



# LIBERTY LANTERN



VOL. 2, ISSUE 26

YEAR END EDITION

DECEMBER 4, 2024

## HERE WE ARE...

Does it often seem the end of each year just flies by? We often hear, or even say to ourselves, where did the year go? Sometimes it can be harder to remember every year is a gift. Shared with others or a path walked in solitude, with each of its joys or challenges, every year is a gift, and we thank God for the passing year.

With the first Sunday of Advent, December 1<sup>st</sup>, we began the 'waiting', the anticipation of the birth of Jesus.

During this season of what can feel like a constant hurry, getting the decorations up and the shopping, rushing to-and-fro, let's remember to take a breath, pause, and celebrate with a humble heart the simplest 'Christmas' that ever was, just a baby. In that moment, just a baby born to a young mother and father, in a lowly state.

It's never really about the rushing, parties, trees and presents...

*Just the one perfect gift ... a baby.*



Photo by Jeswin Thomas, Pexels.com

*And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*

*Luke 2: 7 (ESV)*



## Thank You-s!

...to everyone who helped with the church decorating on Nov. 30, Great Job!

...for all the donations of turkeys and 'fixins' for the 6 Thanksgiving dinner baskets donated to the families at Liberty School.

...all the effort in collecting items, packing and helping to reach beyond the 100 box goal - 109 boxes for Operation Christmas Child! We will be watching 15 boxes move across the globe beginning in mid-January!

...to the 'angels' of Liberty United Women in Faith who provided the blessings of gifts (clothing and toys) for the Angel children at Liberty Elementary

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS...

- Paula J. – Dec.2
- Donna K. – Dec. 2
- Kelli C – Dec. 10
- Terry S. – Dec. 12
- Marla L. – Dec. 15
- Sonia LK – Dec. 18
- Luis K. – Dec. 19
- Marcia C. – Dec. 21
- Art C. Dec. 22
- Vicki S. – Dec. 26
- Brian V. – Dec. 28



## THE LIBERTY CALENDAR...

**Sunday, 12/8 –**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

Adult Study – 8:45 AM Mem. Hall

MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

*No Youth Study during December!*

**Tuesday, 12/10**

Bodacious Women, 10 AM Memorial Hall

**Wednesday, 12/11 -**

Choir Practice, 6:30 PM

**Thursday, 12/12 – Hand & Foot**

(Canasta), 6 PM, Memorial Hall

**Saturday, 12/14 – Church Tours**

**Noon until 5 PM, a great kick-off  
before the Buckeye “Glow on  
Monroe”**

**Sunday, 12/15 –**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

Adult Study – 8:45 AM, Mem. Hall

MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

Cookie Walk and Craft Sale during  
Fellowship, LUWIF Fundraiser

**Tuesday, 12/17 -**

**No Bodacious Women at 10 AM**

Liberty UWIF Christmas Party, 6:30 PM

See Paula Jarvis for more information

UMM meeting at **6:30 PM, Conf. Rm.**

Follow-up video to Jan Hus,  
“Blind Courage”

**Wednesday, 12/18**

Choir Practice, 6:30 PM

**Thursday, 12/19 – Hand & Foot**

(Canasta), 6 PM, Memorial Hall

**Sunday, 12/22 –**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Adult Study – 8:45 AM Mem. Hall

MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

*No Youth Study during December!*



**TUESDAY, DEC. 24**

**CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

**Greeting will begin at 6  
PM, come join us in  
quiet prayer and reflection.**

**Candlelight Service will  
begin at 6:30 PM**

**Wednesday, 12/25**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**No Choir Practice**

**Thursday, 12/26**

**No Hand & Foot (Canasta)**

**Sunday, 12/29 –**

Adult Study – 8:45 AM Mem. Hall

MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 AM

*No Youth Study during December!*

**Tuesday, 12/31**

**No Bodacious Women**

**No Home Group in December**

**PRAYERS FOR OUR DISTRICT**

We conclude the year of prayers for our fellow UMC congregations with the following UMC churches and organizations:

Spirit Song UMF, Peoria ~ Sunrise UMC,  
Phoenix ~ Willowbrook UMC, Sun City ~  
Mingus Mountain Camp ~ Justa Center,  
Phoenix ~ Wesley Community & Health  
Centers

**Signing off & thank you from your editor** – it is my sincere hope that you have enjoyed the Liberty Lantern throughout 2024. The first issue of 2025 will be released Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, and contributions of articles are always encouraged. **Merry Christmas – Rachael S.**

**Need to contact the Liberty Lantern?** Email us at  
LibertyUnitedMethodist1@gmail.com