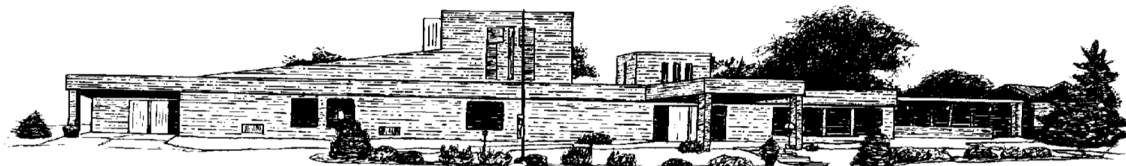


# THE PARISH PAPER



*January 2024*

*Churubusco United Methodist Church*

## *"Deep Roots, Wide Branches"*

Grace and Peace,

Do you have New Year's traditions? Some people place new socks by their beds so that when they wake up on January 1 they will have brand new socks for a brand new year. Others eat certain dishes for good luck. Others bang pots and pans at midnight scaring away the old year and welcoming the new year.

Whatever the tradition, there is a common thread in them all. The old is gone. The new has come.

When we look at our faith in Jesus, we see the perfect image of new birth and new life. Jesus told Nicodemus in a secret meeting at night that a person must be born again in order to enter the kingdom of God. Later on Paul stated that if anyone is in Christ then they are a new creation. Even in the Old Testament, God is calling forth new life into God's people. Whether in Isaiah where God is doing a new thing that leads to life in barren places, or in Ezekiel where God declares that God will give a new heart and spirit.

God is in the business of restoration and redemption.

What if God is seeking to do a new thing in you this year? What if God is seeking to transform a hardened heart into a heart ready to receive and share God's love? What if God is seeking to lead you into a new identity through the Holy Spirit?

United Methodists understand this work of restoration, or sometimes referred to as regeneration, as being done by sanctifying grace of God through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will convict us of those things that are of the old so that we may trust in God's leading us into the new. Out of our old habits and sins and into our new identity which is Christ. Out of our old mistakes and shame and into our new future as redeemed and reconciled children of God.

The old is gone. The new has come.

May you step into this new year casting off the old that holds you back and trust in Jesus who gives you new life.

Happy New Year!

PJ

## January Worship Schedule

8:15 (Hymnal/Organ) and 10:30 a.m. (Praise Band)

8:15 a.m.—Traditional Worship

\*10:30 a.m.—Contemporary Worship

Children's Church & Nursery Available

@ 10:30 a.m. Service



Follow us on  
**Instagram**  
@buscoumc

# NewsLetter DEADLine

**FEBRUARY 2024** Newsletter Articles need submitted by the **THIRD Sunday in JANUARY:**

**Sunday, January 21st, 2024**

Give articles for newsletter to the church office or email: cumc99@aol.com.

### Support Our Food Pantry

The **Last Sunday** of this month you have a chance to...

Be a blessing by donating

**CANNED TUNA & CANNED CHICKEN**

on Sunday, January 28th, 2024

Find us on social media:



buscoumc



Churubusco United Methodist Church

**Ambassadors of the Gospel:  
The Congregation**

#### Staff

**Pastor:** Rev. John Huff

**8:15 Music Director:** Mindy Cox

**10:30 Music Director:** Aaron Childress

**Accompanists:** Carmen Fitzpatrick,  
Rosalie Geller, & Rolin Mains

**Office Manager:** Wendi Jarrell

**Secretary:** Rita Ransom

**Building Superintendent:** Keith Shultz

**Children's Director:** Bev Huntsman

**Nursery School Co-Directors:**

Debbie Leitch & Cheryl Fleetwood

**Nursery School Teachers:**

Danielle Bischoff  
Shuree Claymiller  
Shelly Davis  
Koreen Knapp

Ashley Macy  
Jennifer Ruble  
Makenzi Tonkel  
Zoie Tonkel

**Volunteers** that process the newsletters for mailing each month include:

Shirley Fleming  
Rita Ransom

Gloria Parish

**Please let us know if you would like to start receiving your monthly newsletter through email instead of the U.S. Postal Mail.**

*Also available on the church's website:  
[www.churubuscoumc.org](http://www.churubuscoumc.org)*





**Monday, January 1st**

*Best Wishes - Jennifer  
Meyer  
January 14th*

Please join us in Fellowship Hall between services on January 14<sup>th</sup> for an open house extending our appreciation to Office Manager, Jennifer, for her service to CUMC for the past several years. We have been truly blessed having Jennifer and she shall be missed. We encourage you to flood her with cards of love. There will be cards over the next couple weeks placed in the pews for you to use. These may be placed in the offering plate after placing her name on the envelope. If you wish to bring a small token of appreciation to the open house feel free. Let's show Jennifer the appreciation for her service and blessings on her next employment journey.

*Gratitude and  
Thankfulness*



**The journey of a pint of lifesaving blood  
begins with you!**

Blood products collected at the last blood drive at CUMC have been delivered to patients in need of vital care! Distribution included, but was not limited to, the following hospitals:

ST RITA'S MEDICAL CENTER-LIMA  
PARKVIEW REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER  
IU HEALTH RILEY HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN  
PARKVIEW DEKALB  
MERCY HEALTH DEFIANCE HOSPITAL

Each local drive is an integral piece of a puzzle to secure a healthy, readily available blood supply in our community and for every American in need. When collections exceed need for patients in local communities, the Red Cross is able to expand distribution to areas with low supply due to weather, seasonal illness, and other challenges. Ensuring that a single drop of blood isn't wasted is their way of honoring the selfless efforts of every generous donor.



**HELP SAVE A LIFE +  
GIVE THE GIFT OF BLOOD**

**Have one of these?**



Then make sure to enroll in  
**Kroger community rewards**  
For Your Wright State Raiders Ice Hockey Club

If you are a Kroger shopper you can support Churubusco United Methodist Church through their Kroger Community Rewards Program. Simply log into your Kroger account, enroll in Community Rewards, and search for and choose Churubusco United Methodist Church.



## Open Hands Ministry

*This is a group for adults of all ages. We will focus on adult community, spiritual growth, and hands that seek to serve our church, our community and our world.*

**2024 Mission Trip:** The initial plans are established for the 2024 Mission Trip. This is for youth (grades 6-12) and adults. We will be traveling to Dayspring Native American UMC where we will be working on their worship facility. Dayspring is located on a 42 wooded acre lot in the middle of a city. They have approximately 30 regular congregants. They worship Creator (Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit) using Native American music, drums, and ceremony as a way of connecting, praying and praising. Plan to attend the next mission Trip meeting to get more details. See Wendy Herendeen for more details.

Some of the work needed at Dayspring: Work plans have been adjusted. We will be completing some detail work on bathroom, kitchenette and dining room.

**\*Thanks to all who supported our Bake Sale on December 17!  
What a great gift this has been!\***

**Thursday, January 18, 2024 Mission Trip Meeting @ 5:30 – 6:30 pm in Seekers Classroom:** This is open to anyone (youth and adults) interested in learning more about the Mission Trip for 2024. Come to hear how you can be a part of this team!

**New Bible Study:** to start January 11, 2024 (Thursdays). Followed by Jan 25, Feb 8, Feb 22, March 7, March 21. (see sign up sheet on bulletin or just show up)

**Five things God Uses to Grow Your Faith:** Andy Stanley (6 lessons). (~\$8 on Thrift Books; \$13 on Amazon)

Imagine how different your outlook on life would be if you had absolute confidence that God was with you. Imagine how differently you would respond to difficulties, temptations, and even good things if you believed with certainty that God was in all of it and was planning to leverage every circumstance for good.



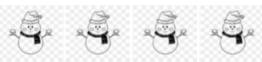
# Children And Family Ministries 2024

## Scrip is Fundraising While You Shop!™



## SCRIP IS FUNDRAISING WHILE YOU SHOP!

Scrip Fundraising for children and youth ministries has more possibilities than just purchasing physical gift cards. You can create your own account by going to <http://www.ShopWithScrip.com> and follow the instructions to "Create Account". Ask Bev Huntsman for the enrollment code so CUMC gets the credit. You can order ecards and reload certain physical cards that you have purchased through Scrip. If you are interested, ask Bev Huntsman for more information. By the way....we now have \$10 Magic Wand Cards on hand.



### Nursery School Notes January 2024



#### THEME: SNOW, SNOW, SNOW!

**WE'RE BACK: First day back January 8th.** After our CHRISTMAS BREAK, we will be working on snow pictures and Special Units.

#### SPECIAL UNITS:

Names – Starting with Upper Case letter and using Lower Case letters for the rest of their names.

Numbers – We will be practicing counting, writing numbers 1 thru 5.

Shape– Circle, Square, Triangle, Rectangle, Oval and Diamond.

Letter Recognition– We will work on recognizing the letters in our names and work on flash cards.

Colors– We will work on the basic colors.

#### MOTOR SKILLS:

Balancing, somersaults, skipping, rolling and throwing a ball.

**SMITH-GREEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS WILL BE CLOSED ON JANUARY 15TH- WE WILL BE HAVING SCHOOL.**

#### WEATHER AND SNOW CLOSINGS:

When Smith- Green has a 2-hour delay, We will have a **1-hour delay** to keep from canceling the morning classes. Our announcements will also be on **REMIND AND FACEBOOK**.

**NURSERY SCHOOL 1-HR. MORNING DELAYS DO NOT EFFECT AFTERNOON CLASSES.**

**E-LEARNING DAYS PLEASE CHECK WITH REMIND OR FACEBOOK.**

#### **REMIND APP:**

**DOWNLOAD REMIND APP THEN ENTER 81010-TEXT THIS MESSAGE @ gfakae.**

**FACEBOOK : CHURUBUSCO UNITED METHODIST NURSERY SCHOOL**

**BIG THANK YOU TO ALL PARENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE TEACHER LUNCH AND GIFTS!**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR! NURSERY SCHOOL STAFF**

AS WE BID FAREWELL TO THIS YEAR

and WELCOME THE NEW YEAR,

LET'S JOIN OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

FOR OUR BELOVED CHILDREN AND

THEIR FAMILIES. MAY THE COMING YEAR

BRING ABUNDANT BLESSINGS, HEALTH

and JOY TO EACH ONE OF THEM.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!



# Kid's Activity Page

## New INSIDE



Geodes look plain on the outside but contain beautiful crystals. Create these "rocks" to show how God makes us new on the inside.

### What you need:

- Clean cardboard egg carton
- Scissors (and adult help)
- Epsom salt
- Plastic zippered bags (one per color of dye)
- Food coloring
- Glue
- Paintbrush











### What you do:

1. Cut out the tops and bottoms of all the egg compartments so you can make 6 ball shapes.
2. In each bag, put 3 tablespoons of Epsom salt and a drop or two of food coloring. Seal and shake to mix.
3. With the paintbrush, spread glue inside two egg-carton halves. Sprinkle a spoonful of Epsom salt into those halves. Then close and shake.
4. Open your homemade geode and shake out excess salt.
5. Optional: Preserve the crystals with a coat of clear-drying glue.

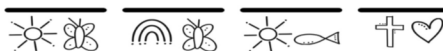
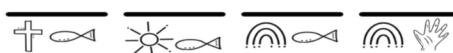


# Puzzle!

Use the grid to discover what James 5:13-18 advises when challenges loom.

	A	F	L	P	T
	C	H	N	R	W
	E	I	O	S	Y
					

P



Answers: Pray in faith. Pray for each other. Pray earnestly.





## United Women in Faith

*KEEP IN MIND THAT ALL  
LADIES OF THE CHURCH—  
YOUNG, SENIORS AND THOSE  
IN BETWEEN ARE ALWAYS  
WELCOME AT MEETINGS—  
FRIENDS TOO.*



We sent 57 Christmas cards to  
the Staff & residents at Lucille  
Raines Residence in  
Indianapolis

### Prayer Calendar

I celebrate God's faithfulness in my ministry as I am able to roll with the changes that come my way through each thing I do throughout the day.

As I ventured out for my day one Friday-my car was packed with newsletters to drop off at a volunteer's home, tools and supplies to repair a porch with four volunteers, and in the trunk a change of clothes and shoes, as well as presentation material. I was dressed in my heavy snow pants and winter coat to help the volunteers repair the porch, left for a lunchtime presentation-changing clothes at a friend's home on the way, returned to the porch worksite after the presentation as the volunteers re-loaded my car with tools, since they had just finished. Then I took them out to lunch and ventured on to deliver the newsletters for another volunteer to prepare for mailing. Several aspects of ministry all in one day of missions!

That's what "blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent of shape" is all about!

Katie Peterson, Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner, Church and Community Worker, Director of Eastbrook Mission Barn, New Castle, Pennsylvania

Our Christmas Brunch was held at Denise Geller's home on Dec 13, which was beautifully decorated. There were 8 guests present that enjoyed a variety of delicious food.

Table favor gifts from Denise & magnet gifts were opened. Thank you ladies!

Denise shared amusing cat pictures & sayings from her daily calendar. Then she passed around copies of one of her favorite hymns, "Once in Royal David's City."

From the Old Farmers Almanac (2020), Jera read about Christmas traditions concerning, Christmas trees, Christmas cards, and Santa Claus. The first U.S. President to set up a Christmas tree in the White House was Franklin Pierce. President Dwight D. Eisenhower is given credit for sending out the first "official" Christmas card from the White House. The first department store Santa Claus was James Edgar who during the Christmas season in 1890, wandered about his store in Brockton, Massachusetts, dressed as Santa.

From a vintage Ideals magazine, Gloria read The Christmas story from Luke.

Denise shared a collection of beautiful Christmas cards her late mother, (an artist), has made along with her own creative verses.

From a 75th anniversary edition Ideals magazine, Jera read a poem entitled, "Let's Think of Christmas" written by Lois Anne Williams. The last stanza reads:

At this happy Christmas season  
We remember Christ our King,  
And though we have no costly gifts,  
Ourselves to him we bring

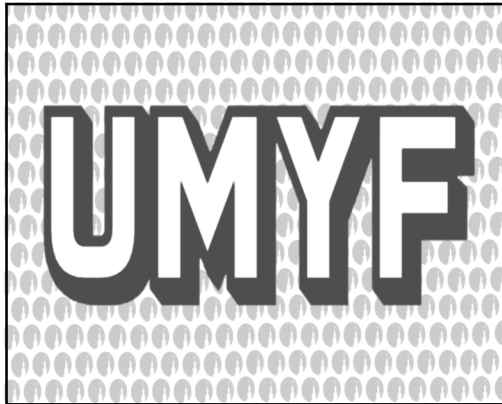
There will not be a meeting in January 2024. For our February meeting on the 14th, we'll be observing Call to Prayer & Self Denial. Theme this year is "Climate Justice."



## Food Ministry Has Need for Coat Donations

The Food Ministry Team will again offer free “used, warm coats” to our pantry clients for this winter. If you have any coats that can be used—please put on the Coat Rack at the top of the stairway near the Fellowship Hall. We can use all sizes—children also—We will be asking our patrons to limit 2 coats/family so there will be enough for everyone.

Thanks for your help!



## **CALLING ALL YOUTH!**

**Youth Fellowship (UMYF)**

**6th-12th graders**

**meets on Sundays at 9:30 a.m.  
in the Youth Room. Join us!!**



**Please come and join us for:**

**“Open Doors” Fellowship Meal**

**Wednesday, January 17 @ 5:30-6:30 p.m.**

**Children’s activities will be 6:00-6:30 p.m.**

**Everyone is welcome, so invite family, friends,  
and neighbors to join you for food & fellowship.**

**Upcoming Dates: February 21, March 20**



Check out our  
homepage at  
[www.churubuscoumc.org](http://www.churubuscoumc.org)

WITH DEEPEST  
*sympathy*

*Extending deep and heartfelt sympathy  
to you and your family*

**RALPH MOTTER  
DIANE GREEN  
KILLIAN WARRICK**

*The above names were listed in the  
prayer book for DECEMBER*



Get all the latest news and pictures of  
all the great ministry happenings.

*Search for "Churubusco UMC"  
and like us today!*

Better yet, share what we are posting so  
that others may be included into our  
awesome community!

### **BUILDING WEATHER CLOSURE POLICY**

The building will be closed and all activities cancelled  
whenever there is a Travel Warning (red) or Travel  
Watch (orange) advisory declared for Whitley Coun-  
ty. Find the current advisory levels here: [www.in.gov/  
dhs/traveladvisory/](http://www.in.gov/dhs/traveladvisory/)



Patty Amber	01/01
Cheryl Fleetwood	01/01
John King	01/02
Amy Carpenter	01/04
Lauren Keller	01/04
Brittany Moughler	01/04
Jax Hockenberry	01/06
Ronan Keller	01/07
Lexi Stein	01/07
Pat McGuire	01/08
Betty Bonar	01/09
Jean Foreman	01/11
Donice Snyder	01/14
Kyle Ingrim	01/17
Gloria Parish	01/17
Rose Greve	01/18
Keith Yant	01/19
Scott Anderson	01/21
Tim Keith	01/21
Eva Gilbert	01/23
Debbie Leitch	01/25
Randy Wilson	01/27
Carolyn Bultemeier	01/29
Greg Childs	01/29
Roxanna Stone Miller	01/30
Bill Lewis	01/31
Carol Ann Rhoades	01/31

Please take time to wish  
those with JANUARY birthdays  
a "Happy Birthday!"

thank  
you

★ Thank you to all who participated in the 2023 production of the Hanging of the Greens! We were blessed to be part of the congregation when Jeannine Knotts and Dawn Ladig first had a vision for this gift to our community (It was good to see so many faces from the past this year as they were able to enjoy it once again with us.) We have so many special memories of the Hanging of the Greens over the years. A special thanks to Tami Towns for taking a leadership role once again. As always, it brought a smile to our faces and a tear to our eyes as we began the Advent season.  
Bill and Sue Lewis

- ★ Congregation of Churubusco United Methodist Church, especially all the volunteers: I loved the "Hanging of the Greens"! It was a beautiful service. Thank you for all your hard work to the benefit of those in the pews. Kathy Cox
- ★ A heartfelt Thank You to all who participated in Hanging Of The Greens. Truly without everyone's performance and those in the background, this gift of the season would not be possible. Every year presents challenges but God is Good and the program happens! I am truly amazed by the remarks given from those who attend. This program touches many of their hearts and faith. So, if we only touch one person, what a gift they have received. "The reason for the Season." I would especially like to thank the Women of Faith for providing the wonderful cookies for the after performance gathering. Thank You to each and everyone again for your contribution. Tami Towns
- ★ Thank you so much for the love offering given to us at Christmas and your many acts of kindness throughout the year. You are a blessing to us. Rita, Jennifer & Wendi





- February 14 ~ Ash Wednesday
- March 24 - March 30 ~ Holy Week
- March 30 ~ Easter Egg Hunt
- March 31 ~ Easter Sunday







*May all kings  
fall down  
before him,  
all nations  
serve him!*

PSALM 72:11, ESV



Churubusco United Methodist Church  
750 N. Main St.  
Churubusco, IN 46723  
Phone: (260) 693-2154  
Email: cumc99@aol.com

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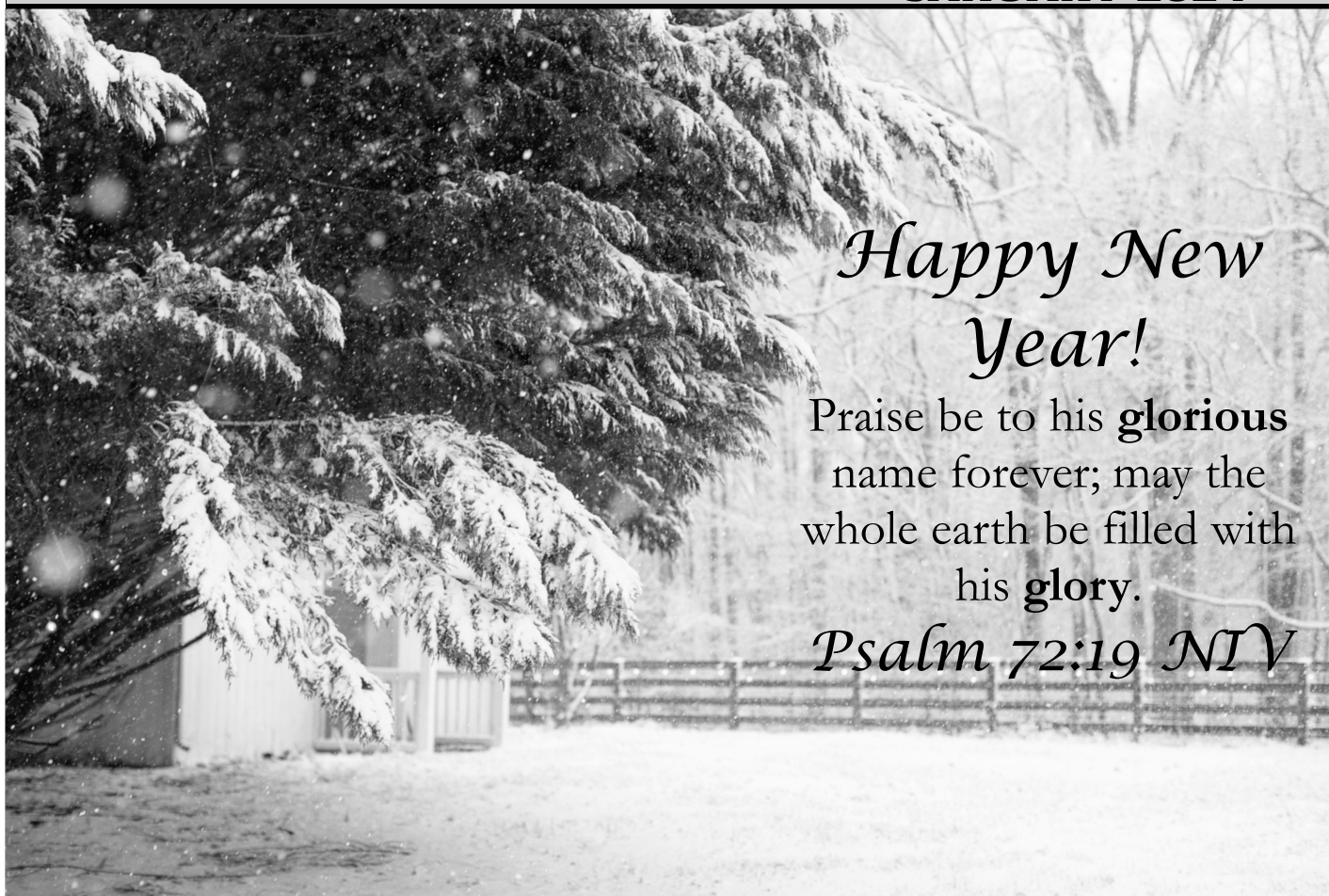
*New Year Blessings to:*

**Worship Opportunities**

**8:15 a.m. Sunday Worship (Hymnal/Organ)**  
**9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages**  
**10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship (Praise Band)**



**JANUARY 2024**



*Happy New  
Year!*

Praise be to his **glorious**  
name forever; may the  
whole earth be filled with  
his **glory.**

*Psalm 72:19 NTV*