

WELCOME TO OUR

Weekly Newsletter

we're so glad you're here!



HEY, HOW ARE YOU?

A Message from our Clerk

How are you making out? I know this particular season can bring with it much busyness, many feelings, so much to do.

Remember, be kind to yourself. Give yourself grace. Take each day as it comes and as Avery reminds me, "Mum, it's not about the presents under the tree. It's about giving, and it's about Jesus' birthday." And she is so right.

Also remember, giving can look different for everyone. Whether that is by making time to pray for those near and dear to you or someone God has put upon your heart and mind to pray for. It doesn't have to cost money. A kind word and a prayer goes a long way.

Merry Christmas,
Bethany Wheaton | Clerk





Murphy and the Squirrel

But thank God! I at least have given One dog a happy life. - Robert Service

Twas the week before Christmas, and all through the church, not a creature was stirring – Except the squirrel. I walked into the sanctuary this morning to get the church laptop, setting up for Sunday's service and the Christmas eve service. (Which is at 6pm by the way). Murphy the dog was with me, and I usually leave him by the door, not bringing him into the sanctuary. On this occasion however, a "friend" was waiting for me. Mr. Squirrel has been a thorn in my side for a while now, and this began our routine of me trying to shoo him outside again. But I realized this time that I had an option that I had not used before. Murphy.

If you haven't met Murphy yet, he is a Heinz 57 kinda dog, a mix mostly of lab, boxer and pit bull, but he mostly acts like a lab. Isabelle and I adopted him about 8 months ago from the SPCA, where he had been surrendered as an abuse case. He was underweight, gentle but extremely shy, and had several missing teeth due to eating rocks to fill his stomach. Even after adopting him, it took several weeks for us to be able to pet his head let alone do anything else. He had a name before we adopted him too, but he didn't know it. So, Murphy became Murphy, and we took him home.

So the stage is set, Murphy is with me, the squirrel is watching, waiting to see what happens. It's like an old western standoff. Murphy notices the squirrel, and the loony Toons episode begins. Running and ducking and weaving, up and down left and right, Murphy plows through a music stand and the squirrel tries to hide in the heating register. And for just a moment, I see Murphy be a dog. Not the scared of everything dog, not the abuse case, not limited by the past, but Murphy the dog, chasing the squirrel out of the church. (I imagine **this** playing in the background)

In reflecting on this cacophonous scene (nothing was broken don't worry) I thought about how much we all have grown, and how though the past is a reality, it becomes something to build from, rather than be shackled to. Christmas has always been a reflective time of year for me, and this time last year we had maybe half of the folk we have now. I was still in a wheelchair, and we had yet to open the Baptismal tank for the first time. We have come a long way, and I think we need to appreciate that.

I also look at the folk in the church, and how much you all have grown as well. God has been exceedingly good to us, and I see how disciples are being made here. Not bums in pews, but folk who are seeking to grow, and see a little slice of heaven in this place. I am proud of you all, lets keep the pace, and see where God brings us next.

The squirrel had cornered himself in a heat radiator, and Murphy and I camped just outside to try and spook him out the door. He was sniffing around, and I was tapping on the metal register to spook out the squirrel, when Murphy heard someone walking by, and a big truck drove by as well. This of course scared Murphy, and made him want to go back into the safety of my office. No matter how far we have come, there is always further to go. This can be frustrating, but life is about the paths we take and how we walk them, not about the outcome.

We are coming to the end of another year, Christmas is 6 days away, and new years right after. Take a look at the year gone past, reflect where you have grown, and where still needs work. We've all grown, but there is always room for more. So blessings this Christmas season, and be that light to those around you.

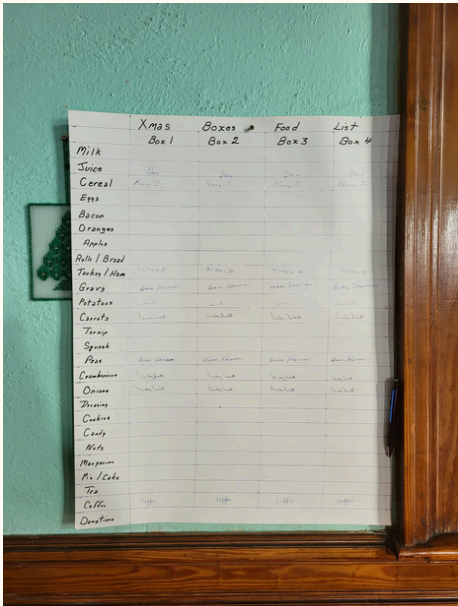
14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. – Matthew 5:14-16

Cheers, Rev. Connor Kehoe



Christmas Boxes

Thanks for signing up to fill these boxes. There are still plenty of spots available to fill, if you're able that'd be greatly appreciated. Please have your items in as Wayne will be picking them up on Monday morning.



Food Pantry

Thank you to each and everyone for keeping this little food pantry well stocked.





Past Services

Below is a link to our recent
Sunday service on December
14th 2025.

[Click Here](#)

Announcements

- Please note that Connor will be on vacation from December 28th to January 9th. Note: there'll be no Faith and Fact while he is gone. Prayer Meeting will pick back up on January 8th.
- The Homeschool Social and Homeschool Co-Op groups will resume the week of January 13th.
- Our Christmas Eve Service will be held on December 24th at 6PM. Please join us and plan to bring a friend or family member along as we sing carols and celebrate the birth of our Lord & Savior.





Contact Information

HAVE A QUESTION? NEED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US?

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