

# keep in touch

January 6, 2022



## A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Greeting Caldwell Church family and friends  
Happy New Year!

We have probably heard these words spoken everywhere just about by everyone, in the past week or so. Most people saying them are truly wishing family and friends happiness in the days ahead. What really makes the year new? Is it that we are on the last page of the calendar, and need a new one? Maybe it's because we needed an end to the old and a reason to begin afresh? To say goodbye to Covid in any form, and get rid of it forever? (Amen! To that one.) Well, the truth is not everyone celebrates the New Year at the same time, but everyone recognizes the need for a new beginning, to start anew, and seek a better life.

The Christian and the American calendars tend to change from time to time. Today January 6 is "*old Christmas*", and concludes The Twelve Days of Christmas. Our calendar is influenced by Western traditions (*not Cowboys & Indians*) but, our modern calendar is governed by the Gregorian Calendar System, named after Pope Gregory XIII. It became the standard for the Christian faith on February 24, 1582. Before that date, people observed the Julian Calendar (named after Julius Caesar). As Christians we celebrate 2022 A.D. (Anno Domini: The Year of the Lord, referring to the Birth of Jesus Christ.) The western calendar is a solar calendar.

The Hebrew calendar celebrates the New Year in the fall (Sept 25); it is called *Rosh Hashanah*. The Jewish calendar year will be 5782, and *Yom Kippur*: The Day of Atonement (Oct 4). The Chinese calendar New Year will be February 1; it will begin the year of the Tiger. The Islamic calendar observes the year from when Mohammed traveled to Medina (not Ohio) in 622 A.D. The Islamic New Year will be celebrating the year 1444 A.H. (Anno Hegirae; journey) and will take place July 28, 2022. These calendars are lunar calendars. Calendars can be confusing, so the reason I am giving this information is to point out that most cultures and religions observe a time of new beginnings, but if the same old things keep happening, what gives us a new beginning?

We can celebrate each day anew, if we allow God to work in our lives. We should not have to wait until the last page on the calendar, or for the sun & moon to be in the right position. Don't wait to make resolutions, but begin each day afresh, by asking God for guidance, forgiveness, and help in living life better.

Jesus Christ came into the world to change us, and make us new people; he sets the example by showing us how to love one another. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "*if anyone is in Christ, they (we) are a new creation; old things have passed away and all things have become new.*" By trusting in Jesus Christ, we can become new people, forgiven, loved by God, and in turn can love each other; it's not always easy, but this is God's great promise. It is fun to celebrate the New Year; I admit it, we all need a party, or life would be boring; most of all we need Jesus. Let's celebrate life with Jesus, and be new people.

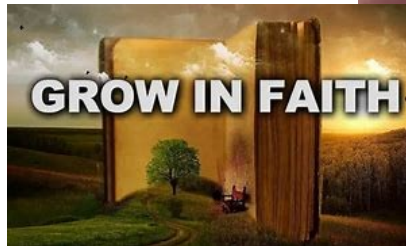
New Year blessings, trust Jesus, be healthy & live better!

Rev. Jeff Coggins, your pastor

***P.S. Thanks everyone for your prayers, cards and gifts, but especially your friendship. PJC***

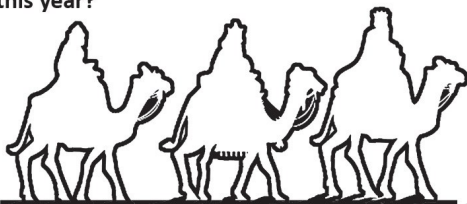
# Sunday January 9, 2022

- ◆ Sunday Services are on our facebook page: Caldwell UMC Ohio.
- ◆ This Sunday Service is based on Mark 4:30-32 "A Mustard Seed" by Brad Peoples
- ◆ Old Testament scripture is Psalm 104:24-34

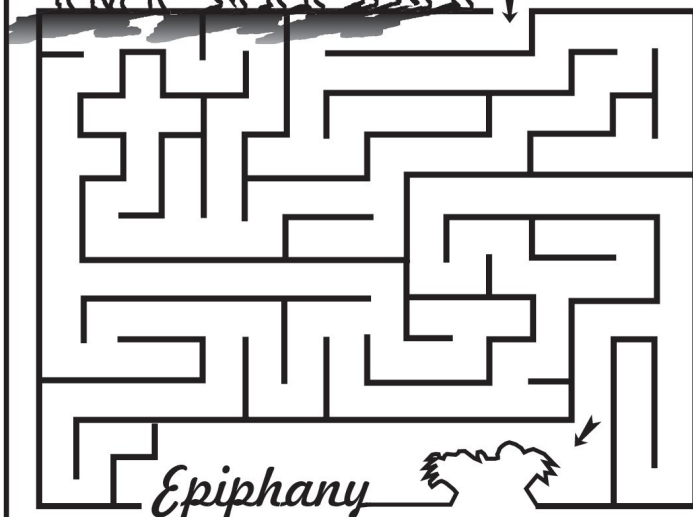


## Epiphany, Mt 2:1-12

Three wise men were searching for Jesus. They traveled from very far away to meet him. They followed a star and finally found him in Bethlehem. They adored him and gave him special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. What gift would you like to give to Jesus this year?



"I'll Give God Me!"



## The Mustard-Seed

Matthew 13: 31, Mark 4: 30-32, Luke 13: 18-19

Look carefully at the words below. Each of these has been hidden in the word search. Words can be on the horizontal, diagonal, backwards, forwards, up and down.

RODUCING	GREATEST	BRANCHES	SMALLEST	MUSTARD	SPRINGS
SHELTER	PLANTED	SHADOW	GARDEN	FIELD	BIRDS
FOWLS	LODGE	LARGE	GRAIN	GROWN	SHADE
EARTH	ROOST	LEAST	SHRUB	HERBS	SOWED
TREE	TINY	NEST	SEED	AIR	MAN

Z X X  
 N L Q E Q R D P A  
 Q P F O A O I R E W Y S N  
 D O G R D G S T S H J X O A  
 W L T E I G N G M E R T Z W J G  
 L X H E E G A E R N X H Q S W E W D  
 S V R T E I L N R B N I G C O E T D N H  
 Z R D R S P F E I A H R R D N S N W D S  
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 D P A L E X Z A U H R O S R R R Y  
 I Y A E T K L T O S D R B G L I B S T  
 G V N H H X S E V A T D O B S B I D I S  
 U R S M P S S U M O C N O R M U E N E P  
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 H A I U E M U S C J I  
 M Y N R D Y K S T X  
 H R X S G E M  
 S A A N A  
 I G L  
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 S G W A  
 T R K O W P  
 C A V S I Z V F  
 L L S L L L



01/12 Karen Harris      01/05 Ryan & Christina Merry  
 01/13 Cheyenne Foley    01/13 Bob & Nancy Rudge

### Meetings

Wed 1/5 Worship Comm 6PM; Finance 7PM; SPRC 7PM

Thur 1/6 Missions and Trustee's 6PM; Admin 8PM

The Missions Team is getting ready for 2022!

- Christ Shares a Meal (CSAM) will start up again on January 27<sup>th</sup> and continue through October on the last Thursday of each month. Once again meal ingredient sign-up sheets will be available in the sanctuary two weeks before each meal for those who would like to contribute.
- The Weekend Backpack Program (WBP) is also on-going – thirty elementary school children will continue to get food to sustain them every weekend through the end of the school year. This is the third year the CUMC is conducting the WBP; both elementary schools continue to express their appreciation.



As always, thank you for your support in the past and for your contributions and donations in the future. Happy New Year!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS:**  
 Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

## Epiphany Word Search



- BABY
- BALTHAZAR
- BAPTISM
- BETHLEHEM
- CASPAR
- CHRISTIAN
- EPHANY
- FEAST
- FIRST MIRACLE
- FRANKINCENSE
- GOLD
- HEROD
- HOLIDAY
- HOPE
- JANUARY
- JESUS
- MAGE
- MELCHIOR
- MOSEH
- REVELATION
- SIXTH
- STAR
- SUNDAY
- THREE KINGS
- TWELFTH DAY
- WISE MEN



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You love me more than sparrows, God,  
 you meet my every need.  
 And all you ask is that my faith  
 is like a mustard seed.

### GIFT OF JESUS

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

— PSALM 107: 8-9 NIV



## Epiphany – January 6, 2022

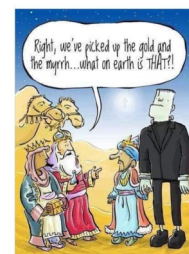


Epiphany, also known as "Three Kings Day" and "Twelfth Day," is a Christian holiday commemorated on January 6. It falls on the twelfth day after Christmas, and for some denominations signals the conclusion of the Christmas season. The 12 days between Christmas and Epiphany are known as the "Twelve Days of Christmas."

Though many different cultural and denominational customs are practiced, as a rule, the feast celebrates the manifestation of God to the world in the form of human flesh through Jesus Christ, his Son.

It commemorates the first two occasions on which Jesus' divinity, according to Christian belief, was manifested: when the three kings (also known as wise men or Magi) visited infant Jesus in Bethlehem, and when John the Baptist baptized him in the River Jordan.

Epiphany was introduced into Western Christianity in the 4th century. The term *epiphany* comes from a Greek word meaning "appearance," "manifestation," or "revelation" and is commonly linked in Western churches with the visit of the wise men (Magi) to the Christ child (Matthew 2:1-12). Through the Magi, Jesus Christ revealed himself to the Gentiles



"The Twelve Days of Christmas." Many people mistakenly assume that the twelve days precede the birth of Jesus, and end on December 25th. This is incorrect. The twelve days begin with the birth of the Christ child, and end on January 6th, the Feast of Epiphany. They chronicle the twelve days that the Wise Men followed the star which led them to the manger where baby Jesus lay. Though entirely secular in its appearance, the song actually contains much

deeper meaning. During the late 16th century, persecuted Catholics in England were actually prohibited from practicing their religion, in all of its forms: written stories, word of mouth, singing, etc. The price to pay for breaking the King's law was often imprisonment, but a severe infraction could lead to death by hanging or beheading.

As a form of secret protest, Catholics created the seemingly nonsensical lyrics that hide teachings found in the Bible. In this way older, practicing Catholics were able to pass along their religious traditions and teaching to their children without risking punishment.

- A Partridge in a Pear Tree - Jesus Christ **Two** Turtle Doves - The Old and New Testaments
- **Three** French Hens - The three virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity
- **Four** Calling/Collie Birds - Four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
- **Five** Golden Rings - First five books of the Old Testament
- **Six** Geese-a-Laying - Six days of creation before God's rest on the seventh day
- **Seven** Swans-a-Swimming - Seven gifts of the Holy Spirit
- **Eight** Maids-a-Milking - Eight Beatitudes **Nine** Ladies Dancing - Nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
- **Ten** Lords-a-Leaping - Ten Commandments **Eleven** Pipers Piping - Eleven faithful disciples
- **Twelve** Drummers Drumming - Twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed

The cost of all the gifts in the song based on current market rates for 2021 comes to a hefty \$41,205.58, or \$179,454.19 if you count each mention of an item separately (which would amount to 364 gifts in all)

## National Human Trafficking Awareness Day – January 11, 2022

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day on January 11 raises awareness of the persistent issue of human trafficking. Though the entire month of January has already been recognized as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, this day is specifically dedicated to awareness and prevention of the illegal practice. The horrific injustice of human trafficking can affect people of any race and background, and on this day we are all called to fight human trafficking wherever it exists.

Human trafficking is the exploitation of another person for labor, domestic servitude, or commercial sexual activity by force, fraud, or coercion. It is also the act of enslaving or exploiting unwilling people. Unfortunately, slavery in some form has existed for hundreds of years – and persistently exists today, though many are unaware of this fact.

Approximately 80% of human trafficking today involves sexual exploitation, while 19% involves labor exploitation. Right now, there are approximately 20 to 40 million slaves in the world.

Though men can and are trafficked and exploited for labor, it is far more common for women and young girls to be trafficked, as they are far more often exploited for sexual reasons.

There are many misconceptions about human trafficking today - so get educated and help others do the same.

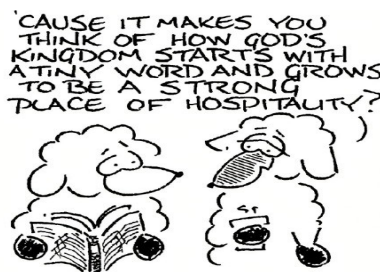


## Elvis Presley's Birthday – January 8

Elvis Aron Presley was born January 8, 1935 in Tupelo, Mississippi. His identical twin brother was delivered 35 minutes before him, stillborn. In high school, Presley received a C in music

Despite many people telling him he couldn't hold a tune, he went on to become one of the most popular singers and performers in American history. It is estimated that he sold more than 1 billion records. He won 14 Grammy's and a lifetime achievement award.

He starred in 31 feature films as an actor and two theatrically released concert documentary films, all of which enjoyed financial success. For a number of years, he was one of Hollywood's top box office draws and one of its highest-paid actors. He also had three network television specials — "Elvis" in 1968, "Elvis: Aloha from Hawaii, via Satellite" in 1973, and "Elvis in Concert" in 1977. They were among the most highly rated specials of their time. He died in August of 1977 at age 36.



A Verse a Day Keeps the Devil Away

JANUARY 6 - PROMISE #6

[I delivered you from darkness into the kingdom of My beloved Son.](#)  
[Colossians 1:12-13](#)

JANUARY 7 - PROMISE #7

[I have given you eternal life because you have believed in Jesus Christ.](#)  
[John 3:16](#)

JANUARY 8 - PROMISE #8

[I sent the Spirit of My Son into your heart so you could call Me Father.](#)  
[Galatians 4:6](#)

JANUARY 9 - PROMISE #9

[Since you are in Christ, I have made you an heir of all My promises.](#)  
[Galatians 3:29](#)

JANUARY 10 - PROMISE #10

[I have given you a new heart and put My own Spirit in you.](#)  
[Ezekiel 36:26-27](#)

JANUARY 11 - PROMISE #11

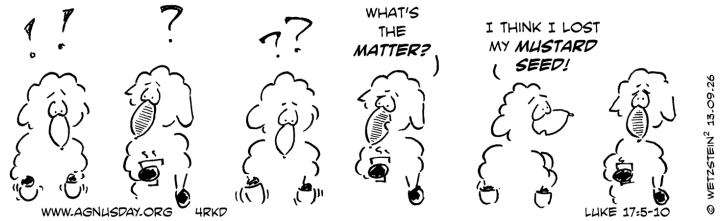
[My plan for your future is filled with hope.](#)  
[Jeremiah 29:11](#)

JANUARY 12 - PROMISE #12

[I am at work in your life through the desires of your heart.](#)  
[Philippians 2:13](#)



A joyful response to serve! United Methodist Women in the Northern Illinois Conference stepped up to make more than 3,000 masks for children and staff for Kids Above All, a 127-year-old agency begun by Lucy Rider Meyer as the Methodist Deaconess Orphanage.



Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ and Happy New Year!

I look forward to seeing you at one of my upcoming *Conversations of the Heart* gatherings. I am traveling across the Conference to engage in meaningful conversation with you about the mission and vision of ministry in the East Ohio Conference and the future of The United Methodist Church. You are invited to join me at one of these regional conversations:

Monday, January 10      2:00 – 4:00 p.m.      New Concord UMC (20 E High St., New Concord)  
Monday, January 10      6:00 – 8:00 p.m.      New Concord UMC (20 E High St., New Concord)

Bishop Tracy Malone

“I encourage everyone to get vaccinated

And if you are eligible for a booster, get it. It is the single most important thing you can do to care for yourself and others. “

Bishop Malone

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Pastor Jeff’s cell #567-215-7628  
Home #740-305-5161



EAST OHIO CONFERENCE  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### PRAYER CONCERNS

Dee Lahue, Davianne Sidwell,

Tim Geary, Brooker Family



Our veterans and our world. Our teachers and students and those who assist them. We pray for unspoken requests and those we name in our heart. And for each other.