



# The Centenary Sentinel

A Parish Paper published by  
*Centenary United Methodist Church*  
301 North Seventh Street  
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*Sharing God's Love at the Heart of Terre Haute*  
*Mel Camp, Pastor*  
**December 2016** - Published Monthly

## **FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN**

Well, here we are at the beginning of Advent. We are preparing for Thanksgiving dinner. We are preparing to hang the decorations. We are preparing to do our Christmas shopping. Some of you may even be preparing to go shopping on Black Friday. The choir is preparing for the Service of Lessons and Carols. So many preparations going on.

But what about the preparations of our hearts. Are we doing anything to prepare for the real meaning of Advent. Advent is a season observed in many Western Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The term is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming". There are three meanings of 'coming' that Christians describe in Advent. The first, and most thought of, happened about 2000 years ago when Jesus came into the world as a baby to live as a man and die for us. The second can happen now as Jesus wants to come into our lives now. And the third will happen in the future when Jesus comes back to the world as King and Judge, not a baby.

So, as we continue our preparations, let us not forget to prepare ourselves for Christ coming now, and in the future. May God continue to bless us and watch over us.

For the only cause that matters,  
**Mel**

### ADULT FRIENDSHIP CLASS

<b>December 4</b>	<b>Don Dodson</b>
Lesson:	God Promises a Savior
Scripture:	Luke 1:26-38
<b>December 11</b>	<b>Bill Dando</b>
Lesson:	An Affirmation of the Promise
Scripture:	Luke 1:39-56
<b>December 18</b>	<b>Tom Barnett</b>
Lesson:	The Forerunner of the Promise
Scripture:	Luke 1:1-23, 57-66
<b>December 25</b>	<b>No Sunday School</b>

### STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Please join us in thanking our staff for all their dedication to the Centenary Community by making a contribution to Staff Christmas Gifts. You may do so by putting a check or cash in an envelope marked Staff Christmas Gift and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office. These gifts should be made by Friday, December 16.

### PRAYER SHAWL & FIBER MINISTRY

There will be a work session to knit, crochet, quilt, weave, etc. on December 15 from 5:30 - 7:30 PM. Bring your supplies and be ready to fellowship. For more information, talk to Donna VanSandt or Lea Ann Camp. We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month.

### CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each odd-numbered month, at 5:30 PM. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 5:30.

### HOLIDAY SYCAMORE SOCIAL

The Holiday Sycamore Social will be held on Monday, December 5, 2016, at 7:30 p.m., at the Maple Avenue Armory. We are planning a special event for the physically and mentally challenged of Terre Haute including cake and ice cream, punch, pretzels, candy canes, and appearance by a special visitor. Please join us in making this event a joyous occasion for our guests. If you would like to donate something, we will have a sign-up sheet available in the Library.



### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS

Centenary United Methodist Women met on Wednesday, November 2, in the Friendship Classroom for a short business meeting and a presentation about the Bread for the World organization by Dorothy Drummond, author, world-traveler, professor, and director of the Terre Haute Chapter. Dorothy spoke passionately about the important work that Bread for the World does in our community and throughout the world. Special thanks go to Karen Heefner and Lucille Cummings who served us a delicious brunch.



### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN POTLUCK

We invite all women of the church to join us for the December meeting on 7th at 11:30 AM at Centenary. This potluck is always a fun, festive, and joyful time. Karen Heefner will be presenting the program, and our own Deb Moore-Hardin, a chaplain at Union Hospital, will collect layettes for Union Hospital Maternal Health Center. You may bring a baby item. Fruit trays will also be taken to Centenary shut-ins. Hostesses for this event are Mary Lynn Siefert, Jan Harmening, and Mary Halsted.

There will be no Circle meeting in December.



**MAY YOU HAVE  
A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS  
AND A  
WONDERFUL NEW YEAR!**

***From your Church Staff***

<b>Pastor:</b>	<b>Mel Camp</b>
<b>Finance Secretary:</b>	<b>Ken Grissen</b>
<b>Church Secretary:</b>	<b>Pam Virgilio</b>
<b>Youth Director:</b>	<b>Connor Scanlon</b>
<b>Director of Music:</b>	<b>Scott Buchanan</b>
<b>Organist:</b>	<b>Bill Cain</b>
<b>Nursery Attendant:</b>	<b>A.J. Nicoson</b>
<b>Custodian:</b>	<b>Jane Berg</b>



## **YOUTH GROUP NEWS FROM CONNOR**

The Seventh Cents Youth Group had a game night on November 20 and will be having a bible study over the movie *ELF* at Central Presbyterian on December 4 from 5 -7 PM. A Christmas party is being planned for December 16 at the Whitaker's house; more information will be coming soon.

### **COMMUNITY LUNCH PROGRAM**

We are looking forward to the start of Centenary's new outreach ministry. Monday, January 23 will be the first time we will be offering a community meal. It will be a free meal, open to anyone who wants to come. It will be from 11:00 to 1:00 on the fourth Monday of each month.. If you would like to help with this exciting new ministry, please contact Pastor Mel at (812-232-2319) or Martha Crossen at (812-243-3646).

### **CHOIR REHEARSALS**

Please note the following holiday schedule for choir members:

Wednesday, Nov. 30	no rehearsal
Thursday, Dec. 1	rehearsal
Wednesday, Dec. 7	no rehearsal
Wednesday, December 14	rehearsal
Thursday, December 15	dress rehearsal for Lessons & Carols

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

On Sunday, December 18, the Chancel Choir will present a special Service of Lessons and Carols. The service will include a variety of choral anthems, congregational hymns, and a series of readings and scripture passages that tell the story of Jesus' birth. You won't want to miss this wonderful Christmas celebration as told in word and song.



## ***The Christmas Stable***

***Have no fear the angel said  
I bring you news of joy  
For unto you will soon be born  
A glorious baby boy.***

***He is named by God to save the world  
From haughtiness and pride  
From miles around the wise will come  
To seek him for their guide.***

***Proud kings will never search enough  
To find this shining light  
But lowliness will bring the  
Wise of heart to know the right.***

***In a stable will be born  
The saint of lowliness  
So young, so small, so innocent  
Great power will he possess.***

***This story will never be forgot  
And never will grow old  
How the wise men brought him frankincense  
And gifts of myrrh and gold.***

***But the greatest gifts were given of God  
Who taught us humbleness  
How in the heart of the lowly stable  
Was born the babe of righteousness.***

***May our hearts be like the stable  
Welcoming truth when it comes our way  
Letting the light of love shine upon us  
To give direction to a common day.***

***Barbara Keller***

**A special thank you to Barbara for allowing us to share your wonderful and thoughtful poetry.**

# December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			7:00 PM Choir Practice	1 11:00 AM Prayer Group	2	3 9:00 - 2:00 Delta Gamma downstairs
4	5 7:30 - 9:00 PM Sycamore Social Christmas Party	6	7 11:30 AM UMW Potluck	8 11:00 AM Prayer Group	9	10
11	12	13	14 11:00 AM Mel at Westminster  7:00 Choir Practice	15 11:00 AM <u>Prayer Group</u> 5:30 PM <u>Prayer Shawl</u> 7:00 Choir Practice	16  Youth Christmas Party	17
18 9:30 AM Service of Lessons and Carols	19	20	21	22 11:00 AM Prayer Group	23	24 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service and Childrens Program
25 10:00 Worship Service	26	27	28	29 11:00 AM Prayer Group  Mel leaves on vacation, back 1/9	30	31



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



3	Mel Camp	19	Tony Pesavento
5	Beth Tevlin	23	Mark Frisz
7	Leon Trosper	25	Louann Kern
9	Donna VanSandt	26	Tyler King
	Bob Dodson	27	Gabriella Tanoos
11	Annette Trosper		Gift Yaw Dadzie
	Sandy McClain	28	Daniel Dadzie
13	Ben Pottratz	31	Steve Kostyo
14	Mary Ellen Long		Caroline Dando
	William Shagley		

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



26	Jim & Doris Pell
29	Mike & Nicole King

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<b>Sunday</b>		<b>Wednesday</b>	
9:30 AM	Worship	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
10:45 AM	Sunday School	<b>Thursday</b>	
5 - 7 PM	Youth Group	11:00 AM	Prayer Group