



## The Union Connection

December 17, 2023

Encourage humankind toward Christ-centered living  
through loving, learning, listening, and leading.

The Union Connection is the weekly email newsletter of Union Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Franklin, Indiana; provided to our congregation, as well as to family and friends who are interested in knowing what is happening within the life of our congregation. Individuals can sign-up to receive this email or remove themselves from the distribution list, as they desire, by clicking the appropriate link at the bottom of this page.

Comments/Concerns/Suggestions regarding this newsletter can be made at the Church Office or by email to [lorisewellucc@gmail.com](mailto:lorisewellucc@gmail.com).

'Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.'

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

## Ministry Teams

# Merry Christmas!!

## Christian Action

Charlie Canary, Chair

Angel Tree gifts  
are due back  
**THIS SUNDAY - Dec. 17!**

Thank you so much  
for your support.



Lori Sewell, Chair

Thanks to all who joined us  
for our annual  
Christmas Party last  
Sunday.



Karen Bauman, Chair

We hope you will enjoy this  
Advent Season filled with  
holiday decoration, Advent  
Candle lighting and special  
readings during our worship  
service.



**Tuesday Bible Study**

Judy Wells is hosting this study on *Jesus and Women, In the First Century and Now* is by Kristi McLelland. The study is open to all and begins in the fellowship hall at 10:00 a.m.

If you are interested or have questions, contact Judy Wells.



**Advent is HERE!**

Advent Devotionals are available in the Narthex.



**Serving  
December 24th**

**Elders:**

John White  
Joe Wells

**Deacons:**

G - Paul Lightle  
O - Belinda Williams  
C - Michael Hayes  
Alt - Terrie Ferguson

**Worship Leader:**

Kendala Parkinson



**Greeting Card Ministry**

If you enjoy sending cards to others, here is your chance to be a part of the ministry of this church. Below are names and addresses of individuals who would appreciate receiving a card from someone in the church:

**Jill Lightle**

1945 Crescent St.  
Franklin, IN 46131

**Barbara Mitchell**

1282 W SR 252  
Trafalgar, IN 46181

**Pat Hogan/Ray Von Burg**

271 Village Ln., Room 142  
Greenwood, IN 46143

**Nancy Hunt**

Compass Park,  
GA 2350,  
890 Freemason Parkway,  
Franklin, IN 46131

**Brenda Haler**

1375 S. Center Ln.  
Franklin, IN 46131

**Barbara Smith**

1122 S Nineveh Road  
Franklin, IN 46131



**Birthdays:**

18 - Rick Paris

**Anniversaries:**

**Sermon 12/17**

**The One Who Calls You**

Psalm 126  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

**Synopsis:**



2023 DECEMBER						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**Visit This Week's  
Calendar Online**

[click here](#)

**Sunday**  
9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School  
10:30 a.m.  
Worship service

**Thursday**  
7:00 p.m.  
Longest Night  
Service  
Tabernacle CC



**Anchors  
Area  
News**

**Events from our  
neighboring DoC  
churches in the  
Anchors Area.**

**Tabernacle Christian**

offers a community meal on the first and third Wednesday of December.

Volunteers are welcome - contact Nancy James at Tab if interested.

**Hugh Dunn**  
75 S Milford Drive  
Franklin, IN 46131

**Martha White**  
1070 W. Jefferson St., Apt.  
E117  
Franklin, IN 46131

**Carolyn Rogers**  
490 Red Skelton, Apt 109  
Franklin, IN 46131

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**DW News**  
Disciples Women  
will meet on January 11th  
for their regular monthly  
meeting.

Watch here for more  
information.

All women of the church are  
welcome to join us.

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**DM News**  
The Disciples Men will  
meet on February 3rd  
at 8:00 a.m.

**NOTE: We moved the  
meeting up one week to  
prepare for the Valentine  
Dinner on the 11th.**

We hope you will join us for  
food and fellowship!

You've heard me say on  
several occasions that 1  
Thessalonians 5:16-18 is  
my favorite scripture verse.  
That came about long  
before I discerned my call  
into pulpit ministry. My  
reason for it being my  
favorite is that, just like each  
of you, I have had difficult  
situations and events take  
place in my life. This verse  
has always helped me  
through each time I faced a  
tough time.

To read the second part of  
our reading from 1  
Thessalonians, we could  
and maybe should consider  
this to be a great  
benediction – to be used at  
the end of a worship service  
or at the end of each day.

In that last verse of our  
reading, we are reminded  
that God will sanctify us  
entirely and He will keep our  
spirit, soul, and body sound  
and blameless. He can and  
he will do that.

But we do not want to  
overlook the fact that we  
are, indeed, called by God  
to serve. That service might  
be in pulpit ministry or it  
might be in lay ministry. You  
are a part of this faith  
community for a great  
reason.

Pastor Mark

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our newsletter?**

**You can subscribe to our  
newsletter by going to the  
bottom, right-hand corner  
of our website, found at:  
<https://unionchristiandoc.org>**

**Tabernacle Christian**  
is hosting a  
**Longest Night  
Service**

on Thursday, Dec.  
21st at 7:00 pm.

It is so named  
because of its  
proximity to the winter  
solstice—the longest  
night of the year and  
a season that can be  
a darker than  
“normal” time for  
those who struggle.

Rev. Diana  
Thompson and Rev.  
Mark Parkinson will  
preside as we invite  
you to join in to walk  
beside those who are  
struggling.

### Links of Interest

[UCC website](#)

[Union Christian  
Facebook page](#)

[UCC YouTube](#)

[DoC in Indiana](#)

[DoC General Church](#)

[Disciples Women](#)

[Disciples Men](#)



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