



From The Pastor

Christmas arrives and we celebrate the coming of the Christ into our lives anew. Every year has its mix of triumphs and challenges; and the past year has had more than its fill of challenges! I am honored and blessed to continue to provide pastoral care and leadership to this congregation and I look forward to the ministry we will share together in the coming year!

So as the challenges of 2020 give way to new light and hope for 2021, may you know the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus and the comfort and joy of the Holy Spirit!

Peace, Joy, Love!

Pastor Rick +

Moderator Message

There is no doubt that 2020 has brought loss, fear, and frustration into many of our lives. Our celebration of Christmas did not escape the turmoil of politics and the pandemic. Yet the very message of Christmas is peace and hope.

So, in the midst of this unique holiday season, let's reflect on the memories of Christ's birth as preserved by the authors of the Bible and realize again the foundations of our celebration. Here is the situation – a frightened, adolescent mother unprepared to even clothe her new baby, an earthly father who could not provide an adequate shelter, a group of rag-tag shepherds who were working 24/7 away from their families, and three magi who had been wondering for months, tenacious hoping for the best. Into the midst of this representative human drama full of fear, worry, exhaustion, and inadequacies, God delivers the most amazing gift ever given – His Beloved Son, the Christ Child. With this baby, came the promise of peace on earth and a Savior who guides, protects and promises a home prepared for us in heaven. No wonder the skies lit up with the amazing glory of angels singing!

We, God's people, can rest assured that His gift of peace and hope are still ours to claim.

Christmas offering

This year our Christmas offering is for Fishermen's Net

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS:

Dec. 12th - Betty Fairchild; Dec. 14th – Bonnie Bickelhaupt; Dec. 17th – Jaci Colombo;
Dec. 19th - Matthew Currie; Dec. 22nd – Sherla Millis

ANNIVERSARIES:

Dec. 18th – Keith & Janice Wimmersberger

Request for ALTAR FLOWERS



Members to all of you who have signed up to bring in Altar Flowers in the past and present as always thank you. However, we still need Altar Flowers for 4 more Sundays in 2021. If you can bring flowers on **January 17, April 11, April 18, or August 29**, please contact Nancy Corey (315-420-5442) or Cindy at the church office. Thank you!

LOOKING AHEAD.....



Prayer Shawl is the second and fourth Monday each month at 7:00 p.m.

Bell Choir meets each Wednesday at 6:30p.m.



Although, **December 21st 2020**, has passed
The Christmas Star is still visible in the sky. This is a once in a life time event. If you have a moment you should try to see it.

December 31st New Years Eve



January 1, 2021

Prayer and Praise



Prayer Requests

Lorraine and Linda for their cousin, Irma McGowan, has had a stroke. Mary Huntington requested prayers for the father of her children, Joe Kuhn. He is very ill with covid and has been hospitalized. His

wife also has covid and is in quarantine. Linda Cottrell is asking for prayers for Karie Cottrell. She has been diagnosed with a blood clot in her leg. Pam Downey and family, she is mildly ill with COVID, but isolation and quarantine has been tough on the family. Nancy Foster is asking for prayers for her daughter, Breanna. She is taking a travel nurse job. Liz Spaulding has an upcoming procedure. Wendy Dale's Aunt Claudia who is sick with COVID. Sue Wright's husband, Bill is at Upstate hospital with complications from COVID. Kay and Jim Butkus' daughter Pam Falge for health concerns. Stacey McCrea's mom, Ola Mae Haskins, is positive for COVID. She has not been able to visit her in the Assisted living situation in months.

Continued prayers for:

Marcia (Hugh) Reed's mother, Barbara Stanley, she is recovering from her fall.

We pray for Brenda, the Millis family's daughter, Pamela Poulin, Jolie Spaulding. Janet Hillenbrand's brother. Prayers for Betty Ketchum, Annalee Santelli, Cheryl Haskins' nephew Eric, Mary Thompson, Sharon French, Don Bickelhaupt and Edie Cook we pray they are getting better and staying healthy. The families of Lutz Mayer and Robert Drum.



Joys shared

Janet Hillenbrand is grateful for the birth of their new great granddaughter, Rory Cecelia.

Pam Poulin, and all of us are thankful for the devotionals that Rick writes and shares. Stacey McCrea's son, Rob is home. He has advanced in the Army Reserves to Private First Class. And the joy of the Christmas lights.

Dear Members we have received a few Christmas Cards and we would like to share them with all of our members of the Tully United Community Church



Cheryl, Haskins

Merry Christmas to my TUCC Church family! Thinking of you all as we celebrate this most special season in this most unusual way! Stay safe, stay strong! Keep the music in your hearts even as it is so different in our sanctuary! See you on ZOOM!

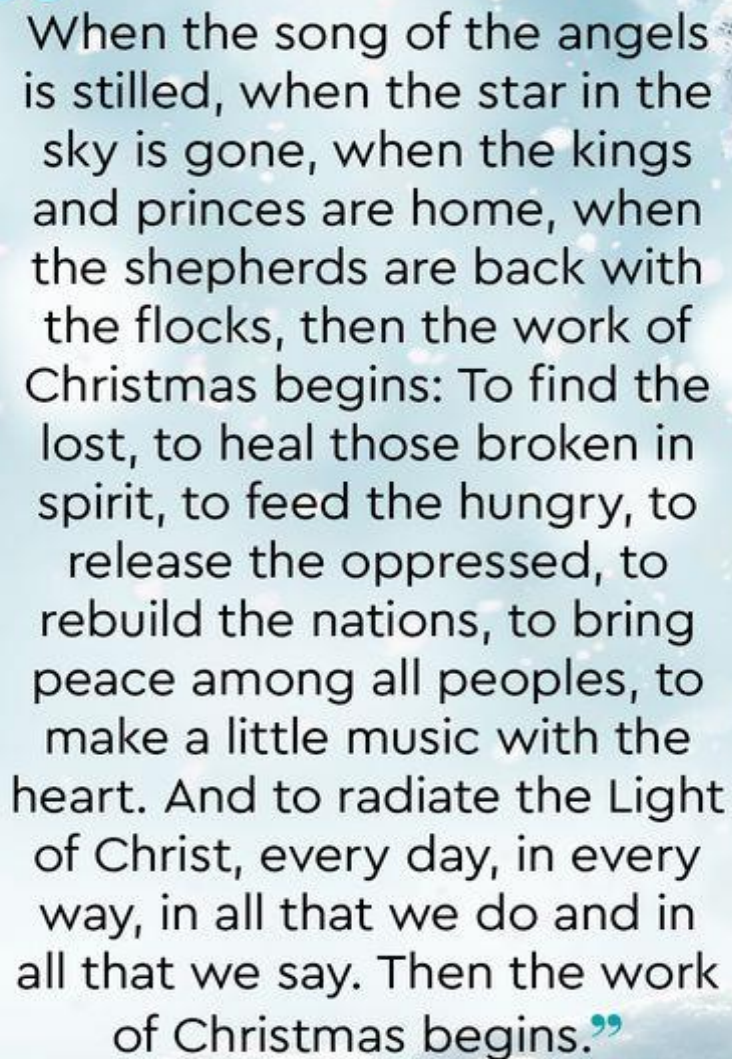


Sue and Don Bickelhaupt; Were kind enough to share this poem with us.

Author Unknown

T'was a month before Christmas,
And all through the town,
People wore masks,
That covered their frown.
The frown had begun
Way back in the Spring,
When a global pandemic
Changed everything.,
They called it corona,
But unlike the beer,
It didn't bring good times,
It didn't bring cheer
Contagious and deadly,
This virus spread fast,
Like a wildfire that starts
When fueled by gas
Airplanes were grounded,
Travel was banned.
Borders were closed
Across air, sea and land.
As the world entered lockdown
To flatten the curve,
The economy halted,
And folks lost their nerve.
From March to July
We rode the first wave,
People stayed home,
They tried to behave.
When summer emerged
The lockdown was lifted.
But away from caution,
Many folks drifted.
Now it's November
And cases are spiking
Wave two has arrived
Much to our disliking

Frontline workers,
Doctors and nurses,
Try to save people,
From riding in hearses.
This virus is awful
This COVID-19
There isn't a cure.
There is no vaccine.
It's true that this year
Has had sadness a plenty,
We'll never forget
The year 2020
And just 'round the corner-
The holiday season,
But why be merry?
Is there even one reason?
To decorate the house
And put up the tree,
When no one will see it,
No one but me.
But outside my window
The snow gently falls,
And I think to myself,
Let's deck the halls!
So, I gather the ribbon,
The garland and bows,
As I play those old carols,
My happiness grows.
Christmas is not cancelled
And neither is hope.
If we lean on each other,
I know we can cope
God bless you all and to all a good night



When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with the flocks, then the work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, to heal those broken in spirit, to feed the hungry, to release the oppressed, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among all peoples, to make a little music with the heart. And to radiate the Light of Christ, every day, in every way, in all that we do and in all that we say. Then the work of Christmas begins.”

HOWARD THURMAN

— **Woman'sDay** —

Ways to Support Your Church and Community

Ministries come in many forms. Some take time, some take money, and some take both! Here are some suggestions for giving to others:

1. Offerings to TUCC – mail or drop off at church; pay through electronic bill pay of your bank
2. St. Leo's Food Pantry and Outreach, POB 574, Tully, 13159. Attn: Cheryl Paccia. Pantry needs monetary donations for fresh produce, meat, and dairy
3. Donate sauce, tuna, canned veggies, PB, jelly, toiletries, paper products, etc., for the Food Pantry. They can be left just inside St. Leo's hall between 9am – 2pm or just outside the door
4. Shop *smile.amazon.com* and select TUCC as your non-profit. A percentage is returned to the church!

Board members and officers needed!! Can you support the church with your time and talents? Our church works best when everyone takes a task. Please join a Board (Christian Education, Deacons, Mission and Outreach, Personnel Relations, Stewards, or Trustees) or serve as an officer. Call Ann Sedora (315) 409-9304 and volunteer; thank you for pitching in!

Meditation and Sunday Service in our Sanctuary

Our sanctuary is open daytimes for prayer or meditation. Hand sanitizer is provided by the door. Homemade masks are available for you to wear and take for added protection during COVID19.

The Zoom link for Sunday services

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84947299698?pwd=MFBKeEN0MDVnVG15Ujl2czhUVVZxZz09>

Meeting ID: 849 4729 9698

YouTube service: Please watch your emails, our website and TUCC Facebook for the update.

TUCC INDOOR WORSHIP GUIDELINES are on our bulletin board and website tullychurch.org.

***Remember: Wash your hands. Wear your mask in public. Stay home if you are ill.**