

November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

(Violet is the color of this Day)

*Welcome to everyone who is
visiting with us today; we pray
you will feel blessed as we share
Christ's love.*



CARLISLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)

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Reverend Kristin Pike

Organist: Justin Chastain

Greeters: Cindy/Diana/Cheree/Zoe/ Bradyn

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The CWF senior ladies Christmas party is Monday, Dec. 1st at 1:30p in the double classroom. Plan to join this jolly, festive group!
2. **December 11th** is packaging Meals from the Heartland “The Gift of Hope Christmas Pack” Day. Let Judy Watkins (515-681-1741) or Nancy Cumberland (515-481-3804) know by **Dec 7th** if you would like to go with them. **Our shift begins at 2:30p so we’ll leave Carlisle by 1:45p.** We will be going to WDM Packaging Center, 357 Lincoln St. Fun worthwhile time!
3. **CCA Spirit of Christmas program** - Our church will be adopting three families for Christmas supplying gift cards and grocery cards along with a box of fresh food. Your donations are very much appreciated! Checks may be made payable to the church with "Christmas families" on the memo line by Sunday, **December 14th.**
4. **Mitten Tree**-We would like to collect warm mittens, gloves, hats and socks for the Carlisle School District students. These will be donated to the school in mid-January. Items may be placed in the white donation box in the coat room or the back room on the table.
5. **Personal Care Bags** - We will be collecting personal care items to place in bags for the homeless to be donated at the end of January. Items needed include: shampoo, shower gel, soap, shower puff, toothpaste, toothbrush, dental floss, cotton swabs, deodorant, small tissue packs, band-aids, feminine hygiene products, etc. These items may be placed in the white donation box in the coat room or the back room on the table.
6. **Blessing Box** - We are requesting non-food items - personal hygiene items, paper products, cleaning and laundry supplies and will be discontinuing food items at this time. Thank you for your assistance.

BIRTHDAYS

Gloria Graham 12/2

Rev. Bob Zirkelbach 12/4

Sandee Zirkelbach 12/2

Kay Tilton 12/6

ANNIVERSARY

Craig and Kayla Price 12/3

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS: (Please call the church office (515-989-0176) or contact an Elder to add/remove names.)

Our friends in Care Centers: Gordy Kain Joe Lang Patsy Overton

Friends and family members: Cathie Berg Mike Lynch (Linda Lemley's son) Sandee Zirkelbach
Randy Skoglund (Sandee Zirkelbach's brother)
Rodger Rothfus family

REMEMBERING THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE

Justin Miller (Okinawa)

Tara Wesner (IN)

Joshua Wesner (IN)

COMING UP

Prayer Group @ 4:00p

Worship, Community Life, Education @ 5:30p

Advent Study @ 10:00a CCC; 6:30p CUPC

Getting to Know Your Bible @ 5:30 p.m.

Sunday School @ 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship @ 10:00 a.m.

Worship @ 10:30 a.m.

Greeters: Diaconate Team #1

Post Sermon Discussion @ 11:30a

TODAY, Nov 30th
Monday, Dec 1st
Tuesday, Dec 2nd
Wednesday, Dec 3rd
Sunday, Dec 7th

****Please stand if you are able**

LET US WORSHIP TOGETHER AND PRAISE GOD!

****Hymn of Praise #125**

“Come, O Long-expected Jesus”

**** Call to Worship**

L: We gather together in this place:

P: prophets and dreamers, singers and poets,

L: we who dare to imagine a world renewed;

P: we who dare to dream God’s dream.

L: We proclaim expectation with Isaiah.

P: God’s redemption is near!

L: Through tears and through trials,

P: We hold fast to our hope.

L: Do not fear, for God is faithful.

P: Our redemption rises with the dawn.

L: Come and worship, all you who dream and wait.

P: We have come to wonder and praise.

****Opening Prayer**

God who is, who was, and who is to come, we enter this season of Advent keenly aware of the brokenness in and around us. Comfort our longing spirits, and teach us again how to be people of profound hope. You never leave our side, but walk with us in our pilgrimage toward the renewed world you promise. We pray as expectant people, seeking again the assurance of your salvation, brought to birth in Jesus Christ, our hope and our savior. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting

Emily Nordyke, Judy Watkins

The birth of Jesus has been told and retold a thousand times and in a thousand ways. Its impact cannot be contained in any one perspective. The element of the story we focus on changes how we hear it, how we imagine it, and how we experience it. Imagine the journey of Mary and Joseph. They are unaware that their unborn child will catch onto the prophets’ visions and challenge the world to usher in justice, peace, and transformation. What are they dreaming of for their child?

We know the world is not an easy place to welcome new life, and yet, babies are born every day, and new families are formed. Now, just like then, exhausted expectant parents, far from home, are searching for safe spaces to settle. Now, just like then, faithful families trust that somehow, each seemingly impossible situation will work out. Mary and Joseph held on to hope when their options seemed to be in short supply. It was a hope that things would get better.

We light the candle of hope because hope creates a path for the new, unknown story to unfold.

****Hymn of Gratitude (on the screen)**

“While We Are Waiting, Come”

Scripture Reading Isaiah 2:1-5 & Mark 13:24-37

Emily Nordyke

Sermon

Rev. Kristin Pike

Affirmation of Hope

Let us affirm God’s gift of strong and sturdy hope together:

We believe in a strong and sturdy hope - a hope which fully sees the world’s pain, while refusing to accept life must be this way. We name false stories and lament shallow optimism, idealism, or wishful thinking. With the Spirit’s compassion and imagination, we believe things can and will get better, committing all we have and all we are into making a new reality - God’s dream - come true. We give our creativity and courage, our prayers and perseverance, remembering that “hope is what we do.” What we practice, we will become. Like Isaiah, we remember what God has done before, and the truth that nothing new comes without someone, somewhere, first imagining what others could not see. As God’s

family, we believe hope lives and moves in a community. We will hold in our hearts and minds' eye the presence of those who have embodied hope before us as we carry forward the dream.

Special Music

Justin and Brian

Joys and Concerns

Moment of Silence for Meditation

Pastoral Prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer (use debts and debtors)

Service of Communion

If you believe Jesus is the Christ, our risen Savior, come to the Table

Communion Hymn, "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Eric Pike

Prayer for the Elements

Rev. Kristin Pike

Please come forward to collect the elements and return to your seat so we can partake together. If you are unable to come forward, please ask someone to bring the elements to you.

Offering Meditation

Justin Chastain Elder

****Doxology** (pg 46)

****Prayer for the Gifts**

Justin Chastain, Elder

****Hymn of Invitation #129**

"Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates"

****Charge**

Go forth from this place and notice where hopeful change has taken place and where it is still needed. Raise your voice in praise of hopeful change, and pray for where hope has yet to take root. Consider how your actions and words can contribute toward transformative justice, and peace in your home, school, community, and beyond.

****Benediction**

Rev. Kristin Pike

You go nowhere by accident. Wherever you go, God is sending you. Wherever you are, God has put you there. God has a purpose in your being there. Christ lives in you and has something to do through you wherever you are. Believe this and go in the grace, and love, and power of Jesus Christ. Amen.

****Closing (on the screen)**

"He Came Down"

