

This Week at Union Church

Sun. Nov. 13	9:30 am Christian Education for all ages 10:30 am Morning Worship 5:00 pm Advent Vespers Service, Cowan Chapel
Mon. Nov. 14	7:00 pm AA Bottom Line Big Book Study, Dialog Center
Tues. Dec. 15	CONSIDER DEADLINE 7:00 pm Memory Keepers, Wayside Room 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
Weds. Dec. 16	Wednesday Nite Live! 5:00 pm Middle School Youth Group, 302 5:45 pm Dinner (donation), Community Room 6:15 pm High School Youth Group 6:30 pm BUDGET MEETING, Comm. Rm. , activities for elementary age kids in 104
Thurs. Dec. 17	10:30 am Mothers Forum, Room 204 12:00 pm Bible Study 6:15 pm Union Church Choir
Fri. Dec. 18	9:00 am Woman's Industrial
Sat. Dec. 19	10:00 am Christmas Play Rehearsal
Sun. Dec. 20	9:30 am Christian Education for all ages 10:30 am Morning Worship 7:00 pm Longnight Service, Cowan Chapel

Especially in our prayers ...

Each week we join millions of Christians who pray for one another through the ecumenical prayer cycle and, locally, the Berea Ministerial Association's prayer cycle. Please keep the people **East Timor, Indonesia and the Philippines** and our brothers and sisters at the **Berea Church of the Nazarene**, in your hearts, and pray for them. Please also hold these concerns in your prayers today and throughout the week. (Prayer concerns can be submitted to the church office via phone or email).

- ◆ All who are serving or living in harm's way across the world, especially those suffering in the violence in the Middle East. We pray for the day when war shall be no more.
- ◆ **Les Kovacs** and his family as his dementia worsens
- ◆ **Dorie Hubbard's mother**, undergoing treatment for cancer
- ◆ **John Courter** who will begin chemotherapy for a tumor in his lung.
- ◆ **Nancy Jones**, in Pattie A. Clay hospital

Assisting in Worship

Worship leader this morning is John Payne.

Announcements

About Our Advent Art: Each Sunday in Advent we will light a new candle and hang an additional banner as we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. The color of the liturgical season also changes from green to dark blue, representing the nights of longing and waiting, and the night sky in which Christ's star appeared. The hand-wrought Advent Wreath and stand was made by member and local artisan Bob Montgomery. The Advent Banners were designed by Rev. Kent in 2006 who made them as full size paper cuts. In 2007 they were translated into fabric by Rita Barlow, Joyce Fields, Ramona Culp & Debbonnaire Kovacs.

The Banner Series complements a decades-old tapestry from the church's collection made by fabric artist Mildred Strickler. That banner, (which is hung for Christmas Eve and the weeks following) in blue, yellow, and red accents, depicts a Star of Bethlehem that dwarfs the small city under it with both its size and dynamism, unable to be contained by the borders of the banner. Each week's Advent banner has an image drawn from the traditional advent texts that is also larger than the waiting world over which it appears.

Third Week: “And Justice Shall Pour Down Like Water”

The voice of John the Baptizer rings throughout Advent. Images for today’s banner are drawn from Amos, the Psalms, the gospel stories of John’s call to repentance and justice. The central image is drawn from the verse “for in that rose was contained heaven and earth in little space.” Within the petals are the continents of the earth and celestial bodies. Around the rose flow the waters of justice cascading down to cover the earth. These heavenly waters flow to meet the earthly waters of the Jordan where John baptizes all who seek the Kingdom of Heaven.

Advent Vespers Service tonight! 5:00 pm in Cowan Chapel. All are welcome to attend this short, quiet, meditative service of music and prayers

A work crew gathers on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am to do some small repair/maintenance jobs around the church building and grounds. If you’d like to join them your help would be welcome. Call Bill Stolte at 986-9032 if you’d like details, or just come to the office at 9:00. Thanks!

Annual Budget Meeting December 16, 6:30 pm At this meeting we will review and adopt the 2010 budget and hold elections to fill vacant spots on Boards. In the Community Room, all encouraged to attend. 2010 budgets are available in the vestibule.

Christmas Play help needed! Our annual Christmas play will happen next week, the 20th, during morning worship! Please contact Wyndee (200-9880 or wholbrook@union-church.org) if you are willing to

- ◆ Help a child with his or her costume
- ◆ Run the sound system during rehearsals and the performance

Rehearsals: Each Wednesday after the Wednesday Nite Live Supper (Dec. 16) we’ll begin by 6:30 pm and end at 7:30 pm. Dress rehearsal will be in the sanctuary on Saturday Dec. 19 at 10:00 am. (subject to change if too many children have conflicts). Performance is during the Sunday morning service on Dec. 20.

Costumes: Animal Characters: Please create a costume for your character and bring it on Dec. 9. Solid color sweat suits work well as the base for animal costumes along with craft felt to create ears, tails, etc.

Narrators: Please wear a nice pair of blue jeans and either a red, green or white shirt or sweater.

To all who will: please send a holiday card to Steven Goff #142013, LLCC Dorm B-C223U, PO Box 6, LaGrange, KY, 40031. These cards must have a written (not sticker) return name & address or else he won’t get them.

Special “Longnight” Service December 20th, 7:00 pm in Cowan Chapel. Pastor Kent and the Deacons will lead a special service of prayers for healing and remembrance. Though the holiday season is supposed to be filled with the joy and light of the birth of Jesus, for many it is the hardest time of the year. Deaths, divorce or separations, layoffs, family difficulties, and illness are ongoing realities in stark contrast to cheerful carols and to the pressure to “be happy.” For anyone remembering a loved one who has died, and anyone carrying pain this season, music and prayers for healing will be offered in a gentle, “come as you are” atmosphere: no need to be happy, or cheerful, or to get dressed up. Remembering the longest night of the year, we are reminded that each day gets a little lighter from this point on. Together, in the presence of Christ, we will bind up the brokenhearted and remember that Jesus was born in poverty, preached to the sickest and most vulnerable people, and offered healing not just for the cheerful, but for all in need of God’s special love. Musicians and readers are also needed (recorder, guitar, violin, etc, can all be used!).

All are invited to the Christmas Eve Service on Thursday, Dec. 24. Pre-service music begins at 5:15 pm, and the service itself at 5:30. If you are new to Berea, this is a service you won’t want to miss, with music, readings, carol singing and candle lighting! A finger-food supper in the Community Room follows the service. There will also be a service in **Cowan Chapel at 11:00 pm** on Christmas Eve, to welcome the Christ Child at midnight. No service Christmas Day, we’ll gather as a church family as usual on Sunday the 27th!

Parents, this is for YOU! A new Sunday School class will begin on January 10, so after you drop your children off for their Sunday School classes you can enjoy gathering for sharing, learning and community as well. Parents and friends are welcome. Stay tuned for more details!

Poinsettias are given ...



by Les & Mary Lou Pross in memory of loved ones
in memory of Frank Wray and William and Mary Binkley by Betty Wray
by Joyce Henderson in honor of those on whose shoulders we build
in loving memory of Jim Morgan by Lois and her family
by Jan Hamilton in memory of loved ones
in memory of Jim Bowling and Toni Sims by Maurice and BG Hibbard
by John and Marlene Payne in honor of the children of the world
in honor of Lt. Col. ret. John F. Kauffman from the Kauffman family
by Hazel Morris in memory of her brother, Jack Douglas Morris
in memory of Tom Kemp by Hamdy Kemp
in honor of Mary Jones and Helen Lujin by Kevin Burke and Carla Gilbert
in memory of Ervin Connelly by his family
by Hazel Morris in honor of our staff: Kent, Wyndee, Deborah, Joan, John, Gina, Erik, Bea,
Jennifer & Loretta
in memory of Jim Morgan and Wilson and Ellen Evans by Truman and Joyce Fields
in memory of Brian Bowling, Evan Thomas, DeMarcus White, Pedro Salinas and Matt Ross
in memory of Marie Gilbert and in honor of Helen Lujin by Kent Gilbert