

WHITE CREEK CHURCH

Independent Congregational 2948 14TH Lane Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin 53965 Village of White Creek, Rural Adams County

whitecreekchurch.org

December 24, 2023 Morning Service Welcome to Worship

Meet and Greet Announcements Offering Doxology Devotional - ADVENT -Special Music/Prayer Requests

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Every member of the congregation is in the choir for this beautiful concert of Music and Scripture. Please meditate on the readings, and joyfully join in the singing. Hallelujah! Hymn 83 "Hark The Herald Angels Sing" Scripture Hymn 82 "O Little Town Of Bethlehem" Scripture Hymn 88 "Joy To The World" Scripture Hymn 87 "Silent Night" Scripture Hymn 90 "The First Noel" Scripture Hymn 84 "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear" Scripture Hymn 92 "Away In The Manger" Scripture Hymn 80 "Silent Night Scripture Hymn 83 "O Come All Ye Faithful" Prayer

CALENDAR

Sundays:Adult Sunday School - 9:15 A.M.
Morning Service- 10:30 A.M.Tuesdays:Women's Bible Study - 10:00 A.M.
Senior Housing Clubhouse, AdamsThursdays:Men's Bible Study @ Church -5:30 P.M.December 24th - Christmas Eve Service - 5 P.M.December 25th - MERRY CHRISTMASDecember 31st - New Years Eve Gathering -6 P.M.January 1st - HAPPY NEW YEARJanuary 20th - Women's Gathering at White CreekLADIES' BIBLE STUDY

The Ladies' Bible Study will not meet this week. Please make plans to meet with the Ladies next week.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Each Thursday from 5:30 to about 7:00 P.M. the men meet for Bible Study. We are studying the Gospel of Matthew. All men are welcome to attend.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Please check the bulletin board in the Sunday School room. The top half is filled with greetings from Church folks. The bottom contains Season's Greetings from our missionaries.

CHU	JRCH BOARD MEMBERS 2024
Pastor:	Sam Downey
Clerk:	Pam Morse
Treasurer:	Meryl Lanphear
Deacons:	Martin Sytsma
	Stuart Burdick Moderator
Trustees:	Larry Smith
	Skip Collins
	David Seelenbinder
Missions Di	rector:
	Beverly Downey
Other Offic	ers :
	Custodian - Meryl Lanphear
	Sunshine Person - Anna Sytsma
If there is any	thing that needs consideration by the Church
Board, please	notify a Board member.
1	HE PUZZLE PLACE

REFERENCE:

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Pat Townsend 2 Chelle Sytsma 3 Herb Babcock 15 Ava Clausen 16 Michael Smith 20 Gary Bacon 30 Remi Clausen 31

Martin and Anna Sytsma 12 Travis & Michelle Clausen 14

Matt & Kathy Anderson 18 Sam & Beverly Downey 23

Please let us know about additions or corrections.

NEW YEARS EVE SERVICE

We will have a service on Sunday evening, New Years Eve, at 6 p.m. weather permitting. Come for an hour, or stay until next year! What a great way to start 2024!

ADVENT

We want to thank Nancy Burdick-Seelenbinder, and all those she recruited to help, for volunteering to lead us in observing Advent this year.

CONSIDER THIS

One of my favorite Scriptures as we

prepare for a New Year is this: Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13,14

We often contextualize that verse in a negative light, as if saying, "Things were bad last year, but they'll be better in 2024 because, well, they couldn't get any worse!" That is a valid point, but leads us to a false conclusion. We sometimes forget that God is still in control of things, and is still teaching us valuable truths through the experiences we live through. We must continue to live our lives by faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, no matter what transpires around us. We can't just assume things will be better, we must trust God to lead us to the better!

An even greater danger may be having a really good year, without realizing that the cause was the blessing of God. Remember that past success does NOT guarantee future success. Past success may, in fact cast a reflection on the future that distorts reality and gives a false sense of well-being. You, too, must forget the past and pursue God's will for your life in the future. Indeed, you have the past to build upon, but it is truly God who does the building, as we continually trust in Him. And it is so easy to rest on our past accomplishments, saying, "Look what I have done." But it is Paul who reminds us, "You ain't seen nothin' yet!" The past, with its successes or failures can't hold a candle to what God has prepared for those who love Him.

Let's get on with it!

Pastor Sam

PRAYER LIST

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.." Romans 8:26

Susan Burdick Kathy

Sonny and Patrick