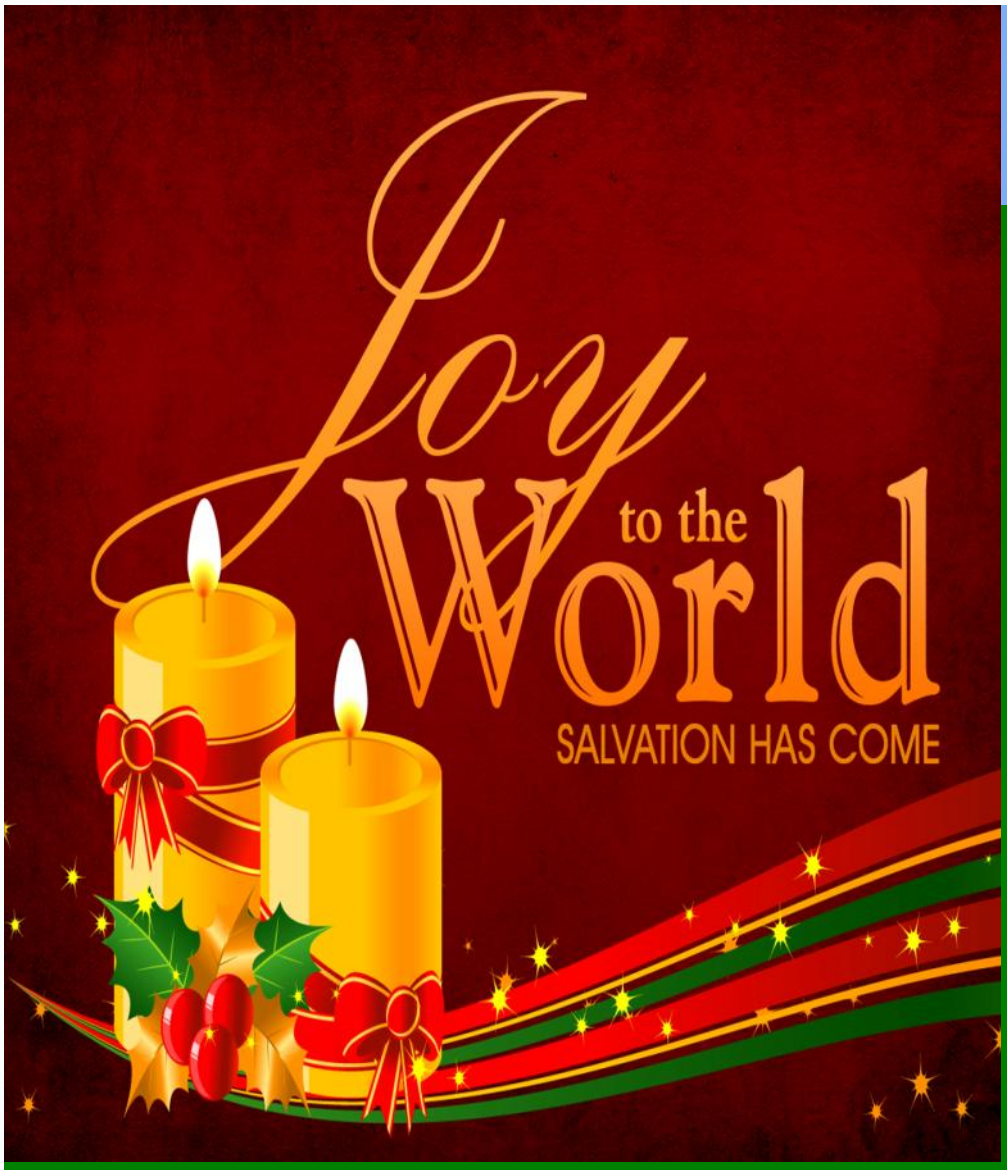
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

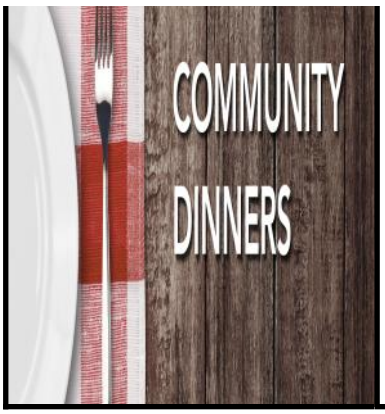
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



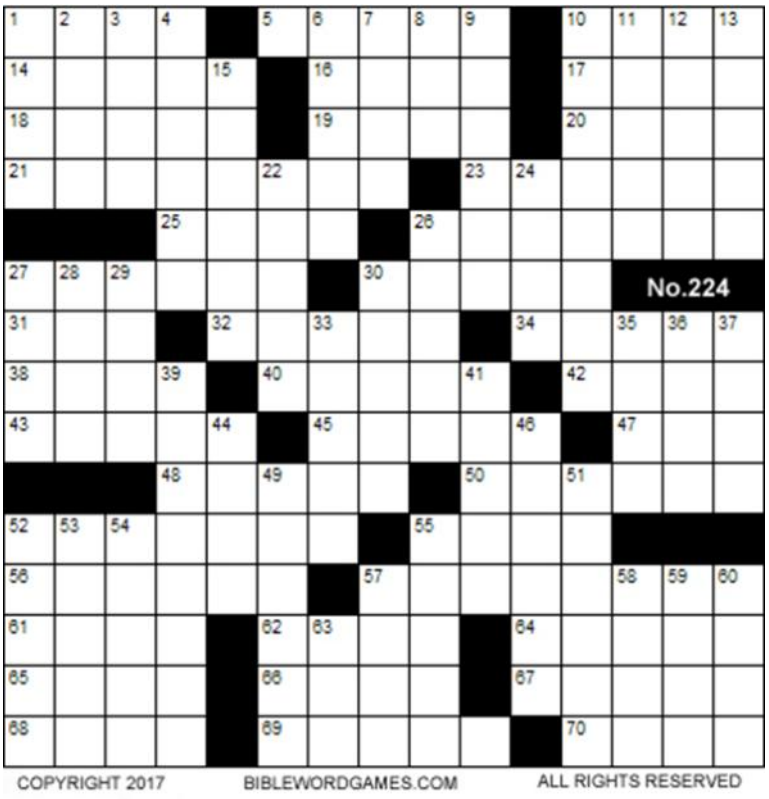
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

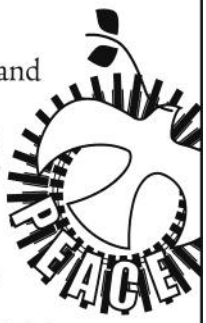
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

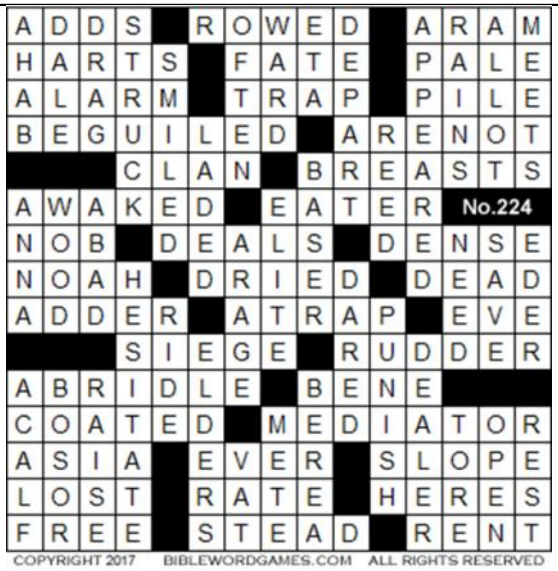
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



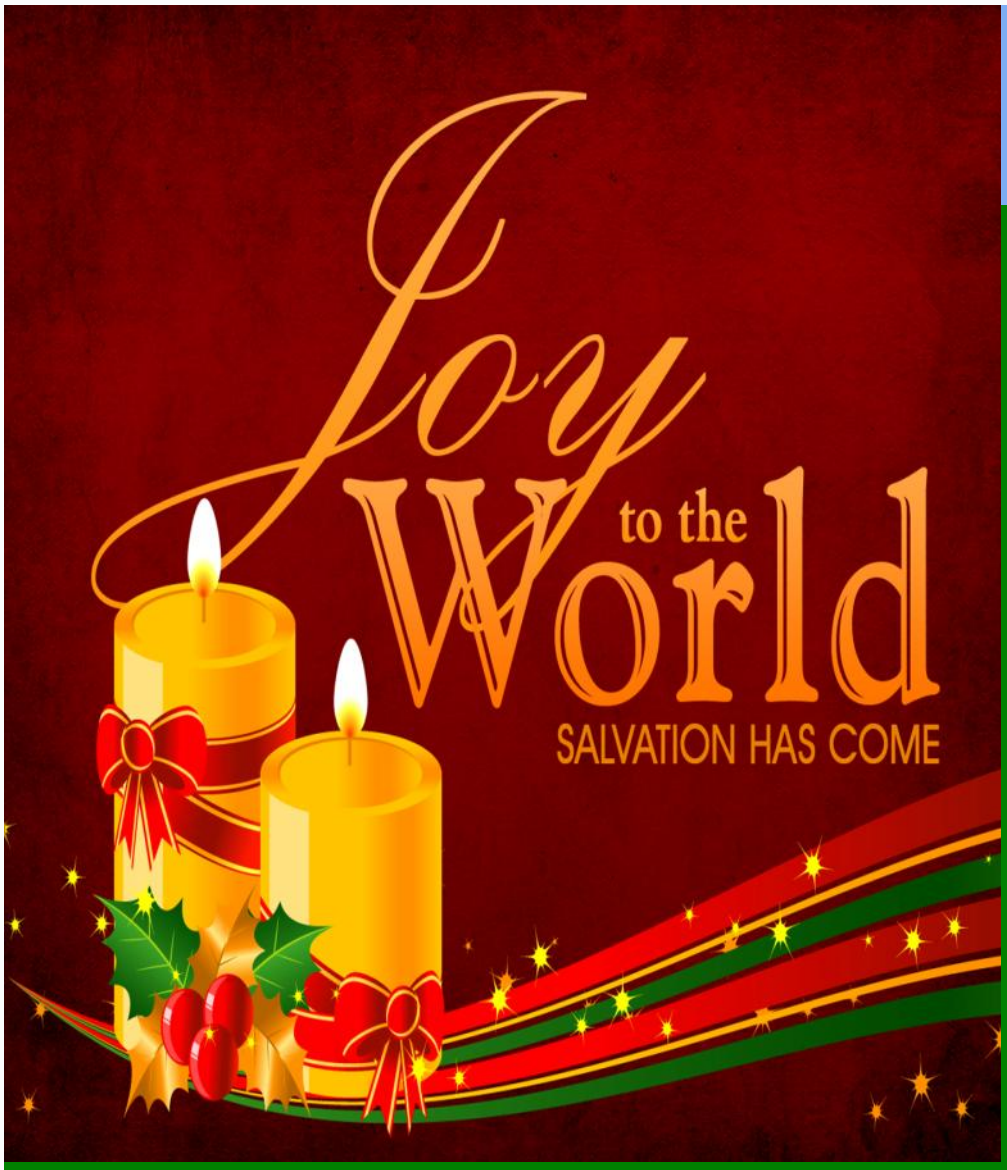
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

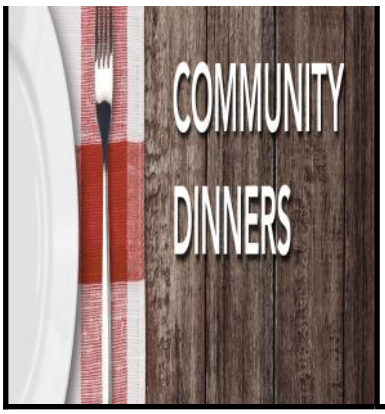
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



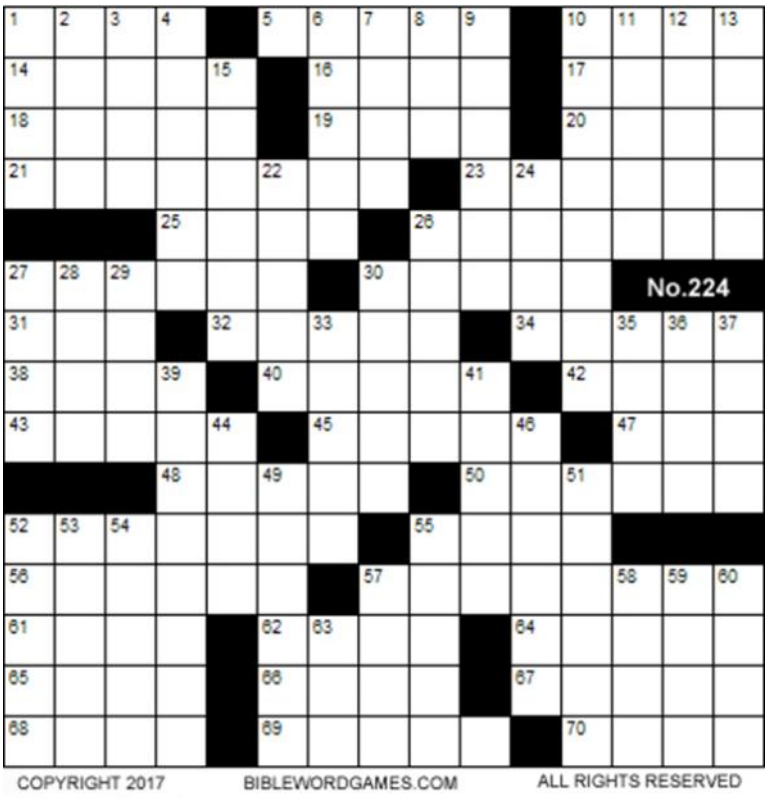
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

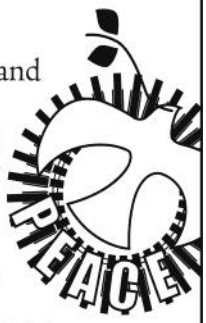
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

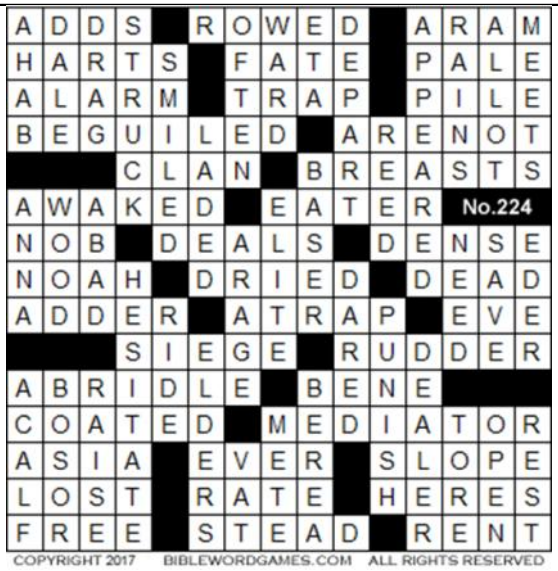
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



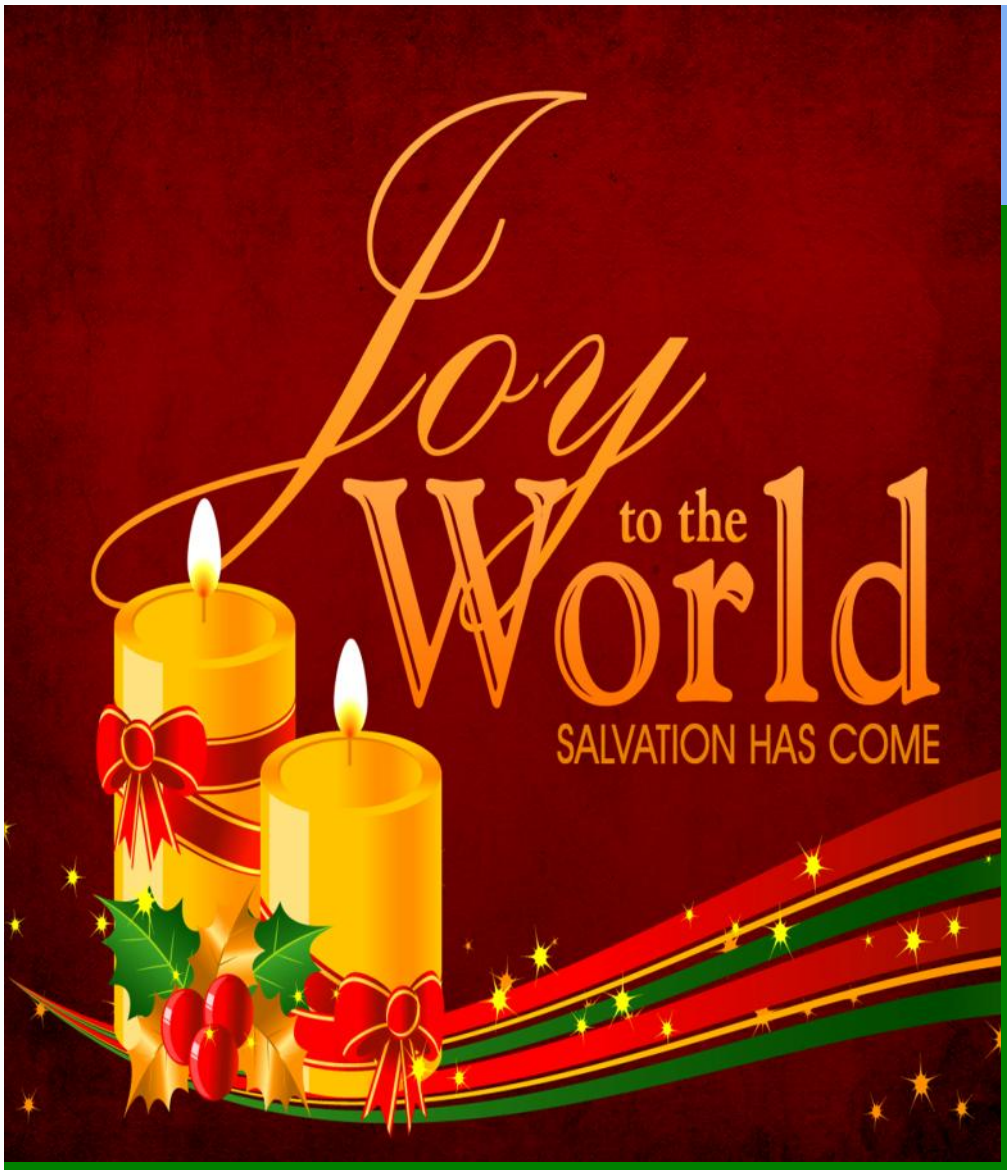
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

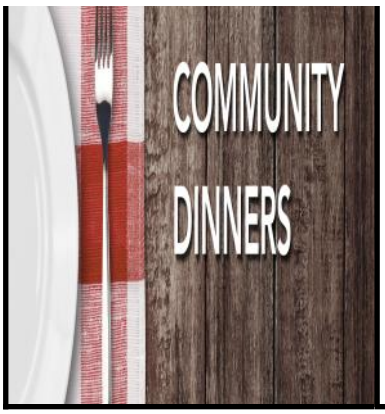
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



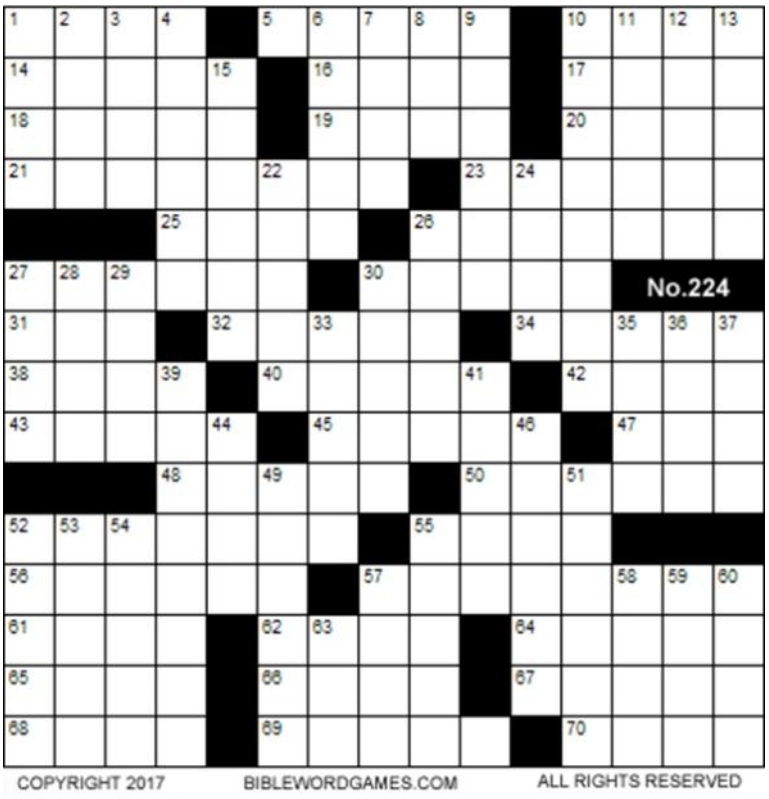
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

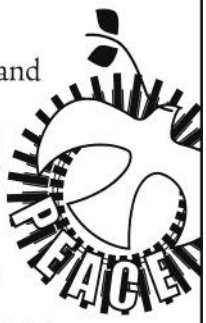
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

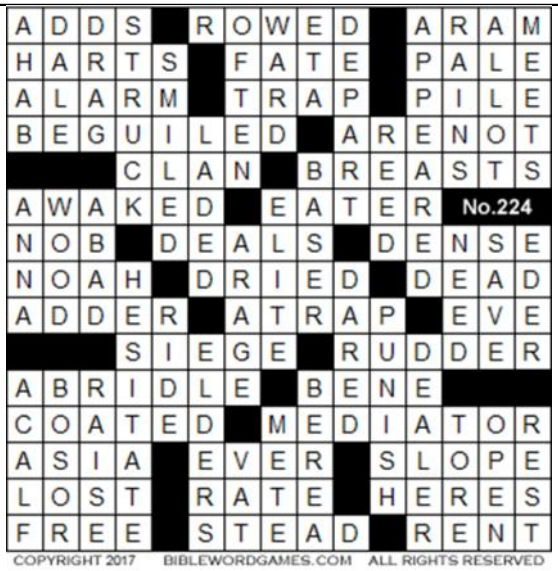
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



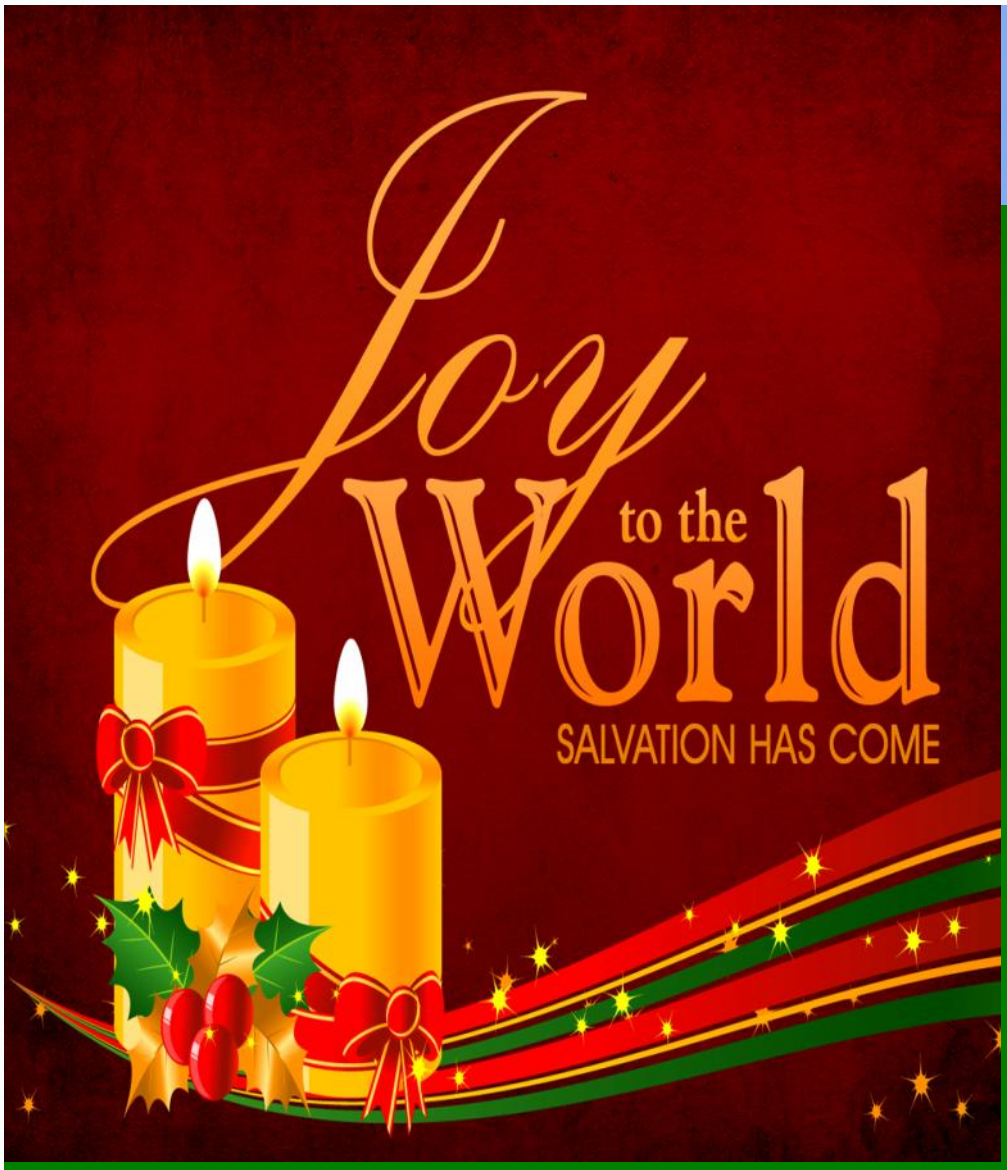
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

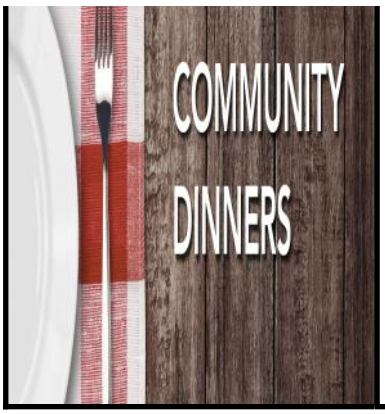
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



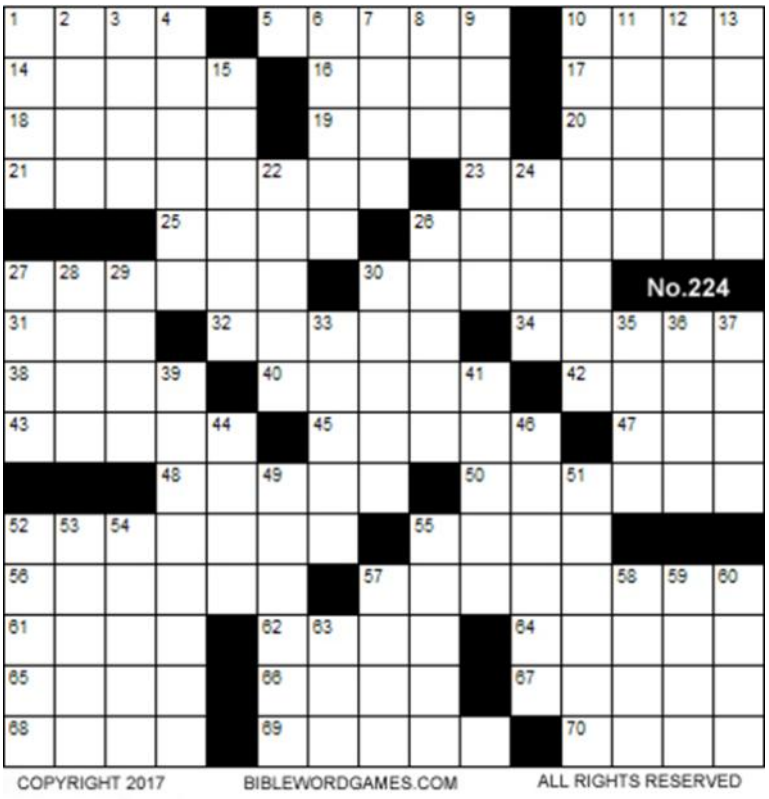
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

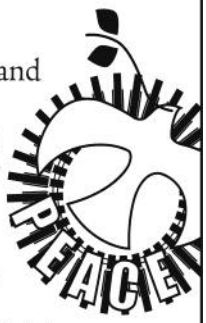
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

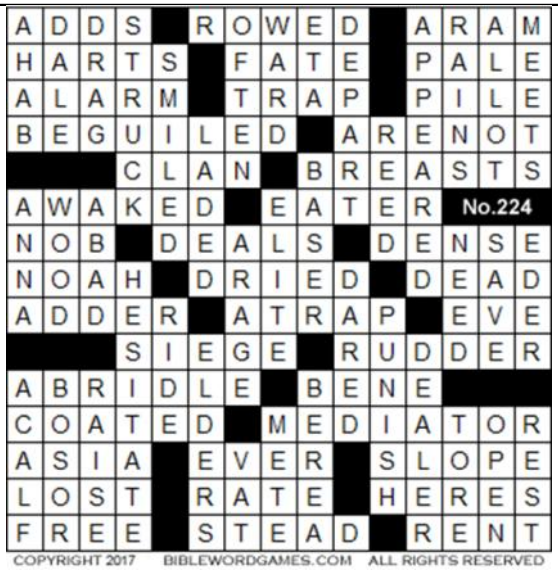
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



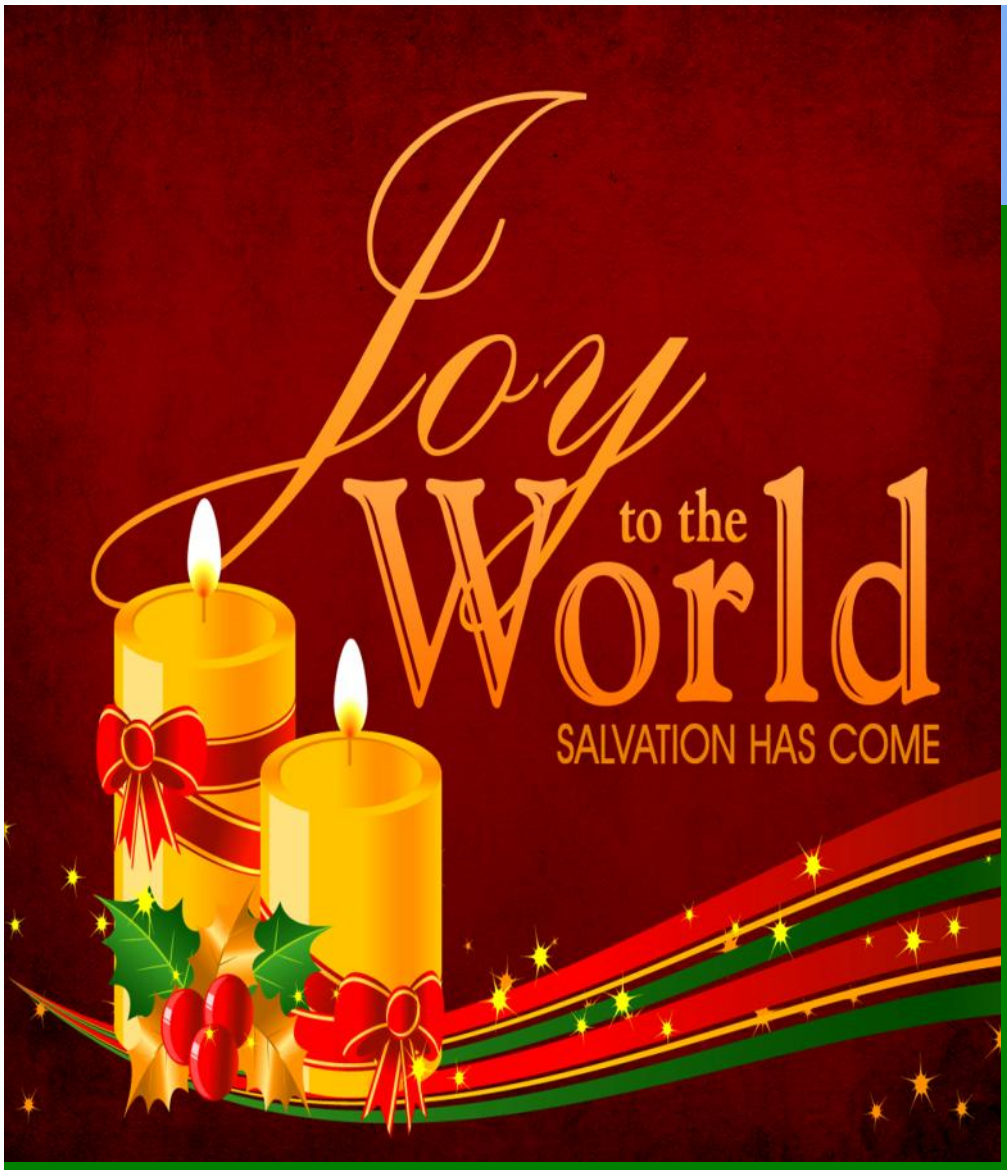
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

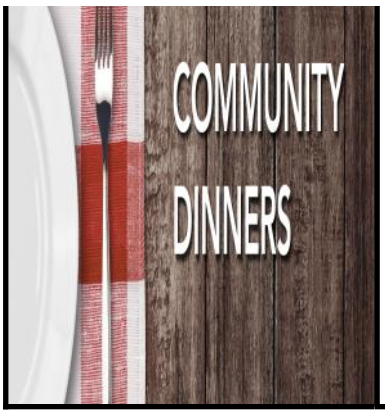
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



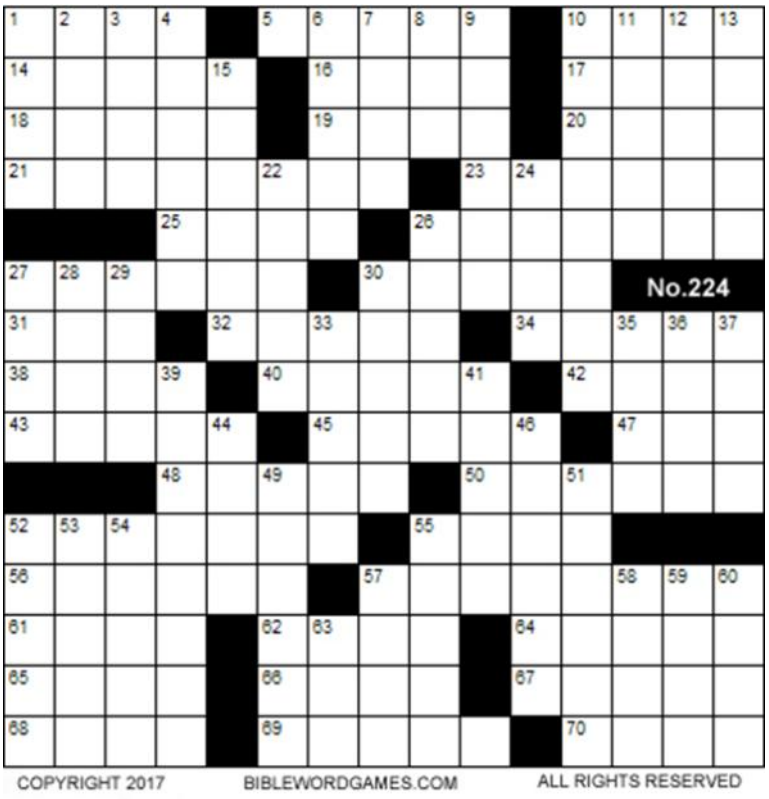
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

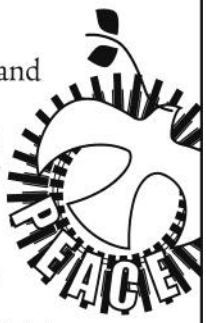
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

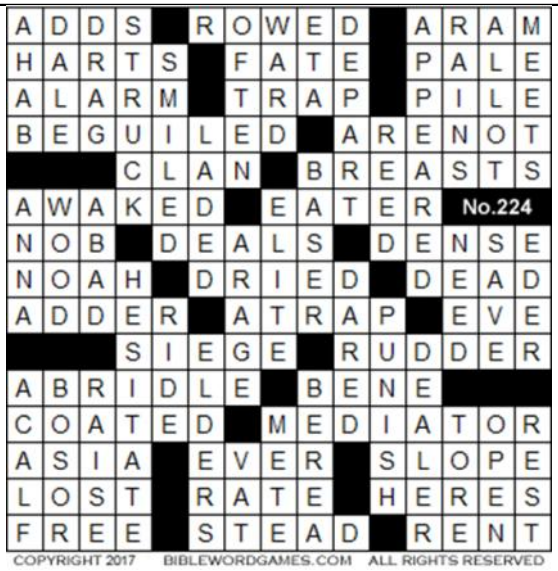
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



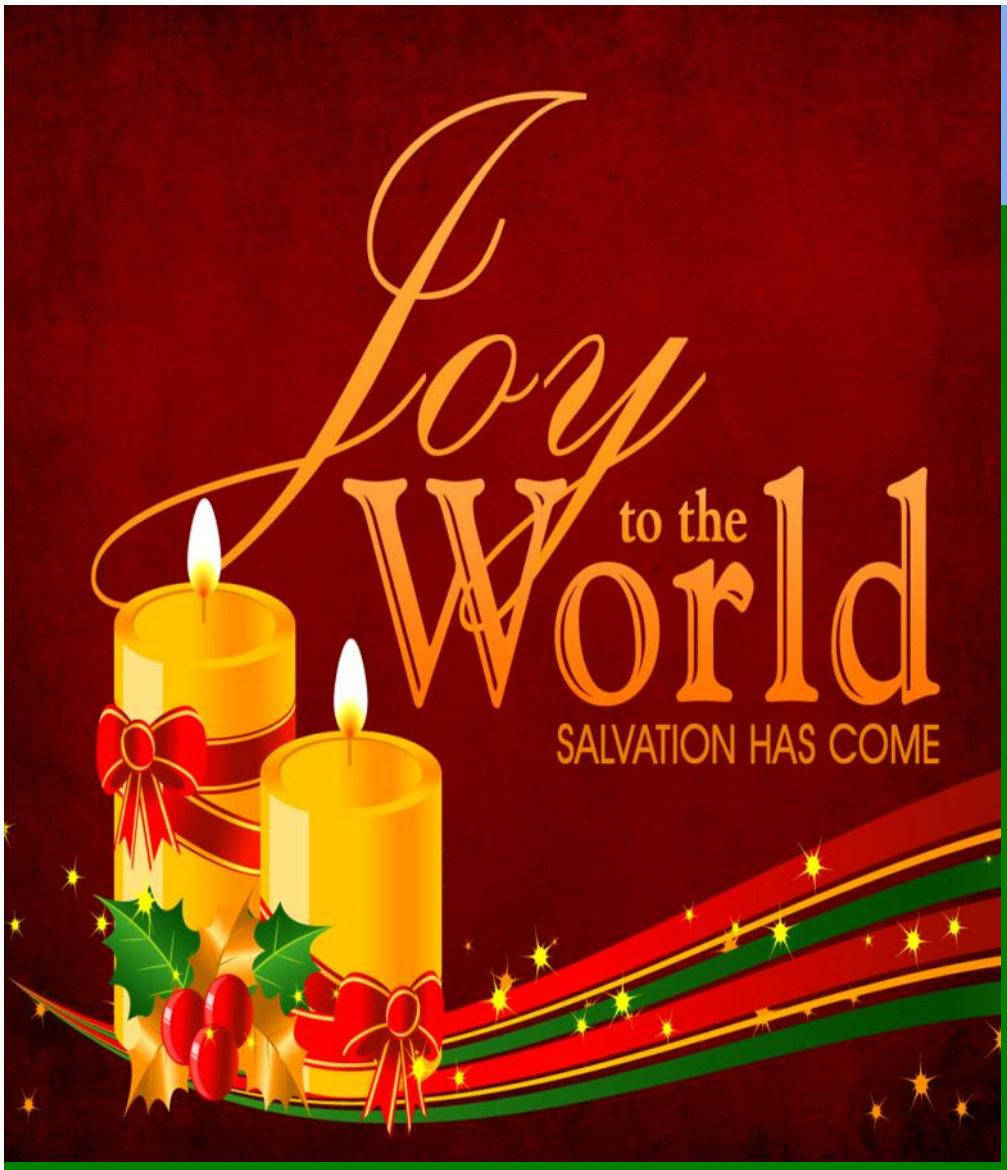
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

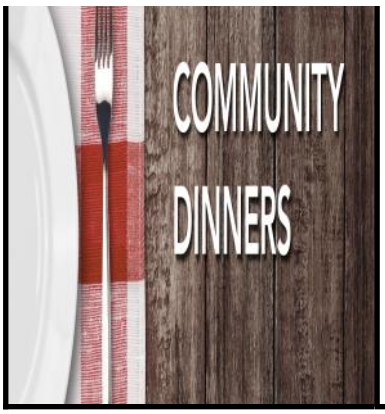
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



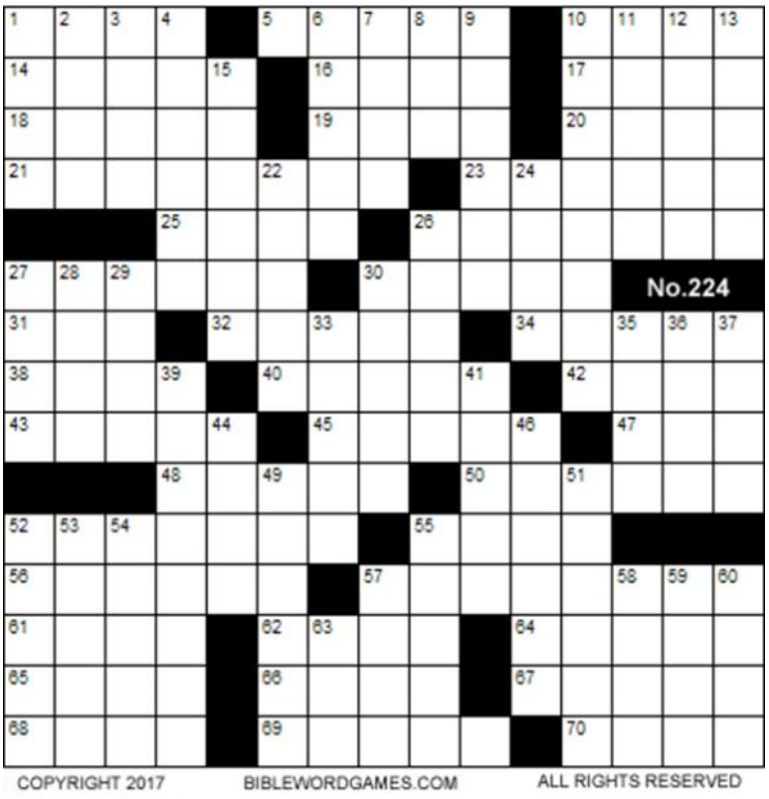
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

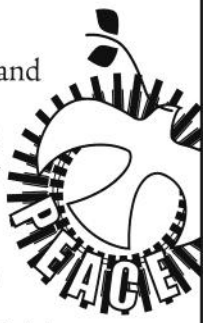
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

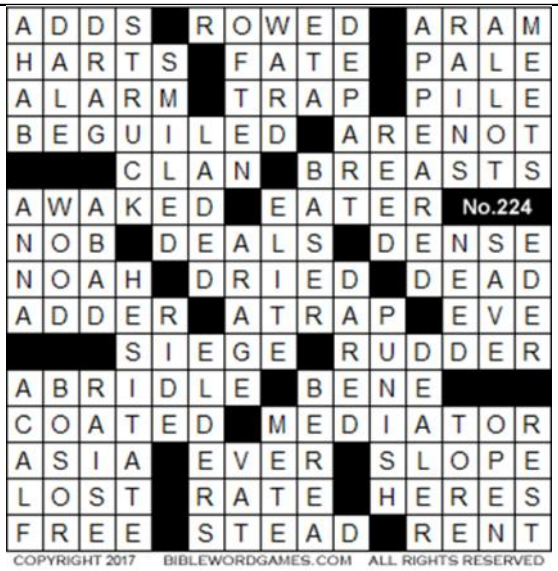
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



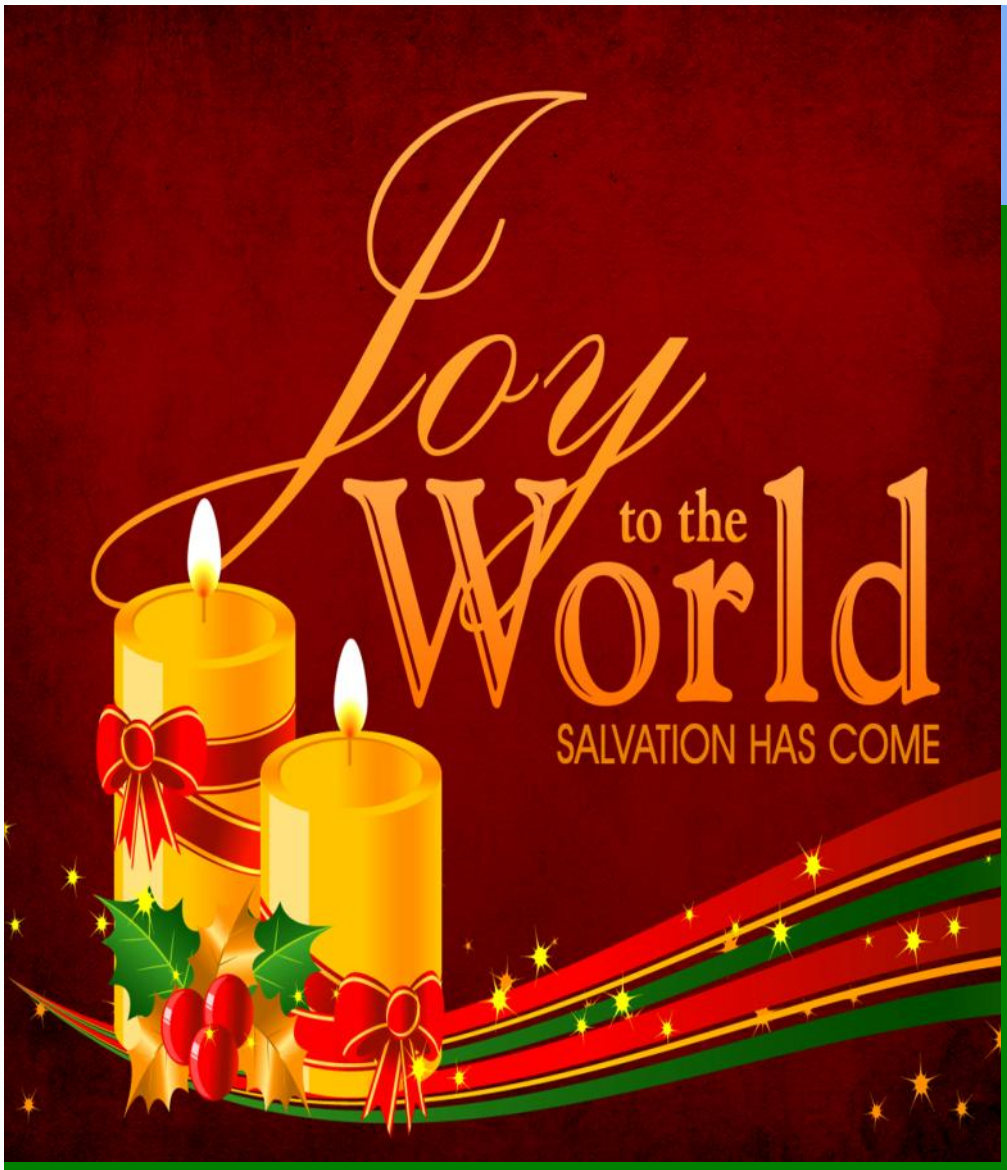
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

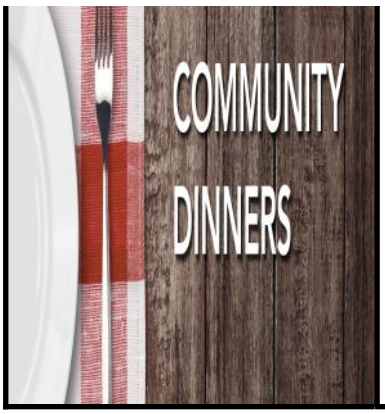
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



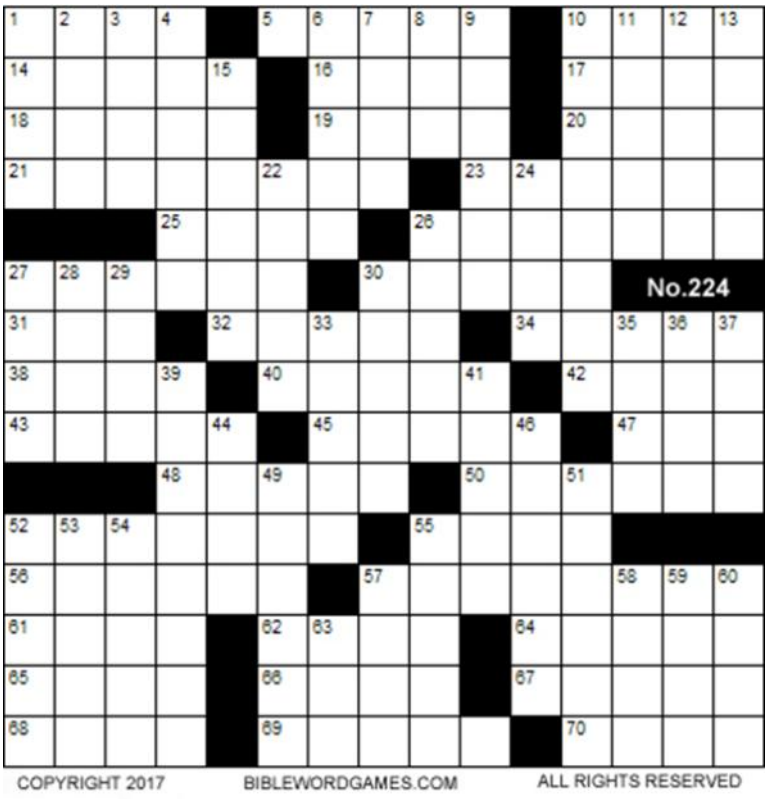
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

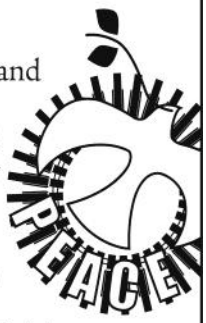
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

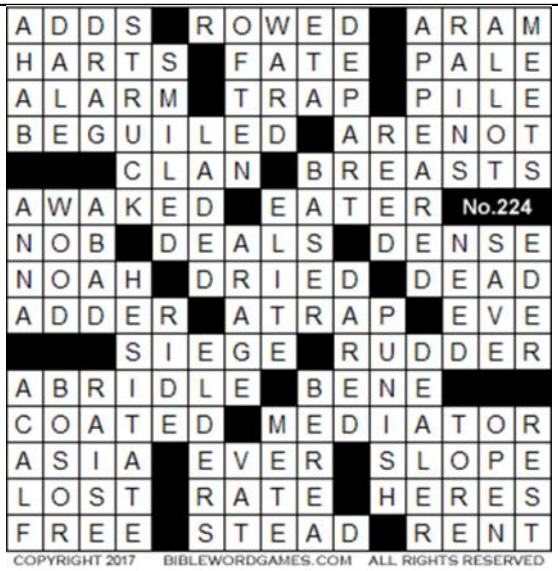
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



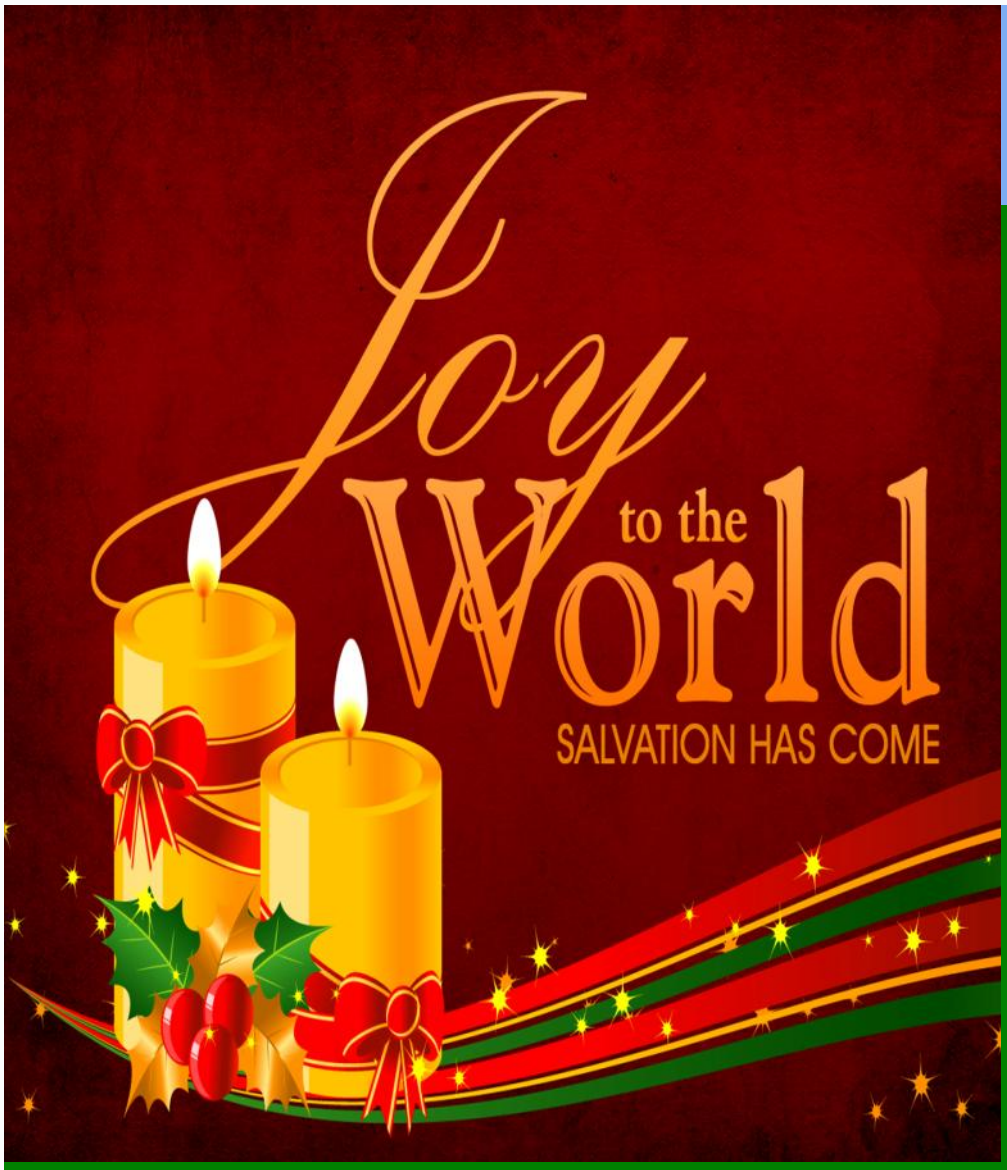
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

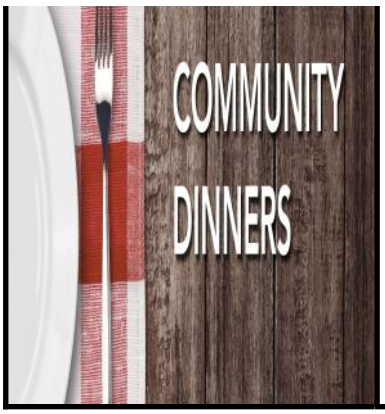
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



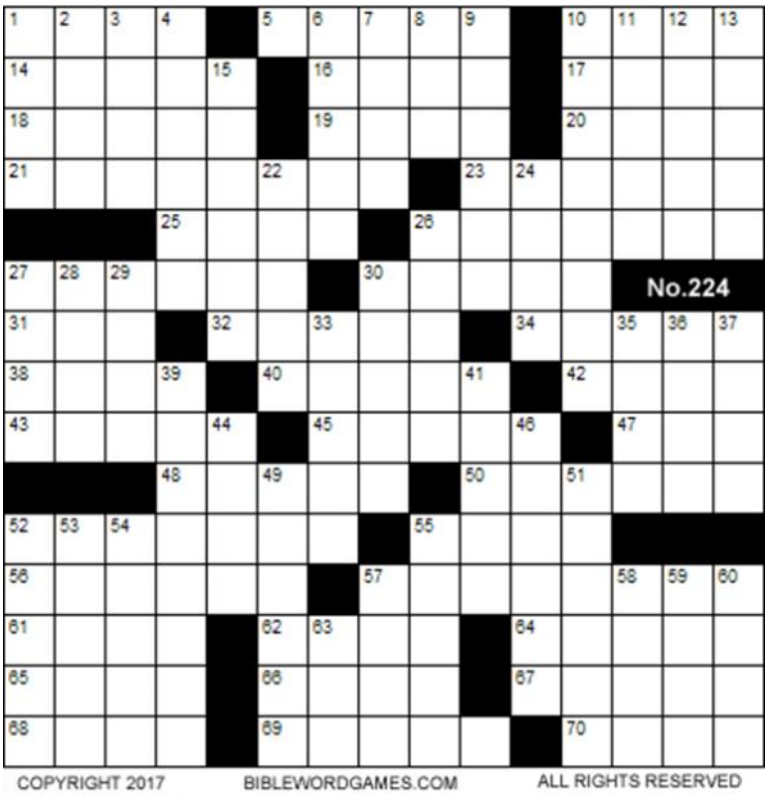
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

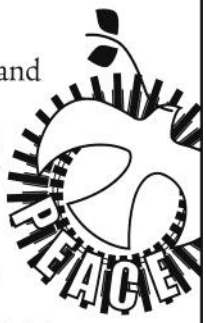
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

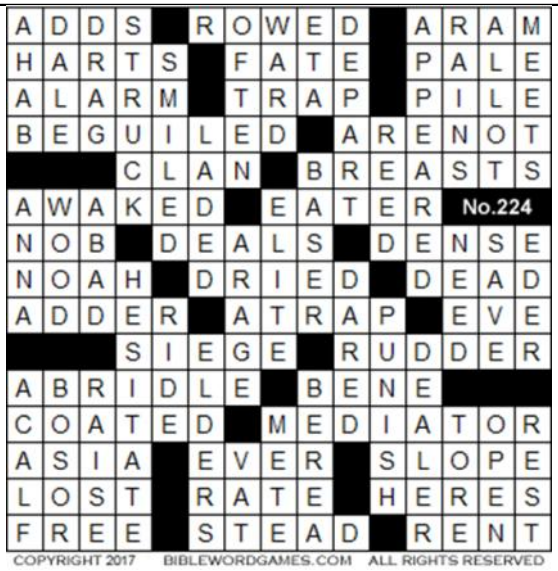
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



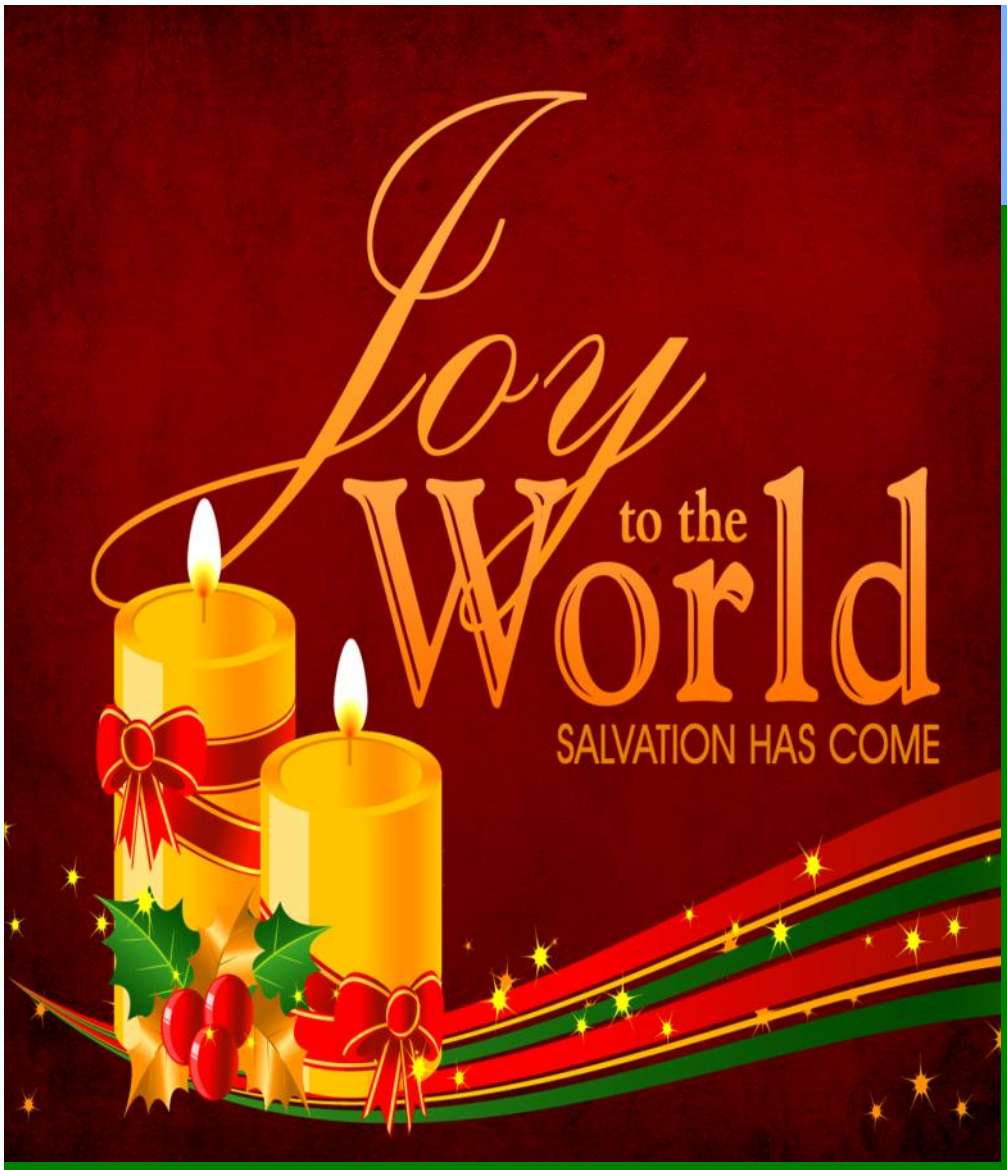
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

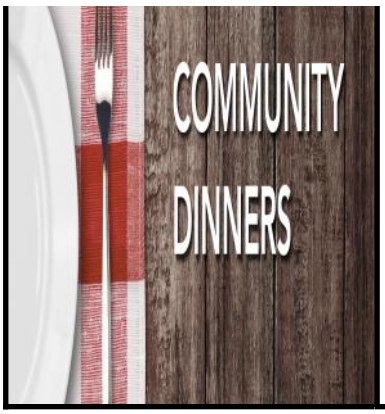
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



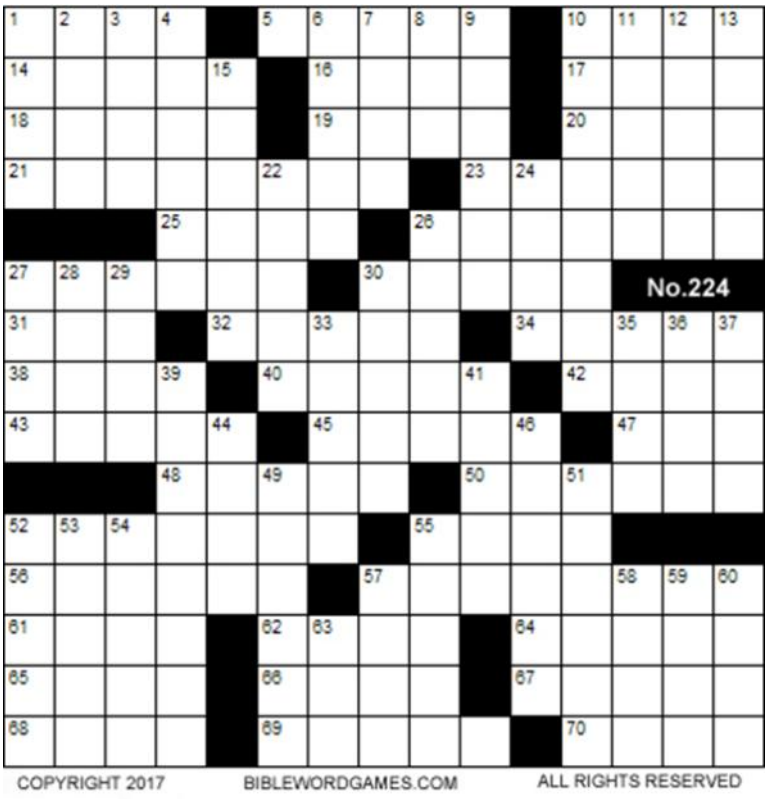
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

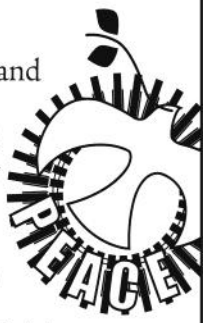
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

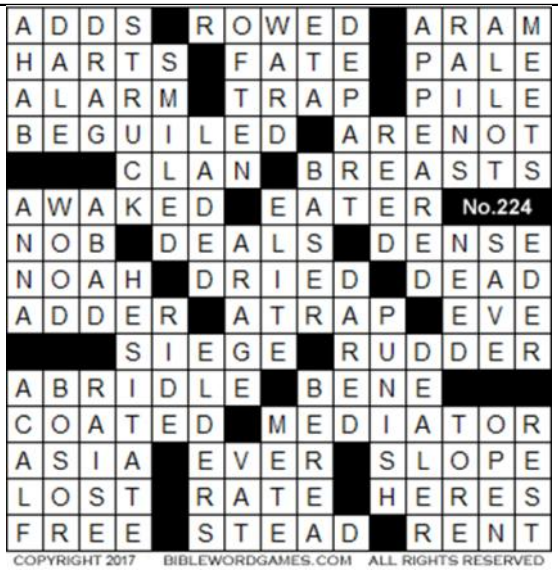
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



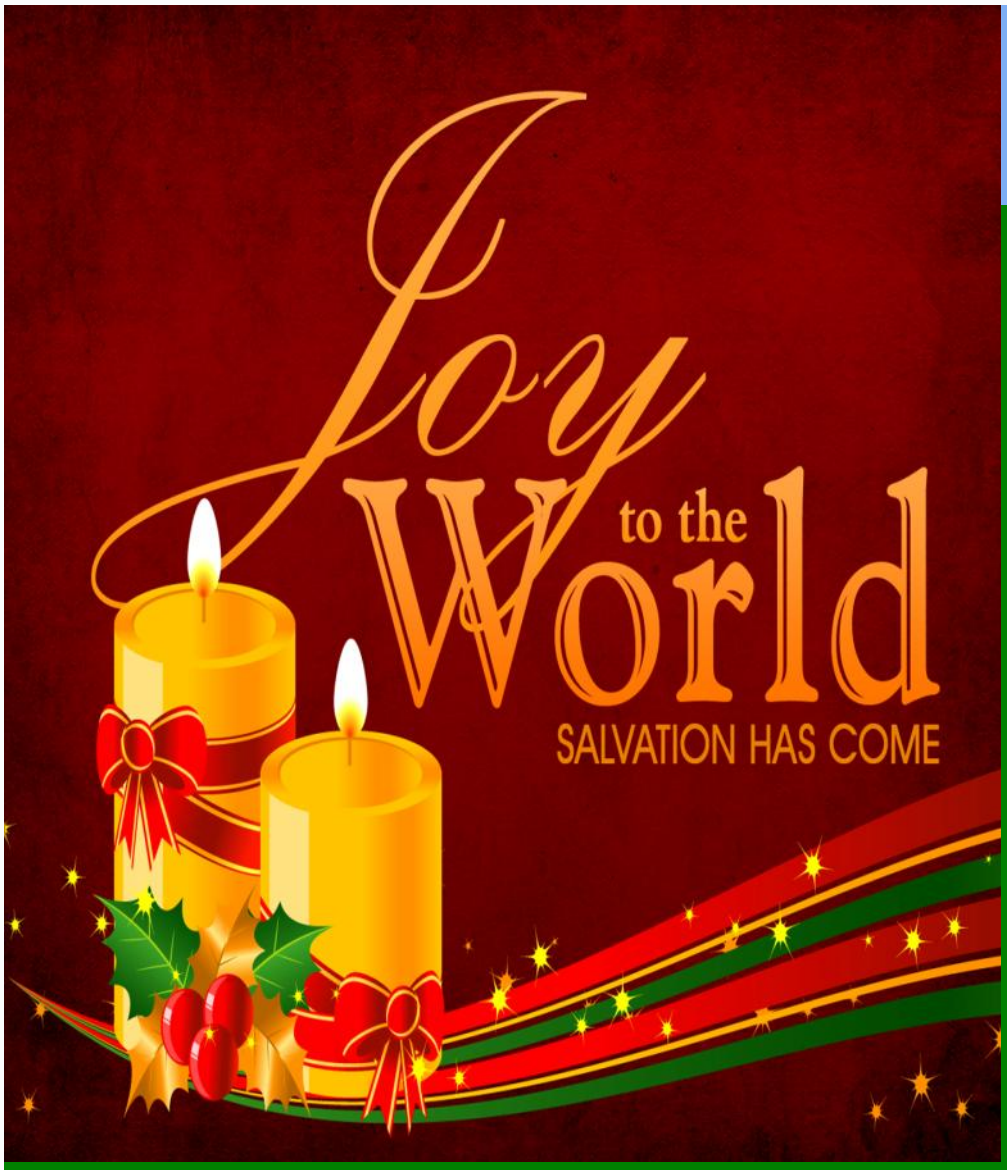
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

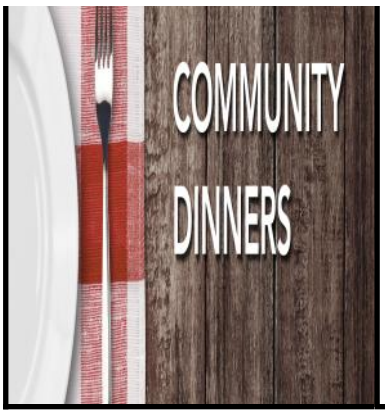
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



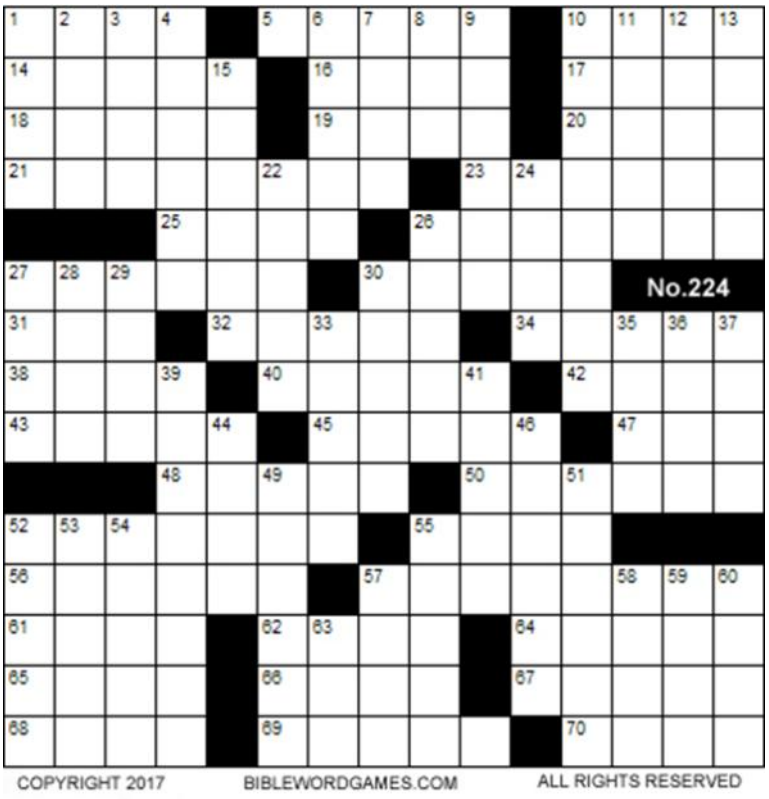
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

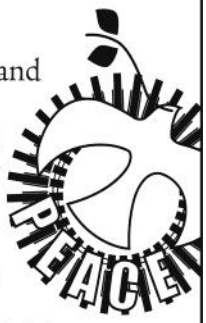
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

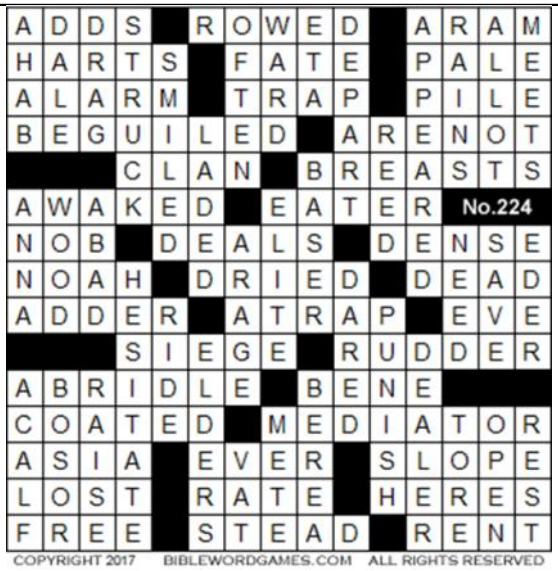
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



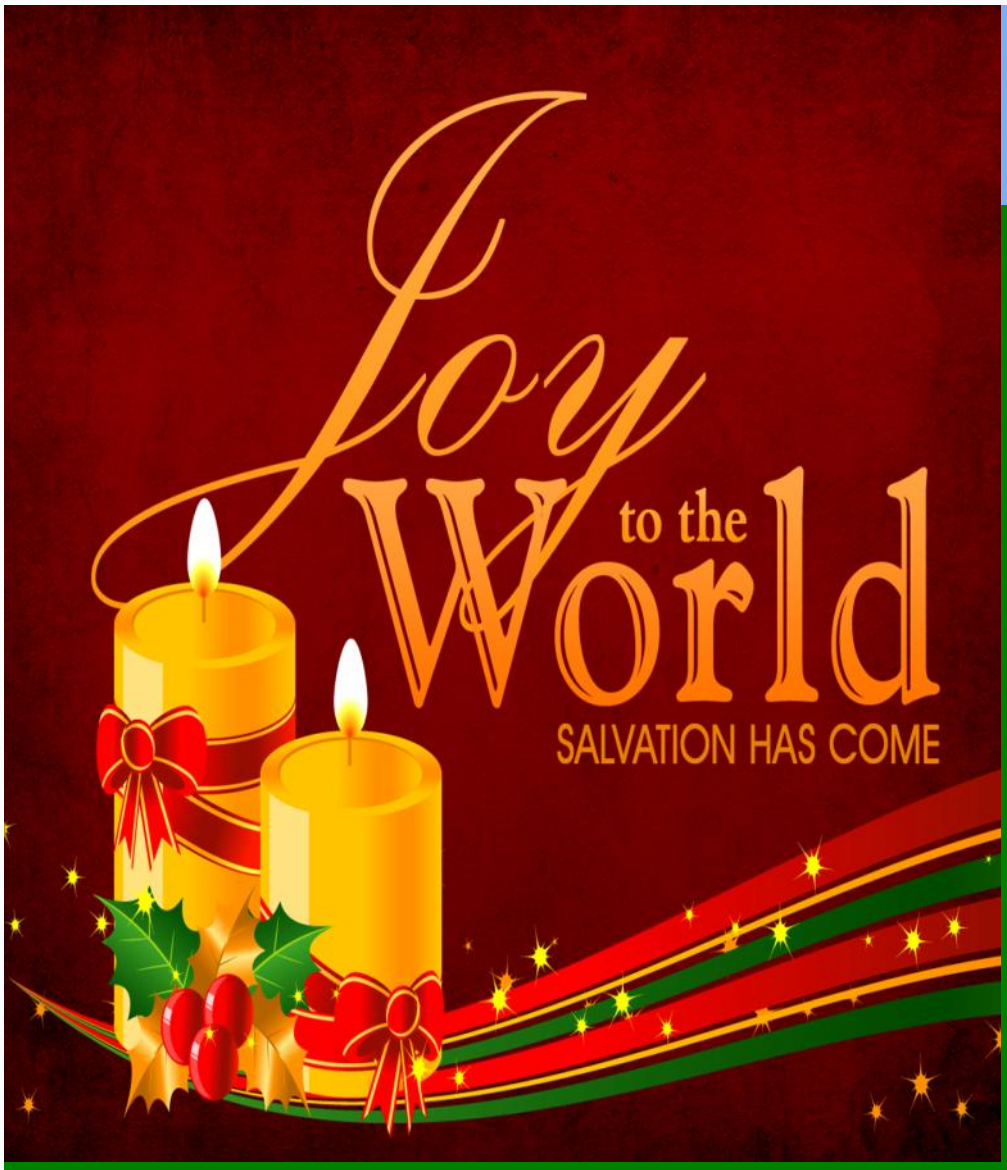
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

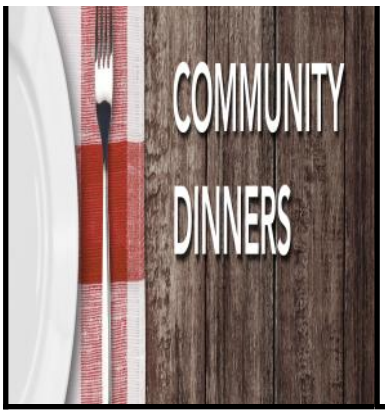
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



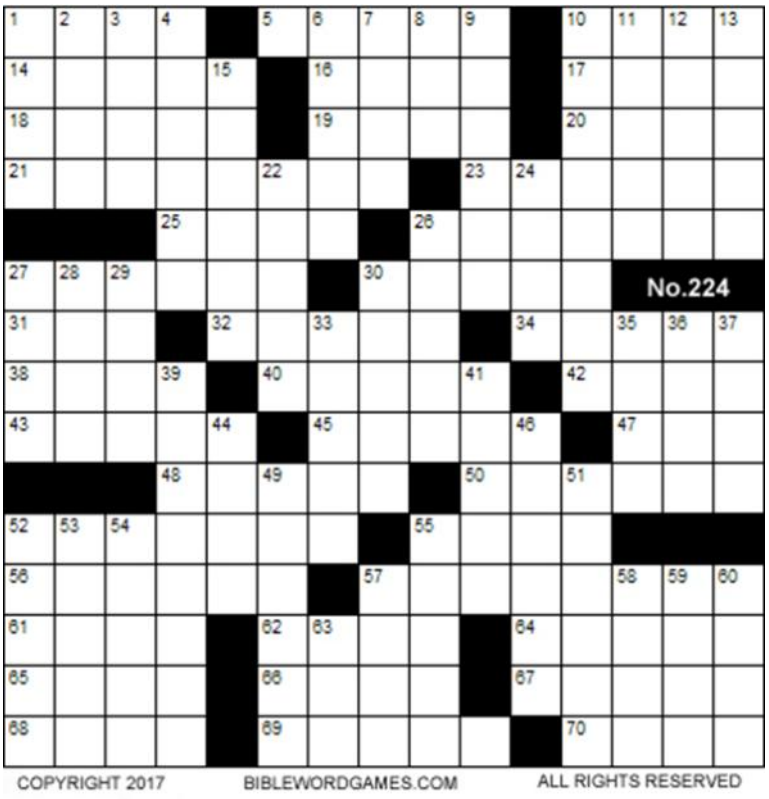
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

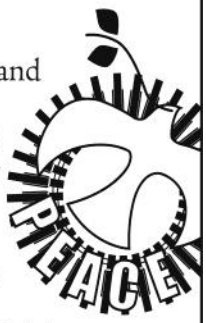
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

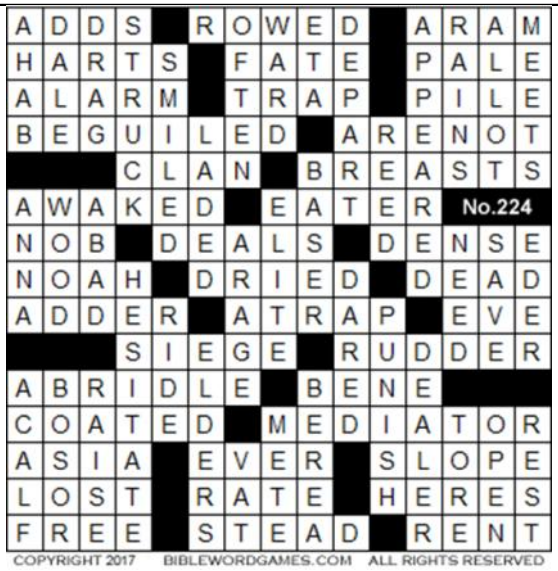
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



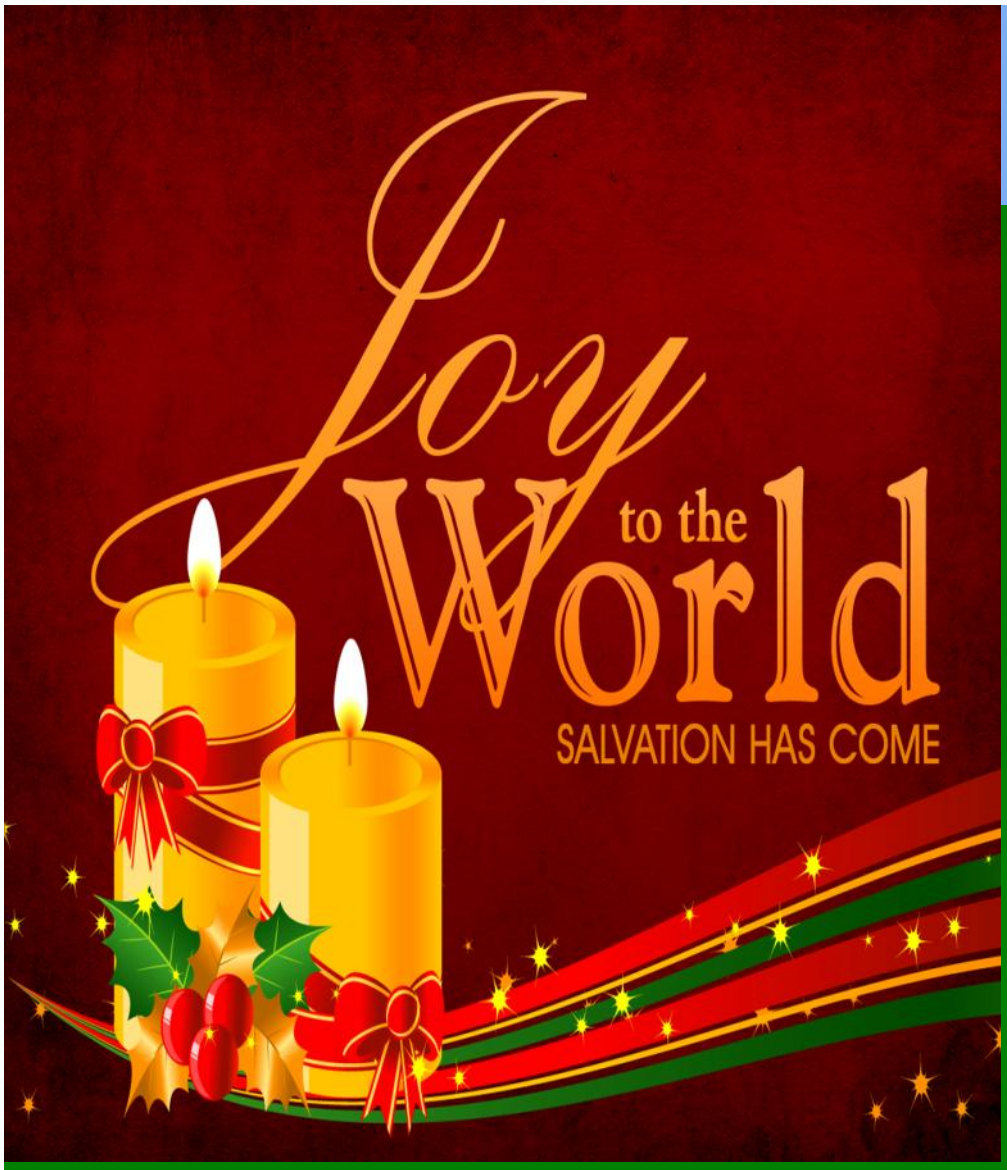
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

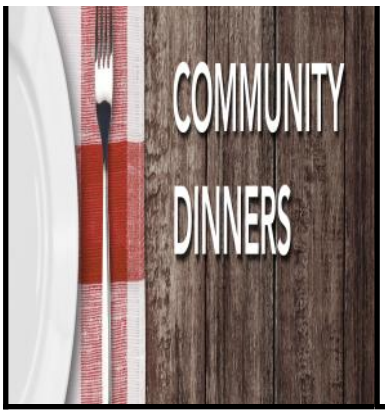
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



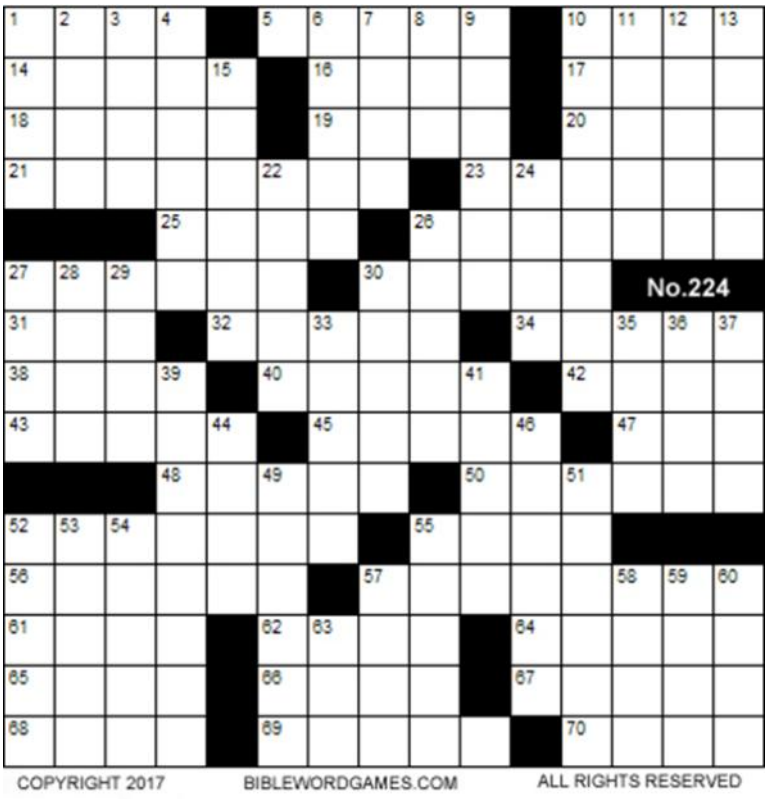
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

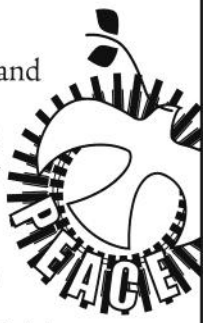
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

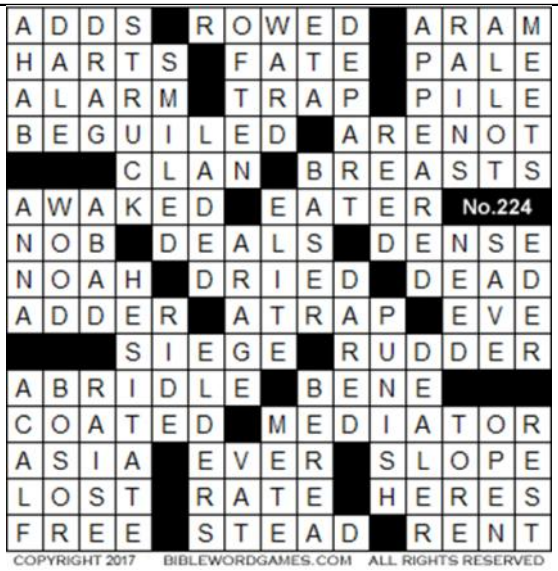
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



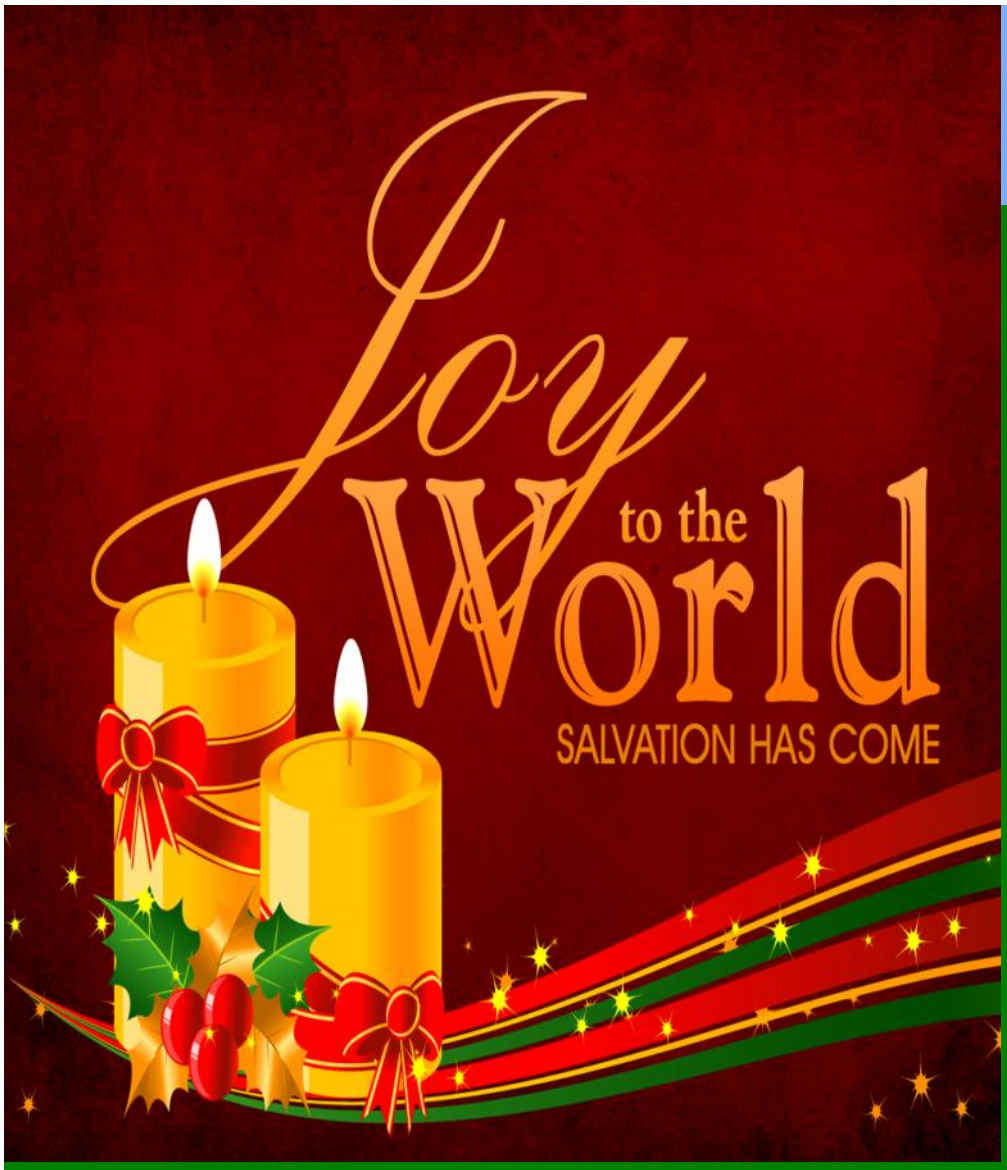
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

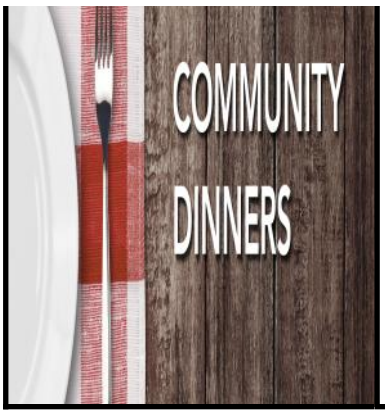
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



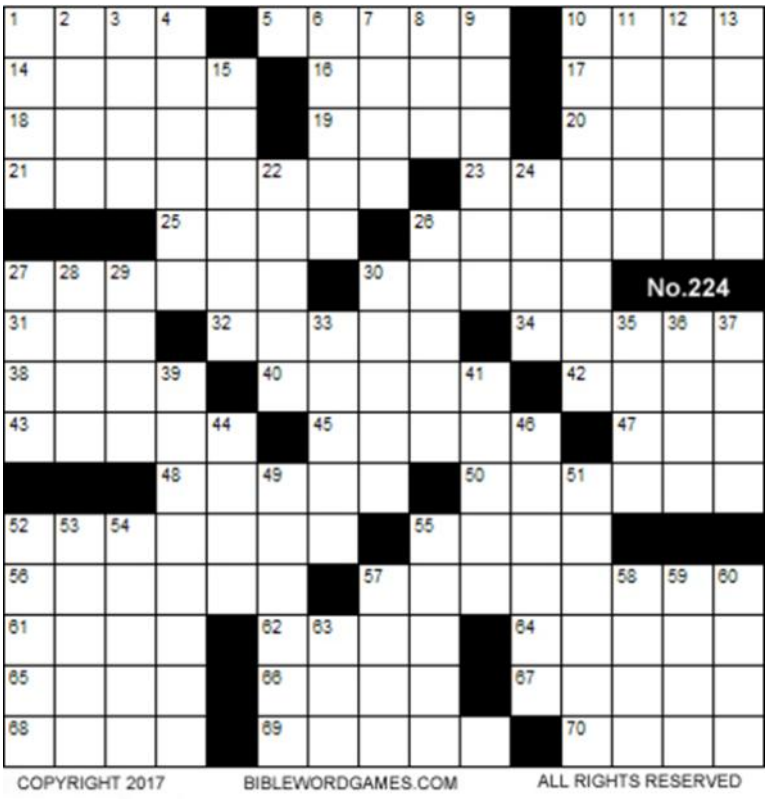
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

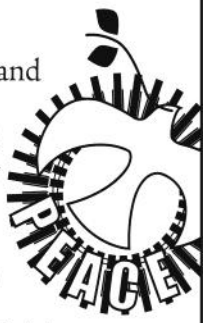
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

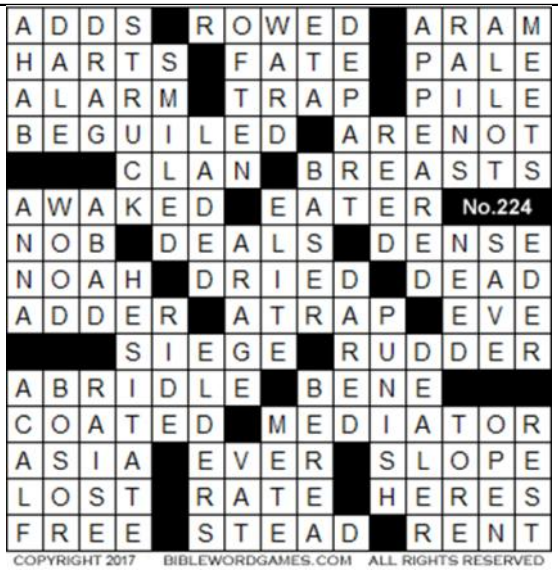
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



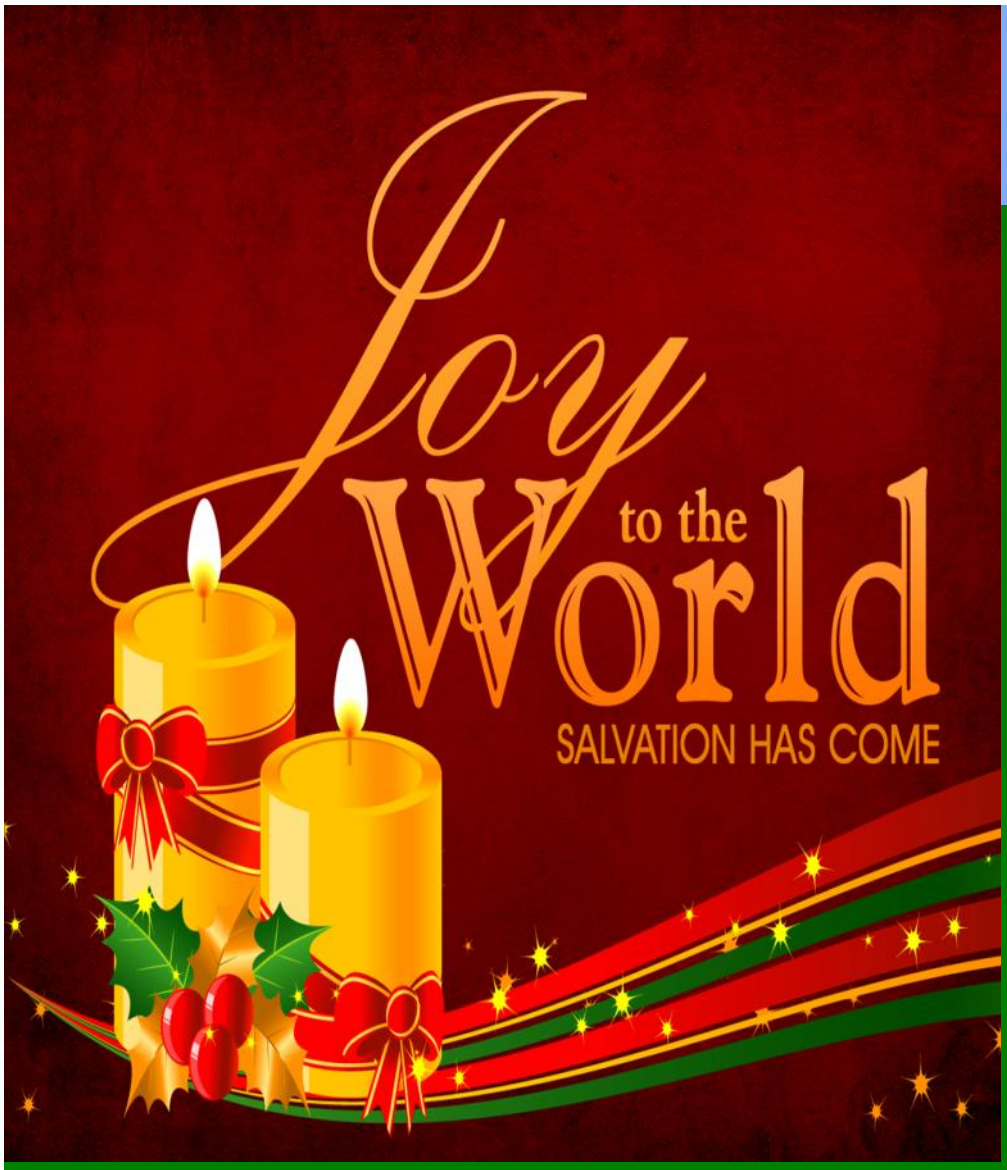
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

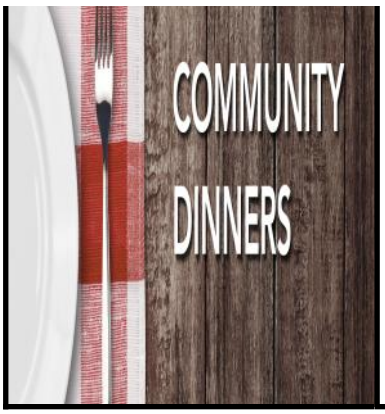
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



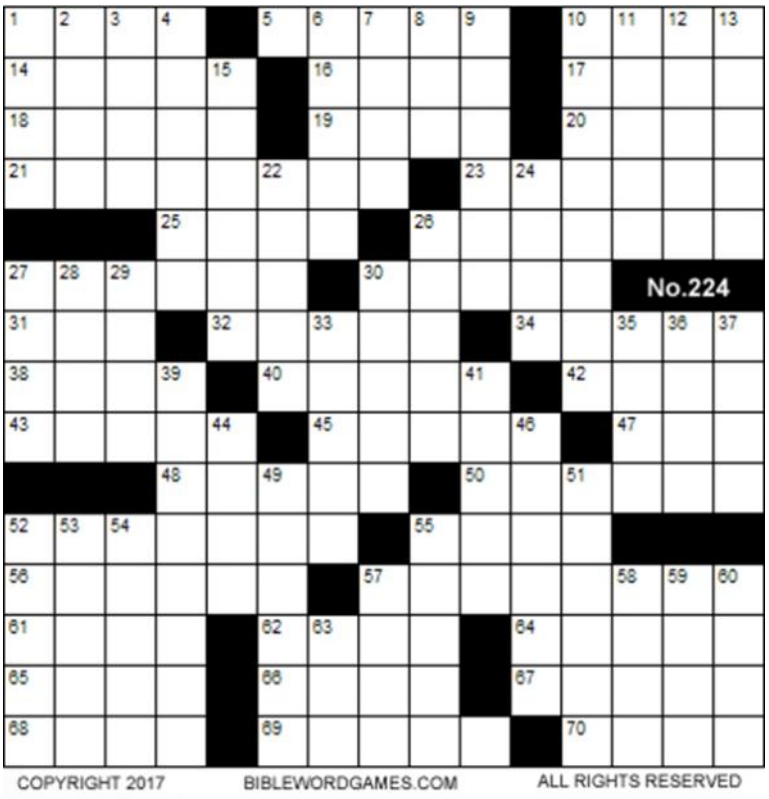
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

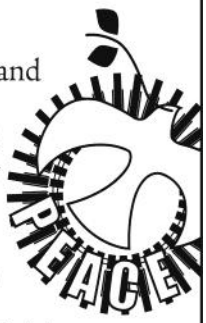
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

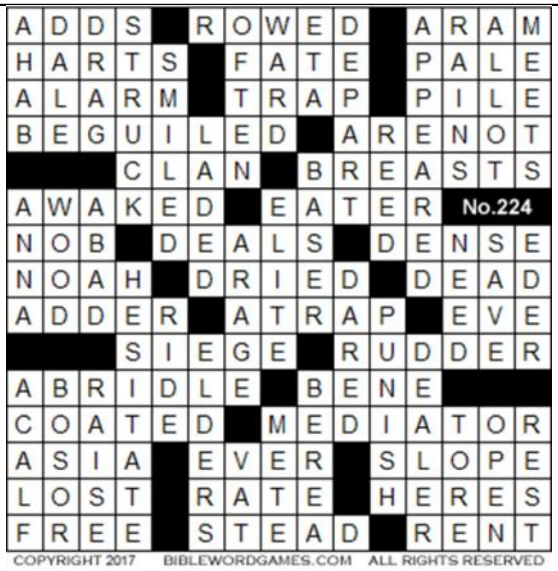
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



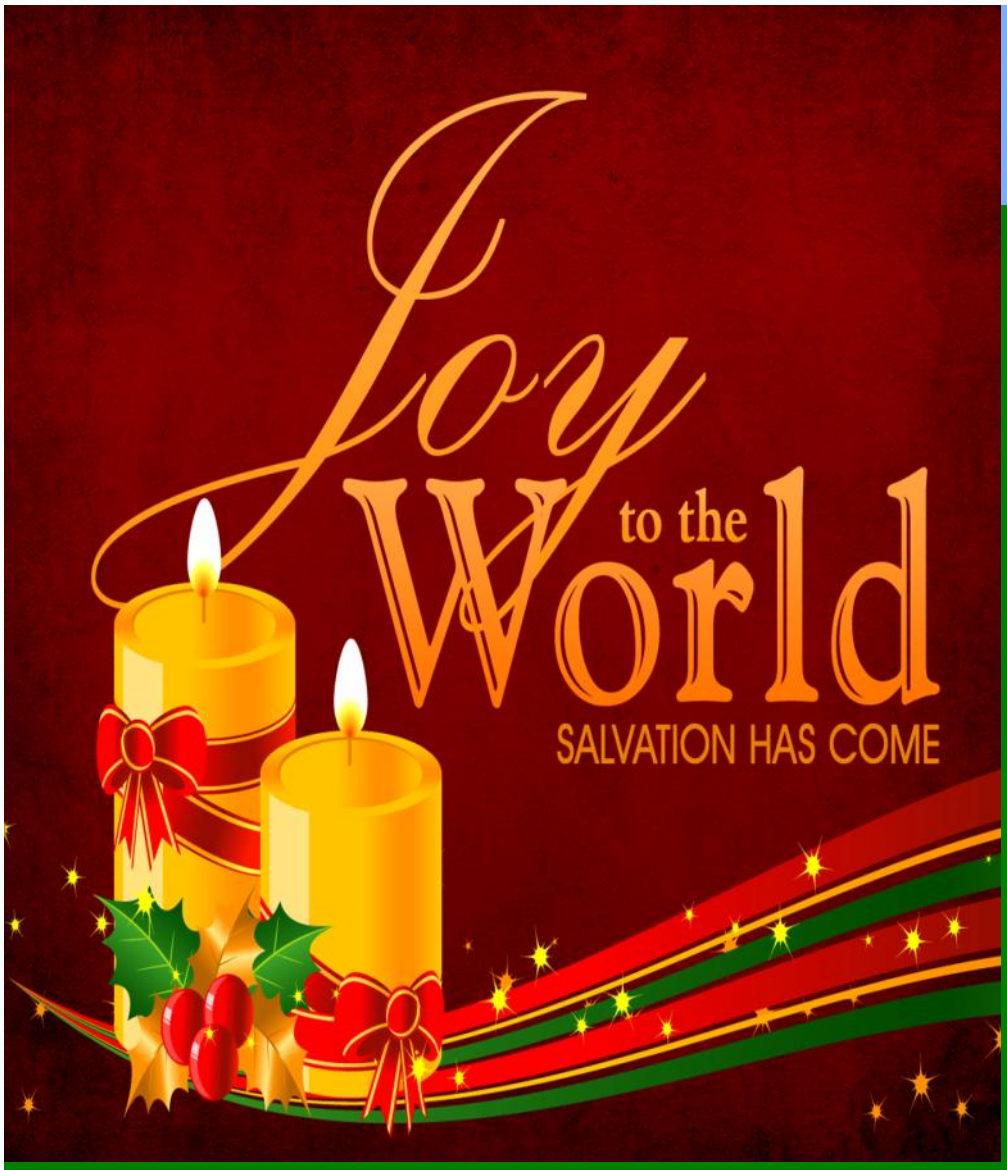
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

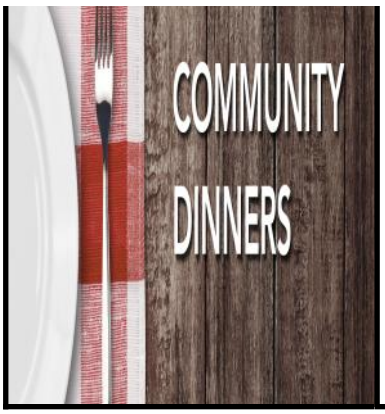
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



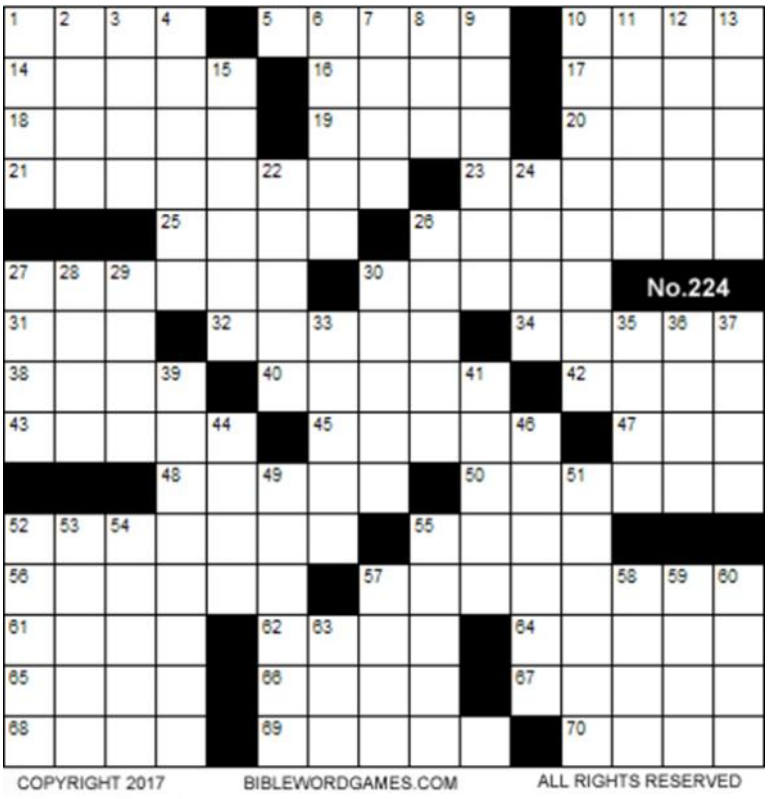
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

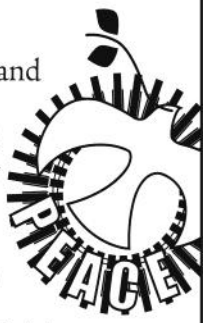
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

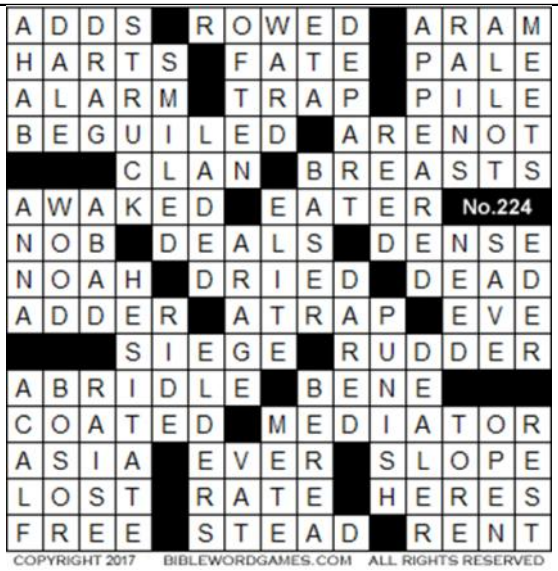
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



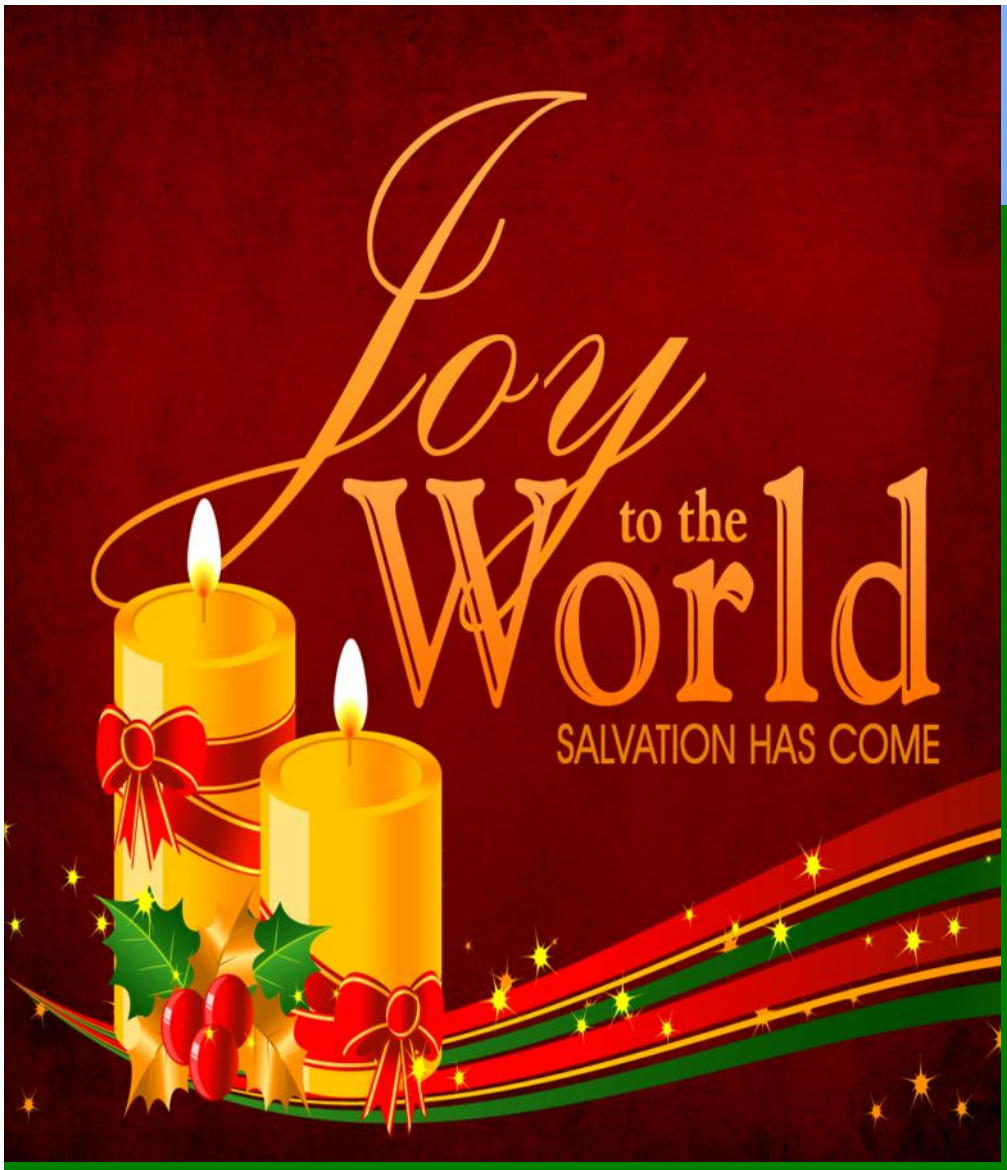
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

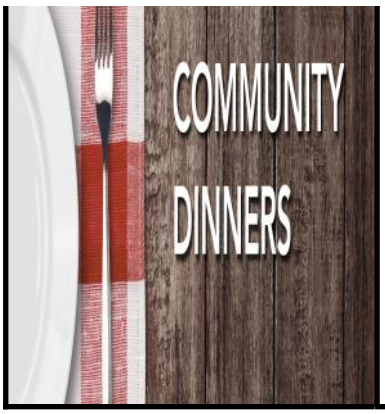
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



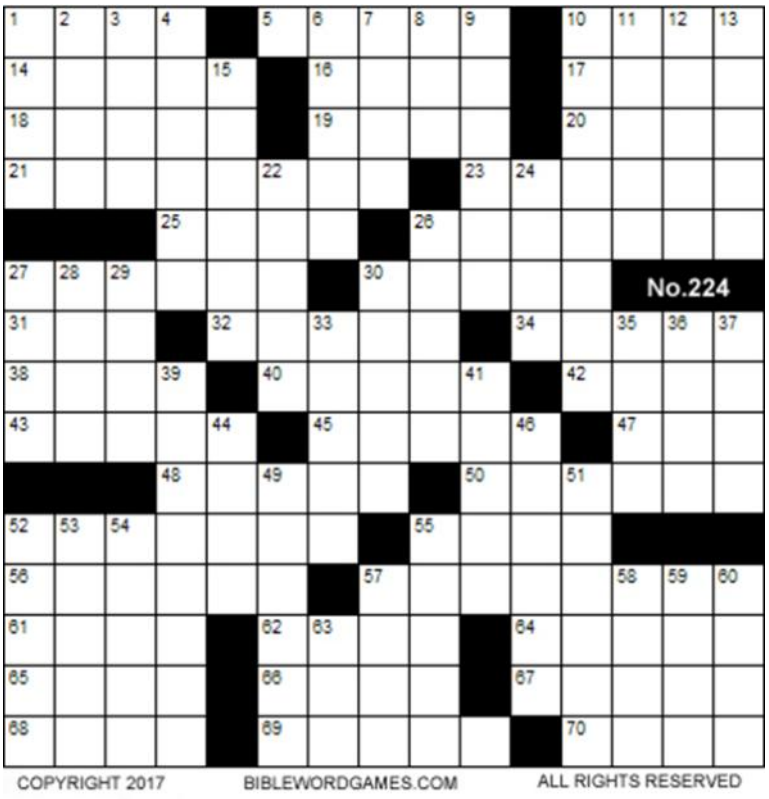
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

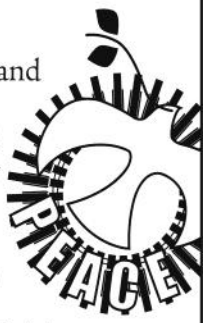
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

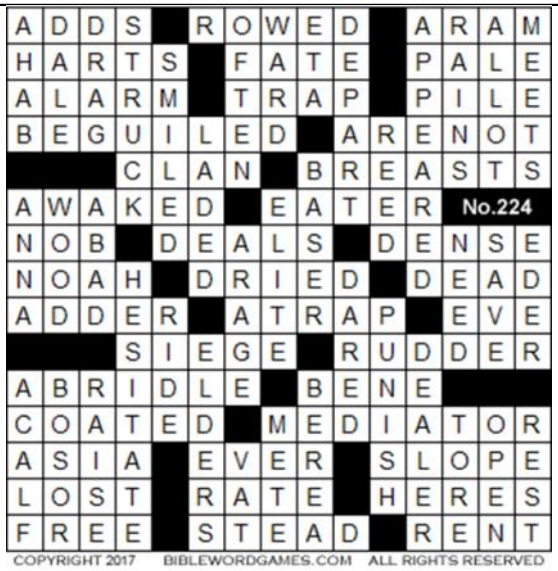
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



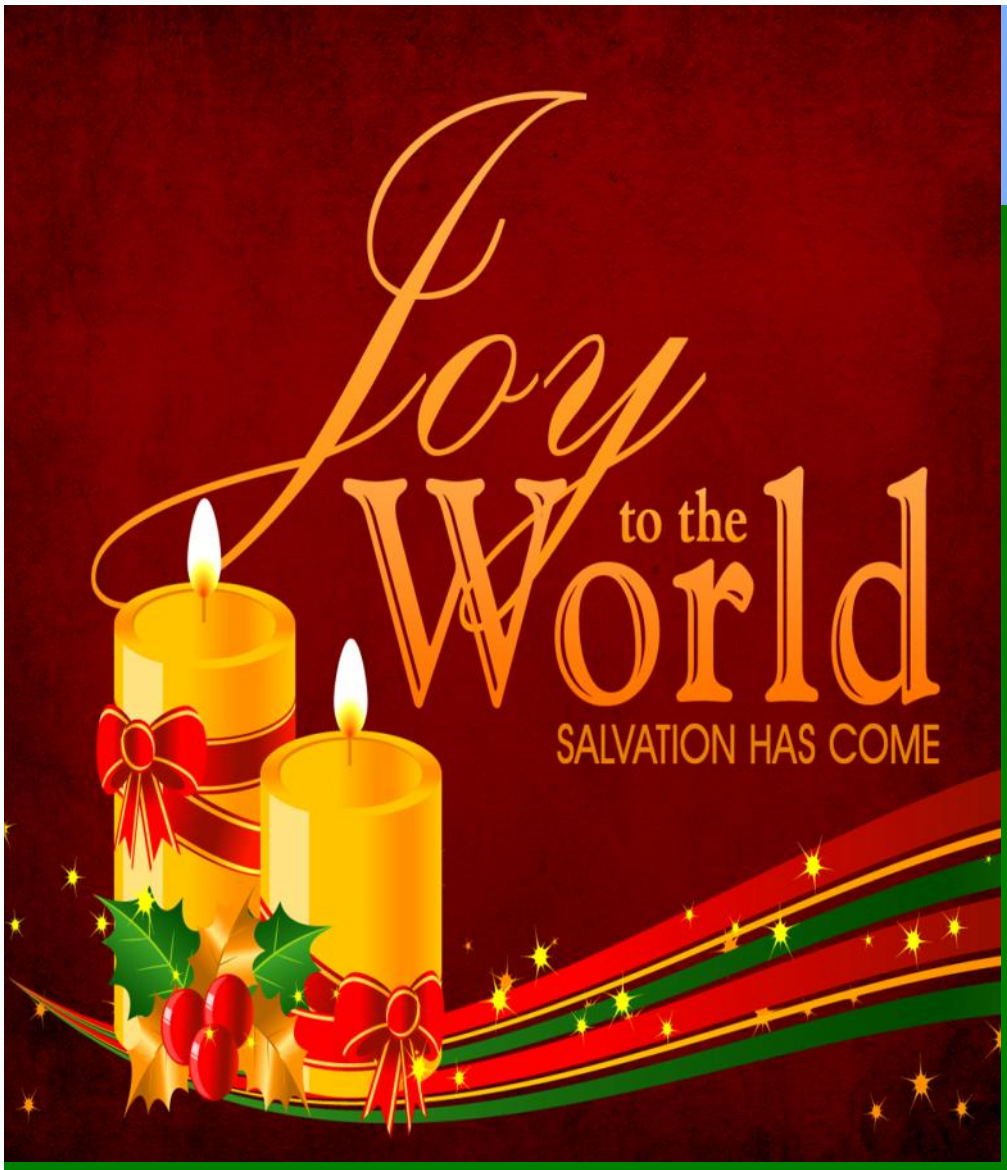
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

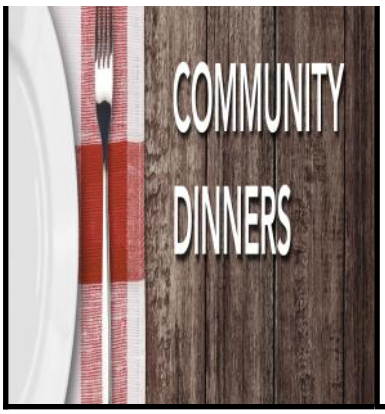
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



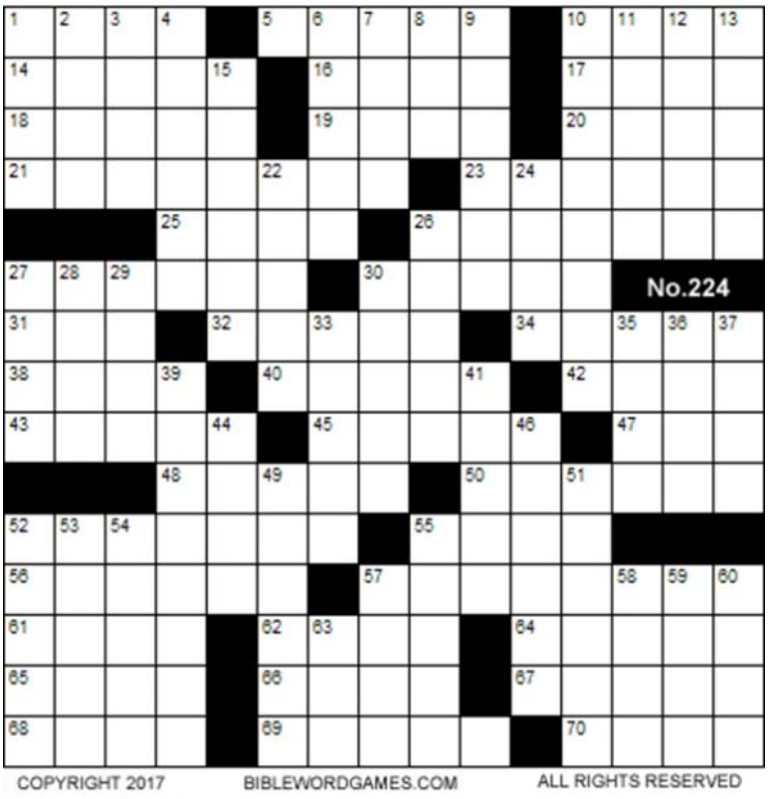
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

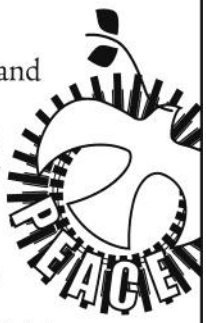
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

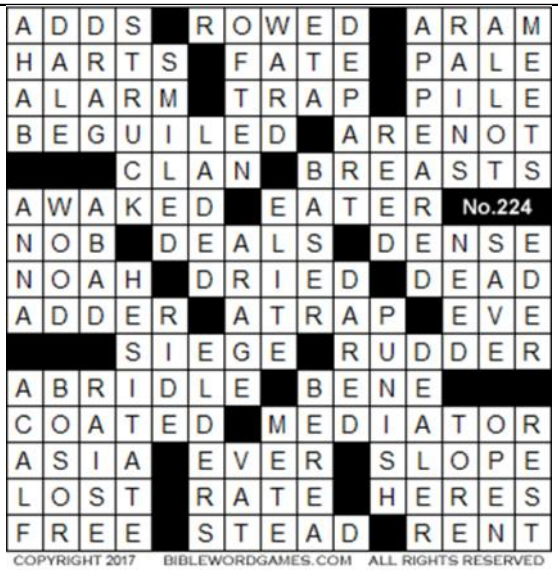
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



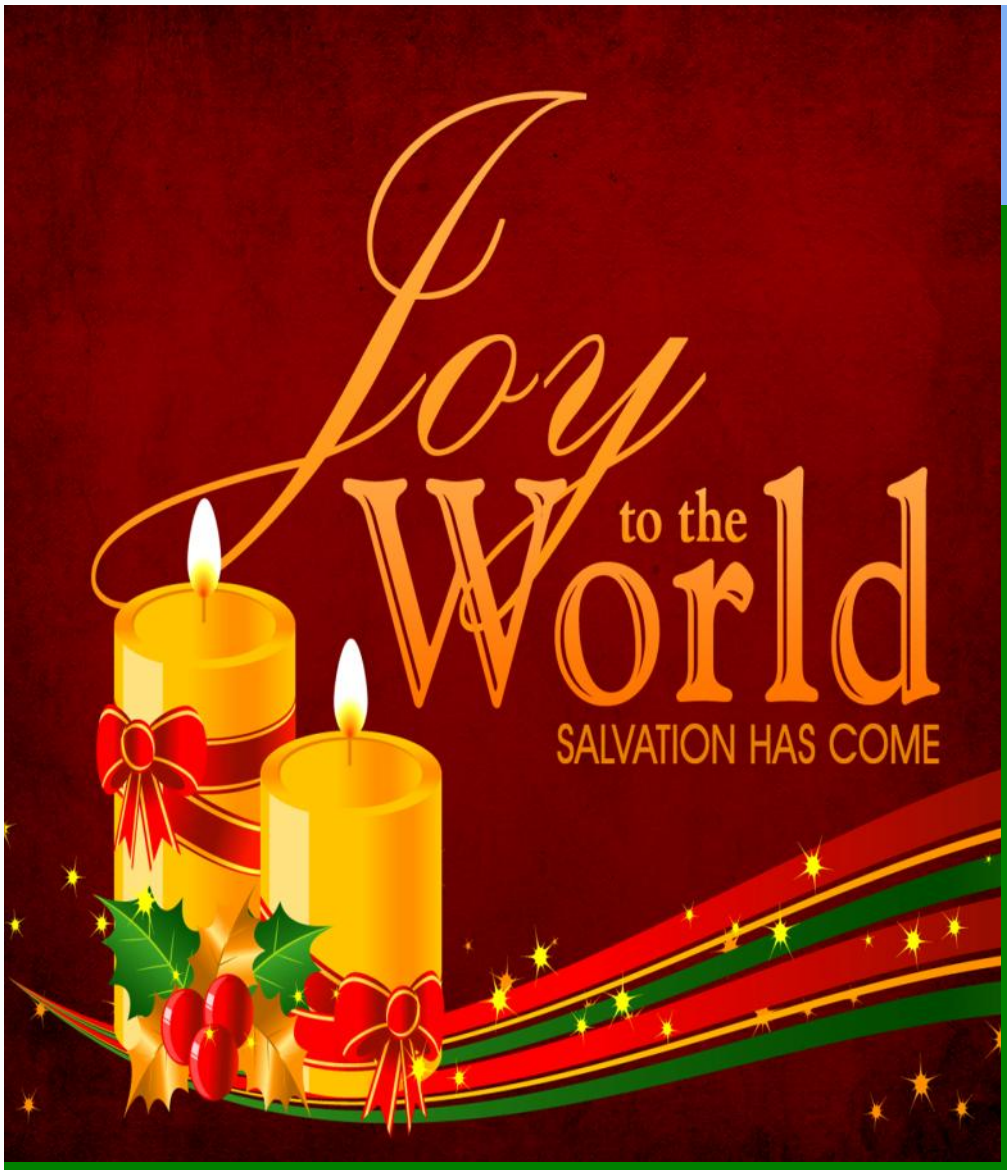
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

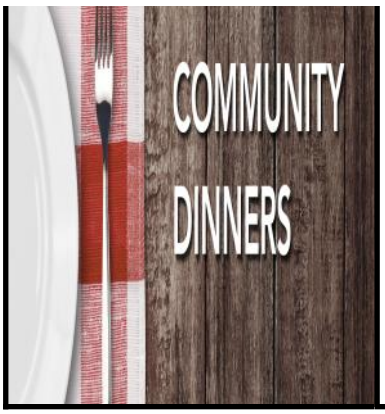
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



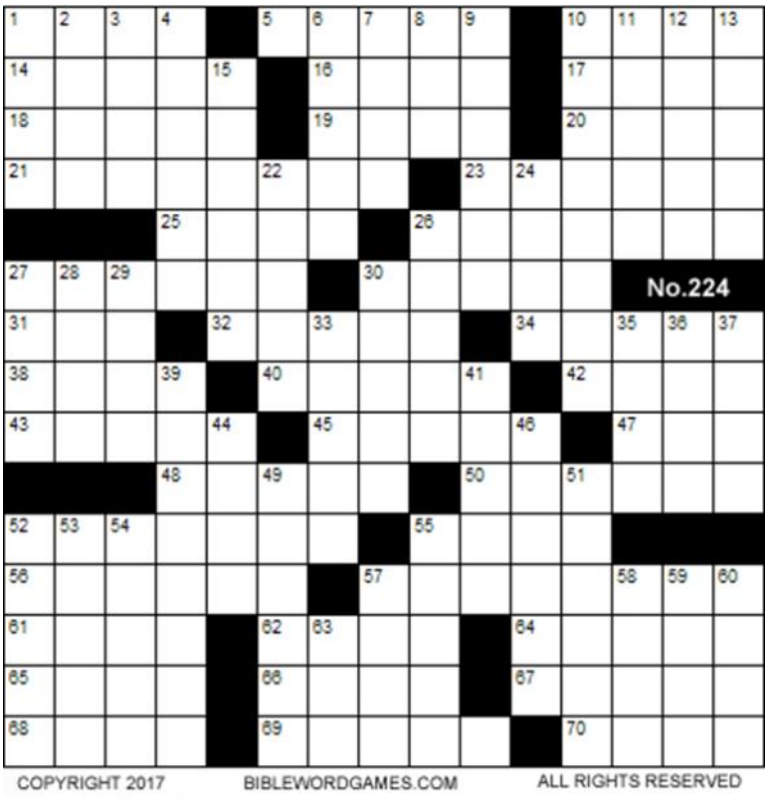
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

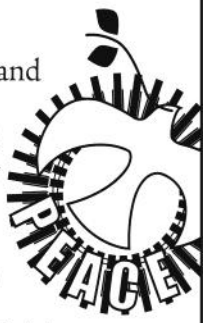
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

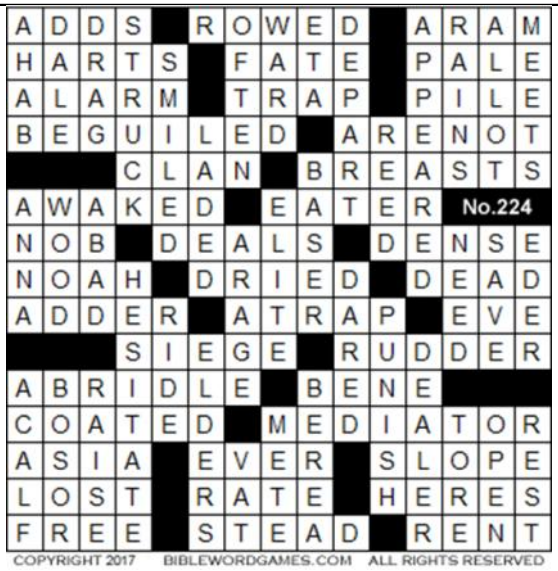
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



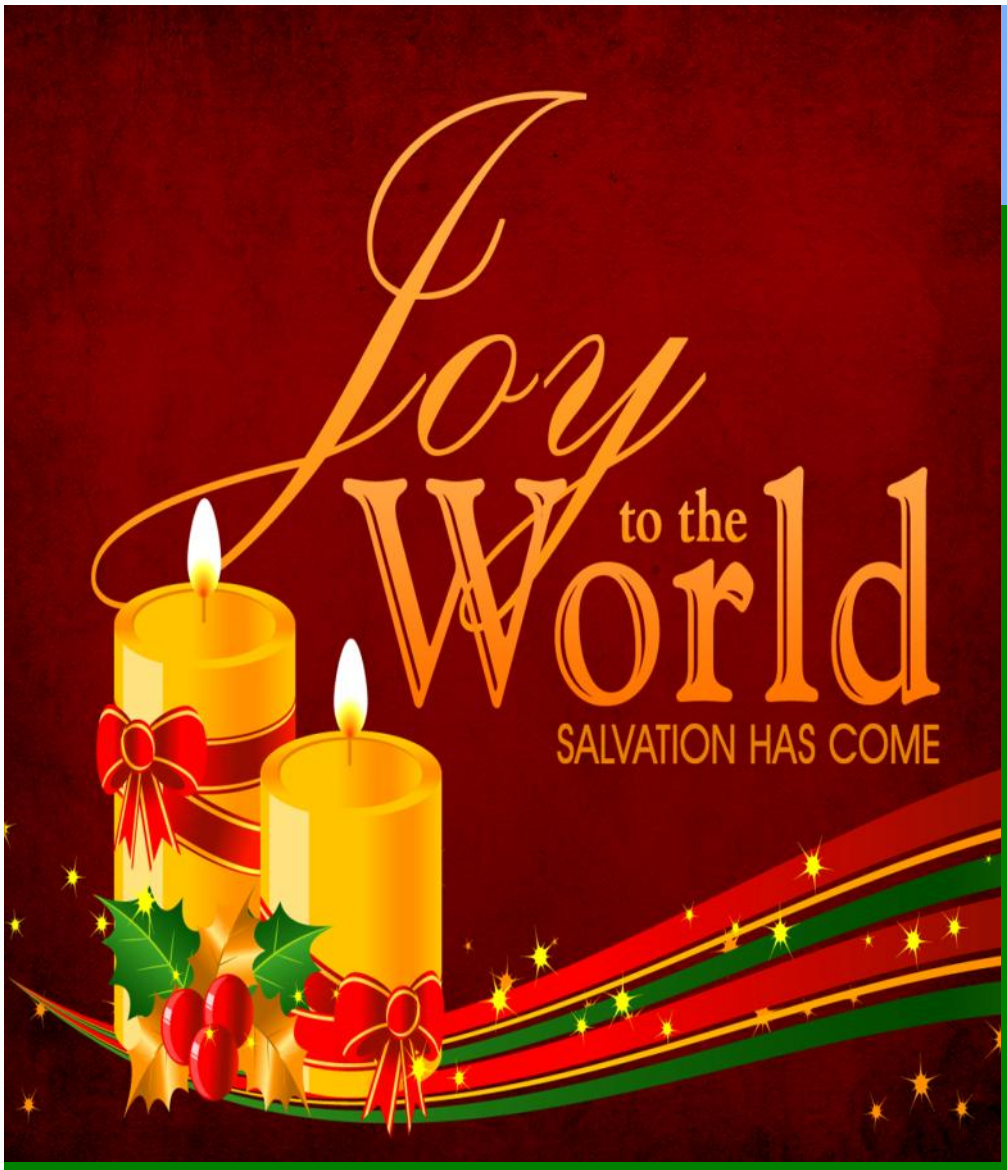
A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette

The Messenger

A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community



December 2024
Volume 24—Issue 12

Bible Readings
Church Calendar
Birthdays
Anniversaries
Youth Group
Bible Buddies
Faith Community Nurse
United Women in Faith
Women's Ministry
Council Minutes
Crossword Puzzle
Just for Kids

Barnum Community United Methodist Church
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street, Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org

Office Hours (Mon-Fri)
9:00 am—1:00 pm
www.barnumumc.org

Sunday Worship
Facebook Live 9:30 am
In Person 9:30 am

Dog's Pause

Living Light!

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2)

The topics are old, but have recently popped up in material I have been reading. They regard the reality of the existence of cold and darkness. Does cold exist or just less heat? Is there really darkness or light at a level we can't perceive? Whatever the scientific response to those questions may be, our human experience is to shiver and to stumble.

The above may be debatable. Without doubt, however, there is spiritual darkness and evil in the world. We live in a time of great uncertainty. Our hearts are troubled for many reasons. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty in our church family, and issues many are dealing with in their personal lives tempt us to lose sight of the Light. We are tempted to think darkness prevails. It is easy to relate to the experience the people of Israel were enduring when Isaiah spoke this messianic promise. How difficult it must have been to understand and receive this prophetic word from Isaiah about the coming Messiah.

Let's not lose hope. There has come into our world One who can only be described as Light, the Lord Jesus. The season of Advent is upon us. The coming of Christmas reminds us that God has indeed sent his Light into the world. John 1:5 tells us of the witness of John who proclaimed, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it."

Here's the work God sets before us. When we receive Christ as Lord and Savior we receive the light of Christ. Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." (John 8:12) Now it is our time to shine brightly for the Lord. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven," declares Jesus!

Let's determine to live in a way that there is no mistaking that Jesus lives within. In times of darkness would you join me in seeking to live into another word from Isaiah? He declared, "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you!" Let your light for Christ shine brightly through the love of Christ by which we live!

The Good Shepherd's Sheepdog,

Lee

Hi All,

My heart is heavy. We are at a time and place as a church family I wish I would never have to be part of as a pastor. There was a 5-year period of time that ended at the end of 2023 when churches could disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. For various reasons our Barnum family had talked about disaffiliating, but chose not to do so. There has remained a group that would like to separate. My role has been to serve as interim pastor during this time as a resolution was sought. None has been found.

Our Minnesota Annual Conference leadership has been awaiting word if other avenues and options were open. None appear to be available. Therefore, we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. There will be representatives from our Annual Conference in attendance to provide information and guidance. It will be a time of determining whether or not you desire to remain a part of the Barnum Community Church.

The meeting will not be a time of debate. We have sisters and brothers in our church family who have strong opinions each way. Many opportunities have been available to express those opinions. Whatever you decide, my prayer will continue to be that healing can take place and focus can once again be placed solely on our mission and purpose as followers of Jesus Christ. That mission is to make disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world.

Your attendance at the meeting is strongly encouraged. Whatever your thoughts and opinions are, I am available for constructive conversation, pastoral care, and prayer. This is an important time for each one of us to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal where we need to repent and receive forgiveness. Please be in prayer that even in this we can let the light and love of Christ be evident in our interaction and that ultimately God will use a painful time to help us grow spiritually in all areas of life and faith.

May the grace of God shape, strengthen, and preserve each and every one of us now and forever.

Your Servant in Christ,

Lee Kantonen, Pastor



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **Hanging of the Greens** 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 3:00 Congregation Meeting 4-5 Confirmation	2 5-8:00 Youth Group	3 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	4 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship Service Communion Table Sunday ~~10:45 Adult Class~~ 4-5 Confirmation	9 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	10 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	11 10:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	12	13	14 9:30-11:30 Women's Christmas Brunch
15 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	16 5-8:00 Youth Group	17 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	18 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	19	**20**	21
22 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	23 5-8:00 Youth Group	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** ~~No Warm Hearts~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~ ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ 6:30 pm – Candlelight Service	25 **CHRISTMAS DAY** **Office Closed** **No Community Dinner**	**26**	27	**28**
29 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class NO Confirmation	30 5-8:00 Youth Group	31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE** ~~1:00 Moms in Prayer~~ ~~11:00 Prayer Group~~	**NEW YEAR'S DAY**			

** Schedule subject to change.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY** ~~5:15 Community Dinner~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies~~ ~~6:00-7:30 Youth Group~~ ~~6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study~~ ~~6:15-6:30 WOW Worship~~	**2**	**3**	**4**
5 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	6 5-8:00 Youth Group	7 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	8 1:30-3:00 United Women In Faith 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	9	10	11 9:30 Sister to Sister
12 9:30 Worship Service **Communion Table Sunday** 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	13 5-8:00 Youth Group 5:00 Budget Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Council Mtg	14 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	15 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	16	17	18
19 9:30 Worship Service Praise Team Sing 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	20 5-8:00 Youth Group	21 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	22 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15 Game Night	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship Service 10:45 Adult Class 4-5 Confirmation	27 5-8:00 Youth Group	28 11:00 Prayer Group 1:00 Moms in Prayer	29 5:15 Community Dinner 6:00-7:15 Bible Buddies 6:00-7:30 Youth Group 6:00-7:15 Women's Bible Study 6:15-6:30 WOW Worship	30	31	

** Schedule subject to change.

Daily Nourishment



OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Nov 1: Jer 24-26; Titus 2
Nov 2: Jer 27-29; Titus 3
Nov 3: Jer 30-31; Philemon
Nov 4: Jer 32-33; Heb 1
Nov 5: Jer 34-36; Heb 2
Nov 6: Jer 37-39; Heb 3
Nov 7: Jer 40-42; Heb 4
Nov 8: Jer 43-45; Heb 5
Nov 9: Jer 46-47; Heb 6
Nov 10: Jer 48-49; Heb 7
Nov 11: Jer 50; Heb 8
Nov 12: Jer 51-52; Heb 9
Nov 13: Lam 1-2; Heb 10:1-18
Nov 14: Lam 3-5; Heb 10:19-39
Nov 15: Ezek 1-2; Heb 11:1-19
Nov 16: Ezek 3-4; Heb 11:20-40
Nov 17: Ezek 5-7; Heb 12
Nov 18: Ezek 8-10; Heb 13
Nov 19: Ezek 11-13; James 1
Nov 20: Ezek 14-15; James 2
Nov 21: Ezek 16-17; James 3
Nov 22: Ezek 18-19; James 4
Nov 23: Ezek 20-21; James 5
Nov 24: Ezek 22-23; 1Pet 1
Nov 25: Ezek 24-26; 1Pet 2
Nov 26: Ezek 27-29; 1Pet 3
Nov 27: Ezek 30-32; 1Pet 4
Nov 28: Ezek 33-34; 1Pet 5
Nov 29: Ezek 35-36; 2Pet 1
Nov 30: Ezek 37-39; 2Pet 2

CHRONOLOGICAL

Nov 1: Matt 20-21
Nov 2: Luke 18:15-19:48
Nov 3: Mark 11; John 12
Nov 4: Matt 22; Mark 12
Nov 5: Matt 23; Luke 20-21
Nov 6: Mark 13
Nov 7: Matt 24
Nov 8: Matt 25
Nov 9: Matt 26; Mark 14
Nov 10: Luke 22; John 13
Nov 11: John 14-17
Nov 12: Matt 27; Mark 15
Nov 13: Luke 23; John 18-19
Nov 14: Matt 28; Mark 16
Nov 15: Luke 24; John 20-21
Nov 16: Acts 1-3
Nov 17: Acts 4-6
Nov 18: Acts 7-8
Nov 19: Acts 9-10
Nov 20: Acts 11-12
Nov 21: Acts 13-14
Nov 22: James
Nov 23: Acts 15-16
Nov 24: Gal 1-3
Nov 25: Gal 4-6
Nov 26: Acts 17-18:18
Nov 27: 1/2Thess
Nov 28: Acts 18:19-19:41
Nov 29: 1Cor 1-4
Nov 30: 1Cor 5-8

Youth

Merry Christmas! It's that time of year. May we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming celebration of the birth of Christ! The Barnum Youth Group takes the entire month of December to make Christmastime a special time. We start off with our Santa's Workshops each Monday of the month. These times give youth the opportunity to be creative in their gift giving this Christmas. We provide painting materials, drawing supplies, Christmas crafts and new this year Woobles, crocheted stuffed animals for youth to make and give as gifts to friends and family. We make sure each youth has the chance to make gifts for everyone on their Christmas list.



Monday, Dec 2nd
Monday, Dec 9th
Monday, Dec 16th
5-8pm
Barnum Youth Group - Barnum Community Church

We also turn the focus of Youth Group to the festive season. We play reindeer games, drink hot chocolate and decorate our Christmas tree and youth room. All the while the true meaning of Christmas shines brightly for the kids to see. Please join me in prayer for this season, that the youth say "yes" to the best and first gift of Christmas, Jesus.















December 2024

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
1	Cheryl Peterson Terri Krueger	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Cathy Kunze	Rachel Finifrock	Connie Swanson Mechelle Mattson	(4) Bonnie Peterson Linda Jusczak	Sandi Vogel
8	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Sandy Ferguson	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(11) Deb Halls Eileen Resman	Deb Entner
15	Steve & Sandi Vogel	Paul & Carmen Burak	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Deb Halls	Kay Finifrock Evelyn Newman	(18) Paul & Carmen Burak	Caroline Nordvall
22	Ann Kosloski Tiffany Parr	Dave & Sandy Ferguson	Deb Donaldson Robin Paulson	Deb Entner	Jenny Southerton Linda Laine	None	None
29	Roger & Deanna Finifrock	Scott & Elaine Bogenholm	Brian Koski Bonnie Kepler	Kay Finifrock	Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	None	None

January 2025

	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Nursery	Sunday Servers	Wednesday Servers	Wednesday Nursery
5	Dianne Anderson Connie Swanson	Bing & Kathy Mattson	Bonnie Kepler Cathy Kunze	Brenda Zinter	TBD	(8) Janet Adelsgruber Karen Smith	Carmen Burak
12	Audrey Sebring Annette Hammitt	Chris & Annette Meyer	Brian Koski Deb Donaldson	Tiffany Parr	**COMMUNION SUNDAY**	(15) Terri Krueger Linda Laine	Sandi Vogel
19	Leon Finifrock Connie Herbert	Buzz & Colleen Swanson	Brian Koski Robin Paulson	Sandi Vogel	TBD	(22) Sue Nelson Kathy Otnes Rachel Finifrock	Deb Entner
26	Paul & Carmen Burak	Bruce & Eileen Resman	Deb Donaldson Bonnie Kepler	Rachel Finifrock	TBD	(29) Steve & Sandi Vogel	Caroline Nordvall



The Lord's Table, December 8th

The second Sunday of the month will be our Table Sunday as a church family. We will be sharing communion at the Lord's Table, enjoying a shared dish (potluck). Table Sunday is a monthly reminder that our life together as the family of God centers in worship, fellowship and sharing.

REMEMBER to bring a dish to share on the second Sunday. Even if you aren't able, plan on staying for dinner with your family and friends here.



December Health and Wellness Moment

"The Health Benefits of Happiness "

Winter greetings! I pray you are all staying warm and safe, and that you are finding MN winter adventures to enjoy every day! It's been cold. Really cold. We've gotten a whole lot of snow this winter. We're ALL tired of shoveling, plowing, and shuffling around like penguins in icy parking lots. So my question to you is, how has your mood been this winter? Are you getting out and enjoying these winter months, or are you anxiously waiting for spring with every molecule of your body? Regardless of the season or weather, it is important to be HAPPY. It is vital to find happiness in every day. It isn't always easy, but it is possible! There are several health benefits to being happy. In fact, happiness and good health go hand-in-hand. Scientific studies have been proving over and over that finding happiness can make our hearts healthier, our immune systems stronger, and our lives longer. Here are a few examples:

1. Happiness protects your heart. Love and happiness are good for your heart health. In studies, folks that were happier had lower heart rates and lower blood pressure. This lowers the chance of heart attacks and stroke.
2. Happiness strengthens your immune system. Do you know a grumpy person who just seems to always be getting sick? That may not be a coincidence. Studies are showing that there is a link between happiness and a stronger immune system. Another study showed that immune system activity goes up and down during the day, depending on level of happiness.
3. Happiness combats stress. Stress is not only upsetting on an emotional level, but it also triggers biological changes in our hormones and blood pressure. Happiness seems to reduce these effects, or at least helps us recover more quickly.
4. Happy people have fewer aches and pains. Unhappiness can be painful. Literally! One study followed adults with arthritis and chronic pain. Those with more hobbies, goals and general happiness actually rated their chronic pain as less bothersome, compared to those who did not rate their lives as being very happy.
5. Happiness combats disease and disability. One study showed participants who reported being happy and satisfied with life most or all of the time, were 1.5 times less likely to have long-term health problems (such as chronic pain and serious vision problems). Participants who felt more enjoyment, positivity, self-esteem, hope and happiness in life were less likely to feel frail in their older years. They were less likely to have problems with impaired strength, endurance and balance.
6. Happiness lengthens our lives. Positive emotions help people to live longer, healthier lives. There are several studies showing this. In one study, those who lived with happiness, excitement and contentment in their lives were 65% more likely to live longer.

Reference: Kira M. Newman, greatergood.berkeley.edu, Greater Good Magazine

So for our best health, let's do our best to get out there and play in the snow, find adventures, and see the beauty in each and every day (even the cold, snowy ones!). BE HAPPY! :o)

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
-1 Philippians 4:4

Prayers for peace, joy and good health, and just a reminder…YOU are uniquely YOU by HIS design!
Jenny Southerton, RN, BCUMC Parish Nurse

Wednesday Bible Buddies

For four-year-olds through sixth grade



December

We continued our study in the Old Testament by reading about the exciting life of Moses. He came to trust and obey God through many challenges. He followed God's commands in confronting Pharaoh about the ten plagues, instructing the Israelites about the Passover, leading God's people out of Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea.

God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses to instruct the Israelite people. These rules help us lead our best lives with regard to our relationship with God and our relationship with each other.



The Bible Buddies are practicing the Christmas carols they'll be singing in church on December 22.

Important Events in the Life of Our Church

United Women in Faith

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall "thank offering". It supports our work within the church, community, and missions. We appreciate your support.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. at the church. We will be packing cookie treats for seniors and others who may need a little Christmas cheer. We do ask anyone that would be willing to donate cookies to this outreach please have the cookies at the church that morning. All women are invited to help with this project. We will be joining for "dutch treat" lunch at the Lazy Bear when the work is done.





All are invited to join the **Adult Sunday School** class following the worship service (all Sundays except Table Sunday). After getting in line for your coffee and morning treats, come down the hallway and join us in the large classroom on your left. We gather at 10:45 and engage in lively discussions of topical issues involving the Christian walk with a Biblical worldview.

CHURCH DIRECTORY:

We will be putting out a updated church directory this month. If you have any changes to your information, please contact the office.



Women's Christmas Brunch



Saturday, December 14th, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Beth Dutton

Called to Bethlehem -

Mary and Joseph's Unexpected Journey

Ever feel like life is going along just fine, and then your GPS says, "Rerouting"? Join us as we take a historical journey and step into Mary and Joseph's story. Witness how they adjusted to their unexpected reroute. Learn from them how to handle the unexpected callings in your own life.



Local vocalist ***Andrea Freeberg*** will be sharing a Christmas vocal medley.

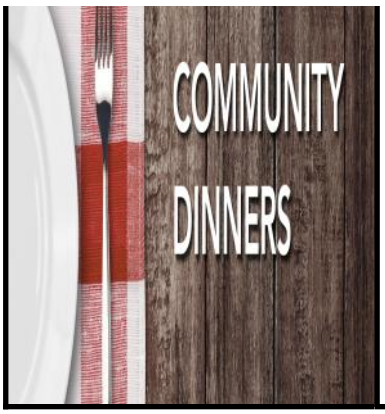
Tickets on sale November 3 through December 12

Please purchase your tickets in advance for $12.00 each or reserve a table for 8 ($96.00) Barnum Community Church, P.O. Box 70, Barnum, MN 55707

Call 218-389-6876 for more information.

Childcare provided with reservation.

Start your Christmas season with us!



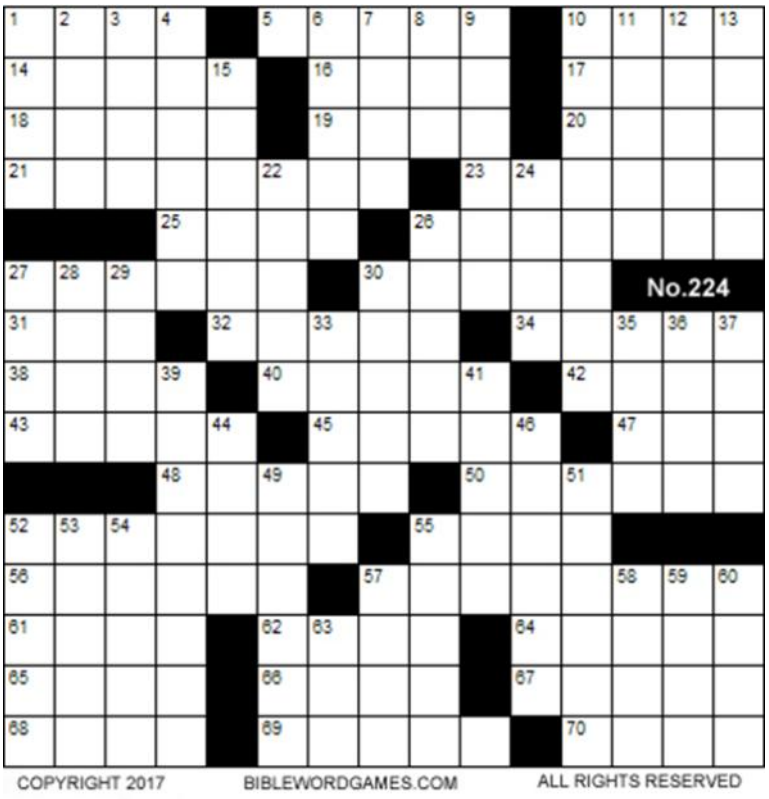
Join us for
Community Dinner
&
Family Night

December 4, 11, 18



Please join us for **WOW**
"Worship on Wednesday"

6:15—6:30 Praise & Worship Music followed by a short Bible lesson from Pastor Lee.



ACROSS

1 The fear of the LORD ___ length to life (Prov 10:27)
5 When they had ___ three or three and a half miles (John 6:19)
10 Bring me a heifer, a goat and ___ ___ (1,3) (Gen 15:9)
14 and an hundred sheep, beside ___, and roebucks (1 Kings 4:23)
16 This is the ___ of those who trust in themselves (Ps 49:13)
17 before me was a ___ horse! Its rider was named Death (Rev 6:8)
18 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the ___ on my holy hill (Joel 2:1)
19 David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a___(Romans 11:9)
20 his house is to be made a ___ of rubble (Ezra 6:11)
21 the woman said, The serpent ___ me, and I did eat (Gen 3:13)
23 "You ___ ___ one of his disciples, are you?" (3,3) (John 18:17)
25 from my own ___ and from my father's family (Gen 24:40)
26 saw what took place, they beat their ___ and went away (Luke 23:48)
27 Jacob__out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is (Gen 28:16)
30 they shall even fall into the mouth of the ____ (Nahum 3:12)
31 David went to ___, to Ahimelech the priest (1 Sam 21:1)
32 you as a father ___ with his own children (1 Thess 2:11)
34 the ___ forest has been cut down (Zech 11:2)
38 And ____ begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Gen 6:10)
40 the vine is ___ up and the fig tree is withered (Joel 1:12)
42 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the ____ (Matt 10:8)
43 snake (Isa 30:6)
45 ___ ___ seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him (1,4) (Job 18:9)
47 member of the first family of the Bible
48 The city was kept under ___ until the eleventh year of (II Ki 25:2)
50 steered by a very small___wherever the pilot wants to go (James 3:4)
52 Who would approach him with ___ ___? (1,6) (Job 41:13)
55 They left ____ Jaakan and camped at Hor (Num 33:32)
56 a papyrus basket for him and ___ it with tar and pitch (Ex 2:3)
57 Christ is the ___ of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)
61 John to the seven churches which are in ____ (Rev 1:4)
62 whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ____ (Eccles 3:14)
64 like wax before the fire, like water rushing down a ___ (Mic 1:4)
65 is alive again; and was____, and is found (Luke 15:32)
66 the people shall go out and gather a certain___every day (Exodus 16:4)
67 ____ the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' (Matt 25:6)
68 to let the oppressed go ____ (Isaiah 58:6)
69 he took his eldest son that should have reigned in his___(2Kings 3:27)
70 Then the high priest ____ his clothes (Mark 14:63)

DOWN

1 husband of Jezebel (IKing 19:1)
2 reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's ___ (2 Sam 18:18)
3 catch them in their net, and gather them in their ____ (Hab 1:15)
4 he slung it and ___ the Philistine on the forehead (1 Sam 17:49)
6 Jesus ___ withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16)
7 they did not expose your sin to ___ off your captivity (Lam 2:14)
8 eighth letter of Greek alphabet
9 words that I have put in your mouth will not___from your mouth (Isa 59:21)
10 Then he ___ to James, then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7)
11 The winter is past; the ___ are over and gone (Song 2:11)
12 You are to ___ it as an inheritance for yourselves (Ezek 47:22)
13 so does the church that ___ at their house (1 Cor 16:19)
15 When I ___ at them, they scarcely believed it (Job 29:24)
22 And they ___ their asses with the corn (Gen 42:26)
24 a ___like a measuring rod and was told, "Go and measure (Rev 11:1)
26 took unto them certain lewd fellows of the ___sort (Acts 17:5)
27 a prophetess, ___, the daughter of Phanuel,(Luke 2:36)
28 The boar out of the ___ doth waste it (Ps 80:13) KJV
29 nor change it, a good for ___ ___ (1,3) (Lev 27:10)
30 She gave herself as a prostitute to all the___of the Assyrians (Ezek 23:7)
33 The king got up in ___ ___ (1,4) (Est 7:7)
35 Share with God's people who are in ___ (Rom 12:13)
36 You are my God; ___ your servant who trusts in you (Ps 86:2)
37 Edom southward were Kabzeel, and ____, and Jagur (Jos 15:21)
39 Do not ___ to go with them, for I have sent them (Acts 10:20)
41 Where is the man who has ___ to do such a thing? (Est 7:5)
44 In your majesty ___ forth victoriously (Ps 45:4)
46 The Lord will ___ men for all such sins (1 Thess 4:6)
49 The ___ who direct the affairs of the church (1 Tim 5:17)
51 Lydia, a ___ in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:14)
52 they made an idol in the form of ___ ___ (1,4) (Acts 7:41)
53 gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of ___(2 Peter 2:15)
54 In that day will I ____ up the tabernacle of David (Amos 9:11)
55 the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to ___ (Acts 17:10)
57 your hands ___ out violence on the earth (Ps 58:2)
58 he ___ his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1)
59 I have set before thee an ____ door, and no man can shut it (Rev 3:8)
60 thou mayest give him ____ from the days of adversity (Ps 94:13)
63 went to the wine ___ to draw fifty measures (Haggai 2:16)

Just for Kids

PUZZLE

A Child is Born

Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.

Directions: Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS
gyhMti
dGo

MY NAME IS
lerWnofud
esnruooCl

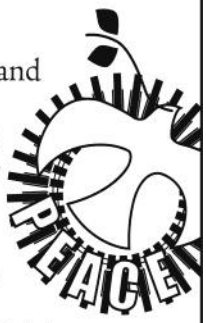
MY NAME IS
vrelEnsitga
eahFrt

MY NAME IS
niPcre of
aPcee



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

PEACE Wreath



What you need:

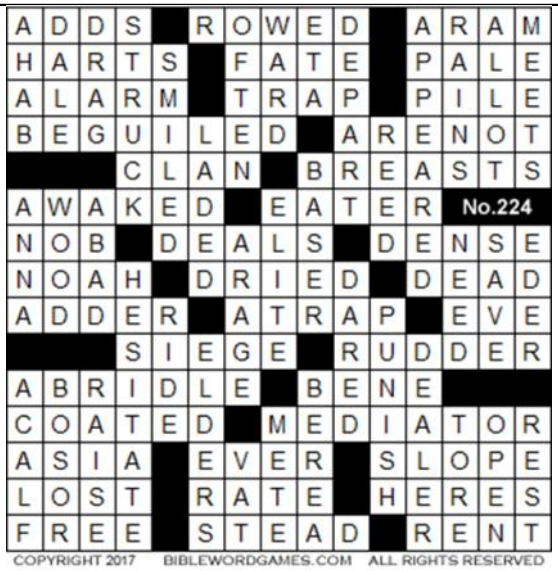
- Paint (blue and green)
- Paint brush
- Embroidery hoop
- 24 wooden clothespins
- Scissors
- Craft foam (white, red and green)
- Glue
- 3 white feathers
- Floral wire (two pieces)

What you do:

1. Paint the hoop blue and the clothespins green. When dry, attach clothespins around the hoop.
2. Cut a dove shape (slightly wider than the hoop's diameter) out of white foam. Glue on feathers.
3. Pierce the beak with a scissors tip. Slide a piece of wire through the slit to make an olive branch.
4. From green foam, cut out two leaves. Attach them to each end of the wire.
5. From red foam, cut out the letters P E A C E. Glue them onto clothespins.
6. Place dove in center of hoop. Glue its head and tail to clothespins.
7. Attach wire to the back and hang up your wreath.

Barnum Community United Methodist Church

POSTMASTER:
Please send address changes to:
PO Box 70, 3762 Front Street
Barnum, MN 55707
(218) 389-6876 office@barnumumc.org
www.barnumumc.org



A Community of Faith Dedicated to
Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ,
Providing Spiritual Nurture to Persons of All Ages,
and Reaching Out in Christian Fellowship to the Surrounding Community

BUMC Ministry Team

Pastor—Lee Kantonen
Council Chair—Leon Finifrock
Youth Director—Bill Schoonover
Missions/Outreach—Connie Swanson
Secretary—Mechelle Mattson
Faith Community Nurse—Jennifer Southerton
Congregational Nurture & Care—Connie Herbert
Nursery Coordinator—Kaye Finifrock
Acolyte Coordinator—Roxanne Matten
Wednesday Night Servers—Kaye Finifrock/Terri Krueger
Custodian—Jim Calhoun
United Women in Faith—Sandy Ferguson
Bookkeeper—Tiffany Parr
Ministries Leader—Deb Halls
Staff-Parish Relations—Dawson Gentry
Worship Ministry - Lori Koski
Properties Management—Dave Matten
Discipleship Ministries—Mike Line
Sunday Servers Coordinator—Ann Kosloski
Greeters/Ushers Coordinator—Laurie Audette
Sunday Counters Coordinator—Cathy Kunze
Office Manager—Laurie Audette