

THE PLEASANT TRAVELER  
December 2020

Pleasant Chapel  
880 E 1100 N Roanoke, IN 46783  
260-519-5324  
www.pleasantchapel.org  
Sunday School 9:00 am

Joel Yeager, pastor  
260-229-4994  
info@pleasantchapel.org  
Worship 10:00am

“Look, the virgin shall  
conceive and bear a son, and  
they shall name him

*Emmanuel,*

which means,

*“God is with us.”*

Matthew 1:23 (NRSV)





# DECEMBER 2020

- Dec 2 Stephen Dolby
- Dec 3 Robert Lahr
- Dec 3 Richard VanDuyun
- Dec 6 Sue Grooms
- Dec 6 Jeri Johnson
- Dec 8 Diane Sherbahn
- Dec 9 Dale Law
- Dec 9 Matt Whitaker
- Dec 10 John Rogers
- Dec 10 Tom Nei
- Dec 11 Elizabeth Stocker
- Dec 15 Maddie Fairchild
- Dec 15 Andy Amick
- Dec 15 Makaihla Raichart
- Dec 17 Jill Law
- Dec 18 Rev. John Morris
- Dec 18 Dorotha Souers
- Dec 22 Grace Fairchild
- Dec 22 Kevin Beck
- Dec 23 John W. Rogers
- Dec 26 Lilly Ayers
- Dec 31 Mike Ayers

### December Greeters

- Dec 6 Larry and Joyce
- Dec 13 Julie and Lillian
- Dec 20 Brent and Matt
- Dec 27 Candy and Kevin

### December Acolytes

- Dec 6 Colclessers
- Dec 13 Magnusons
- Dec 20 Amicks
- Dec 27 Hands

### January Greeters

- Jan 3 Roger and Ellen
- Jan 10 John and Anna
- Jan 17 Andy and Andrea
- Jan 24 Leona And Sarah
- Jan 31 Julie and Tammy S

### January Acolytes

- Jan 3 Colclessers
- Jan 10 Magnusons
- Jan 17 Amicks
- Jan 24 Hands
- Jan 31 Ayers

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## Anniversaries

Dec 30 Jim and Cynthia Chesterman

Minutes were read and approved. Treasurer's report was given.

Missions: Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child Boxes are being filled by church members. These were brought back to the church on or before November 15.

Cards were signed for friends and shut-ins.

The nominating committee presented the slate of officers for 2021. This was approved.

Program: Joann read an article about "The meaning of Thanksgiving".

**Thank you** to each one who has furnished snacks for the coffee/cookie table. Everyone enjoys this (looking forward to getting back to this?)

**Thank you** from "Blessings in a Backpack" for our donations for Huntington County Schools.

## Events

~~Dec 2 — Disaffiliation Informational Meeting 6:00 pm~~  
**POSTPONED**

~~Dec 6 — Church Conference to vote on disaffiliation~~  
**POSTPONED**

**Dec 7** – Bible study @ Parsons 6:30

**Dec 9** - UMW at Jill's home @ 1:00 pm

**Dec 14** – Bible study @ Parsons 6:30

**Dec 21** – Bible study @ Parsons 6:30

**Dec 23** – Christmas Eve's Eve Service

**Dec 27** – Unhanging of the greens after service

**Dec 28** – Bible study @ Parsons 6:30

**Bible Studies** - All are invited to Parson's home each Monday at 6:30 (unless otherwise announced) for an hour of study and discussion.

## United Methodist Women

The Pleasant Chapel UMW met on Wednesday, November 11 at 1:00 pm at Joann Dolby's house. President Jill Law opened the meeting by reading 1 Thessalonians 5:18.



## COVID UPDATE from Indiana UMC Bishop Trimble:

Friends,

We are at an unprecedented time in history. In just the past few weeks, we have witnessed a rapid increase of positive COVID-19 cases across the state, nation and world setting new daily and weekly records nearly every day. This news is alarming and requires all of us to make difficult but necessary decisions for the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church.

- *“There is a tremendous risk with this virus. It spreads really, really easily. The next 8-12 weeks are critical. Anything the Church can do to reduce gatherings will be helpful to slow the spread. We must take this very seriously,”* said Kristen Kelley, Director of Infection Prevention, IU Health

Since it is a fact that church worship gatherings are key sources of the spread of COVID-19, it is the recommendation of your Bishop that all churches should suspend in-person worship and in-person meetings of groups for the foreseeable future until the number of COVID cases improve. This will likely include making alternative plans for the holidays

Assistant District Superintendent Kathy Jones indicated all the churches she contacted are suspending in-person worship service and are moving to a streaming worship experience.

In order to keep our congregation safer and to help in the efforts to stop the spread of the virus, Pleasant Chapel will also be providing worship through Facebook and our webpage.

We will also treat the church as a “chapel” experience each Sunday. The recorded worship service which will stream on Facebook and the webpage will also run on the TVs in the sanctuary at 9:00, 10:00, and 11:00. This will allow those people who do not have internet access to come (in limited numbers) to worship at the church.

Plans will most likely change so we will do our best to keep everyone informed of what is happening.

Thank you for your patience, prayers, and understanding during this crazy time!

### Samaritan Purse

Thank you to everyone that filled the Samaritan Purse Organization”



Operation Christmas Child”

boxes to be delivered by Franklin Graham’s organization to children and countries all over the world. We set 25 boxes from Pleasant Chapel.

### Church Denomination Vote

Pleasant chapel will be deciding to stay with the United Methodist Denomination or to disaffiliate from the UMC. The General Conference in 2019 created an option to leave the denomination because of its inability to resolve internal differences between conservative and progressive ideologies. The Conference is providing a means by which churches can do ministry better by severing the tie to the denomination if they choose.

Pleasant Chapel is called to be an inviting, attractive place where people feel **welcome to come** and be **connected with God and with fellow Christ followers**. The church should also be a place where people have opportunity to **grow spiritually** and to **serve** in the community. Not said to be negative or critical, but Pleasant Chapel can improve to become more effective in what it is we have been called to do.

Please pray through this process. Pray for this church, pray that God would make known his purpose for the church. Pray that God would be gracious to this church in order for it to be most effective.

This is an important decision for the church. There are many pros and cons on either side of the vote. The Executive Board will have two informational meeting prior to the Church Conference for all to learn about disaffiliation as well as voice concerns and ask questions.

~~The Church Conference is set for Sunday December 6th at 1:00pm~~

**THIS MEETING HAS BEEN POSTPONED DUE TO COVID.**

Two informational, question/answer meetings are scheduled. It is recommended you attend at least one of the meetings

Those meeting dates/times are:

~~November 29th at 11:00 am~~

~~December 2nd at 6:00 pm~~

~~(both meetings at the church)~~

**THESE MEETING ARE POSTPONED DUE TO COVID**



All church attenders are encouraged to pray for this church decision. All are encouraged to attend the meetings. However, only voting members will be able to vote on the disaffiliation. If you have any questions please contact Joel or any of the members of the Executive Board.

### 2020 Executive Board Members

John Magnuson- Chairman  
Jill Law – Lay Leader, Secretary

Andrea Amick	Mike Ayers
Vicki Giordano	Troy Husband
Leona Bear	Nicole Colclessor
Deloris Smith	Roger Colclessor
Aaron Amick	Joyce Hand
Joann Dolby	Heather Parsons

Even though the Church Conference to vote has been postponed, the church can use the additional time to pray and talk about the decision the church is facing.

**Mailboxes** - If you want to give Christmas cards to any of our church family, please use our mailboxes. The mailboxes are arranged alphabetically.

**“I Can Only Imagine”** In 2001, Bart Millard of *MercyMe*, released the song “I Can Only Imagine”. It quickly became the top Christian song and stayed there for a long time. The song is about imagining what heaven would be like. Imagining what our eyes would see when we are there in the real presence of Jesus, when we get to see him face to face. The song tries to imagine what we will be doing when we are there. Are we dancing, are we simply still and in awe, or do we merely fall to our knees in praise? Clearly where

we are and when we are, we just don't know. We can only imagine as the song proclaims.

I'd like to borrow from the idea of the song for just a bit. Rather than wondering or imagining what it *will be* like, I'd like to think about a time long ago. I can only imagine what it *was* like then. What was it like at the first Christmas? Clearly, I can only imagine what life was like in Judea 2000 years ago, guess what culture was like, what the climate was, etc.

Perhaps with some creative thinking I could come somewhat close to what the conditions would have been like at that first Christmas. But I do not believe my imagination could even come close to understanding what he gave up in order to take on flesh for the purpose of saving me and saving you.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. **John 1:14**

We're familiar with that text. It is the gospel writer John describing to us the Word, who is God, who is Jesus becoming flesh or becoming a real person. He is validating the history that talks about Jesus who was a real human in the flesh, and also the divine Word.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. **John 1:1-3**

What would have been most fascinating for John's readers who knew Jesus in the flesh, is now identified with the One who was there at the very beginning. It was He who spoke everything into being.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. **John 1:10-11**

Yet the One who spoke everything into being had now come in the flesh into that which He had created. John says the world did not know him and his own people did not accept him. It is a fascinating thing that the One who created it all was unrecognized when he entered into His very own creation!

Yet what is even more fascinating, that I can't begin to imagine, is what it is that He left in order to come to this creation. Think of a place that transcends all of this creation, a realm of the supernatural that is complete light, pure perfection, and ultimate holiness. It is a realm unfathomable for me here and now.

To think the King of kings over a realm that is so supreme to this creation, left all of that for me and for you is also unfathomable! It has to be love! Nothing else could possibly explain it. He left all that, being obedient to the Father who sent him, for the purpose to reconcile you and me to Him.

It had to be love! I can only imagine what Christmas *really* means!

	August 23, 2020	August 30, 2020	September 6, 2020	September 13, 2020	September 20, 2020	September 27, 2020	October 4, 2020	October 11, 2020	October 18, 2020	October 25, 2020	November 1, 2020	November 8, 2020	November 15, 2020
Attendance	29	42	27	36	32	25	25	60	25	25	36	27	23
Giving	986	966	1436	1462	491	723	1374	1241	2316	1672			

# CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

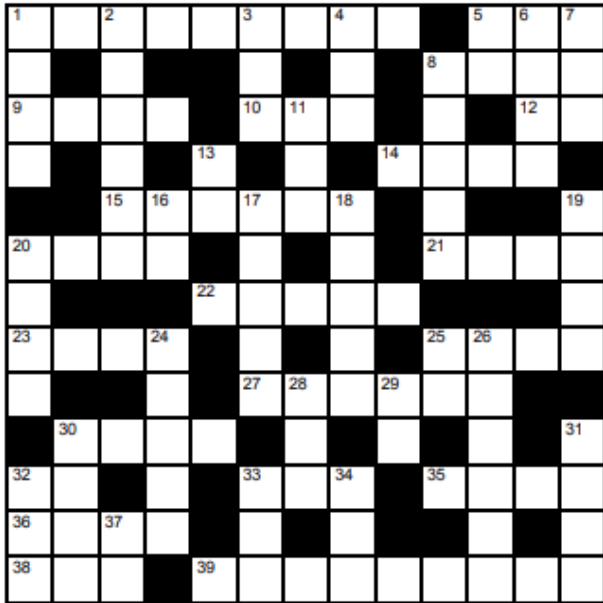
## Across

- 1 Jesus' birthplace (9)
- 5 Herod slew the children of this age and under (3)
- 8 Peter quoted his words on the day of Pentecost (4)
- 9 "A \_\_\_ shaken with the wind" (4)
- 10 "Ye shall find \_\_\_ babe wrapped in swaddling clothes" (3)
- 12 The year from Jesus' birth (2)
- 14 Anna was of this tribe (as recorded in Luke) (4)
- 15 "Behold, a \_\_\_ shall be with child" (6)
- 20 "Fruits \_\_\_ for repentance" (4)
- 21 The wise men came from here (4)
- 22 "He shall reign of the house of \_\_\_ for ever" (5)
- 23 A female ancestor of Jesus, as recorded in Matthew 1 (4)
- 25 The amount of manna to be gathered per person (4)
- 27 He multiplied the widow's oil (6)

- 30 "As soon as the voice of thy salvation sounded in mine \_\_\_" (4)
- 32 An altar meaning witness (Joshua 22) (2)
- 33 To increase (3)
- 35 Malarial fever (4)
- 36 To guide (4)
- 38 There was no room here (3)
- 39 These men went to see the baby Jesus (9)

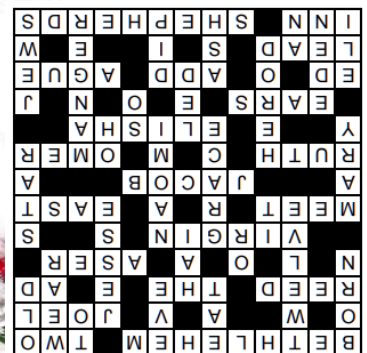
## Down

- 1 "Mary, of whom was \_\_\_ Jesus" (4)
- 2 Jesus' age when he was taken to Jerusalem (6)
- 3 Jesus did not do this in the wilderness (3)
- 4 Adam's wife (3)
- 5 "Mary was espoused \_\_\_ Joseph" (2)
- 6 "They that \_\_\_ soft clothing are in kings' houses" (4)
- 7 Zacharias said, "I am an \_\_\_ man" (3)
- 8 Grandson of 23 (5)
- 11 A place near Bethel (3)
- 13 "A pair of turtledoves \_\_\_ two young pigeons" (2)
- 16 "That \_\_\_ might be fulfilled" (2)
- 17 "The \_\_\_ of God was upon him" (5)
- 18 Mother-in-law of 23 (5)
- 19 This went before the wise men (4)
- 20 The mother of Jesus (4)
- 24 He was king at the time of Jesus' birth (5)
- 25 "\_\_\_ that one would hear me!" (2)
- 26 Jesus was laid in this (6)
- 28 The spirit did this to Jesus in the wilderness (3)
- 29 Thus (2)
- 30 The first garden (4)
- 31 "Where is he that is born king of the \_\_\_?" (4)
- 32 A priest in the time of Samuel (3)
- 33 A tree of the olive family (3)
- 34 To put into water (3)
- 37 "\_\_\_ angel of the Lord appeareth" (2)



by Colin

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## The **COLORS** of Christmas

*The Colors of Christmas are bright and they're true,  
they tell of God's great love for me and for you*

*Blue is the sky where the angels appeared as they sang  
"Peace on Earth", to the shepherds who feared*

*Silver is for the bright Christmas Star  
Which guided the wise men from countries afar*

*Gold tells of their gifts for the Baby that day who they  
found in a manger, asleep on the hay*

*Purple for suffering and death on a hill*

*Red is the blood which Jesus did spill*

*Green shows that Jesus arose from the dead and saved us  
and freed us, just as he said.*

