

The Central Christian 411



Volume 15, Issue 48
December 4, 2024

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

Most Christians know the story of John the Baptist. That is, he proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Most Christians also know he preached God’s word. Additionally, most Christians know Herod had John beheaded to fulfill a promise he made to Salome’ after she danced for Herod. Interestingly, few people remember John and Jesus were related.

“And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.”

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 Spirit ⁴² 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.

In Luke’s gospel it appears Jesus PREPARED THE WAY for John before either were born: Which would make sense, since nothing is impossible with God.

May you always believe in miracles, 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

Central Christian Church
Community Christmas Dinner
December 25, 2024

The membership of Central Christian Church will be providing a Community Christmas dinner 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, ham, dressing, gravy, green beans, mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, roll, dessert.

The Church will provide the turkey, ham, green beans, potatoes, macaroni and cheese, gravy, and rolls with the dressing and cake being provided by our membership and donations. We would like to have 6 pans of cooked dressing ready to serve and if you would like to prepare dressing or a dessert, cake or pie, let Tonya know in the Church office (903-792-1915) or Jim Spears (870-330-1006).

We will be needing help to prepare and assemble the meals for pick up. I am planning to begin preparing the meal on the 23rd and 24th and serve on Christmas day. If you can volunteer some time to help prepare and serve, Let us know at the numbers above or I will have a sign-up sheet in the foyer of the Sanctuary the next few Sundays during the Worship service.

It is always an enjoyable to hang out, prepare and serve others and have fellowship with one another.

Respectfully,

Jim Spears

Advent

*A Season of Hope
& Expectation*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8th,
IS THE SECOND 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".



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8th

IS

HANGING **OF THE** GREENS!

THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL SERVICE

WHERE

WE DECORATE OUR

SANCTUARY FOR

CHRISTMAS

PLEASE COME JOIN IN

ON THIS FESTIVE OCCASION

AT THE 10:40 SERVICE.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON

*Join us for great
food and fellowship*



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8th

WE WILL HAVE OUR

ANNUAL

ADVENT

POTLUCK LUNCHEON

IMMEDIATELY AFTER OUR

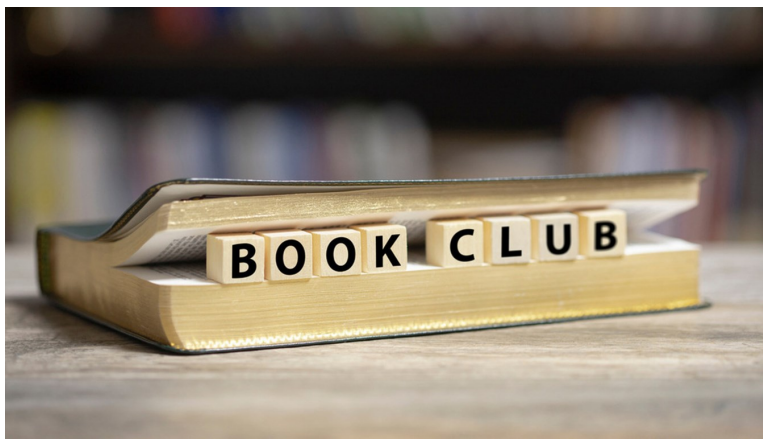
WORSHIP SERVICE.

COME JOIN IN!

A-H - MEAT

I-Z - VEGETABLES

SALAD or DESSERT



ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 9th
THE CCC BOOK CLUB WILL MEET AT 1 P.M.
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM.
TO DISCUSS

THE CABIN AT THE END OF THE TRAIN

BY

MICHAEL V. IVANOV

From a chance meeting with a remarkable old man by the name of “Carl,” a mysterious WWII veteran who shows up on the train at just the right time, *The Cabin at the End of the Train* provides 12 priceless lessons about **purpose, life**, and the importance of **perspectives**.

The Cabin at the end of the train will provide you with:

- A better understanding of life’s challenges and proper perspective for tackling them
- Practical yet powerful methods of motivation, encouragement, and resolve for those struggling
- A fresh and insightful perspective on how people can change their view of the world, find strength, and move beyond their problems.

1. *“Sometimes the things we run from are the very things we should be moving towards”*
2. *“Your eyes are the window through which the soul sees the world”*
3. *“You will feel afraid and unqualified”*
4. *“You will be pulled in all directions”*
5. *“Sometimes all we need is a little perspective”*
6. *“Don’t wait to be discovered”*
7. *“You’ve got to believe it in!”*
8. *“Faith without action is dead; action activates miracles”*
9. *“When your feet are planted on solid ground, the sky is the limit.”*
10. *“When your heart breaks for those less fortunate than you, you can be entrusted with diamonds”*
11. *“Life is happening with or without you”*
12. *“Allow yourself to be moved emotionally”*

Other Books by Michael:

The Mount of Olives: 11 Declarations to an extraordinary life

The Traveler's Secret: Ancient proverbs for better living

The Servant with One Talent: Five Success Principles from the Greatest Parable Ever Told

This Book Club is for Men AND Women, and we hope both will read this book and join the discussion.



HOPE REMAINS

December 10th

It has been said, “We never truly get over a loss, but we can move forward and evolve from it.” While this is true, it is a process many of us never fully move through, especially if we experience the loss of a child. So often, we get “stuck” in a stage of grief and remain there. This is the reason groups that deal with grief are so important; they help us move through the stages so we can move forward and evolve. Sadly, such groups are often not advertised, promoted, or supported by local organizations.

Here at Central Christian Church, we are very blessed to have such a group and we want to promote this organizations work. The *Hope Remains* Chapter of Texarkana meets in the Community Room on the **2nd Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m.** The focus is for parents and grandparents grieving the loss of a child or grandchild.

Tuesday, December 10, 2024, Hope Remains will have a Candlelight Memorial Service in the Parlor of Central Christian Church and invite you to be a part of this special time if you have lost a child you wish to honor and memorialize.

The mission of Hope Remains is to offer a safe place where any and all emotions may be freely expressed. There may be tears shed at the meetings. There may be laughter and smiles shared as precious memories of a child, grandchild, or sibling is recalled. And there will always be acceptance, friendship and hope offered at the meetings.

If you have suffered the loss of a child or grandchild and wish to join this greatly needed organization, please contact Cindy Sanford at (903) 280-4130.



You are cordially invited
to the CCC

Annual Church Christmas Party

from 6 pm to 8 pm

Friday, December 13th

in HeBrews

BRING A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT

NOT MORE THAN \$15, PLEASE

And lots of food

(Don't forget your

“Change for Christ” can!)

A decorative black border with floral motifs at the top and bottom, and scrollwork on the sides, framing the text.

CWF/DWM Blog

What: CWF Christmas Party

When: Saturday, December 14th

11:30am

Where: Community Room

Food: Finger Foods

No gifts

Come for a good time and good
food!



DECEMBER 15TH

IS OUR

PARADE OF POINSETTIAS

THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL SERVICE

THAT WILL

INSPIRE YOU

AND

SPIRITUALLY ENRICH YOUR

CHRISTMAS!

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS

CHRISTMAS EVENT!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

WE WILL HAVE A

**CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**

TO APPROVE OUR

2024 BUDGET

AND TO

APPROVE OUR

NEW DEACONS & ELDERS

AND

CHURCH OFFICERS

FOR

2025



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!



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

Epistle to Philemon

We hope you will join us
for this important study.

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

The Epistle to Philemon is one of the books of the Christian New Testament. It is a prison letter, authored by Paul the Apostle (the opening verse also mentions Timothy), to Philemon, a leader in the Colossian church. It deals with the themes of forgiveness and reconciliation. Paul does not identify himself as an apostle with authority, but as "a prisoner of Jesus Christ", calling Timothy "our brother," and addressing Philemon as "fellow laborer" and "brother" (Philemon 1:1; 1:7; 1:20). Onesimus, a slave that had departed from his master Philemon, was returning with this epistle wherein Paul asked Philemon to receive him as a "brother beloved" (Philemon 1:9–17).

Philemon was a wealthy Christian, possibly a bishop of the church that met in his home (Philemon 1:1–2) in Colossae. This letter is now generally regarded as one of the undisputed works of Paul. It is the shortest of Paul's extant letters, consisting of only 335 words in the Greek text.



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

NEHEMIAH

We study various books of the Bible
and recently completed

EZRA

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 4	5:30pm	Choir
December 7	12:30pm	Cantata Rehearsal
December 8	all day	2nd Sunday of Advent
December 8	10:40am	Hanging of the Greens service
December 8	11:45am	Advent potluck
December 9	1pm	Book Club
December 10	6pm	Hope Remains Candlelight Service
December 11	5:30pm	Choir
December 13	6pm	Annual Church Christmas party in HeBrews
December 14	11:30am	CWF
December 14	12:30pm	Cantata Rehearsal
December 15	all day	3rd Sunday of Advent
December 15	10:40am	Parade of Poinsettias
December 15	10:40am	Christmas offering
December 18	5:30pm	Choir
December 20	7:30am	CMF @ Old Tyme Burger



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 7:30am CMMF@ Old Tyne 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 6pm 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

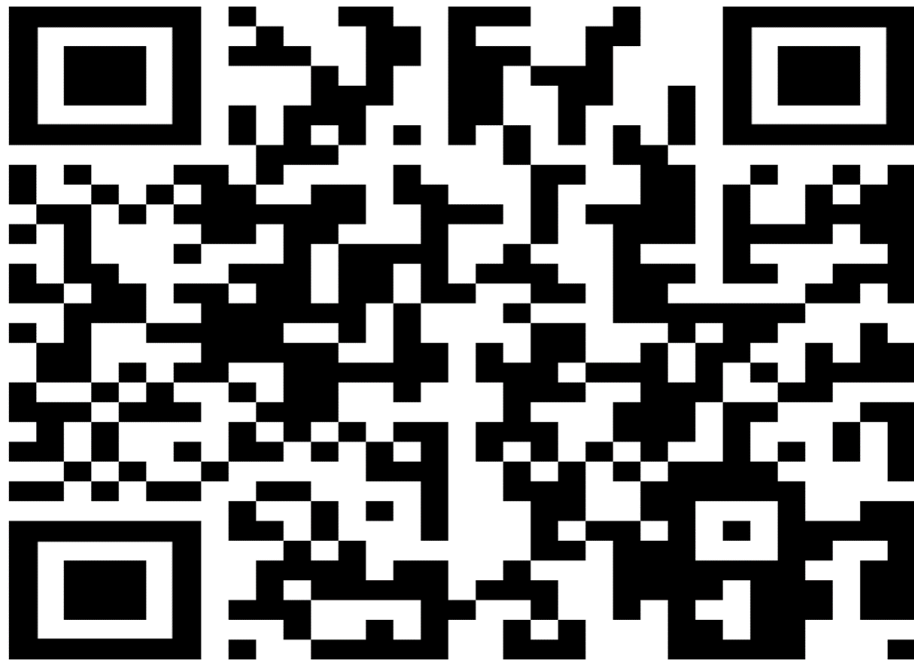
Greeters: Mike Lamb & Lois Moore
Worship Leader: Jim Spears
Hospital Elder: George Carpenter, Jr.
Flower Elder: Julia Carpenter
Deacons: Sondra Bedwell & Jack Duncan

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



SCAN THIS
QR CODE
TO SEE
OUR
CHURCH VIDEO!

SHOW
FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

Prayer Need

Our Church
Wes Byas
Ellen Allard, Glenda Burkhart's sister-in-law
Gavin Moss
Glenda Worley
Lynn Wilmoth
Joyce Selke, Sheri Thomas' sister
Liz Lea, friend of Lee Nailling
Dorothy Alves
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 8, 2024

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

December 1, 2024

Attendance: 37
Offering: \$3,924.99

This Sunday:

"Purified"

Scripture:

Malachi 3:1-4

LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6