

First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.
Welcome All to Wesley United Methodist Church

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tshishinen Mpyoyo

***Call to Worship**

Elisa Kaputo

L: In those days, before the final coming of Christ in glory, there will be mighty signs.

P: They will be seen in the heavens and on earth.

L: They will remind us of God's eternal presence and power.

P: We will all be changed in the twinkling of an eye.

L: Therefore, let our hearts be glad and our souls rejoice!

P: God has reached out to all God's people with compassion and tender mercy. AMEN.

Lighting of Advent Candle #1: Hope

Isabelle Kaputo

One Angel: Today, on this first Sunday of Advent, we are called to be ready to receive something life-changing, something wholly new. In the light of the deep darkness which descended upon the lives of the people, the song of the angels has come reminding us that there is hope – something stupendous is about to happen.

Angels: Isabelle Kaputo, Eliane Numbi Mpyoyo, Elga Mwanza Mpyoyo, Gad Mpyoyo Jr.

Advent Hymn:

“Star-Child” (*verse 1*)

TFWS #2095

Opening Prayer

Isabelle Kaputo

In the middle of worldwide turmoil, darkness descends, and the people cry out, “Save us, Lord”. Our cries have been heard and the Word which resides with God is ready to come to us. Lord, hear our pleas and enter our hearts and lives this day. Help us to be ready for the coming of Jesus. AMEN.

***Prayer of Confession** (*Unison*)

Elisa Kaputo

“Make it easy for us to figure out,” we cry as we seek signs of God's presence. We want it simple. Just tell us and we can take the proper precautions. There are signs all-around of God's presence among us – both in that which has been created and in the newness of creation of everyday living. We're looking for signs of gloom and doom – but we should be looking for signs of hope and triumph. Forgive us, merciful God, when we spend so much time looking for the scary things in life. Focus our attention on ways in which we can be of service with whatever time we have. Forgive us when we seek the darkness of anger and fear and turn our backs on the light of possibilities and peace. Open our hearts once again to your redeeming love and transforming peace, for we ask these things in Jesus' name. AMEN.

Silent Confession and Words of Assurance

Rev. Tshishinen Mpyoyo

***Opening Hymn:**

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel” (*twice*)

UMH #204

PRAYERS

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayers

Response

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

TFWS #2193

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Tshishinen Mpoyo

Anthem

“*Speak O Lord*”

Words & Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend, Arranged by Mary McDonald
©2005 and this arrangement ©2008 ThankYouMusic

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-5

Elisa Kaputo

Hymn

“Thy Word Is a Lamp” (Refrain only)

UMH #601

***New Testament Lesson**

John 3:16-20

Rev. Tshishinen Mpoyo

The Message

“Light Has Come Into the World”

Rev. Tshishinen Mpoyo

SENDING FORTH

***Closing Hymn**

“When We All Get to Heaven”

UMH #701

***Benediction**

Rev. Tshishinen Mpoyo

***Postlude**

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DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS for Nov. 30 - Dec. 5, 2020

Monday: Isaiah 64:1-9
Tuesday: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Wednesday: Psalm 85:8-13
Thursday: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Friday: Mark 13:24-37
Saturday: Mark 1:1-8



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NOVEMBER

December

Dates for the Week of November 29 - December 6, 2020

Nov. 29th/Sunday/9:00 a.m.: Virtual Worship Service/United Methodist Student Day

Dec. 2nd/Wednesday/5:30 p.m.: Children’s Message on Facebook

Dec. 4th/Friday/8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.: Life Line Screening at Wesley UMC

Dec. 5th/Saturday/10:00 a.m.: Wesley’s Annual Charge Conference

Dec. 6th/Sunday/9:00 a.m. Virtual Worship Service

Dec. 6th/Sunday/11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m./Drive Through Communion

Dec. 6th/Sunday/11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m./Drive Through Red Kettle collections

Celebrations for November 29 - December 6, 2020

Happy Birthday!

Dec. 2 - Andrew Pribek, Maggie Peterson

Dec. 6 - Ethan Villars



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Poinsettia Order Form 2020



Would you like to sponsor a Poinsettia for the church sanctuary? You are welcome to take it home after the Christmas Eve Service.

The cost this year for each plant is **\$12.00** and you may designate it in honor of someone special or to celebrate an event.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW AND PLACE IT WITH YOUR PAYMENT IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY NOVEMBER 22nd.

Circle the number of plants desired: 1 2 3 Paid Yes No

Total amount enclosed \$ _____ Envelope # _____

Your Name _____

_____ In Memory of _____

_____ In Honor of _____

_____ To Celebrate _____

HELP: Order was placed for 20 poinsettias months ago and cannot be changed. Please consider ordering or donating to cover the cost of the beautiful flowers. The due date has been extended because of this situation. Thank you!

Monthly Mission Focus
Salvation Army



The Mission of the Month for November and December is the Salvation Army. In November, we will once again collect gifts for the Salvation Army Christmas Store. Due to the pandemic, the procedure for parents to select gifts at the Christmas Store will be different, but parents of families in need will still be able to select three gifts for each of their children from three different price categories. As in the past several years, the Salvation Army has indicated that their biggest needs are gifts for teens. This age group can be very difficult to buy for and gift cards continue to be very popular. Any money donated for this project will be used for gift cards through our SCRIP program. If you prefer to buy a gift, here are some suggestions: curling irons, brushes, purses, jewelry, make-up, nail polish, shampoo/conditioner, lotion, perfume, cologne, manicure sets, scarves, watches, teen movies and books, socks, slippers, basketballs/footballs, haircut gift certificates, bus passes. Money and gifts may be dropped off at the church office. Call ahead to make sure someone will be there. We will be collecting money and gifts through December 1.

In December, we will be collecting for the Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign. Other years we have taken two days and provided bell ringers, but due to the pandemic, we do not feel we can ask people to risk their personal safety to do this. Instead, we will bring the Red Kettle to Wesley for drive up opportunities to contribute. Drive up to the Red Kettle will be **December 6th** from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and **December 19th** from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



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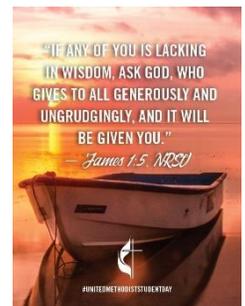
Handmade greeting cards will be available for \$1.00 on the card table outside the church office when office is “open.” Place your donation in the basket provided. The proceeds will go toward November’s Mission of the Month is the Salvation Army’s Christmas Store.

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United Methodist Student Day Is November 29
Education matters-Please give generously.

The United Methodist Church believes that every person has the right to education and that the responsibility of educating young people rests with the family, faith communities, and the government. On United Methodist Student Day, we have the opportunity to support scholarships and low-interest loans that help young leaders achieve their dreams.

As a child who experienced being bullied, Benjamin Carlson found refuge in his church. As a college student, the Gift of Hope scholarship offset some of his college expenses and he says it “reinforced my understanding that The United Methodist Church supports [its] students.”



As a community of faith, let’s make this United Methodist Student Day the most successful yet. We have the opportunity to contribute to the development of young people like Benjamin. Together, we can help propel the next generation toward success.

Wesley UMC's Intent to Give

Name _____

Address _____

My/our intent for giving in **2021**

_____ Weekly

_____ Monthly

_____ Annual

Total amount _____

Please note, if your circumstances change, let the office know and your amount can be adjusted up or down as you indicate at that time.

_____ I would like to sign up for electronic giving.

Signed _____ Date _____

Wesley UMC's Individual Intent to Serve in 2021

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

Cell #1 _____ Cell #2 _____

Greeter _____

Bible study leader _____

Liturgist _____

Usher _____

Communion server _____

WFN _____

Sound/Media Tech _____

Photographer _____

Sunday school teacher _____

Communion Team _____

Childcare helper _____

Office Volunteer _____

Memory Garden & building's borders: weeding & watering _____

I am interested in serving on one or more of the following committees:

Christian Education _____

Finance _____

Membership Care _____

Staff Parish Relations Committee _____

Mission _____

Worship _____

Communications and Tech _____

Trustees _____

Other ways I would like to serve: _____

Information and notes from the Commons Grounds 2020 November virtual meeting.

***Oshkosh Area Food Pantry:** <https://www.oacptoday.org/> People may come twice a month now. They are serving 1,528 households. Contact them if you want to volunteer. They are wearing masks and social distancing in the pantry.

***Day by Day Warming Shelter** needs men's/women's thermals, backpacks, sleeping bags, flannels, coats, and juice boxes.

Shelter Volunteer Orientation Date: Dec 8 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Denise Holz, Resource Coordinator/Email: resources@warmingshelter.com/Shelter Phone: (920)203-4865

***Lamers Bus Service** no longer stops at Wittman Airport. The bus now stops curbside next to the Go Transit City Bus Station, 110 Pearl Avenue. Departure times 11:05 Southbound to Madison and Milwaukee. 4:40 pm Northbound to Green Bay and Wausau. Please call Lamers @ 866-552-6377 for more information.

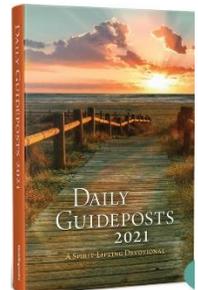
*If you would like to be included in a Weekly Zoom discussion, between **Miravida Living** residents and Karen with the Herald, let Emily know.

Eschwartz@miravidaliving.com <https://www.miravidaliving.com/community-calendar-carmel-simeannas/> for their community calendar

***Esther Task Force** are working on "Ban the Box"; asking that prisoners nearing the end of their sentence be released early because Covid-19 is rampant in the prisons, and encouraging a diversion program in the county for minor drug offenses instead of jail time where possible.

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Daily Guideposts 2021 are in the church office for those that ordered them from Debbie. You may pick them up any time the office is open. Your name is on the copy you ordered. Call ahead to ensure the office is open due to flexible COVID hours. Hope you have continued reading your 2020 copy. Hopefully, we will be meeting sometime in 2021!



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Wesley United Methodist Church

761 Florida Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54902

Office: 920-235-3070 (Messages are checked daily.)

Wesley UMC Pastor: Rev. Tshishinen Mpoyo: 262-225-2316

Organist/Accompanist: Craig LaPoint

Administrative Assistants: Debbie Zimmerman

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Wesley's Mission Statement:

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by learning God's Word, teaching God's Word, and sharing God's love through worship, education, fellowship and compassionate service to those in need in our community and the world in the name of Jesus Christ.