



# The Messenger

December 2016

A publication of The Church of the Transfiguration

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*The Rev. Wes Shields*

**W**ho is the happiest person you know? Do you have your answer? Now, what are their attributes, what defines them or sets that person apart from others? I would bet almost anything that gratitude is one of their defining characteristics. We just had thanksgiving where we are supposed to be grateful for all our many blessings followed by Black Friday where people are beaten and trampled to save money on material things.

Gratitude is more than words. It is more than a holiday or a sentiment. It is an attitude and a way of being that infects and affects every aspect of our lives. We cannot hope to truly love our family, our friends, or our God if we don't feel a deep sense of gratitude for them being in our lives in the first place. If we think we have earned or deserve that love more than the next person then we can't possibly experience it as the beautiful gift of grace that God intends. An attitude of gratitude is something we should all seek to cultivate and Advent is the perfect time to step back from this world and truly be thankful.



*Holy*  
IS HIS  
**NAME.**

LUKE 1:49



## Christmas Eve:

First service is at 6:00 pm



## CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Carols are at 9:30 pm and the second service at 10:00 PM

Come join us!



The Sunday School children have had a busy few weeks. Carlann and I had made plans to have a few crafting workdays at the church so to include as many of the children as possible in preparing for the Arts and Crafts Fair. Unfortunately, the fire prevented that from happening. We apologize if your child was not able to help in this fun project. Emma, Cody, and Tucker joined forces and made some lovely crafts. I hope you all had the opportunity to see what they made.

We have also been busy in the classroom. We say prayers, sing, and read the Gospel each week. The teaching plan for the new year is to help the children develop a deeper understanding of the beauty and meaning of the Bible and of our church service. Our first lesson in this was to learn about the seasons of the church and the colors that are associated with each season. Please look at the bulletin board as often as possible to watch this



project unfold. You will see each child's interpretation of the topics - through art, written words, and crafts. We hope you all have a wonderful holiday season.

Carlann, Gloria, and Amy  
(Laura, Tucker, and Cody at the Arts Show)

Carlann and Emma, Cody, Tucker, & Laura

Julie and Mike and Lori



**A**iso wanted to let you know that the Bare Necessities Team's donations of feminine hygiene and cloth



diapering kits were delivered by Team Mercy #16 last week.

They saw almost a thousand patients, got home around midnight on Sunday and are still exhausted! The little boy in the center of the second photo was very sick when they arrived at the orphanage Friday and started fluids; by Saturday, he was able to sit up. The women and young girls were especially grateful for the hygiene kits. I was telling Amy that it never dawned on me what a luxury that must be for them or what they did before receiving such a



thoughtful and useful gift.

(Tuesday: Toddler with cloth diaper; Friday: Bon Repos Orphanage Group)

No meeting for Bare Necessities in December.



Patrick & Michelle

Mike, Veryl Lynn, and Amy



## Events for December



### TCW Meetings

On Tuesday, Dec. 13 at noon, TCW will have its Christmas Party at Laura & Wes Shield's home. Look for

more news in Sunday Bulletin. Please RSVP to Carlann. Please bring a small plate of finger food. Laura will have drinks and a main dish. We will have a project to work on that day.



### Firewood Ministry

Every Monday at 9 a.m.  
Cutting and delivering  
firewood to those in need  
Call Wes for more information



### Bare Necessities Group

No Meeting for December



### Vestry Meetings

Second Wednesday of the month  
12:30 in the Parish Hall. All are welcome

**Wed. Night Covered Dish Dinner** - The last Wed. of each month at 5:30 (Dec. 28)

**M&M Group will take a trip to Grove Park inn on December 14: 1:00 - 4:00 to see the Gingerbread houses and the Christmas trees. Sign up sheet in parish hall. Reserve your seat by contacting Harriet at [secretary@ectransfiguration.org](mailto:secretary@ectransfiguration.org) or call office 625-9844.**



Veryl Lynn and Sue



Jim & Janet Waters

### Celebration for Linda White's life:

The church service will be held for Linda White on Friday, Dec. 9th at 11 pm.

Wendy Field has graciously agreed to coordinate the reception afterward and JoAnne is getting the choir together. If you can help with one or both of these, please let Wendy and/or JoAnne know.

Please keep Aaron and family in your prayers.



December 21

# holiday Craft Fair

**T**CW's Arts and Crafts Event was a huge success. Thanks so much for all the folks who baked homemade desserts and a huge thank you to the artists. More news about funds raised and event in next newsletter. For more photos go to church's website: [ectransfiguration.org](http://ectransfiguration.org) and throughout this newsletter.



Wendy Field



Sharon working in the dessert's section

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**...Joselyn Watkins, Sandra Nelson and Jeanette Auld have started this ministry at our church. So far they have given out 4 shawls to those who needed them. If you wish to become involved in this wonderful and caring ministry, please get in touch with Joselyn to learn how you can become involved with this wonderful ministry.



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

**If you wish to donate towards the purchase of Poinsettias  
Please place in the offertory plate or mail/leave in the church by  
Wednesday, December 21, 2016  
Thank you.**



Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_



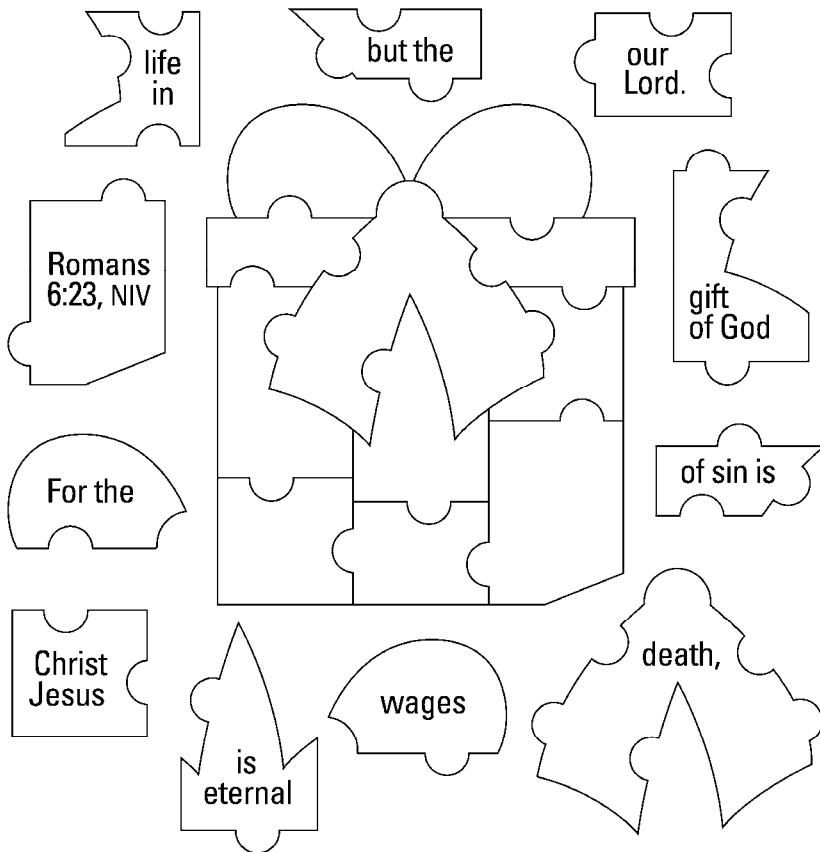
Just for Kids



# The greatest gift

Gift-giving is a fun Christmas tradition. What very special gift has God given to you?

**Directions:** Write the words from each puzzle piece on the matching blank piece of the gift-shaped puzzle.

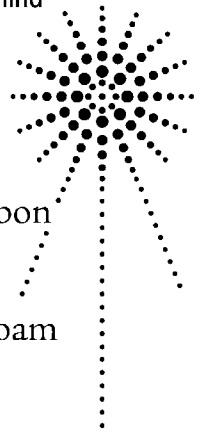


# STAR OF BETHLEHEM

Make a mobile to remind you of Jesus' birth.

**What you need:**

- Paper plate
- Hole punch
- Thin blue ribbon
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Yellow craft foam
- Marker



**What you do:**

1. With the paper plate upside down, punch evenly spaced holes along the rim. Gently fold the plate and punch a hole in the center.
2. Cut pieces of ribbon, thread them through the holes as desired and tie the ribbons securely.
3. Trace several small stars and one larger star on the foam and cut them out. Punch a hole atop a point of each star.
4. Tie one small star to each outer-rim ribbon.
5. Thread a longer ribbon through the center hole and tie the large star to the other end.
6. Write a verse on the plate or large star. Hang the mobile from the ceiling with another piece of blue ribbon.

Answer: For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23, NIV

# Rotation Schedule for 10 am Services



Dec 4 Sara & Michael



Dec. 4 JoAnne & Curt

Dec 11 Gloria & Russ

Dec 11 Tim T. & Julie M.

Dec 18 Veryl Lynn & Blaine

Dec 18 Marily F & Susan B.

Dec 24

Dec 25 No Service - Christmas Day

Dec 24 Harriet; JoAnne & Curt E.



Dec 4 Gary S. & Linda M.

Dec 4 Chuck H.



Dec 11 Veryl Lynn & Blaine

Dec 11 Harriet Y.

Dec 18 Michele Y. & Patrick W.

Dec 18 Wendy F.

Dec 24 Harriet; Veryl Lynn & Blaine

Dec 25 No Service

Dec 24 Robert T. & Chuck H.



Dec 4 Dawn

Dec 4 Marta & Kieley

Dec 11 Chuck H.

Dec 11 Kathy & Barbara



Dec. 18 Mike M.

Dec 18 Sandra & Barbara

Dec. 24 Marily F.

Dec 24 No nursery

05 - Stella Turner  
 05 - Sr. Carina Elsa  
 06 - Michael Gray  
 11 - Mary Ann Ransom  
 15 - Aaron White  
 21 - Frankie Pearson  
 26 - Dawn Milachouski  
 31 - Joanne Woodcock



18 - Robert & Harriet Taylor  
 21 - Bill & Jerry McAninch  
 26 - Blaine & Veryl Lynn Cox  
 29 - Dave & Carlann Scherping  
 30 - Wes & Laura Shields



Christian Symbol  
 Pax - This Latin word for peace is frequently seen in Christmas art and decorations, reminding us that Jesus came as the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). After announcing the Savior's birth to the shepherds, the angels sang, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace..." (Luke 2:14, NKJV).



Please pray for members who are in the hospital and who are sick.

*Susan Brown, Lee Butler, Monica Ferguson, Margaret Hodge, Nancy Long, Gertrude, Ackie Okpych, Chelsea Parks, Jim Stanier, Stacey Weaver, Bertha Whitt, JoAnne Woodcock, Barbara Meliski, Brian Daniels, Robert Ell, Steve Hailey, Zee Woodcock, Jacob Chalker, Steve Ruddy, Sam Thompson, George King, Thomas Stroud, Sylvia mariani, Anne Hinton, Marty Taylor, Kaitlyn McElreath, Evelyn Barry, Lauren Jones, Eddie Gaines, Barbara Freeman, Kirk Gay, Sam Fine, Holly, Sherwood & Daisy Nye, Evan Hays, Lynn Morehead, Rebecca La Breche, Betty Zieger, Curt Ledford, Jennifer Whiteside, Brendan Parks, Keith Wood, Ken Prentice, Carrie Allen John Wisnewski, Sharon, Silcox & Lisa & Billy Publilcover, Joanne D'Onbro, Gloria Anders, and Charlene Efrid.*



Please pray for our men and women in the military and those serving in other areas of conflict. / Daniel Crane, Ralph Salamone, Hamilton, Jordan, Hunter Fitzpatrick, Benjamin St. Pierre & Zach Poole.



This is your newsletter, so please share your photos and stories by sending them to

[mransom1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mransom1@bellsouth.net)

The Messenger's next deadline will be

December 30, 2016

Thanks, mary ann





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## Vestry 2016

Please pray daily for the leaders of our church.

Worship & Education	Fr. Wes Shields	625.9244
Senior Warden	Julie Maziarka	625.1309
Junior Warden	Michael Boff	419.438.3460
Finance/Church Treasurer	JoAnne Ellingson	625.9637
	Marta Campbell	432.300.9950
	Barbara Mauldin	828.779.2751
	Jack Stanier	625.4274
	Patrick Warncke	828.772.9258
Clerk	Marily Floyd	625.4041



### The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration

Diocese of Western North Carolina

106 Saylor Lane

PO Box 130

Bat Cave NC 28746

828.625.9244

#### Weekly Services

Holy Eucharist: Sundays 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Holy Eucharist and Healing: Wednesdays 10:00 am

#### Bible Study:

Sundays 9:00 am & Wednesdays 11:00 am

Children's Sunday School 10am

Choir Rehearsal: Sunday 9:15 am



C H R I S T M A S   S E A S O N