

# *The Shepherd*

*Coffee Creek Association, December 2023*

## **5th Sunday Hymn Sing**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Hymn Sing will be held Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 6 PM at Bethany Baptist Church. Following the entertainment will be food & fellowship. Make plans to stay and ring in the New Year. We will have games and fellowship starting about 8 PM, please bring your favorite snack to share. We hope to see several come out and join us.

## **From the Moderator**

As we looking at the closing of 2023, let me share with you a few things and ask for your help on a project!

### 1. Pastor's Gatherings—11 January

Every second Thursday of the month, the Pastors of the CCBA meet for breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at Denny's in Scottsburg. Pastors, I encourage you to come out for this time of fellowship with your co-laborers in the Gospel. Our Region Minister, Rev. Steve Allen, comes for these occasions and shares all the latest info from across Indiana and Kentucky.

### 2. Executive Board Meeting—07 January

The Executive Board is made up of the associational officers and coordinators, and the pastor from each of our twenty churches, hosted by Kimberlin Creek Baptist Church at 2 p.m. The Board meets four times a year and makes decisions on behalf of the association between our annual meetings. I would love to see a larger representation of our churches present. Pastor, if you are not able to attend, please ask a layperson in your congregation to take your place. We can make a greater difference when we all come together!

### 3. HELP!

In just four years we will celebrate our association's bicentennial year. Since 18 August 1827, we have been coming together and seeking to do what none of us can do on our own.

As I look forward to this commemoration, I need to ask you all for your help.

Each year since 1827 we have published a booklet of associational minutes or proceedings. I am putting together a complete set of these as I work on our 200 years of history. Our congregation has some years, and I am wondering what other churches have available. There are also libraries, such as Franklin College, that have especially the older years that I am seeking out.

Could you look around your church building and see what you have available? If I could borrow what you have that we do not, I can make copies for the purpose of creating a complete set. My long-term goal is to scan each year and create a CD or flash drive with this collection of minutes that I can give to every church in our association.

Thank you for your help with this project. Just give me a call or drop me an e-mail of what you have available.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Tim Mohon, Moderator

812-722-7612

[timohon@yahoo.com](mailto:timohon@yahoo.com)

### **From The Treasurer**

In hopes of not having to send out too many reminder cards this year to church treasurers, I am going to remind all churches that if you have not sent in your dues for the 2023-2024 CCA church year, please do so by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January.

The dates to have them sent in started after March 12, 2023. Please send your checks made out to the Coffee Creek Association to me at:

Judy Peacock  
1185 W. Vest St.  
Scottsburg, IN 47170

Thanks, Judy Peacock, CCA Treasurer

### **From Patty Short**

#### **State ABWM Project**

Our 2023 State Project is Kodak Baptist Mission in Alaska. Our state-wide goal is to raise \$15,000 to send to them. We had a generous contribution to this project at Women's Day but we still have not met our goal so please don't forget it. You can look them up on the internet and learn more about them. Donations need to be mailed to our state treasurer before December 31, 2023. Mail checks to our state treasurer, Cynthia Leffel, using the state reporting form.

## **Coffee Creek Association ABWM:**

### **Sewing Seeds of Love**

Ladies met at Underwood Baptist Church on December 5 and continued sewing items for Cradle in Scott County. Since we are meeting earlier in the day, we did not serve a meal, just beverages and a snack on. We still have lots of fabric so please join us at our next session on **Tuesday, January 2 at an undecided location at the time of this writing**. Don't forget that the time **changed to 4-6 pm!** Look for an announcement in the near future of our next location. Hope to see you there!

We need churches to host us for the upcoming months—if your church wants to host us, please call me. Our February meeting will be at New Providence Baptist Church.

### **Scholarship**

Please don't forget our scholarship student, Ashley Walton. Her birthday was October 5—in case you missed it, belated birthday greetings can still be sent!

2024 Scholarship applications are available now. The registration deadline is February 15, 2024. Please encourage all college/technical school bound students to apply. I distributed some of these forms to churches who were at Carols and Choirs and the remaining will either be sent by email or US mail. Be sure to post them at your church even if you don't have any college/trade school aged students at this time—you might get some in the future!

### **Disaster Relief**

We thank you for your prayer and financial support in 2023. We will start planning for our 2024 trips in January so be sure to watch for details—may be you can join us in March!! You will be surprised at just how blessed you will be!

Please remember to pray for those who have lost their homes due to floods and tornadoes, etc. A few of them are in their new homes but many are not and this is a very stressful time of year for them.

I hope each and every one of you has a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!

Patty Short, CCA ABWM President. Cell: 812-595-1082. Email: ppsshort@frontier.com

### **Alpha**

Greetings to the Coffee Creek Association.

A lot of work went into our ABW & ABM meeting this past Wednesday, 13 December 2023. We prepared 22 gift bowls of fruit and various items. They have been graciously received by the

folks for whom they were prepared. We also made 60 treat bags that will be given this coming Sunday, 17 December 2023.

The choir will be sharing our cantata, "Behold Emmanuell" this Sunday, 17 December 2023 at our 10am morning worship service.

With all that is going on in our Country and the World, I pray that people will turn to the real meaning of the season; God giving the world His greatest gift, His Son, Jesus Christ! May the true Joy of the Season enter our hearts. Knowing Jesus has come and given His Life to pay for our sins thereby by receiving Jesus we are forgiven and receive the gifts of forgiveness and the Joy knowing we also receive Life eternal in God's eternal Heaven with the family of God of which we become a part when we receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour.

May you truly have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Let us be blessings to one-another and may the Love of Jesus shine thru us.

God Bless,  
Stan Carroll

### **Austin**

Greeting from Austin First Baptist Church!

The Gospel of Luke is written in the form of a letter to a man named Theophilus . Luke documents Christ's life from before birth through His ministry, death and resurrection. In Luke Chapter 2 we can read the account of Jesus birth.

V.1- In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. V.2- This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. V.3- And all went to be registered each to his own town. V.4- and Joseph also went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David. V.5-To be registered with Mary his betrothed who was with child. V.6- And while they were there the time came for her to give birth. V.7-And she gave birth to her first born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloth's and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

In the Gospel of Matthew 1:23- it says this to us-Behold a virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel which being interpreted is God with Us.

The greatest gift that we could ever receive is the gift of Hope and Life through Our Savior Jesus Christ.

May the Love of Christ surround each of us this Christmas Season!!!

Merry Christmas & A Blessed New Year.

Rev. Joshua Jackson & the First Baptist Church of Austin Family.

### **Bethany**

Bethany has been busy this month with Carrols and Choirs participation. We are happy to announce that Marcus Griffin came forward and was baptized on December 10<sup>th</sup> following morning worship with a meal to celebrate. Our member Glenda Sue Teltow passed away at Nortons Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky after a several week sickness and was buried next to her husband at the church. We visited with Charlie Eubel and his family at Jewish Hospital, he needs our prayers.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of December, we plan on going Christmas caroling for Sunday evening services. Continued prays for our shut-ins Sue and Ron Carrol and Louie Lamb. May this season of joy visit their homes.

Practice is in full swing, lead by our music minister Steven Sullivan, on a Christmas cantata scheduled for Christmas Eve at 10:30 in the morning, you would be more than welcome to come and join us on that morning. The Joy of a Christmas Treat is fixing to arrive after service.

On December 31 we will be hosting 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday hymn sing at 6 followed by Bethany Baptist version of a watch party with food.

### **Coffee Creek**

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas; on December 2nd we held a Christmas Bazaar and we raised over \$1200 for our church. We had a great Thanksgiving service and fellowship dinner. We will be doing a very special Christmas Eve Candlelight service on December 24th at 6pm, and I would like to invite everyone who are not having a Christmas Eve service to attend.

And I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year's.

Pastor Keith

## **Kimberlin Creek**

This month during Advent, Pastor Tim Mohon is preaching a series entitled "The Incarnation: Why Did Jesus Come to Earth". This Sunday's sermon is "To Seek and to Save the Lost". Pastor Tim also has a different family coming each Sunday to read scripture and light the Advent candles.

The first big event held at our church this month was the 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Jimmy & Hazel West. There was a very big crowd who attended this event. Their actual anniversary is on December 25 if you wish to send them a card. Their address is 1850 S. State Road 3, Scottsburg, IN 47170.

We had several people attend the CCA Carols & Choirs at Scottsburg First Baptist with several in our group singing special music for the whole group. Carols and Choirs was a wonderful event this year.

Pam Mohon, our pastor's wife, made a lot of cookies for our 4:12 youth to deliver to several of our older generation when they went to Christmas carol to them last Sunday. There were several who came to help decorate the sugar cookies she made. It was a fun time. There were also chocolate chip and peanut butter cookies that she made. Each person received a dozen in a beautiful Christmas container. Thanks Pam!

Our 4:12 Youth took part in another new event this year at the Southeastern Baptist Youth Camp. They were the live Nativity at their Bethlehem Lights. As I am writing this, I am so looking forward to going to this tonight. I am sure my sisters and I are going to enjoy this so much.

Coming up this Sunday, our CoMBaT men are sponsoring a "Lunch with Santa" in the Family Life Center from 12-1 PM. They will be serving soup and sandwiches and whatever desserts our women will bring. And Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there to talk to all the children and even adults as to what they want for Christmas. Pictures will be taken with Santa too.

Then coming up on Wednesday night we will have our annual "Happy Birthday Jesus" party in which everyone will be able to take part.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

Judy Peacock, Church Secretary

## **Leota**

Shalom from Bethel Baptist to our Coffee Creek kin & friends,

Like you, we anticipate and wait for the celebration of New Hope, New Joy, New Peace & New Love. A question for us this season: What do we do while we are waiting? I was visiting with a pastor the other day. He had come late to where he was, when I saw him. And he was leaving early from where he was, when I saw him to go to someplace else. Did you get all of that? I hope so because I'm not sure I did. I'll have to get Jene to proofread it for me. Anyway, this busy-running-around-guy told me that he had something like twelve or fourteen more events/programs/parties to attend. I wasn't surprised when, during our conversation, he wondered about the location of two or more kids. He couldn't remember. I felt a little bit sorry for the guy and quietly rejoiced that I wasn't as booked-up as the running-around-guy. So yeah, I began to wonder what am I doing while I am waiting and hoped that it included some time to just quietly wait. There seems to be a lot of "crud" (non-peace—people dislocated—disassociated or just plain hung-up-where-they-don't-want-to-be) going around. I pray, more like whimper boldly, that folks can find something decent to grab and hold onto in their time of waiting. Meanwhile, a thought for you and me. Is it possible that, like Mary, we might become pregnant? Can we be filled filled with something that is altogether good and wholesome? Is it possible that we might give birth to some joy, some hope, some peace, this Christmas season?

**See-m/KHA** from Bethel Baptist in Leota.

## **New Harmony**

Resolution is defined as a firm decision to do or not do something. Typically at the start of the new year we make resolutions to do better than the prior year...lose weight, decrease stress, exercise more, improve finances....

However, by February we have lost the determination to follow those things we started out to do. This year I would like to remind you and maybe challenge you to do something a little different. Put God first. That's it. Don't resolve to do anything else. Just put Him first. Read your bible at the beginning of every day and just start having a conversation with Him(pray). Once you make Him a priority in your life all other things will fall into place. It may take work but your confidence will be in Him and not yourself. You don't need motivation or willpower. You just need Him!

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans. Proverbs 16:3

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and he will do this:

He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday.

Psalms 37:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3: 5-6

Ruth

No upcoming events. Merry Christmas and have a wonderful, Jesus filled 2024!!!!

### **Underwood**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Underwood Baptist Church!

We enjoyed seeing many of you at Carols and Choirs at the first of this month. Our choir worked hard to prepare and present a song. We were blessed to participate and enjoy the fellowship which followed. We were inspired by the greetings from the Edna Martin Christian Center representatives. It was a reminder that God can change the world using one person. Edna Martin's legacy continues as the organization continues to bring the message of the Love of Jesus to her neighborhood.

We hosted the Coffee Creek Association quilt group this month. Known as "Sewing Seeds of Love," the group project is now focused on making items for Cradle Ministries in Scottsburg. Examples of items in progress at this time are baby quilts and burp cloths. Help is welcome even if someone doesn't sew! There are always extra hands needed to press cloth and cut squares.

ABWM has been busy stuffing gift bags for children and shut-ins. They had a Christmas Party where their annual Secret Sister was revealed at last! Again this year nobody had correctly guessed who was their secret sister. There was an ornament exchange using the Luke chapter two Christmas narrative converted into a "Left-Right Game". More gift bags were stuffed! And bellies were stuffed with great Party Snacks.

Santa (our Pastor David) showed up on his sleigh at Underwood BC, right in front of the fireplace in the Fellowship Hall! Nobody has any idea how he got that big sleigh down the chimney, much less himself! We had lots of children stop in to get their picture taken with Santa, assemble Nativity crafts, and drink hot chocolate and eat cookies. Each child received a bag of gifts that included a story book about the birth of Jesus. The gift bag had an obvious sticker listing the times and dates of services at Church including Children's Church time. Many verbal invitations were also made as our members circulated with the children and their parents.

We are looking forward to our next event which will be a Christmas Party at a local Nursing Home. We will share gifts and snacks with the residents, and sing Christmas Carols.

That brings us to Christmas Eve! We will have both a morning and evening service. As we close out this year we request that our sister churches would be praying for our congregation. During the middle of the festivities of this Christmas Season, we have laid to eternal rest one of our Deacons, Bobby Mullins. His unexpected death has brought great sadness to our congregation. Please pray for our church and the Mullins family as we go into the new year without his familiar face in all of our services. Thank you.

As We Serve Together,

UBC



## Eight Gifts that Don't Cost a Cent

1. *THE GIFT OF LISTENING*...But, you must **Really** listen. No interrupting, no daydreaming, no planning your response. Just listening.
2. *THE GIFT OF AFFECTION*...Be generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, pats on the back and handholds. Let these small actions demonstrate the love you have for family and friends.
3. *THE GIFT OF LAUGHTER*...Clip cartoons. Share articles and funny stories. Your gift will say, "I love to laugh with you."
4. *THE GIFT OF A WRITTEN NOTE*...It can be a simple "Thanks for the help" note or a full sonnet. A brief, handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime, and may even change a life.
5. *THE GIFT OF A COMPLIMENT*...A simple and sincere, "You look great in red," "You did a super job," or "That was a wonderful meal" can make someone's day.
6. *THE GIFT OF A FAVOR*...Every day, go out of your way to do something kind.
7. *THE GIFT OF SOLITUDE*...There are times when we want nothing better than to be left alone. Be sensitive to those times and give the gift of solitude to others.
8. *THE GIFT OF A CHEERFUL DISPOSITION*...The easiest way to feel good is to extend a kind word to someone, really, it's not that hard to say, "Hello" or "Thank You."

Friends are a very rare jewel. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us. Show your friends how much you care.

### COFFEE CREEK ASSOC. UPCOMING EVENTS

12/31/2023 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Hymn Sing, Bethany 6 PM

01/07/2024 CCA Executive Board Meeting, Kimberlin Creek 2 PM

If you want to submit articles for The Shepherd, the deadlines are as follows.

2024 Shepherd Deadlines noon on:

01/27/2024	07/27/2024
02/24/2024	08/24/2024
03/30/2024	09/28/2024
04/27/2024	10/26/2024
05/25/2024	11/23/2024
06/29/2024	12/21/2024

Please mark your calendars.

Thank You,

Missy Payne

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