

The Central Christian 411



Volume 15, Issue 50
December 18, 2024

Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

The Gospel of Luke has left many confused as to the relationship of John and Jesus. In reading this text it is clearly stated Mary and Elizabeth are related. That being said, it is therefore equally clear John and Jesus are related. Cousins?

By the time we get to chapter 7 of Luke, verses 18-22, we find John sending messengers to Jesus asking if he, Jesus, is the one who is to come, "or are we to expect someone else?" Keep in mind this is the same John who leaped in Elizabeth's womb upon hearing Mary's greeting! And John's mother, Elizabeth, declaring, "And why has this happened to me, that the mother of **my Lord** comes to me?"

Was John really unsure of Jesus' identity or was the question more for the benefit of the two messengers so they could hear for themselves and testify to the words of Jesus? Whatever the case, Luke leaves all of this up to interpretation.

As we approach the celebration of Jesus' birth we might ask ourselves, "Are we leaping for joy at the birth of our Lord and Savior or are we unsure if Jesus is the one and sending questions to ensure we are worshipping the right one?"

Let us turn a season of doubt into a season of assurance. Worship the Lord.

May our faithful God be with you always, Wes



CHRISTMAS BONUSES

Dear Church Family,

It's that time of year again to think of our wonderful staff, Wes, Tonya, Beth and Ariel.

If you would like to contribute to the Christmas Bonuses, please place a check to the church in a separate envelope with my name on it.

I need the checks by Friday, December 20th, so the bonuses can be presented on Sunday, December 22nd.

Thank you!

Connie Spears

Advent

*A Season of Hope
& Expectation*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22nd,
IS THE FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT.



Advent is a season observed as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas as well as the return of Jesus at the second coming. The term is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming".



THE
CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP
(CMF)

WILL BE MEETING

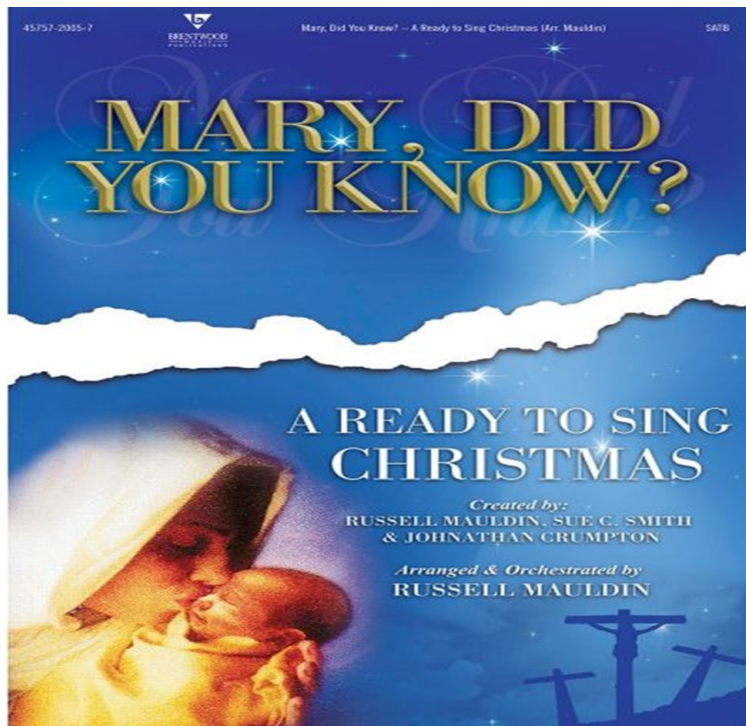
Friday, DEC. 20TH

at 7:30 A.M. at

Old Tyme Burger Shoppe

Located at 1205 Arkansas Blvd.

Come join us!



SUNDAY

DECEMBER 22nd

OUR ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

WILL BE PRESENTED BY OUR

CHANCEL CHOIR

IN OUR 10:40 A.M. SERVICE!

COME JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR

IN SONG!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

WE WILL HAVE A

**CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**

TO APPROVE OUR

2025 BUDGET

AND TO

APPROVE OUR

NEW DEACONS & ELDERS

AND

CHURCH OFFICERS

FOR

2025



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

**WE WILL BE SERVING OUR LOCAL
RANDY SAM'S SHELTER**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
HELP SERVE THE HOMELESS
PLEASE COME JOIN
IN.**

**WE MEET IN DISCIPLE HALL AT 4 PM
TO PREPARE THE MEAL, THEN SERVE AT
RANDY SAM'S AT 6 PM.**

Matthew 25:40

And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.'



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH,

JOIN US FOR OUR

CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE.

SERVICE WILL BEGIN AT

5 P.M.

IN THE SANCTUARY.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS

CELEBRATION

OF OUR LORD'S BIRTH.



ON THIS CHRISTMAS DAY 2024

God's greatest gift was sent to all
He was born in a lowly manger stall
The gift of Jesus to those who believe
Is a gift of love and life for all.

God's love was shown in his Son
He came that we may live as one
Our thanks and praise cannot express
Our love for God that brings happiness.

So at this Christmas time rejoice
Praise the Lord with your voice
The miracle of that special birth
Shows how much God thinks you're worth.



The membership of Central Christian Church will be providing a Christmas lunch from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. (or until the food is gone) on Christmas day.

The meal will consist of turkey, dressing, gravy, green beans, mashed potatoes, rolls, cake and pie for dessert.

The Church will provide the turkey, green beans, potatoes, gravy, and rolls with the dressing, with the pie and cake being provided by our membership or vendors.

We will be needing help to prepare meals. We plan to begin preparing the meal on the 23rd and 24th.

If you can volunteer some time to help prepare and serve, I will have a sign-up sheet in the foyer of the Sanctuary this Sunday. If you prefer, you can call the Church Office to let Tonya know you would like to volunteer. Many thanks to all, Jim Spears



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29TH, IS OUR
5TH SUNDAY
BREAKFAST!

ALL THOSE WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE
(AND WE HOPE ALL OF YOU DO)

PLEASE BRING A
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST FOOD ITEM

COME JOIN US AT 9:30 A.M. IN

BREAKING BREAD

AS WE CELEBRATE

OUR LORD



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST, IS

NEW YEAR'S EVE!

LET US RENEW

OUR

COMMITMENT TO GOD,

SET NEW

GOALS FOR SERVING HIM

AND FOR SERVING

OUR

NEIGHBOR (COMMUNITY).

HAVE A

BLESSED & PROSPEROUS

2025!!



***The Journey Sunday School Class
will be studying***

Epistle of James

We hope you will join us
for this important study.

The Journey class meets **in the**
Library in the Community Center.

The Epistle of James is a general epistle and one of the 21 epistles (didactic letters) in the New Testament. It was written originally in Koine Greek.

James 1:1 identifies the author as "James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ" who is writing to "the twelve tribes scattered abroad". Traditionally, the epistle is attributed to James the brother of Jesus (James the Just), and the audience is considered generally to be Jewish Christians, who were dispersed outside Israel.

Framing his letter within an overall theme of patient perseverance during trials and temptations, James writes in order to encourage his readers to live consistently with what they have learned in Christ. He condemns various sins, including pride, hypocrisy, favoritism, and slander. He encourages and implores believers to live humbly by godly, rather than worldly, wisdom; he encourages prayer in all situations.



The **TNT** Sunday School Class
is continuing its study of

LETTER TO THE ROMANS

We study various books of the Bible
and recently completed

NEHEMIAH

If you enjoy a wide range study of scripture, we would
love to have you join us
in class or **on FACEBOOK**.

We meet every Sunday in the Community Room.



WE WILL NO LONGER
LEAVE THE ALLEY DOOR
TO THE SANCTUARY BUILDING
UNLOCKED
DUE TO UNWANTED GUESTS WHO
MAKE THEIR HOME UPSTAIRS.
IF YOU ARE A KEY HOLDER,
PLEASE
DO NOT UNLOCK
THE ALLEY DOOR.



NOW AVAILABLE!!!

OUR BEAUTIFUL

CCC BALL CAP

AND

T-SHIRT

CAN BE YOURS FOR

ONLY \$20 EACH!!!

To purchase your

CCC Ball Cap

and

T-Shirt

Call or come by the

Admin. Office today!!!



In our Sanctuary/Education building we have three areas where we try to maintain an energy efficient temperature that can be adjusted as needed. These areas are the sanctuary, the parlor, and HeBrews. Each area has its own controls.

It has now become necessary, in an attempt to control the cost of heating and cooling in our Sanctuary/Education building, to turn off ALL units except in the sanctuary. Therefore, the parlor and HeBrews will no longer have AC/Heating units on. If you wish to use the parlor or HeBrews, please let the Property Committee Chair, Lee Nailling, know. It will also be necessary to reserve the parlor or HeBrews by booking it through our Admin. Assistant, Tonya Shumake.

With everyone's help we can save on the cost of gas AND electricity.

Thank You!

Your Property Committee



BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP EVERY MONDAY

VIA

OUR CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE POSTED **BY 4:00 P.M.**

AND

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO VIEW IT

EACH AND EVERY MONDAY ON FACEBOOK.

REMEMBER:

WATCH WORSHIP ON MONDAYS **AT 4:00 P.M.**

ON

OUR CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CCCTXK/](https://www.facebook.com/ccctxk/)



Honorariums/Memorials

JUST A REMINDER

HONORARIUM

&

MEMORIAL

GIFTS ARE WELCOME

ANYTIME.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE AN

HONORARIUM OR MEMORIAL

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK TO CCC

WITH A NOTE STATING WHO YOUR

HONORARIUM OR MEMORIAL

IS IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF.



FLOWERS!!!!

Be sure to purchase flowers for
the sanctuary to honor
Friends or Family or
in memory of a loved one.

The cost is only
\$40.

Office Hours

JUST A REMINDER TO

OUR CONGREGATION

CHURCH

OFFICE HOURS

ARE

8 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

MONDAY

THROUGH

FRIDAY

(Lunch 11 am – 12 pm)



If you are looking for a safe way to give to the church, download the “Givelify” app onto your phone.

You can find it at the [App Store](#) or at the [Google Play Store](#) under:

“Givelify Mobile Giving App.”

Our church is listed, and this is a safe and fast way to give. Please

be sure you find

Central Christian Church Texarkana.

***ATTENTION ALL ELDERS
AND
BOARD MEMBERS!!***

In an effort to increase attendance at our Elder meetings and Board meetings, we would like you to sign up for text messaging so you can receive reminders of meetings.

THIS IS NOT A GROUP TEXT!

No one will receive your phone number through this messaging service! If anyone responds to a text it goes straight to the messaging computer system, not you. This is a completely safe way to receive reminders without risking your privacy.

Please follow the instructions below to sign up for the messaging service.

We need **ALL** of you to do this, please.



Central Christian will be sending out text messages to remind members of upcoming meetings. To receive text messages, please text ccctxk to 292929, as shown above, to have your number put on our list.

**QUALIFICATIONS TO BE AN
ELDER, DEACON OR OFFICER**

Must have been members of the congregation for at least one (1) year before election to serve; although exceptions may be made if the Nominating Committee deems it necessary to fill a position.

Must be active in the congregation's life and give evidence of seeking to grow in their own understanding and practice of the Christian life. Such evidence includes the following:

- a. Conduct one's life **in light of the teachings** of Jesus Christ.
- b. **Promotion of good will** and Christian fellowship in the congregation and community.
- c. **At the very least, seventy-five (75) percent attendance** at worship services and stated meetings of the congregation.
- d. Regular financial and/or service contributions to the support of the congregation and its outreach program.
- e. Willingness to fulfill assignments on behalf of the congregation.
- f. Demonstrated skills of evident potential in carrying out responsibilities of the particular office.

411 REMINDER

Just a reminder that any articles you would like to submit for publication in the 411 must be submitted to the office **no later than noon** on Tuesdays.

After that time, we cannot guarantee your article will be published.

Day & Time may vary during holidays
CHURCH BULLETIN

Any information you will like in the Church Bulletin must be submitted to the office no later than 10am on Fridays

Day & Time may vary during holidays.



DO YOU PREFER RECEIVING TEXT MESSAGE OR PHONE CALL REMINDERS FOR MEETINGS?

Central Christian will be sending out text messages and phone calls to remind members of upcoming meetings and inform every one of prayer needs.

If you would like to receive text messages, please text cctxk to 292929, as shown above, to have your number put on our list.

If you do not receive text messages but would like to be added to our call list, please email or call the church office at (903) 792-1915 and let Tonya know.

Upcoming Events & Services

December 18	5:30pm	Choir
December 20	7:30am	CMF @ Old Tyme Burger
December 21	12:30pm	Cantata Rehearsal
December 22	all day	4th Sunday of Advent
December 22	10:40am	Christmas Cantata
December 22	10:40am	Christmas offering
December 22	11:45am	Congregational Meeting
December 22	4pm	Randy Sams Prep
December 22	6pm	Randy Sams drop off
December 23	10am	Christmas Dinner Setup
December 24	10am	Christmas Dinner Setup
December 24	12pm	office closed
December 24	5pm	Candlelight Service
December 25	all day	Christmas Day/office closed
December 25	8am	Christmas Dinner Setup
December 25	11am	Christmas Dinner for the Homeless and Needy



Be sure to keep up-to-date
with Church Activities

By visiting

www.ccctxk.com

to see what's new!

Our site is easy to navigate and
there is a lot of information.

Prayer Requests



IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PRAYER LIST

In recent discussions with the Southwest Region, it has come to our attention that “The Prayer List” may be cause for litigation if we place people on it that have not given their personal consent to be placed on it.

It is a violation of HIPAA Law to release information about anyone without their personal consent. Therefore, we ask that you not call requesting that a “friend” be placed on the list unless you have their consent.

THANK YOU.

December 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1 1st Sunday of Advent 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 5:30pm Choir</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 6pm Annual Christmas Party in HeBrews</p>	<p>7 12:30pm Cantata Rehearsal</p>
<p>8 2nd Sunday of Advent 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service w/ Hanging of the Greens 11:45am Advent potluck</p>	<p>9 1pm Book Club</p>	<p>10 6pm Hope Remains Candlelight Service</p>	<p>11 5:30pm Choir</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 4pm Deadline for Christmas bonuses 7:30am CME@ Old Tyme Burger Shoppe</p>	<p>14 11:30am CWF 12:30pm Cantata Rehearsal</p>
<p>15 3rd Sunday of Advent 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service w/ Parade of Poinsettias</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 5:30pm Choir</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 12:30pm Cantata Rehearsal</p>
<p>22 4th Sunday of Advent 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Cantata 11:40m Congregational Mtg. 4:00pm Randy Sams Prep 6:00pm Randy Sams drop off</p>	<p>23 10am Christmas Dinner Setup</p>	<p>24 10am Christmas Dinner Setup 12pm office closes 5pm Candlelight Service</p>	<p>25 8am Christmas Dinner Setup 11am Christmas Dinner for the Needy </p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Christmas Special Offering will be taken up on December 15th and 22nd.</p>	<p>28 Advent Potluck Last name beginning with: A-H: Meat I-Z: Vegetable or salad</p>
<p>29 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am 5th Sunday Breakfast 10:40am Worship Service</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				

December Birthdays

Pat Brummal	12-1
Kayden Bennett	12-5
Mike Lamb	12-9
Sheri Thomas	12-14
Neldajo Mathison	12-15

December Anniversaries

John & Margie Beeson	12-11
Philip & Teri Stover	12-19
Mike & Sondra Crain	12-21



Servers for the Weeks Ahead

December 1, 2024

Greeters: Sondra Bedwell & Glenda Burkhart
Worship Leader: Sondra Bedwell
Hospital Elder: Mike Martin
Flower Elder: Jim Spears
Deacons: Jamie Bennett & Sheri Thomas

December 8, 2024

Greeters: George & Julia Carpenter
Worship Leader: Lee Nailling
Hospital Elder: Tom Crow
Flower Elder: Teresa Crow
Deacons: Harold Taylor & Jerry Thomas

December 15, 2024

Greeters: Mike Lamb & Lois Moore
Worship Leader: Jim Spears
Hospital Elder: George Carpenter, Jr.
Flower Elder: Julia Carpenter
Deacons: Sondra Bedwell & Jack Duncan

December 22, 2024

Greeters: Jack & Joan Carter
Worship Leader:
Hospital Elder: Jack Carter
Flower Elder: Joan Carter
Deacons: Glenda Burkhart & Sheri Thomas

December 29, 2024

Greeters: Tom & Teresa Crow
Worship Leader: Jim Spears
Hospital Elder: Robert Kern
Flower Elder: Alice Kern
Deacons: Harold Taylor & Jerry Thomas

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service</p> <p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Office closed 1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>10am Undecorate Sanctuary 4</p>
<p>9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service w/Installation Service</p> <p>12</p>	<p>1pm Book Club 13</p>	<p>6pm Hope Remains Grief Support Group 14</p>	<p>5:30pm Choir 8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>7:30am CMF @ Old Tyne Burger 17</p>	<p>10am Chair Training 11</p>
<p>9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service 11:45am Potluck luncheon</p> <p>19</p>	<p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Office closed 20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>5:30pm Choir 22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service 11:45am Fellowship Comm 4pm Randy Sams Prep 6pm Randy Sams drop off</p> <p>26</p>	<p>6pm General Board Meeting 27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>5:30pm Choir 29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	

January Birthdays

Jim Spears	1-1
Mary Cobb	1-4
Seth Byas	1-4
Laura Byas	1-10
Glenda Burkhart	1-15
Rusty Minx	1-15
Glen Hudspeth	1-16
Jerry Thomas	1-18
Sydney Fowler	1-27
Janet Bennett	1-28
Hayden Stover	1-31

January Anniversaries

Mike & Glenda Worley	1-2
Justin & Cara Fowler	1-16



Servers for the Weeks Ahead

January 5, 2025

Greeters:
Worship Leader:
Hospital Elder:
Flower Elder:
Deacons: Mae Kidd & Bob Wilmoth

January 12, 2025

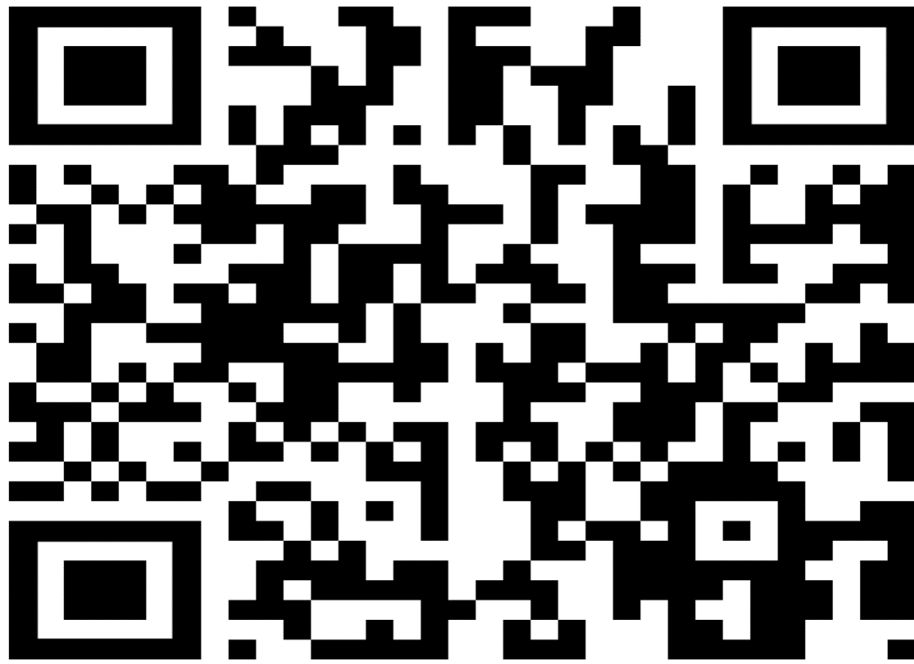
Greeters:
Worship Leader:
Hospital Elder:
Flower Elder:
Deacons: Lois Moore & Judy Shilling

January 19, 2025

Greeters:
Worship Leader:
Hospital Elder:
Flower Elder:
Deacons: Sondra Bedwell & Glen Hudspeth

January 26, 2025

Greeters:
Worship Leader:
Hospital Elder:
Flower Elder:
Deacons: Glenda Burkhart & Sheri Thomas



SCAN THIS
QR CODE
TO SEE
OUR
CHURCH VIDEO!

SHOW
FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

Weekly Info

Page 33

Prayer Need

Our Church
Wes Byas
Claudine Brown
Ellen Allard, Glenda Burkhart's sister-in-law
Glenda Worley
Joyce Sellke, Sheri Thomas' sister
Nancy Myrick

Ongoing Concerns

Margie Beeson
Beth Brine
Emily Smith, Wes' niece
Carolyn Walker
Bryson Caler, Judy Shilling's nephew
Jeanne Phillips, Sheri Thomas' sister
Monica Harper, friend of Cara Fowler
Carolyn Hudspeth
Anthony Johnson
Ed Shilling, Judy Shilling's husband
Bill Griffin, Glenda Burkhart's son-in-law
Jeane Duren, Beth Brine's aunt

Homebound

Joe Frost, Sr., home
Betty Caudle, home
Elizabeth Cooney, home
Mary Chittenden
Herb Hamilton, Little River Nursing & Rehab Rm. 117
Elaine Hamilton, Little River Nursing & Rehab Rm. 117
Jane Watson, home
James Thompson, home
Susie Howdeshell, home
Bobbie Roberts, Pat Taylor's mom, The Villa room 207
Jeffrey Turner, Abundant Life



Serving this Sunday
December 22, 2024

Greeters: Jack & Joan Carter
Worship Leader:
Hospital Elder: Jack Carter
Flower Elder: Joan Carter
Deacons: Lois Moore

December 15, 2024

Attendance: 32
Offering: \$5,278.54
Change for Christ: \$381.59

This Sunday:

Christmas Cantata
"Mary, Did You Know?"

LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)