

THE STEPPING-STONE November 10, 2021 Issue



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FROM THE PASTOR – NOVEMBER 2021

HOLIDAY GREETINGS!

It seems hard to imagine, but we are quickly approaching the most wonderful time of the year! At least that is what the song says. And I'm guessing that for most of us that is what it is, or at least has been. Of course, the Happy Holidays can be a mix of emotions. The longer we spend on this earth, the more memories we have of Thanksgiving and Christmas past. While we rejoice in the blessings of the present moment – the children, grandchildren, even great-grands – we also remember holidays past and our loved ones past and there can be a certain sad longing in our hearts. Some of us struggle with health issues that make it increasingly difficult to join in celebration – both physically and emotionally. We wonder how or maybe even if we will get through another season.

I don't mean to paint a dark picture, but rather a realistic one. We put a lot of pressure on ourselves and sometimes on others to make this season joyful – no matter what it takes! I mean to encourage us all to think of one another, to be gentle with one another and with ourselves, to cherish the moments that we have on this earth. I mean to remind us that it is ok in a joyous season to be a little sentimental and to shed a few tears. I mean to ask us to give each other the space we each need as we each need it.

In Advent we talk about waiting for the coming of Christ. It is a both/and kind of waiting – waiting to celebrate the coming of Jesus at his birth, and waiting for the coming of Jesus at the end of human history. We stand in the middle between Emmanuel – God With Us – in human flesh and the Lamb of God who will wipe away every tear from our eyes. The wait is filled with pain and joy, with disappointment and success, with doubt and assurance. Advent teaches us that the wait is worth it for what we will inherit in the end. But Advent also teaches us that in our patient waiting we are to be patient with one another, to be kind and loving and helpful. Our country – our world – needs a LOT more of that!

It's hard to do, but try to be slow and thoughtful in this rush toward Christmas. Listen for the messages in the lectionary for Advent that encourage us to grow in our faith as we patiently await the coming of the Christ. Be ready for the surprises that the season of Advent has in store for us.

Keep a Holy Advent!

Pastor Rick +



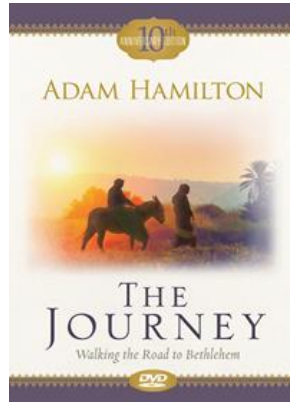
TULLY UNITED COMMUNITY CHURCH THANKSGIVING AND ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2021



November 21	Thanksgiving Sunday	9:30 am
	"The Journey" Advent Book Study – Week One "Mary of Nazareth"	10:45 am
November 28	First Sunday in Advent	9:30 am
	"The Journey" Advent Book Study – Week Two "Joseph of Bethlehem"	10:45 am
December 5	Second Sunday in Advent Hanging of the Greens Service	9:30 am
	"The Journey" Advent Book Study – Week Three "Mary's Visit To Elizabeth"	10:45 am
December 12	Third Sunday in Advent Special Liturgical Dance by Full Circle Dance and Fitness Teasa Luke, Director/Choreographer	9:30 am
	"The Journey" Advent Book Study – Week Four "From Nazareth to Bethlehem"	10:45 am
December 19	Fourth Sunday in Advent Congregational Interactive Nativity Story Angel Wings, Shepherd's Crooks and Donkey Ears Provided!	9:30 am
	"The Journey" Advent Book Study – Week Five "The Manger"	10:45 am
	Lana Stafford and Friends "Holiday Classics" Concert	3:00 – 5:00 pm
December 24	Christmas Eve - Contemporary Service	7:00 pm
	Christmas Eve – Communion and Candlelight Service	11:00 pm



Bible Study for teens and adults



During Advent, TUCG is offering a Bible study for teens and adults based on the book *The Journey* by Adam Hamilton. The five-week study will take the group from Nazareth to Bethlehem in a fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. A study book and weekly video content uses historical information, archaeological data, and the author's personal observations to reflect on this amazing moment in history.

The study will begin **November 21st at 10:45 AM**. Sessions will include time for refreshments and will end before noon. **Sign up by November 12th** is required to allow time to order the study guide. Please sign-up in person, email the church at tullyunitedcc@gmail.com or call 315.696.8066. Donations to defray the costs of the study material are welcome.

No doubt, the celebration of Christ's birth will become more real and heart-felt as you walk along this road.

There is a bible study sign-up sheet in Murdock Lounge.

Moderator Message

It is just a couple of weeks until Thanksgiving, 2021. When you look back and thank God for all His blessings to you and your family, please remember to include mention of His blessings to the TUCG congregation. The Church selected and installed a settled Pastor, we raised enough money to repair the historic bell carillon, and we and the community celebrated our 50th anniversary. Along the way, we used the baptistry for the first adult baptism in years and agreed to support the spiritual growth of several new babies and their families. Zoom gatherings, chicken barbeques, Community Day tag teams, Trunk or Treat with a whale and a TON of candy, church clean-up, Peter's weeders, blood and food drives, sewing and knitting – we came together throughout the year to serve God and bless our community. In the midst, we laughed and prayed a lot, worried some, hugged the grieving and came to appreciate each other even more than before. No doubt, we should be grateful for a year of blessings and thankful that we have the resources and talent to continue God's work.

Time Capsule

We are moving ahead with plans for the time capsule. You can see the size and shape of capsule in the Fellowship Hall. Next to the capsule is a clipboard – please jot down your suggestions for what symbolic items to include in the capsule. Recommendations for where we should bury it and how to mark the site would also be appreciated.



TUCC CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE



Order deadline – November 22.

**Forms are available in the back of this bulletin.
Additional forms have been placed in the Narthex.**

Remember the Food Pantry

This is the time of year we want to think about the less fortunate. Please bring in any extra food items you may have.

Sign- Up Sheets

Sign-up Sheets for both the **Craft Show Luncheon** and **T.A.G. Cookie Plater**. -They are on the office window.

Photos of Church Events

One important goal for the 2021-2022 church year is to capture church events with photographs or videos. If you take a picture or video during services or church activities, please text them to Ann Sedore at 315.409.9304 or email to ann@sedore.com.

Sunday School & Children's Moment

The Sunday school and youth class will be meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month after being dismissed from Children's Moment during church. A Children's Moment is part of every Sunday Service including a scripture portion, Kid's Chat, Sunday School Song, and an activity page.

Drivers needed

Church council is working on the first draft of the church's strategic plan. One action included in this plan follows the suggestion of the transition team: offer transportation for church services and events. Church Council is looking for drivers for this plan. Those able to volunteer, please give Cindy (tullyunitedcc@gmail.com or 315-696-8066) your name and contact information.

Ushers/Greeters

The Deacons are looking for folks to serve as Ushers/Greeters on Sunday Mornings. We need 2 ushers each Sunday, either individuals or families, and we would greatly appreciate it if you could sign up for a month at a time. Please add your name to the schedule on Sunday morning or contact the church office. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS:

Nov. 10th - Wells Moore Edinger, Nov. 11th – Chris Miller, Nov. 14 - Kay Butkus, Nov. 17th – Kay Bates, Nov. 18th – Sue Wright, Nov. 19th – Len Foster, Nov 20th – Julie Burgett, Ed Hillenbrand, Marissa Scalza, & Sharon French, Nov. 26th – Linda Cottrell, Dawn Cox, Nov. 27th Nancy Chawgo, Sally Greene

Dec. 6th – John Butkus, Dec. 9th -David Spaulding, Dec. 12th – Betty Fairchild, Dec. 14th -Bonnie Bickelhaupt



ANNIVERSARIES:

Nov. 10th – Joe & Judy Conklin

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Total

Sunday, October	17	62
Sunday, October	24	60
Sunday, October	31	48
Sunday, November	7	60

CONTRIBUTIONS (Sunday Offering and Loose Offering) for Sunday

Total

Sunday, October	17	\$2, 026.00
Sunday, October	24	\$3,677.00
Sunday, October	31	\$1,356.00
Sunday, November	7	\$1,659.00

Prayer and Praise

Prayer Requests:

Nancy LaJorie and Leslie (Cornue) Sanderson need your prayers, Mike, friend of Nancy Foster- loss of loved ones and health needs. Sho Kawakita in regards to his disabled daughter- he was thankful for the sermon. The passing of John Walters-friend of Leon Oaks-Lee.



Continue prayers for:

the following individuals who we hope are all getting better and staying healthy: Linda Cottrell, Pam (Kay & Jim’s daughter), Barb and Art Berg, Betty Fairchild, Nancy Chawgo, Mannie Slate, Marley Barduhn’s brother-in-law, Beth Lattimer, Fred- Dawn Cox’s significant other, Bill Wright, Peggy Cutis, Joe Puccia, Bruce Conklin, Morty Smith, Brad Smith’s brother and Chris Kruth’s niece Jennifer Rich and Brenda Millis.

Joys Shared:

Nancy Foster’s son, has moved and has a new baby coming.

Upcoming TLC Recipients are:

Fran Fishlock, Patricia Bloodgood, Pat Ehlers, and Lura Rouse

Tully United Community Church Tuesday Senior Lunch Menus

Every Tuesday at Noon our church sponsored **Senior Luncheon**. This is meant to keep the place of the PEACE Nutrition Program senior lunch until they are able to return. All are welcome – price is \$3.50 for 60+, \$4.00 for under 60 and no one is denied if unable to pay.

<u>November 16</u>	<u>November 23-Thanksgiving Meal</u>
Sausage and Lentil Soup Italian Bread Gingerbread with Lemon Curd	Roast Turkey Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Stuffing Green Beans Cranberry Jello Pumpkin Bars
<u>November 30</u>	
Sloppy Joes on a bun Potato Salad Brownies	

*Menu is subject to change.

Church Activities

Bell Sales – On going. There are still a few anniversary bells that have the carillon printed on them and there is a plan to sell unprinted bells later in the year. If you are interested in purchasing a bell, \$10.00, please contact Pamela Poulin (607- 749-3474).

November - Prayer Shawl Meetings – **There will be no prayer shawl meetings until further notice.** Requests are still being taken. Shawl makers will be knitting and crocheting at home. Finished shawls can be left at the church office. If you have any questions, please call Sandy Burgett at 315-696-5197

Tuesdays, at Noon – Senior Luncheon

Friday, November 12th – Bible Study Sign-up Sheet is in the Murdock Lounge. Bible Study will begin November 21.

Saturday, December 4th – 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Tully Craft Show Location Tully High School and Both Gyms

Wednesday, Nov. 17th – Rotary – 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Friday, November 26th & Saturday, November 27th -Christmas at the Station at TUCC

Thursday, November 25th - Thanksgiving

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; use the PayPal link on the church website or pay through the electronic bill payment process 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. A donation box is at the church or 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!
5. Contact the Pastor, any Board chair or the Moderator to offer your ideas, time or talent. A vibrant church is built around the passions and talents of the congregation.

Meditation and Sunday Service in our Sanctuary

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

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87556610214?pwd=WE9kMnhaK2ISS3dFSk51WTI4MUVVQz09>

Meeting ID: 875 5661 0214

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. If you are not fully vaccinated, wear your mask in public. Stay home if you are ill.**



TUCC CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE



Please indicate the number and color of each plant - *Order deadline-November 22, 2021*

6 1/2" pot (x-tra fancy) \$8.00 # _____ color _____ = \$ _____

8" pot (12 bloom & up) \$20.00 # _____ color _____ = \$ _____

10" pot (15 bloom & up) \$30.00 # _____ color _____ = \$ _____

(All plants come with a foil pot cover)

TOTAL \$ _____

Color choices - RED, WHITE, PINK

Name: _____

Phone / email: _____

In Memory or Celebration of: _____



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