

**First United Methodist Church
101 E. Main St. Westfield, NY
December 15, 2019
Third Sunday of Advent**



En Route to Christmas

[Theme: Christ our Joy]

Focus: "Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.'" Matthew 11:4-5

Quote: "Despite John's misgivings and selective reading of scripture, what God is doing in and through Jesus is a fulfillment of the deepest promises of the prophets." Thomas G. Long, *Matthew*

Looking ahead:

December 15 – Not A Silent Night Book Study 7pm

December 22 – Combined 10 am service – Cantata

December 24 – 7pm Service - Sanctuary

11 pm Community Christmas Eve Service – Eason Hall

December 29 – Combined 10 am fireside service – Fellowship Hall

January 5 – Communion Sunday – Blessing of the Reverse Advent Calendar Food

Mission Statement: *To know Christ and to make Christ known*

Vision Statement: *We are the voice and the hand that encourages people to change their lives with hope, comfort and peace*

Last Sunday's Attendance: [12/8/19]	71
Last Sunday's Offering:	\$2,356
Total YTD Expenses (as of 12/12/19).....	\$138,905
Total YTD Offering (as of 12/12/19).....	\$90,511
Total YTD from investments to cover bills (as of 12/12/19).....	\$42,600
Monthly Apportionments due (paid through 12/12/19)	\$0
Total Apportionments paid (\$39,613.73 billed).....	\$34,559
Needed weekly to make budget.....	\$ 3,246

RCL Readings December 15, 2019

The readings for this week:

Isaiah 35:1-10

Luke 1:46b – 55

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

***Weather related Church Closing – See Channel 2 WGRZ (Buffalo),
email or Facebook***

[please make sure we have your current email address]

We will have a “Cell Phone” sign-up sheet outside the church office if you would like to receive a text message. To do this, we will need your cell phone # and your provider (for example, Verizon, Straight talk, Cricket...) Once we have your cell phone number, you will receive a test text from the church.

Did you know? We have started up a **Hospitality Team** and a **Hospitality Fund?**

The team is being led by Gail Boardway. This team helps with set up, serving and clean up for funerals as well as many other things. The purpose of the fund is to help offset costs associated with funeral luncheons. If you are interested in more information, or to join the team, contact Gail or the office.



Angel Tree gifts are due by 11 am on Sunday December 15. If you have any questions, please call Lisa at 326-6680

Many thanks to everyone that helped out with our Tiny Tim Sweet Shoppe. The challenge was met!!!

We cleared over \$550!!!!. This is a nice start to our Driveway repair/improvement fund.

Reverse Advent Calendars are still available...

Christmas letters (and audit information) went out Thanksgiving week. If you did not receive one, please contact the office.

The Westfield Community Kitchen extends an invitation to our congregation to join them for their annual Christmas Dinner on Wednesday, December 18 from 4:30 – 5:30 pm. This is a perfect opportunity to invite a neighbor, friend or shut-in to have a holiday meal. (This is a free dinner but there will be a donation box if you would like to contribute.) Doors open at 4pm for appetizers and fellowship.

Many thanks to everyone that has helped decorate the church for the Advent Season!

Have you noticed the crocheted ornaments on the tree in Gibbs parlor? Rumor has it that they were made in the 1980's by Alida Tenpas Lewis. Alida died in 1998 at the age of 104!

This week December 15 -22 (29), 2019

- Sunday (15):** 3RD Sunday of Advent
8:30 Worship – (G)
9:45 Sunday School
10:45– Worship – (San) – Children to sing
7pm – Advent Book Study
- Monday (16):** AppleSeed
11:30- 12:30 Westfield Community Kitchen (FH)
- Tuesday (17):** AppleSeed
1-2:30 -Food Pantry
6-7 Kelly Bates – FH
Support
- Wednesday (18):** AppleSeed
4:30 – 5:30pm Westfield Community Kitchen (FH) Christmas Dinner
AppleSeed Christmas Program
6 – TOPS
- Thursday (19):** AppleSeed
Snow date for Apple Seed Christmas Program
- Friday (20):** 11:30- 12:30 Westfield Community Kitchen (FH)
- Saturday (21):** Private Function (FH))
- Sunday (22):** 4th Sunday of Advent
10:00– Worship – (San) – Combined Service
- Monday (23):** 11:30- 12:30 Westfield Community Kitchen (FH)
- Tuesday (24):** Office closes at Noon
7 pm Christmas Eve Service
11 pm Community Service – Eason Hall
- Wednesday (25):** Merry Christmas
- Thursday (26):** Office closes at noon
- Friday (27):** Office Closes at Noon
11:30- 12:30 Westfield Community Kitchen (FH)
- Saturday (28):** Private Function (FH))
- Sunday (29):** 10:00– Worship – (San) – Combined Service
- Monday (30):** 11:30- 12:30 Westfield Community Kitchen (FH)
- Tuesday (31):** Office closes at Noon
- Wednesday (1):** Happy New Year!
- Thursday (2):**
- Friday (3):** 11:30- 12:30 Westfield Community Kitchen (FH)

Girl Scouts M, T & Th evenings - ; FH = Fellowship Hall; San = Sanctuary; G=Gibbs Parlor