



West Barre Witness

December, 2023

www.westbarreumc.org



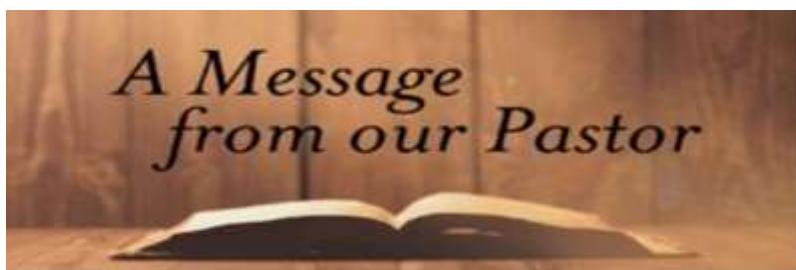
And there were in the same country shepherds abiding
in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,
and the glory of the Lord shone round about them:
and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold,
I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe
wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the
heavenly host praising God, and saying,
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,
good will toward men.

Luke (2:8-14)



As we bring this year to a close, and as we reflect on the accomplishments and joys of this year, I encourage you to start thinking and planning for the coming year.

There is an area in our lives I would like you to think about as we plan: What is an area of my Christian character I would like to improve on this year? Naturally, most of us are pretty aware of our weaknesses, and there might be a tendency to think "well that's just the way I am." But I urge you not to give in to that sort of thinking. We've even heard it said: "you can't teach an old dog new tricks." - but none of us are dogs! We are human beings saved by grace, and what may be impossible in our own strength is possible through Christ. Paul says: *So, I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law, but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God-through Jesus Christ our Lord! Romans 7:21-25.* Change is possible. Being transformed into the image of Christ is possible. What is it that God would like to change in me that I can reflect his image more clearly in the coming year? I've got my area identified. Let's each choose one together. Change doesn't happen automatically or instantaneously, but knowing what we're each going to on is sure a great start. Together, and with God's help, we will be more than conquerors.

Kim and I wish everyone in our church family a wonderful, blessed, and meaningful holiday season! We are so grateful to be part of this church family and to be your pastors.

Pastors Jim and Kim





Come join in fellowship

DEC. 15, 6:30

The Childrens Christmas
program and family night
supper.

Bring a dish to pass and
Table service.

Lasagna will be served.

Enjoy the program after dinner.



Christmas Eve Services

9:30 am – Morning Service, Festival of Carols

7:00 pm – Evening Service, Communion & Sermon





- 6 – Carolyn Unger
- 8 – Shania Mathes
- 10 – Wilma Richardson
- 15 – Johanna Dibley O'Campo
- 16 – Charles Mathes
- 24 – Sherril Hickman
- 26 – Norm Caldwell
- 27 Jeremiah Preston
- 29 – Peter Mathes



Dec 6- 6:30 Ad-Council

Dec 8- 7:00, Men's Club

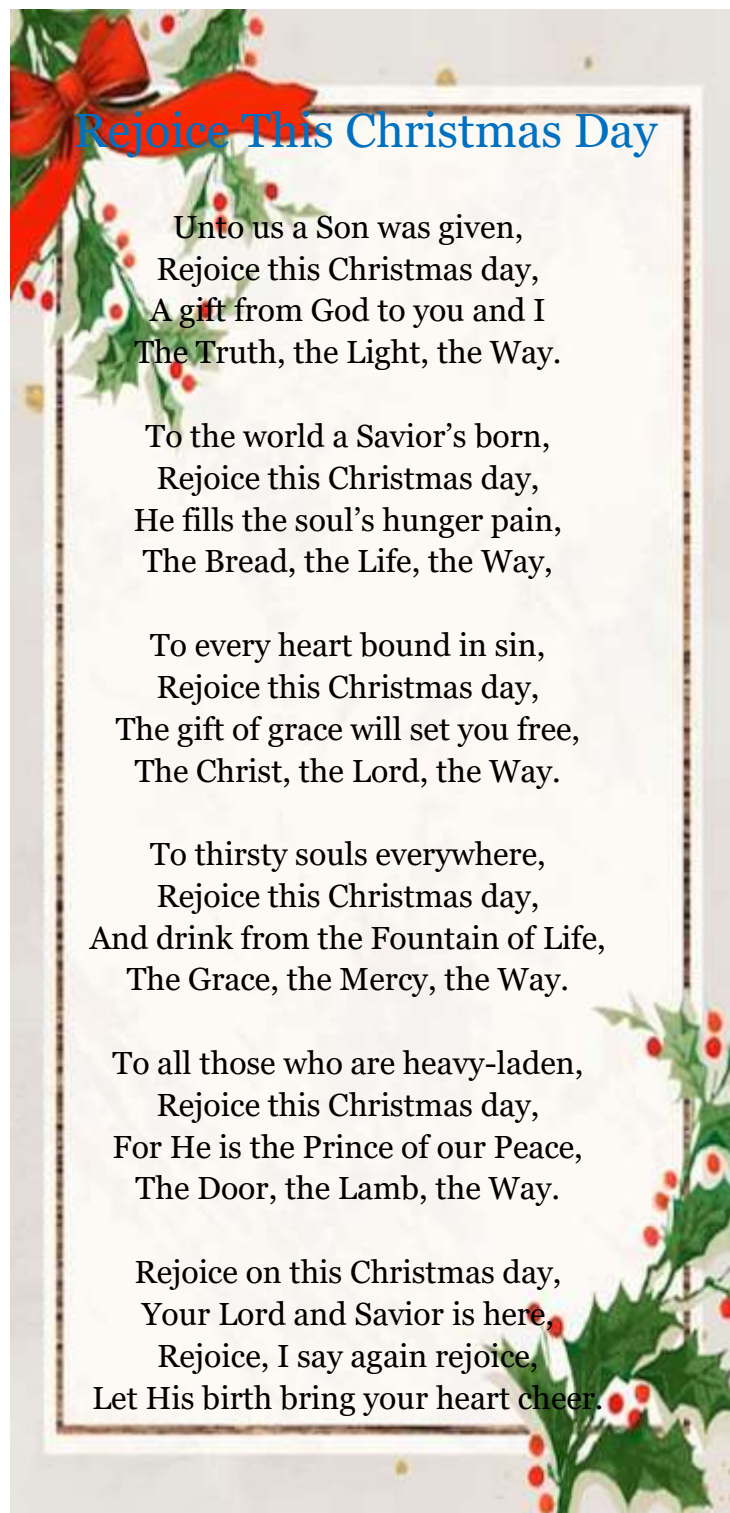
Dec 15- 6:30, Children's Program

Dec 18- 6:30, Trustee's

Dec 24 – 7:00, Christmas Eve
Service



- 7 – Pete & Lois Nesbitt
- 22 – George & Iva McKenna
- 27 – Jack & Wilma Richardson





Helpers at the
Turkey Dinner
On Election
Day.



Thank You To
Everyone that
Helped.
It doesn't go
unnoticed.

IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS

The first cup of coffee in the morning. The warmth of sun as it soaks into your skin. The kindness of a stranger. The laughter of a friend. The leaves falling. The birds chirping. The ocean crashing. The lone wildflower blooming in a sea of concrete. The billions of stars that pepper the night sky. The bunny-shaped cloud swiftly floating by. The moon shining no matter what phase she's in. The music that seeps into your soul. The books you can't put down. The days that feel too good to be true and the nights you pray will last forever. It's the little things. The sun peaking through the blinds mid-Sunday morning. The fragrances that teleport you to distant memories. The wind in your hair. The sand beneath your feet. Laughing so hard it hurts. The art that makes you feel something in which you can't put into words. The poetry that tugs at your heartstrings. Singing off-key in the shower. Freshly made bread. Butterflies in your stomach when you see them smile. The realisation that everything is possible. That your dreams were planted in your heart for a reason. That the little things have always been the big things and materialism will never outweigh the magic we find in moments.



Alysha Waghorn



Torchmen Quartet

We had the pleasure of having the Torchmen at our worship service on Nov 5.

What an inspirational group.



Go! And make disciples for the transformation of the world!

Prayers/Concerns

Stephanie Ciarrocca
 Josh Watkin's Family
 Hartway Family
 Ida Caldwell
 Jim Davis
 Dona Sharping
 Troy O'Brian
 Kim Heiler & Pastor Jim
 Justin Preston
 Marilyn Hoffmister & family
 Lynette Preston
 Jann Davis
 Doris Antonore
 Sharon Schlegal & George

Missions for December

Lipson Cancer Foundation,
 Patient Services



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West Barre Church

THE APOSTLES' CREED, TRADITIONAL VERSION 881

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;*
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting.
Amen.

The Barre Betterment Committee is going to be offering to deliver dinners from the Community Kitchen to people in the Barre area that may be in need. It will only be on the first Thursday of the month beginning in September. Please contact Cyndy to make arrangements. 585-590-7503.

Pastor Jim is normally in the Church office Tuesday and Wednesday unless he is visiting, has a meeting, or at an appointment. He is available on his cell phone if he is not here in the office. 716-523-7542

Please send articles for the newsletter to Jill Chandler at jdchan@rochester.rr.com on or before the 25 of the month.