

**West York Church of the Brethren  
5101 Darlington Road  
York, PA 17408**

**Richard Godfrey, Pastor**

# The West Yorker



# *December 2024*

*“The mission of the West York Church of the Brethren is to love, nurture and build the community of Jesus Christ.”*



# DECEMBER

**West York Church of the Brethren**

**5101 Darlington Road**

**York, PA 17408**

**Phone: (717) 792-9260**

**Prayer Line: (717) 792-9260 (Option "5")**

**E-mail: [westyorkchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westyorkchurch@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.westyorkcob.org](http://www.westyorkcob.org)**

**Sunday Worship: Sunday School 9:00 am  
Worship Service 10:15 am**

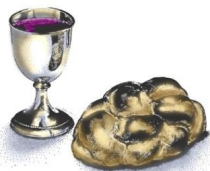
# 2024

# *The West Yorker*



***Christmas Candlelight Service  
Tuesday, December 24th  
6:00 p.m.***

Please join us for our Special Christmas Eve Worship service. Join us as we take time from our busy schedules and hear the Christmas story, sing some Christmas hymns, and hear a message of love from God that reminds us of the real purpose and message of the gift of love that God has given us.



***Bread & Cup Service  
Sunday, December 1st  
10:15 am Worship Service***

*The cantata  
"Only Love"  
will be presented on  
Sunday, December 22nd  
during the 10:15 am  
worship service.*



**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

1st Sunday in Advent - December 1  
Bread & Cup Service - December 1  
Leadership Team Meeting - December 3  
2nd Sunday in Advent - December 8  
Youth Meeting & Christmas Party - December 8  
Cookie Assembling/Bagging - December 8  
Newsletter Deadline - December 11  
CEC Christmas Program - December 13  
Men's Breakfast - December 14  
Family Movie Night - December 14  
3rd Sunday in Advent - December 15  
Day of Prayer for Children & Youth - December 18  
First Day of Winter - December 21  
4th Sunday in Advent - December 22  
Cantata - December 22  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - December 24  
Christmas Day - December 25  
New Year's Eve - December 31

**DENOMINATIONAL, DISTRICT & COMMUNITY EVENTS**  
**(For more info on denominational events, go to [www.brethren.org](http://www.brethren.org))**



**Friends of Cross Keys Village -  
The Brethren Home Community**

**RECYCLED CHRISTMAS DÉCOR  
SALE**

**Bring donations** of your gently used Christmas decorations on

**Thursday, December 12th** between **9 am & 4 pm** in the Garden Room at Harmony Ridge.

(See instructions on poster hanging on the hallway bulletin board.)

Shop for almost-new decorations on

**Friday, December 13th** between **9 am & 4 pm** in the Garden Room. Please bring a shopping bag or two to carry your purchases, if possible.

**Payment by cash or check,  
NO CREDIT CARDS.**

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**Annual Luminary Tree Lighting  
Friday, December 20th at 6 pm**

(Weather date is December 21st)

Join us for caroling and light refreshment at Harmony Ridge's main entrance. Sponsor forms to sponsor a luminary light in honor or memory of someone special are hanging on the hallway bulletin board.



**All three centers need paper goods** - paper towels, Kleenex, wipes, toilet paper, paper plates, copying paper and construction paper. When these items are donated it saves us money because we don't have to buy them.

**An updated wish list is hanging on the hallway bulletin board.**

*Thank you for your continued support for CAS.*

**Spring Grove Alumni Chorus**  
will present

**“Christmas Memories”  
Christmas Concert**

**Sunday, December 8th**

**4:00 pm**

Spring Grove Area Middle School  
Auditorium

*Everyone is invited!!!!*



**FOCUS ON THE FAMILY  
HAVE A GOOD DAY  
Monthly Leaflets**

We have been informed that the December copies of these leaflets will be the last we receive. Tyndale Publishing has made the tough decision to discontinue these periodicals.



## GROCERY CART MINISTRY

Each month we are collecting certain items for our Food Pantry. For the month of **December** we are collecting **ITEMS AS LISTED ON THE REVERSE ADVENT**



**CALENDAR** (copies in Gathering area). Each day you collect a different item. You can place your donation in the shopping cart that is in the hallway. **THE ITEMS WE ARE REQUESTING ARE THE ONLY ITEMS WE NEED THIS MONTH.** Thanks for your help!



### A Voice of hope

*"And Mary said: 'My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.'" Luke 1:46-47, NIV*

### December Special Offering

Our special offering for December is  
**Church of the Brethren  
Advent Offering**

The Advent Offering highlights how we extend generosity and witness through engaging our neighbors, seeking justice, and sharing the holistic peace of Jesus Christ.

Special Advent Offering Envelopes will be available in December.

## January Newsletter

Deadline for articles for the January Newsletter is

**December 11, 2024**

(Due to the Christmas Holiday the newsletter will be available by December 22, 2024.)

*Thank you.*



We will once again have a **Mitten Tree** this year. Please bring mittens, hats, gloves, scarves and socks to put on the tree.



**MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST**  
**Saturday, December 14th**  
**7 am**  
**Fellowship Hall at WYCOB**  
**PLEASE JOIN US!!!**

## YOUTH MEETING

**Sunday, December 8th**  
**11:30 am to 12:30 pm**



**Youth in middle or high school.**

**We will read and talk about scripture.**

\*\*\*\*\*



## YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Sunday, December 8th**  
**12:30 pm to 2 pm**



**Carlisle Truck Stop  
Ministry  
Cookie Collection**

**WE WILL NOT BE DOING ANY ON SITE BAKING OF COOKIES** for Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry this year. You can bring donations of bought cookies or home baked cookies.

**NOTE: They are asking you to wear gloves (masks are optional) while preparing and packaging cookies, and that you seal the bags with staples, bows, etc.**

Bring your cookie donations to church by **Sunday, December 8th**. We will be assembling/bagging the cookies after church that day. Any questions please contact Brenda Myers. Sign up sheet is hanging at the main entrance.



**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**  
**Saturday, December 14th**  
**Doors open at 5:30 pm**  
**Movie will start at 5:45 pm**  
**The movie is**  
**"Sound of Hope"**  
**The Story of Possum Trot**





## The Child Education Center

will present their Christmas program on Friday, December 13th at 6:30 pm.

Thank you for your support of our Hoss's Community Day and That's My Pan! Fundraisers. We appreciate your support of our school!



**2025 Offering Envelopes will be available in December.**

**If you do not use envelopes and would like to start so that your giving is recorded with an end-of-year tax statement, please see Jake Hershey,**

**Michelle Hartlaub or call the church office.**

### Note from the Treasurer Contributions for 2024

Our **last deposit** of the year will be **Sunday, December 29th**. Contributions placed in the offering plate after Dec 29th will be counted towards 2025 giving. **Electronic giving** contributions must be made by **Dec 24th** to count as a 2024 contribution. Any **contributions mailed to the church** must be **in the church office by Dec. 27th** in order to be counted as a 2024 contribution. If you have any questions please contact Jake Hershey, Treasurer.

***Sign Up***

To sponsor the bulletin, newsletter and flowers for on the altar in 2025.

Sign-up sheets are hanging on the Informational Bulletin Board in the hallway by the coat rack.



## INVITATION TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

The **"Seeking Amazing Grace" Adult Sunday School class** continues to grow. In recent months we have done a detailed study of the books of Revelation and Daniel. We have now begun an in-depth look into the exciting prophecies of the prophet Isaiah, probably the most important prophet in the Old Testament— the one who wrote more about the coming Messiah than any other prophet. Come and join us on our faith journey as we study God's Word together.

We also continue with our study of the Wired Word lessons each week as we apply Christian principles to current events making news headlines in our culture today. These lessons provide a challenging decision on our part as the culture around us becomes less and less Christian.

The study of the Bible is one of the most important aspects of a growing, maturing faith and the informal, friendly, informative arena of Sunday School is a great venue for making God's Word come alive for us. Please come and check us out and join us for a while. You'll be glad you did!

**Care and Share Women's Bible Study** meets virtually on Mondays at 7 pm, led by Judith Wallace. They are currently studying ***"Colossians and Philemon: The Lordship of Jesus."***

You are invited to join one or more of these groups for Bible Study!!





*“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm 46:10*

A number of years ago, a submarine being tested had to be submerged for several hours. Upon returning to the harbor the next day, the captain was asked, “How did that terrible storm last night affect you?” Surprised, the captain replied, “Storm? What storm? We didn’t even know there had been a storm.” Their submarine had been so far beneath the surface that it had reached what sailors refer to as ‘the cushion of the sea’ - a depth in the ocean where the waters below are never stirred despite any commotion on the surface.

In our fast-paced world and culture, it can be a challenge to slow down and remember that God is in control. We are a society of “do everything,” “go everywhere,” “get it done” people who mistakenly believe we can handle everything if we just keep going. In reality, we need to become so submerged in God’s peace that no matter what’s happening in our life, we are able to remain as calm as “the cushion of the sea.”

If you feel overwhelmed, bogged down, or burnt out, I encourage you to add one more activity to your daily schedule: spend time with Almighty God. It is the only way to reach the depth needed to find true calm in the midst of the storm.

In the rush and busyness of this holiday season, take time to focus on the real reason for the season. Spend time in worship, study, meditation. Spend time with God and His Word.

Pastor Godfrey

#### **PASTOR GODFREY’S DECEMBER SERMONS**

December 1st	- <i>Are You Ready?</i>	- Mark 1:1-8
December 8th	- <i>Faith for the Troubled Times</i>	- Luke 21:5-11; 25-28
December 15th	- <i>Preparing for Christmas</i>	- Luke 3:1-9
December 22nd	- Cantata - <i>“Only Love”</i>	
December 24th	- <i>Angels Announce His Coming</i>	- Luke 2:1-7
December 29th	- <i>Searching for Jesus</i>	- Luke 2:41-52



## CLUES ABOUT CHRISTMAS

The Old Testament contains many details about Jesus' birth.  
Can you uncover what Isaiah prophesied?

Directions: Use the code to write the letters and complete Isaiah 9:6-7, NIV.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	!	@	#	\$

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
%	^	&	*	(	)	-	?	>	<	:	;	{

For to us a 3 8 9 # 4 is 2 ^ ( %, to us a ) ^ %

is 7 9 > 5 %, and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called Wonderful 3 ^ ? % ) 5 # ^ (,

\$ 9 7 8 - ; God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the

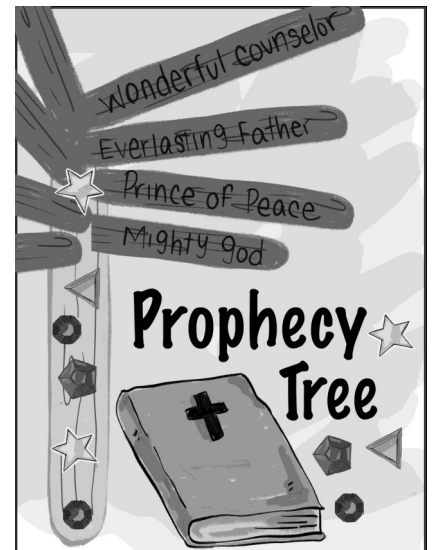
greatness of his government and & 5 1 3 5 there will be no 5 % 4.

He will reign on David's - 8 ( ^ % 5 and over his @ 9 % 7 4 ^ \$,

establishing and upholding it with ! ? ) - 9 3 5 and righteousness

from that time on and 6 ^ ( 5 > 5 (. Isaiah 9:6-7, NIV

Answers: child, born, son, given, Counselor, Mighty, peace, end, throne, kingdom, justice, forever



Make this Christmas craft to display special names for Jesus.

### What you need:

- Large wooden craft stick
- Small green wooden craft sticks
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Bible
- Permanent marker
- Craft glue
- Optional: star stickers or craft jewels

### What you do:

1. Place the large stick on a table vertically, like a tree trunk.
2. Cut the green sticks into pieces that measure 4", 3½", 3" and 2½".
3. On each green stick, write a name for Jesus from Isaiah 9:6 — Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Write small or ask an adult for help.)
4. Use a dot of glue to attach each green stick to the large stick, like tree branches.
5. Decorate your Christmas tree with stickers or jewels.

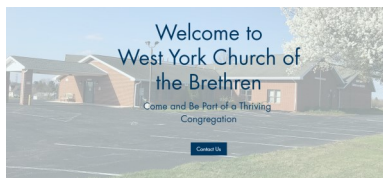




## Grace Delivered

Our monthly coin collection benefits the  
**Nashville Fire Company**  
with cases of water and

Gatorade. We are asking you to consider bringing your loose pocket change and extra coins to drop into our offering cans on the first Sunday of each month. If offerings will permit, we will add additional fire companies as we go along.



**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!!!**  
[WWW.WESTYORKCOB.ORG](http://WWW.WESTYORKCOB.ORG)



## CHILDREN'S STORY

If anyone feels led to share a Children's Story during the Worship service please let Pastor Godfrey or Barb in the office know.

**Interested in giving to West York Church Electronically? Scan the QR Code.**



### QR CODE

Scan the QR code to visit our online giving page.

Any questions, contact Jake Hershey.



**STAY CONNECTED**  
Follow us on

**Facebook and Instagram**



**West York Church  
of the Brethren  
@westyorkcob**

**West York COB  
@westyorkcob**



**THE NURSERY IS AVAILABLE FOR  
CHILDREN FROM NEWBORN THROUGH  
3 YEARS OLD. IT IS LOCATED IN THE  
ROOM OFF OF THE GATHERING AREA.**



## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

meets during the  
worship service each week.





## Serving our Congregation in December

### Greeters

- 1 Cindy Heist
- 8 Donna Aushman
- 15 Bill Zumbrum
- 22 Joann Rohrbaugh
- 29 Doug Ward



### Power Point Operator

- 1 Bill Zumbrum
- 8 Nathan Keefer
- 15 Dave Highlands
- 22 Bill Zumbrum
- 29 Nathan Keefer



### Sound Board Operator

- 1 Ed Jacobs
- 8 Gary Hake
- 15 Ed Jacobs
- 22 Merl Keefer
- 29 Ed Jacobs



### Nursery Caregivers

- 1 Kayla Eshelman
- 8 Vivian Hubbell
- 15 Jessica McIntyre
- 22 Genie Grove
- 29 Donna Aushman



### Hospitality Table

- 1 Kayla Eshelman
- 8 Pennie Jacobs
- 15 OPEN
- 22 Tim Coonan
- 29 OPEN



### December

- 5 Wendy McDowell
- Janice Spurlock
- 6 Pennie Jacobs
- Bob & Jo King
- 7 Everleigh Kern
- 8 Mike Smith
- 9 Lincoln Nolt
- 11 Nancy D. Smith
- 14 Steve Grove
- 18 Bentley Marshall
- 19 Alexaden Bridges
- 21 Shirley (Genie) Grove
- Jonathan & Gretchen Greiner
- 24 Erma Miller
- 27 Kira Greiner
- 28 Bernard Anthony
- Kazuko King
- Bill Zumbrum
- 29 Barb Coonan
- 30 Julee Bricker
- Michael Schilberz, Jr.
- 31 Cheryl Buser
- Kathy Hinkle



**The Wellspan Spiritual Care and Education Department** wants to let our church know when a member is in the hospital. **PLEASE identify our church at registration and admittance into the hospital.** According to HIPAA regulations, if you provide this information to the hospital, our church may be notified of the admission.

*We wish everyone at  
West York Church of the Brethren  
a blessed and joyous  
Christmas season  
and a happy 2025!*

*Thank you all for your friendship and  
support this past year.  
I look forward to working with you in 2025!*

*Barb Sloat and Jeffrey Stover*



### **DAY OF PRAYER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Wednesday, December 18th is  
our monthly Day of Prayer for  
our Children and Youth. Please find  
time during this day to pray for our  
Church's Ministry to Children and Youth.



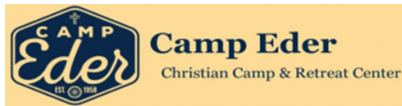
**In the event of bad weather,  
please contact Mike Parente  
for cancellations.**

### **Prayer Requests**

If you have a prayer request you  
would like to share with the church,  
please fill out a prayer card (found  
in the gathering area) and give it to  
the pastor. You may also call Barb  
in the church office.

**For pastoral emergencies:**  
Please contact Pastor Godfrey  
or Cindy Heist.





### CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

**December 13th & 14th 5 pm to 9 pm**

*A Celebration of the Birth of Jesus*

Christmas Lights & Music ~ Decorated Trees

Tree Decorating Contest ~ Bake Sale

Kids Activities ~ Cozy Fires & S'mores

Luminary Garden (Honoring our Loved Ones)

Delicious Turkey Dinner & Soup (per donation)

Warm Drinks & Lots of Cookies (Free)

Hay Rides Friday & Saturday 5-9 pm

Live Music

The Sponsorship Forms for the Festival and Luminary Sponsor are hanging on the hallway bulletin board.

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### WINTER CAMP

**January 24th to 26th, 2025**

**For Grades 1st - 12th**

**& Shining Stars**

**\$90**

Pack your snow suit and strap your sled to the car because winter camp 2025 is right around the corner. Register for a weekend full of great food, camp games, new and old friends, and a closer relationship with God.

Registration is now open.

**To register go to:**

**[www.campeder.org/winter-camp](http://www.campeder.org/winter-camp)**

See the poster hanging in the hallway for more information.



The Service and Outreach Chairperson, along with our Pastor, administer and oversee a special Outreach Ministry Fund. This "Outreach Fund" will be used to assist people with uncovered or unexpected financial needs on a case by case basis. Payments to assist persons will be made against bona fide invoices only and no cash will ever be distributed to individuals.

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please designate on your envelope "Outreach Fund".

### MEDICAL EQUIPMENT NO LONGER IN USE?

#### IN NEED OF A WHEELCHAIR or WALKER?

United Cerebral Palsy of Central PA has a reuse program called **Changing Hands**.

Manual wheelchairs, shower seats and benches, over bed tables, walkers, canes, lift chairs, raised toilet seats, and portable ramps are being accepted (NO HOSPITAL BEDS or STAIR GLIDES). All items must be in good to excellent condition. **Changing Hands** will clean the items and make them available to people who need them.

If you have questions about obtaining items, or would like to arrange to drop off items at their Camp Hill or York location, please call 717-737-3477 or 1-800-998-4827 (toll free) or email [atucp@ucpcentralpa.org](mailto:atucp@ucpcentralpa.org).



### ORIENTAL TRADING & CHRISTIANBOOK.COM ORDERS

If you want to place an order from **Oriental Trading** or from **Christianbook.com** for church-related activities, please call Barb in the church office. We have set up one account at each for the church that is tax exempt. If you order on your own, you will be liable to pay the PA Sales tax for those purchases. Questions? Contact Barb.

