



St. James United Methodist Church

December 2023

THE CONNECTION

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM BROTHER BEN



One of my favorite things about the Christmas season is all the wonderful holiday advertising put out by the world's biggest retailers. I look forward to seeing what Macy's and Chevrolet come up with as they work with advertising agencies to tug at our heart strings and fill us with Christmas joy.

But this year, the ad that caught my attention wasn't from some big fancy retailer but rather, from Charlie's Bar, a pub in Enniskillen, Ireland. It's an incredible ad that's on the low budget side but tells a powerful story. What really caught my attention wasn't the ad itself, it was the copy that accompanied it. The bar acknowledged the holiday season was one often filled with sadness and loneliness that can be a difficult time. That they were going to be open to provide a place where others could connect and find love and joy in this Christmas season.

They included in their post this tagline from William Butler

Yeats that said "there are no strangers here only friends we have not yet met". What a sentiment, friends! One that we want to echo here at St. James United Methodist Church. We want you to be a part of our Christmas Eve services and if we haven't met yet, we are just friends who haven't had that joy.

We invite you to join us for any of our services on Christmas Eve. They begin on 9:30 in the morning. We've got services that are classic in style in our sanctuary, modern services in our Worship Center, services that are geared toward families. There's something for everyone and we want you to be a part of it. Be a part of the love, the joy and hope the Christmas season brings. Friends, Christ is coming to dwell on our hearts and we want you to come and be with us here at St. James. To become new friends who experience the love of God together. I hope to see you there. Merry Christmas!

Grace and Peace, Ben

Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve *Eve*

CLASSIC CANDLELIGHT
WORSHIP
DECEMBER 23
IN THE SANCTUARY
5:30pm

Classic Candlelight

IN THE SANCTUARY

9:30am*
5:00pm*
7:00pm
11:00pm

* SERVICES WILL BE LIVESTREAMED

Family Friendly

CAROLS, COOKIES & COCOA
11:00am | WORSHIP CENTER

CLASSIC CHILDRENS SERVICE*
2:00pm | SANCTUARY

*SERVICES WILL BE LIVESTREAMED

Modern Candlelight

IN THE WORSHIP CENTER

3:30pm*

*SERVICES WILL BE LIVESTREAMED

Commemorative Gifts through December 13, 2023

In Memory of:

- Mike Arnold by Sallie Graves, Jennifer & Randy Coleman, Jack Ramer, Marsha Hamilton, Julie & Darin Wewers, Ferris & Lloyd Garrison, Lisa & Andy LaGrone, Sabrina Drewry, Christina & Brock Martin, Alexis Ware-Lessons for Life Ministry, Delia Prather, and Dabbs Sullivan.
- Pres Brailsford by Passages Sunday School Class.
- Marsha Crismon by Donna & John Wyrick, Sue Frank, Linda Derden, Stephanie & Randy Peek, Robert Lindley, Mitzie Westbrook, Katy Smythe, Janet & Bud Jones, Cathey & Ken Robbins, Susan & Michael O'Malley, Mary & Clef Vaughan, Mable & Charles Donaldson, Judy & Rick Jacobs, Tamey & Michael Craig, Ann & Stephen Rowell, Jan & Vaughn McQuary, Leah & Steve Williamson, Patricia & Joe Ed Smith, Linda & Don Bacon, Sonya & Mark Murphy, Jill & Bob Bloom, Nancy & Teddy Burnett, Derek Edwards, Richard Green, Lisa & Andy LaGrone, Pat Racop, Rene & Joe Starr, Nancy & Dennis Meredith, Ann & Keith Smith, Steve Crismon, Donna Stinnett & John Huggins, Passages, Forum, and Agape Sunday School Classes.
- Charlotte Fiser by Phyllis & Barry McKuin, Charlotte & Jim Gadberry, Kay & Frazier Kennedy, and Shelia McAdams.
- Lacy Fraiser by Amy Fraiser, Stephanie & Steven Kyser, Joan Adams, Cappy & Charlie Whiteside, Janis & John Brizzolara, Darlene Giffin, Sarah Ann & John Sulieman, James Adamson, Jennifer & Mark McCarty, Allen Smith, Lee & Jack Ramer, George David, Dana Kuykendall, Dana Ritchie, James Kyser, Mary Lou & Bill Cravens, Meredith & Nicholas Menudier, Toni & Donald Fitz, Betty Chadduck, Victoria & David Hall, Jan & Charles Sullivan, Barbara & Steve Bova, Hilda & Jim Boger, Judy & Robert Riser, and Myrene & Bernie Cox.
- Marsha Chambers by Sally & Chuck Goss.
- Cindy Hays by David Hays.
- Evelyn Kiernan by Stacy Picone.
- Rick Kuonen by Betty Finley, Libby & Scott Davis, Fred Roberson, Heather Peck, Molly & Milton Robinson, Lockton People Solutions, Nancy & Dennis Meredith, Susan & Steve Butler, Becky & Billy May, Barbara & Frank Garcia, Charlotte & Conley Meredith, and Earline Satterfield.
- Ann Strebe May by Gene Sugg, and Reese Strickland.
- Bill Miller by Nancy & Harlan Weber.
- Pete Price by Mary & Clef Vaughan, Cathey & Ken Robbins, and Lisa & Andy LaGrone.
- Winnie Roberts by Tamey & Michael Craig.
- Faith Smith Goodman by Sue Frank, James Campbell, Barbara Warner, Marcia & James Darr, Janet & Bud Jones, Ed Willis, Mary Lynn & Sheffield Nelson, Margaret & Doyne Dodd, Ferris & Lloyd Garrison, Marti Thomas, Lynne & Marvin Hare, Jr., Deborah Miles & Marc Rudow, Len & Rebekah Miles-Delay, Mary Ann Campbell, Dorothy & Ray Moseley, Loretta Woodall, Wanda Lair, and Pathfinder's Class of First Methodist Jonesboro.
- Bruce Garrett by Mae & Doug Garrett and Family, Linda & Christian Hale, and Felicia & David Garrett and Family.
- Gordon Heiges by Karen & Ron Morris, Charles Spohn, and Maureen & Garet Van Gennep.

- Lisa Orgain by Sallie Graves, Carolyn & Max Davis, Jean & Joe Stimers, and Elise Argue.
- Lou Lane by Margaret & Doyne Dodd.
- Jerry Parham by Janis & Scott Thibault.

In Honor of:

- Priss Inman by Tom Weir.
- Marion Weir by Tom Weir.
- Harry Leggett by Brenda & Kenny Ziegenfelder.
- Brenda Weeks by Mary Katharyn & Ron Hope.
- Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study by Melinda Martin.
- Rev. Ben Crismon & Kira Keating by Larry Hurst.

To the Endowment Fund:

- In memory Frances Jernigan by the Scott Maddox Family, Denise Bauer, Sandy George, Bonita & James Badami, Mary Epperson, Susan & John Crawford, Linda Derden, Kenda Treadway, Mary Rowe, and Joyce Hayden.
- In memory of Marsha Crismon by Kenda Treadway, and Susie Branon.
- In memory of Virginia Neill by Linda Derden.
- In memory of George Robbeke by Linda Derden.
- In honor of Jo Leggett by Harry Leggett.

To the Birthday Endowment Fund:

- In honor of Susie Branon, Ardith Helms, and Kathy McConnell by Sue Frank.

To the Mission Fund:

- In memory of Gordon Heiges by Kiki & George Plastiras, Connie Staley, Helen & Richard Todd, and Charles McClain, Jr.
- In memory of Frances Jernigan, Shirley Brown, and Mary Dean Lyford by St. James UWF.
- In memory of Lauren McCants and Faith Smith Goodman by Susie Branon.
- In honor of Brenda Weeks by Kenda Treadway.
- In honor of Kathleen Chambers by Rene Starr.

To Archives Ministry:

- In memory of Frances Jernigan by Elizabeth Switzer.

To Habitat for Humanity:

- In memory of Marsha Crismon by Tricia & Jim Petersen.

To the Thompson Scholarship Fund:

- In memory of Rick Kuonen by Martha Lynn Thompson.
- In honor of Vicki & Larry Davis, Molly & Milton Robinson, and Amy Tackett by Martha Lynn Thompson.
- In memory of Marsha Crismon by Kathy & Doug Strock.
- In memory of Felix Thompson by Carolyn & Harvey Matheny.

To Caring Hands Prayer Shawl Ministry:

- In memory of Pat Henry by Jean & David Parham, Susan & Eric Munson, Linda & Don Bacon, Jill & Bob Bloom, Jan & Edsel Danner, Ferris & Lloyd Garrison, Mary Chivers, and Paula & Robert Reynolds.

To Ozark Mission Project:

- In memory of Marsha Crismon by New Challenges Sunday School Class.

To Senior Ministry:

- In honor of D.K. Robinson by Susie Branon.

To Community of Hope:

- In memory of Lisa Orgain by Susie Branon.

Commemorative Gifts (continued)

To the Columbarium Fund:

- In honor of the Fortson Family by Jamie Grantham.

To Guatemala Missions:

- In honor of Barbara & Bryan Robinson.
- In memory of Barbara Robinson by Arkansas Securities Dept., Matt Bennett, Sydney & Bentley Blackmon, Susie Branon, Patricia Bueter, Kathleen Chambers, Kathryn & John Curtis, John Fisher Family, Roy Gutierrez, Lisa & Andy LaGrone, Liz Lundeen, Kristin & David Mann, Susannah & Wilks Marshall, Kathy & Chad Millard, Zack Murray & Family, Carolyn Owen, Sarah Owens & Servin Orellana, Tricia & Jim Petersen, Stacy & David Robinson, Mary Grace Smith, Lindy & Don Streit, Tracy & Jay Van Dover, Kenny & Jeff Van Patton, Amelia Vestal, Nina & Edmond Waters, Nancy & Jerry White, Melissa & Scott Whitfield, and Wholesale Electric Supply.
- In honor of Bill Dedman & Sonny Dedman by Julia Hart.

To the Annual Fund:

- In memory of Pete Price by Ann & Stephen Rowell.

To the Food Pantry:

- In honor of Susie Branon, Betty & Tom Byarlay, Kathy Chambers, Debbie Frost, and Dotty Moore by Pat Racop.

To Stone Soup:

- In memory of Faith Smith Goodman by Lori Llewellyn and Delores Ehrlich.

To Tornado Relief:

- In memory of Betty Maddox by Pat Racop.

To Under the Bridge Ministry:

- In memory of Marsha by Jean & David Parham.
- In memory of Lauren McCants by Pat Wiggins, and 40 Days Sunday School Class.

To Vacation Bible School:

- In memory of Cindy Hays by David Hays.



ITEMS COLLECTED FOR FOSTER CHILDREN:
Director of Missions & Outreach, Brad Sweeney and coordinator Nan Black, with some of the donations for the Angel Tree.

The St. James Angel Tree had well over 100 Angels, and all of them have been taken to be fulfilled. Each Angel represents a child currently in foster care, and lists the child's needs this holiday season. Toys and clothing are now being organized for distribution to the foster families.

Emily Stewart and Nan Black are coordinating the Angel Tree this year. Thanks to all who helped with this effort!

In Remembrance

(September- December)

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Shirley Brown | Gordon Heiges |
| Marsha Chambers | Bill Ingram |
| Marsha Crismon | Lou Lane |
| Charlotte Fiser | Ann Strebe May |
| Lacy Fraiser | Jerry Parham |
| Mike Frost | Barbara Robinson |
| Bruce Garrett | Faith Smith |
| Faith Smith Goodman | Warren Smith |
| Martha Hargis | Bud Watkins |
| Barbara Anderson Hays | Peggy Wells |

Welcome New Members

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Brett Bassham | Ben Gilbert |
| Shirley Baugh | Grayson & Katie |
| Cora Lee Brannon | Hinojosa |
| Matt & Morgan | Michelle Kuder |
| Brunson | Robin McNulty |
| Jojo & Aaron Carter | Jared & Megan Nalley |
| Jon & Caroline Chang | Kennedi Norwood |
| Katie & David Church | Kerri & Charles Peden |
| Debbra & Stephen | Jean Skiavo |
| Christiansen | Barbara Swesey |
| Will & Danielle Coggins | Melissa Tice |
| Phyllis Cullen | Susan Tinker-Beebe |
| Katie & Ryan Dunivant | Joyce Williams |
| Marty Floyd & Bill Goff | |

If you would like to join St. James, contact Rev. Greg Schick, at 501-217-6706 or greg@stjameslr.org. New members forms are available at the Welcome Center information kiosk at Entrance 1.



Did you know you can help the St. James Youth just by shopping at Kroger?

There's no extra cost to you!
You can simply scan your shopper card each time you're at the register and we will get a monetary credit for a portion of your purchase. Follow these steps below to support us through your shopping.

Go to www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards

- Log into your Kroger Account
- Search for "St. James UMC - Youth" and select us as your donation organization.
- Swipe your card with each purchase

Thank you in advance!

Worship with Us....

Saturdays

- 5:30pm Casual Worship
Sanctuary
(in-person only)

Sundays

- 8:30 Traditional (in-person only)
- 9:30 Contemporary
(in-person & live stream)
- 11:00 Traditional Service
(in-person & live stream)
- 11:00 Contemporary
(in-person only)

Watch the Livestream

On our website:

www.StJamesLR.org -

click on "Media" drop down to Livestream

On Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stjameslr

Baptisms

Isaac Howard Barnes
son of Charli & Bryant Barnes,
grandson of Cherie & Todd Moore

Morgan & Matthew Brunson
and their sons Beckham Lyn Brunson
& Wynn Paul Brunson

Margaret Reid Chang
daughter of Caroline & Jon Chang

Chance Tyler Creighton, Jr.
son of Erin & Chance Creighton

William Morgan Cooper
son of Lauren & William Cooper

Stephen Mills Douglas,
son of Jane Elizabeth &
Taylor Douglas

Lincoln Allie Dunivant
son of Katie & Ryan Dunivant

Douglas Robert Harrison
son of Ryan & Lindsey Dennis Harrison,
grandson of Jane & Robert Dennis

Beckett Thomas Hinojosa
son of Katie & Grayson Hinojosa

Scarlett Louise Hinojosa
daughter of Katie & Grayson Hinojosa

Charlotte Ann James
daughter of Audrey & Will James

Parker Ann Kerley
daughter of Anna Kathleen & Nathan Kerley,
granddaughter of Debbie & Bo Plyler

Kale Louis Ludwig, Jr.
son of Nicole & Kale Ludwig

Ember Elizabeth Nalley
daughter of Megan & Jared Nalley

Kaden Zane Nalley & Ryker Troy Nalley
sons of Megan & Jared Nalley

Murphy Elliott Vance
son of Kaci & Luke Vance

Annie Stokes White
daughter of Amy & Kes White

PERIODICALS

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New Year's Eve
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

Only 1 church service
10am - Sanctuary
with Rev. Greg Schick

NO ADULT OR CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL