

December Updates 2025



Advent/Christmas Schedule

Nov. 30: 9:00 First Sunday of Advent/Hanging of the Greens (**Hope**)

Dec. 7th: 9:00am Second Sunday of Advent (**Peace**)

Dec. 14th: 9:00am Third Sunday of Advent/Communion (**Joy**)

Dec. 21rd: 10:30 Fourth Sunday of Advent/Christmas Program (**Love**)

Dec. 24th: Christmas Eve 6:00p.m.at St. John's

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Service 9:00p.m. at Emmanuel

Dec. 25th **Happy Birthday Jesus!**

Dec. 28th 10:30 Combined Service at St. John's

December 7 Matthew 3:1-12
December 14 Luke 1:46-55
December 21 Matthew 1:18-25
December 28 Psalm 148



Thank you! We give thanks to God for the bounty

Thank you to all the people who helped with the fish fry through their time, donations and prayers. (215 Fish dinners were sold)

Thank you to all the people who donated food and their time for the Bluffton community meal! (92 meals were served)

Thank you to the people who brought in food for the community assistance program and donations for the Harvest collection

*“We all live off his generous bounty, gift after gift after gift.”
John 1:16 (MSG)*

In November at the Annual Congregational Meeting. The 2026 Budget was passed. The congregation also approved the following consistory members for 2026.

Elder-Nick Shepler, Kelli Fruchey, Jaret Geiser, Erin Stark
Deacon- Sara Music, Jane Agner, Kim Worcester, Doug Oberly

If you would like to bring a poinsettia in to put in the front of the church during the Advent season please do. They will be taken care of through the Advent season. There will be a sheet at the back of the church if you would like it in Honor or Memory of someone.



The church will be participating in the Adopt a Family program through the Bluffton Community Assistance Program again this year. Our family consists of 7 people: 35 year old dad, 34 year old mom, 11 year old girl, 10 year old boy, 8 year old boy, 6 year old girl, 5 month old baby. Ornaments are hung on the tree with a wish of what family would like. If you would like to take an ornament and buy the gift. Gifts can be wrapped and brought to the church with your ornament taped or tied on the outside by December 15. Monetary donations are accepted and we can do the shopping for you if you prefer.

Thank you so much for making Christmas special for this family!
Feel free to tape a card, prayer or special message to this family
Women's Outreach
Renee Caskie 419-890-6213
Church 419-358-1561
for questions



We Need your help - Come out and help make buckeyes

Buckeye making days December 12 (6 - 9pm)

December 13 (9:00am til done)



Come when you can and stay as long as you are able 😊



Christmas Program

December 21, 2025
10:30am at Emmanuel

Come and hear the scriptures and listen to variety of Christmas performances by the children and adults: Joint choir from the women of Emmanuel and St. John's, The Christmas season is a wonderful time to come together and remember why we celebrate, "Our Saviors birth"



practice times:

Saturday December 6 (10 to noon)

Saturday December 13 (10 to noon)

Saturday December 20 (10 to noon)

(Women's choir rehearsal at St. John's at 2:00pm – Dec 3, 10, 17)





Christmas Light Stroll

Sunday Dec. 21

4:45 Dinner (Pizza) at St. John's

5:30 Leave to **stroll** through downtown Bluffton

To look at Christmas lights

Back to St. John's for Hot Chocolate and s'mores



CHRISTMAS FUND SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING

Throughout the month of December you will find a brown Christmas Fund envelope for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund on the table at the back or enclosed with this update. This fund provides direct financial assistance to retired and active United Church of Christ authorized ministers and lay employees and their surviving spouses, including pension and health premium supplementation, emergency assistance, and Christmas thank-you checks. A ministry of the Pension Boards, the offering is received annually during the Christmas season.



“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” Luke 2:11-12



“Christmas Gift Suggestions:

To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance.

To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service.

To all, charity. To every child, a good example.

To yourself, respect.”

– Oren Arnold

DECEMBER



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wed. Thurs. Friday Sat.

	1	2	3	4	5	6 Christmas practice 10-12
7 Advent 2 Worship 9am Buckeye Orders due	8 Consistory 6:30pm	9	10	11	12 Buckeye making 6pm	13 Christmas Practice 10-12 Buckeye Making 9am
14 Advent 3 Worship 9am Communion	15	16	17	18	19	20 Christmas practice 10-12 Deliver gifts for Adopt a family
Advent 4 21 Worship 10:30am Christmas Program	22 Women's Outreach 1:00pm	23	24 	25  <u>Happy Birthday Jesus!</u>	26	27
28 Worship 10:30 joint service at St. John's (No potluck)	29	30	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>December 21 Christmas light stroll - downtown Bluffton 4:45 for pizza Meet at St. John's</p> </div>		

December Birthday's

- 12/02 Jack Burrell
12/05 Val Eikenbary
12/08 Xavier White
12/12 Megan Fruchey
12/13 Danny Caskie
 Anthony Reichenbach
 Reese Fruchey
12/14 Kathy Fruchey
12/15 Julie Oberly
 Bev Shepler
 Dick Steele
12/17 Ron Schmutz
12/20 Tim Lehman
 Gabriella Chatelain
12/23 Alexanderia Moser
 Norm Reichenbach
12/24 Daryl Reichenbach
12/25 Jesus
 Elaine Sommers
 Eileen Falk
 Ava Schmutz
12/29 Jack Neeper



**NOTE:
TIME CHANGE
STARTING
JANUARY 4, 2026
WORSHIP
10:30AM
ADULT FAITH
FORMATION
before worship
9:30am**