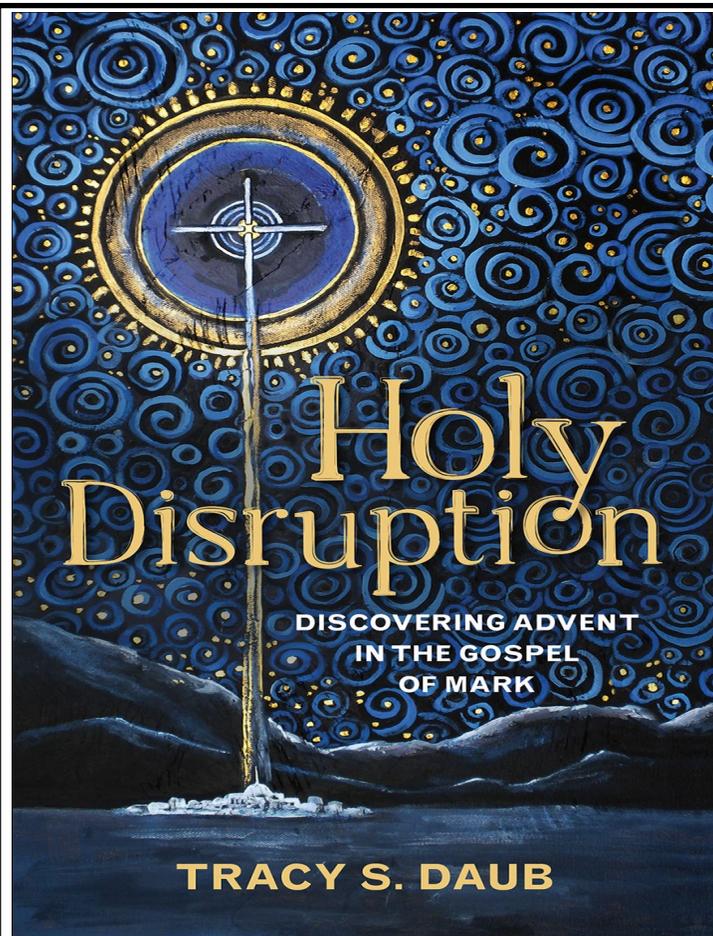




## WELCOMING AND ACCEPTING ALL PEOPLE ALONG A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE.

“Welcoming and accepting all people” – is a reminder of our Welcome Statement and genuine hospitality, in the present tense so it is always relevant. “*along*” – is an invitation to join together side by side. “*journey of faith*” – implies that arrival is a myth; we are always growing “*service*” – is a natural outcome of faith and inseparable from our commitment to discipleship.



## **Advent Theme: Holy Disruption: Discovering Advent in the Gospel of Mark**

The Gospel of Mark doesn't have a nativity story—so where's the Advent message? It's in every aspect of Jesus' life, to his death and beyond. The Incarnation—God come to earth in human form to be baptized, teach, heal, eat, and die—is what we celebrate at Christmas, and Mark shows us just how radical and celebration-worthy it is! *Holy Disruption* presents a fresh understanding of the holiness of Christmas grounded, not in a conventional cozy Christmas message, but through Mark's disquieting gospel which invites its readers to experience God's disruptive but transformative love for us and our world.

Our Adult Faith Formation on Sunday mornings and weekly sermons will follow author Tracy S. Daub's book. You are encouraged to participate in the daily gospel reading guide to gain a full perspective on Mark's message.

Concurrently, Pastor Rich Gates will be offering a study of the same book on Wednesday evenings at 6PM at Peace Lutheran, to which we are all invited. A light supper will be provided with the study.

Day 1 Mark 1:1–28  
Day 2 1:29–45  
Day 3 2:1–28  
Day 4 3:1–35  
Day 5 4:1–34  
Day 6 4:35–5:20  
Day 7 5:21–43  
Day 8 6:1–29  
Day 9 6:30–56  
Day 10 7:1–23  
Day 11 7:24–8:10  
Day 12 8:11–9:1

Day 13 9:2–29  
Day 14 9:30–50  
Day 15 10:1–31  
Day 16 10:32–52  
Day 17 11:1–33  
Day 18 12:1–27  
Day 19 12:28–44  
Day 20 13:1–37  
Day 21 14:1–25  
Day 22 14:26–14:52  
Day 23 14:53–15:20  
Day 24 15:21–16:8

### **Sunday Scripture Passages:**

Dec. 3 Mark 13:24-37  
Dec. 10 Mark 8:31-38  
Dec. 17 Mark 3:31-35  
Dec. 24\* Mark 9:2-10  
Dec. 31\* Mark 15:33-39  
\*No SS on these two Sundays

### **Congregational Meeting**

A congregational meeting is scheduled for the second Sunday of December (10<sup>th</sup>) for the purpose of voting on the 2024 church budget, election of leaders, and proposed name change for the church. The meeting will be held immediately following worship, and your participation is highly encouraged and valued. Copies of the proposed budget will be available on Sunday, December 3 for review prior to the meeting.

## EVENTS/OTHER



### December Outreach

We are participating in the Mitten Tree at Mercy Park sponsored by PLC this year, helping to supply hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, or socks. The items are placed in plastic bags and hung on the tree in the park where people can help themselves if items are needed. Please bring your donations to the church and place them on the designated tree in the lobby.

**LEARN**



**GIVE**



South Joplin Christian Church presents  
**KIDS FAITH ADVENTURE:**  
**Winter Warmth**



**DEC. 2**  
**9:00-12:30**

**REGISTER TODAY**



[HTTPS://SOUTHJOPLINDISCIPLINES.ORG](https://southjoplindisciples.org)



**You are cordially invited:**

**SJCC Office Holiday Open House**  
**December 15, 2023**  
**11:00 am - 2:00 pm**  
**1910 S. Wall Avenue**  
**Joplin, MO 64804**

*Thank you for an amazing year!*

**Chancel Choir**

**Rehearsal time change:**

Rehearsals for chancel choir have been moved to 6:30PM on Wednesday evenings. New time; new voices? Yes please!



Let's spread some holiday cheer with caroling on Sunday, December 17 following our fellowship meal. With enough participation we will be able to visit our members at home and in care centers. Children are welcome to join in!

### Christmas Eve Services:

Please feel free to choose which service best fits your schedule, or attend both!

Dec. 24      5PM South Joplin Christian Church  
6:30PM Peace Lutheran Church

There will be no Sunday School on December 24 and 31.



Our Pastor and Administrative Office Assistant will be taking time off the last week of December, and the church office will be closed. Year-end contributions must be postmarked by December 30 to be included in 2023 receipts.

## Christmas Offering Collection December 10 and 17

Our gifts support the work of regional ministries which:

- Connect congregations to each other
- Foster faith development
- Gather Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies
- Nurture the development of a new generation of pastors
- Assist churches in calling new ministers
- Interpret the global mission of the Church
- Represent the Church in ecumenical gatherings
- Counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
- Lead the Church to address racism
- Inspire leaders to experiment and create
- Witness to the power of God to make things new



### **Fellowship Dinner December 17 - Noon**



Soup will be provided for the December Fellowship Dinner.

If your last name begins with:

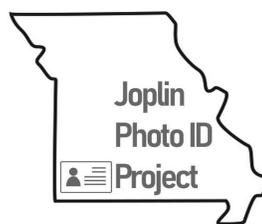
A-B bring a half dozen sandwiches cut in half;  
C bring cookies; and  
D-W Finger foods.

### **CROSSLINES MINISTRIES**

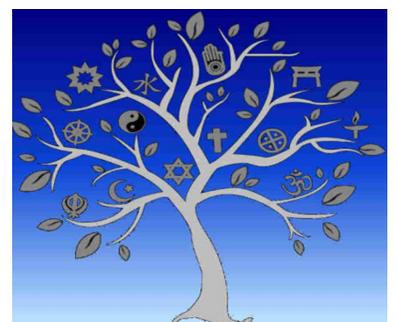
We collected 61 condiments in November!

Our challenge for December and January is dried or canned pastas with meat (ravioli, spaghettiO's, etc.); not sauces. Let's try to exceed our November collection of 61!

There will be no Crosslines day in December.



## **TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!**



## Prayer Requests

### Medical:

Joan Fitterling; Anita Frieze; Rick Hail (Meadows); Debi Lorenz; Bonnie and Don Powers; Lou Starks

### Sympathy:

Mike Hatton (Traver); Wanda Judah (Hinds)

### Military:

Michael Crofford; Corey Irwin; Josh Robb; Gary Wald

### Joy:

Birth of Issa Estella Kelly Littles on November 9, great granddaughter of Travers; Birth of Cecelia Fay (Nicodemus) Gomez born to Oswaldo and Samantha Nicodemus on November 16

### Ongoing:

Connie Abraham; John Asher; Carol Bach; Judy Ballard; Kittie Blankenship; Dani Bowen (Meadows); Gloria Brady (Abraham); Ellen Broglio; Janet Burns; Veronica Carnahan; Betty Coan; Dayton and Daislee Cohen; Timicia Curtis; Lois Demaree; Bailee Evans; Margie Fitterling; Kyle Ford (Wolfenbarger); Alyxis Hefty; Darius Hughlett (Wilson); Daryl Hughlett; Roland Hughlett; Bethany James; Betty Kemp; James Knudtson; Lamley Family; Shirley Martin; Betty McKelvey; Sara Metts; Missionary families (Huff, Reaves, Wilson); Arlene Nash; Nancy Nauser (Fitterling); Bethany Newman; Jim Owen; Matthew Paulda; Josh Petty; Reese Prater; Todd Prater; Cameron Ransom; Nancy Righthouse; Judy Schneider; Sue Smith; Lou Starks; Connie Sullivan; Mike Tesh; Roger Traver; Michelle Vorhees; Michael Wallace (Randall); Tova Wallace-Lee; Karen Patchin Watson; Charles Wilson; Birdie Woods; Mary Lou York, and all unspoken requests.

### Other:

Peace in war-torn countries—Ukraine, Israel, Gaza; mass

### Global Ministries Focus:

Dec. 3—Morocco

Dec. 10—Dominican Republic

Dec. 17—India

### Elders

Dec. 3:

Mike Fitterling

Dec. 10:

Darlene Coit

Dec. 17:

Betsy Wheeler

Dec. 24:

Leanna Carrol

Dec. 31:

Margie Fitterling

### Diaconate

Dec. 3:

Communion Prep—Judy Akeman and Charlotte Quarles;

Dec. 10:

Homebound—Susan Wolfenbarger  
Communion Prep—Les Davenport and Carolyn Theil;

Dec. 17:

Homebound—Don Smith  
Communion Prep—Megan Bever and Susan Wolfenbarger;

Dec. 24:

Homebound—Tom Wheeler;  
Communion Prep—Connie Abraham and Patt Hinds;

Dec. 31:

Homebound—Tom Hamm  
Communion Prep—Sherry Crumbliss and Taylor Reaves;  
Homebound—Don Smith

### Camera & Sound

Dec. 3:

Jenn Reaves and Ken Moser

Dec. 10:

Judy Schneider and Darryl Coit

Dec. 17:

Sandy Meadows and Don Smith

Dec. 24:

Jenn Reaves and Ray Reaves

Dec. 31:

Judy Schneider and Darryl Coit

### Sunday School (K thru 5)

Dec. 3:

Leanna Carrol and Karen Kemp

Dec. 10:

Karen Kemp and Sandy Meadows

Dec. 17:

Daniell Sanders and Karen Kemp

Dec. 24:

No SS

Dec. 31:

No SS

### Children Worship & Wonder

Dec. 3:

Karen Kemp and Judy Schneider

Dec. 10:

Karen Fitterling and Taylor Reaves

Dec. 17:

Laney Reaves and Leanna Carrol

Dec. 24:

No CW&W

Dec. 31:

No CW&W

### Birthdays

2 - Spenser Cullumber

2 - Will Delehanty

2 - Shirley Martin

5 - Ray Gall

13 - Timicia Curtis

14 - Amanda Hall

20 - Alecia Sanders

24 - Susan Wolfenbarger

30 - Leanna Carrol

### Anniversaries

18

Mike & Margie Fitterling

31

Don & Bonnie Powers

Dec. 24—Greece

Dec. 31—Japan



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<b>All activities at Peace Lutheran Church unless specified otherwise.</b>						1	2 9:00 am - 12:30 pm Kids Faith Adventure
<b>3 Advent #1</b> 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/CW&W 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connections	4	5 6:30 pm Worship Team Mtg. (Betsy Wheeler Home)	6 9:30 am— Noon CWF 6:30 pm Choir	7	8	9	
<b>10 Advent #2</b> <b>Christmas Offering #1</b> 8:00 am Elders 9:30 am SS 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 Worship/CW&W 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connections	11 <b>Board Re-            ports Due</b>	12	13 6:30 pm Choir	14	15 11:00 am - 2:00 pm SJCC Office Open House	16	
<b>17 Advent #3</b> <b>Christmas Offering #2</b> 9:30 am SS 10:15 am Children's Bells 10:45 Worship/CW&W Noon Fellowship Dinner Caroling Afterward 4:00-6:00 pm Family Connections	18	19	20 6:30 pm Choir	21	22	23	
<b>24 Advent #4</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> 10:45 am Worship 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 <b>Christmas</b>	26	27	28	29	30	
<b>31 New Years Eve</b> 10:45 am Worship	<b>Office Closed All Week</b>						