



The HARVESTER Newsletter

A Publication of Southwest Church of Christ

December 2021

Dear Southwest Family,

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it . . . to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-5, 12-14 ESV).

Max Lucado describes this event in artistic fashion:

It all happened in a moment a most remarkable moment that was like none other. For through that segment of time a spectacular thing occurred. God became a man. While the creatures of Earth walked unaware, Divinity arrived. Heaven opened herself and placed her most precious one in a human womb. God as a fetus. Holiness sleeping in a womb. The creator of life being created. God was given eyebrows, elbows, two kidneys and a spleen. He stretched against the walls and floated in the amniotic fluids of his mother.

God had come near. No silk. No ivory. No hype. To think of Jesus in such a light is --well, it seems almost irreverent doesn't it? It is much easier to keep the humanity out of the incarnation. But don't do it. For heaven's sake don't. Let him be as human as he intended to be. Let him into the mire and muck of our world. For only if we let him in can he pull us out.

The perfect Word of God miraculously breached our world; our world of sin, suffering, injustice, heartache and death. That is truly the message of Christmas. The Good News of grace and truth has been manifested. The Gospel of God's salvation and glory has been made known. And this Word, this Good News, the Gospel is completely encapsulated in one perfect person – Christ Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Man.

Jesus Christ has preached the Word of God to us and has embodied the Word of God perfectly in thought and deed. Beloved, my prayer is that Christmas would remind you that *“the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us”* in order to reconcile us to God and pull us out of the mire and muck of our world. Merry Christmas indeed.

Peace and Goodwill,
Nathan Robinson

Events & Information

Monthly Figures

In- Service Attendance:

10/31	11/7	11/14	11/21
93	82	89	81

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42). Thank you for your faithfulness church! We continue to have several folks watching online each week. Please continue to pray for our church family – both those in corporate worship and those being reached by our online ministry.

Deacon’s List:

Chair:
 Audio/Visual: Jared Friedrichsen
 Secretary: Mike Bunn
 Parsonage:
 Maintenance: Lynn Hounshel
 Special Projects: TBD, Lynn, and Phil Friedrichsen
 Benevolence: Tony Storad
 Church (Building): Lynn Hounshel

We are continually blessed by the generosity of God’s people. Thank you for your continued financial support so that we may meet the needs of our ministry staff, missionaries, benevolence ministry, and the general ministry of the church. For your convenience, we would like to remind you that online giving is available through our secure internet portal at <https://swccbarberton.com/giving>.

Thank you church family for your ongoing support of Southwest Church of Christ!

Weekly Need: **Weekly Need:**
 General: \$3,300 Missions: \$442

APS Giving Tree: It’s that time of year again! Southwest is partnering with Akron Pregnancy Services with the annual Giving Tree. Gift tags are numbered and attached to the tree in the foyer. If you are able to assist this year, take a tag and write your name on the list next to the corresponding number. **All gifts must be returned by 12/8 at 6pm.** Any questions, please see or call Cindy in the church office.

Christmas Eve Service: Please see the bulletin, or tune into the service on Sundays for more information in the coming weeks.

Adult Christmas Party: Saturday, 12/11 at 5pm. Bring something yummy to eat and share, also a \$5 gift, and wear your ugliest Christmas sweater! More details to follow in the bulletin.

B.A.C.M. Food Pantry item: Peanut butter and/or oatmeal (instant or regular kind). Please place items in the kitchen inside BACM box.

“Senior Moment”: Christmas Potluck at church at 12 noon on Tuesday 12/21. Guest speaker will be author Annette Palmer. Please bring your favorite food to share, and either canned goods for BACM or a \$ donation for Rahab Ministries. Questions, see Karen Rummer.

WNL: Dinner begins at 5:30, and studies at 6:30pm. All ages are encouraged to attend, as there are classes for Pre-K, grades K to 5, grades 6 to 12, and Adult’s Study. This is an excellent opportunity to bring your friends, family, or neighbors and get them plugged into learning God’s Word.

Tuesday Morning Ladies Study: Tuesday mornings at 10 am. We are using Jean E. Syswerda’s book “Women of the Bible”. Cost of the book is \$12. Questions, call Karen Rummer 330-671-7463.

Rahab Ministries: They are a faith-based ministry devoted to rescuing and restoring victims of human trafficking. Please consider supporting this ministry financially. Checks may be sent to: Rahab Ministries, PO BOX 13866, Akron, OH 44334.

Looking for support? Elders are available after every Sunday worship service, or by contacting the church office, to speak with you regarding prayer requests or offer spiritual guidance for your concerns.

(Youth Ministry events located on last page)



December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." Luke 2:11</i></p>			1 WNL	2	3	4
5 <i>Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group</i>	6	7 <i>Women's Bible Study</i>	8 WNL	9	10	11 <i>Adult Christmas Party</i>
12 <i>Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group</i>	13	14 <i>Women's Bible Study</i>	15 WNL	16	17	18
19 <i>Youth Group Christmas Party</i>	20	21 <i>Women's Bible Study</i> <i>"Senior Moment"</i>	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas</i>
26	27	28	29 <i>Youth Group Random Night</i>	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	

BIRTHDAYS:	
12/1	Victoria Friedrichsen
12/3	Lisa Howe
12/4	Daniel Wilson
12/6	Mary Bradford
12/8	Meghan Sapper
12/14	Jonathan Friedrichsen
12/22	Mikayla Sapper
12/23	Sharon Weinsheimer
12/25	Freda Brouse

ANNIVERSARIES:	
12/20	Dale & Rhonda Starcher

Did you have a birthday or anniversary this month that we missed? Would you like to have your special day added to our calendar? Write your name, the occasion, and the date on the prayer tab in the bulletin. Place the tab in the offering plate on any Sunday. Or you may send an email to: kdbusch15@gmail.com, and I will gladly include your information.

Do you know someone who would positively benefit from reading The HARVESTER? Our newsletter is now available on the Southwest Church of Christ webpage under the Ministries tab.

Growing Your Faith

"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Acts 20:35

For the year of 2021, we will be reading the whole bible. Old Testament and New Testament selections for each day provides a variety in your studying. This plan was originally developed by 19th Century Pastor Robert Murray M'Cheyne in Scotland.

- DEC 1:** 1 Chro. 29; 2 Pet. 3; Mic. 6; Luke 15
DEC 2: 2 Chro. 1; 1 John 1; Mic. 7; Luke 16
DEC 3: 2 Chro. 2; 1 John 2; Nah. 1; Luke 17
DEC 4: 2 Chro. 3-4; 1 John 3; Nah. 2; Luke 18
DEC 5: 2 Chro. 5:1-6:11; 1 John 4; Nah. 3; Luke 19
DEC 6: 2 Chro. 6:12-42; 1 John 5; Haba. 1; Luke 20
DEC 7: 2 Chro. 7; 2 John 1; Haba. 2; Luke 21
DEC 8: 2 Chro. 8; 3 John 1; Haba. 3; Luke 22
DEC 9: 2 Chro. 9; Jude 1; Zeph. 1; Luke 23
DEC 10: 2 Chro. 10; Rev. 1; Zeph. 2; Luke 24
- DEC 11:** 2 Chro. 11-12; Rev. 2; Zeph. 3; John 1
DEC 12: 2 Chro. 13; Rev. 3; Hag. 1; John 2
DEC 13: 2 Chro. 14-15; Rev. 4; Hag. 2; John 3
DEC 14: 2 Chro. 16; Rev. 5; Zech. 1; John 4
DEC 15: 2 Chro. 17; Rev. 6; Zech. 2; John 5
DEC 16: 2 Chro. 18; Rev. 7; Zech. 3; John 6
DEC 17: 2 Chro. 19-20; Rev. 8; Zech. 4; John 7
DEC 18: 2 Chro. 21; Rev. 9; Zech. 5; John 8
DEC 19: 2 Chro. 22-23; Rev. 10; Zech. 6; John 9
DEC 20: 2 Chro. 24; Rev. 11; Zech. 7; John 10
- DEC 21:** 2 Chro. 25; Rev. 12; Zech. 8; John 11
DEC 22: 2 Chro. 26; Rev. 13; Zech. 9; John 12
DEC 23: 2 Chro. 27-28; Rev. 14; Zech. 10; John 13
DEC 24: 2 Chro. 29; Rev. 15; Zech. 11; John 14
DEC 25: 2 Chro. 30; Rev. 16; Zech. 12:1-13:1; John 15
DEC 26: 2 Chro. 31; Rev. 17; Zech. 13:2-9; John 16
DEC 27: 2 Chro. 32; Rev. 18; Zech. 14; John 17
DEC 28: 2 Chro. 33; Rev. 19; Mala. 1; John 18
DEC 29: 2 Chro. 34; Rev. 20; Mala. 2; John 19
DEC 30: 2 Chro. 35; Rev. 21; Mala. 3; John 20
DEC 31: 2 Chro. 36; Rev. 22; Mala. 4; John 21

Scripture list courtesy of

<http://www.edginet.org/mcheyne/info.html>

Kids Korner

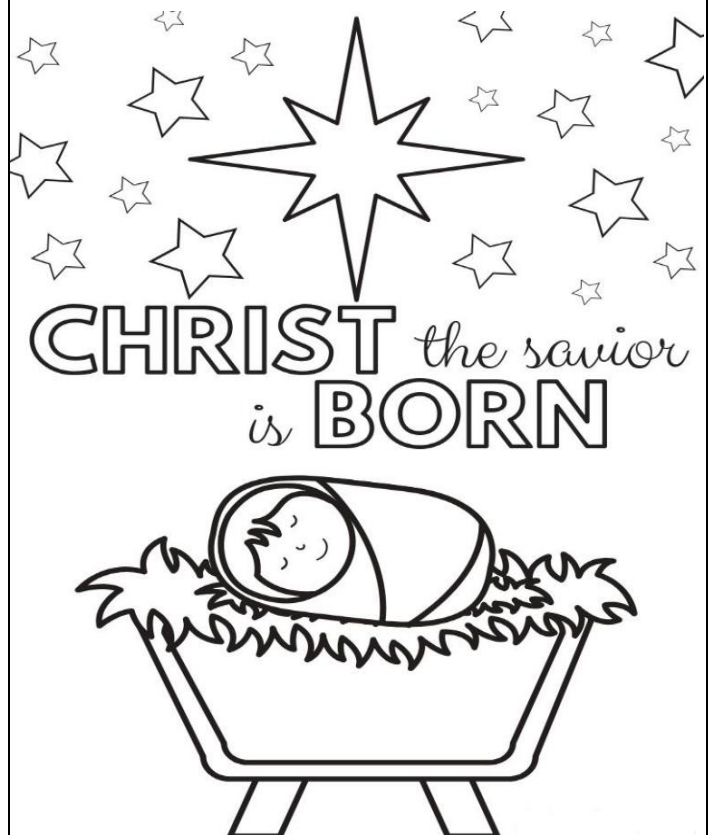


"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."
Matthew 1:21

Find the underlined words from the verse above in the word-search below.

T	B	M	C	Y	D	F	G	S	I	K
H	E	A	S	O	N	M	N	H	O	P
E	V	T	2	U	V	I	W	A	N	D
I	A	T	1	2	S	C	A	L	L	Y
R	S	H	E	Z	F	A	D	L	F	H
G	I	E	1	1	2	O	J	K	M	I
N	O	W	I	L	L	P	R	Q	T	S
J	E	S	U	S	R	N	A	M	E	T
W	Z	P	E	O	P	L	E	S	Y	K
F	R	O	M	1	2	1	B	J	E	B

For you to color:



Connect with Us



Love God Love People Lead People to Jesus

Nathan Robinson, Senior Minister
Jared Friedrichsen, Worship Minister
Dan Conway, Youth Minister
Cindy Weaver, Secretary
(330) 825-7263
www.swccbarberton.com
www.facebook.com/swccbarberton

WEEKLY WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday Morning:

Sunday School 9:30am

Morning Worship 10:30am

Tuesday Women's Bible Study: 10am

Youth Ministry

Junior Church: Junior church classes have resumed during Sunday morning service. We are still looking for volunteers to teach. A sign-up sheet is posted in the foyer if you are interested, or you can speak with Dan Conway.

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group: Shortened month for Sunday Youth Group and WNL get-togethers. See calendar.

Message from Dan:

Some people really like snow and others do not. Some people can't wait to see that white powdery stuff cover the ground, the sidewalks, and have a white Christmas. Whereas others hope against hope that this year will be the first year that snow stays away. Snow is one of those things that divides the nation in a lot of ways- and there are very few people who disagree about snow that can come to a conclusion on how much there should be. Personally, I am not a snow lover. I really want it around Christmastime. And what I mean is when I get to my family's house and don't have to drive anymore, it can snow so there is a white Christmas. Then I don't need it unless the kids really want a snow day on my day off. Other than that- snow is overrated. Feel free to remind me that I moved to the snowbelt and to expect a lot of it this year. Lake effect snow, bring it on!

I just got back from "Mystery Weekend". We told the kids we were going to Tallmadge for an overnight trip and that it didn't cost any money and that was all we said. The kids were pretty divided. Some of them thought we were going to a YMCA overnight or someplace really fancy (This is where I point out, when the trip is free usually we aren't doing something "Fancy"). They spent a lot of time guessing and thinking up ideas as to where we would go. In reality we went to Northwest Avenue Church of Christ and did a half lock-in (event where you stay up all night at a Church playing games and talking about Jesus) and a half conference (there was worship music, a speaker, small groups, etc.). Basically, the team that came up with the plan (Myself, Doug, and Keith Doyle) brought out the best parts of lock-ins and the best parts of conferences, put them together and said we'll call it Mystery Weekend. Games like Sardines, Romans vs. Christians, Nerf Wars, and so many other fun things were there to make sure the kids had memories. But the biggest thing was to talk about Jesus.

Now the big question I'm sure you're all asking is what does snow and Mystery Weekend have in common? The answer is this: when looked at in a childlike fashion, you get to see the best in either of them. Snow is at its best when we are kids: snowball fights, hot chocolate, sled riding, getting paid to shovel the driveway, and snow days. Mystery Weekend is at its best with Christ being glorified, making new friends at other churches, trying fun things, and of course running around another building having a great time. Sometimes being childlike is a good thing, especially around Christmas.

Here's a challenge and some C. S. Lewis quotes to finish: "Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than the whole world" *and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger - Luke 2:7. 2)* "The Son of God became a man to enable men to become Sons of God."