

Dear Church Family:

Advent is a season of waiting and anticipation. Most years, we are just waiting for Christmas. Most years, we are waiting for our families to gather together, waiting for children to open presents with joy and excitement, waiting to share our love and our gratitude with one another. Most years, we are waiting to sing carols, light candles, hear and tell the story of Jesus' birth once again, yet as if for the first time.

This is not most years. This year, we are waiting to gather with family. We are waiting to see the number of coronavirus infections, hospitalizations, and deaths fall rather than rise. We are waiting on a vaccine, on its distribution, on its effectiveness. We are waiting in every aspect of our lives, in a holding pattern of nerves and uncertainty, perhaps afraid to commit to anything when everything is up in the air.

We are waiting even on a return to church. We have not gathered in our sanctuary in over eight months, and we will not gather before the year is out. It breaks my heart to miss out on the celebration, the community and the communion, the fellowship, the joy and the love that we share as a congregation. Yet, as difficult as it is to pass these many weeks apart, we are living out our faith and our gospel call as disciples by doing so – it is a grateful and loving sacrifice to the most vulnerable in our community and our world.

Yes, we are working on a plan to come back. And we are working to improve and increase our online offerings until our return to in-person worship– and beyond. We hope that everyone in our community, our whole church family and all our friends, know how deeply we miss being together. And we hope that you are all, like us, waiting hopefully and joyfully for the time when can reunite, confident that the day will come and come quickly.

And so, in this season of anticipation and expectation at the end of a year of anticipation and expectation, let us pray in hopes for that new future together. Let us pray that the faith that has gotten us this far will carry us even further. Let us pray that the resolve and the strength that has kept us together will bring us closer together. Let us pray that the new bonds we have made and the new things we have done, will inspire us to continue to try new things in new ways, until the glorious day for which we have waited arrives. And let us pray, in the words of the prophet Isaiah and in the music of Handel: "That all flesh shall see it together."

Blessings,

Chip



## A note from Rev. Paul

### "A Magnificat for 2020"

#### My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit exalts in God my Savior

Every Advent season, I am finding myself increasingly praying and reflecting on the first two chapters of Luke. The poetry and writing used by Luke to allow us in to a backstory of Jesus' birth are an absolute joy. Both Zechariah and Mary give us glimpses into the religious spirit and the longing of a personal relationship with the Creator. Both recognize greatness of God; they sing the praises of their Creator.

#### The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is God's name.

Being called to serve at the beginning of the pandemic has allowed me to see God's greatness in the people of Wilbraham United Church as well as my school colleagues and friends. We have found a way to bring some cheer to those who may be in desperate need of it in the past nine months. While we have done great things for our community in the past, I truly believe that we have come to a fever pitch in our response to the needs of our community.

#### God has filled the hungry with good things...

Do you know that we have led the way to donate over a ton of food to the Community Survival Center? We have given in excess of two thousand pounds of food since March. We were also told by the Survival Center that other churches copied our drive-thru donation method. Our church community has led the way to bring food baskets, donations, and gift cards to those in need. On one level, we want to shout this from the rooftop so that people will know that WUC continues to live the Gospel message.

#### God has scattered the proud in their conceit

The struggle is real! We must also remember that we are called to follow this Gospel message without the big show, bell and/or whistles. So, while we may want to shout out our own greatness, it is not what is asked of us. We must do as we are called to do—act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with our God.

You have come to the aid of your people in fulfillment of the promise you made to our ancestors when you spoke blessing to Abraham, Sarah and all their descendants.

Even in these tough times of pandemic when we can feel so alone, we revel in the love of God who calls us to a special and most precious relationship. In these most imperfect times, let us remember that God gave us the perfect gift that first Christmas in the Incarnation. Let us welcome the Christ Child yet again and feel that God is indeed always with us.

Peace and love,

Paul

### NOVEMBER 2020 PLEDGE INCOME REPORT

Annual Pledge Income Budget: \$225,000 Pledge receipts through November: \$194,157 We thank you for your gifts.

It is now December and the beginning of Advent, a season of joy. We have spent many of the past 48 weeks in self-imposed constraint in order to escape the peril of a global pandemic, from which we now have the hope of gradual relief in the new year. Pledge Income through November, about \$194,000, is about \$19,000 short of pledges we estimated in January. Other church income sources have also been restricted or, like the Holly Fair, eliminated. One positive note: due to the quick and diligent work of Lisa Fallon and Joseph Stiefel, WUC received a PPP Loan, of which a forgivable portion amounting to about \$47,700 will help offset income deficits.

As we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ, the ultimate Gift to all of us, we also look for the opportunity to share the other gifts that we have received. Looking ahead, it now appears that the corona-virus restrictions will extend through the end of the year. In years past, we have experienced a surge in giving during this season. We realize that this is a difficult time for some people, but again ask "What can you do for your church?"

While we miss being together, the response to the worship events planned and so beautifully presented by Pastor Chip, Reverend Paul, Mark and Deb has been wonderful, as has your generosity to the Thanksgiving outreach program. We have much to celebrate.

Have you returned your 2021 Pledge card? We are now trying to build an income and expense budget for 2021, and your response is critical. The loss or constraint of other church income sources is expected to continue well into the new year. As you consider your 2021 pledge, please prayerfully consider how you can help.

> Again, thank you for your gifts. Your Finance Commission



#### A MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE COMMISSION:

#### **IRS GIFTING GUIDANCE**

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As we approach the end of the year, we are mindful of the IRS guidance regarding tax-deductable gifts. This has prompted us to send this reminder regarding the IRS rules that we must follow regarding reporting of gifts, from which there can be no exceptions.

To qualify as a gift for tax year 2020, the gift must be either

1) if mailed, be postmarked on or before Thursday, December 31, 2020, or

2) be delivered to the church office before 2:00 pm on Thursday, December 31, at which time Pastor Chip's office hours close.

We must point out this example: a check dated on or before December 31 which does not meet the criteria listed above will be counted as a gift received in 2021. If made to fulfill a 2020 pledge, it will be so noted and appear as "Pledge – Prior Year" in the 2021 accounting.

Thank you for your gifts and your understanding.

# Christmas Eve Service



Join us as we celebrate our joy at the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Eve: our service of Lessons and Carols will be available on Facebook Live beginning at 4pm.

We invite you to gather your family and join us at your convenience. We will hear the Good News of the coming of Jesus Christ to God's people

We will sing the familiar tunes, and raise a joyful noise to the Lord. Even though we will not be physically together, we invite you to share the light of Christ with one another, shining a light into the darkness for all to see.



## **Blue Christmas**

In the darkness of the night, a light shined over Bethlehem and gave hope to all who saw it.

For those who struggle to see the light and feel its warmth and love, we will offer a **Blue Christmas Service** on December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 on Facebook Live

followed by a time for reflection and conversation on Zoom. If you would like to participate in the Zoom, please email Pastor Chip (<u>pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org</u>) or Karen Gatchell (<u>gatchell@charter.net</u>)

# We are so Thankful at WUC

The WUC Thankful Video debuted this November and gave us the chance to "see" so many dear friends we have missed.

We are so thankful to all of those who sent in their photos, videos and Thanksgiving sentiments.

We are especially thankful to Deb Trimble for organizing, compiling and creating this beautiful video.

Haven't seen it? Visit our website to watch and enjoy!



Thank you to Pam Byers for finding Church School videos each week.

Thank you to all of the families who join us each week for Church School on Zoom! We love seeing you each week!

Thank you to all of you who visit our website each week and join us in prayer and worship and to watch Wilber (and Rev. Paul)!



Thank you to everyone who has and continues to donate to our monthly drives. In addition to toiletries, cards, school supplies and gift cards, WUC has donated over 1 ton of food (literally).

Special thanks to Rev. Paul and members of the Education Commission for continuing to organize the events and providing safe ways for our WUC members to give back to the community!



Charlie Brown Thanksgiving With our friends Wilbraham United Church on FB Live!

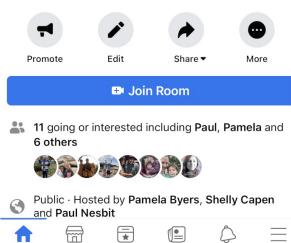




HAPPENING NOW

A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving - At Home Edition

Online Event













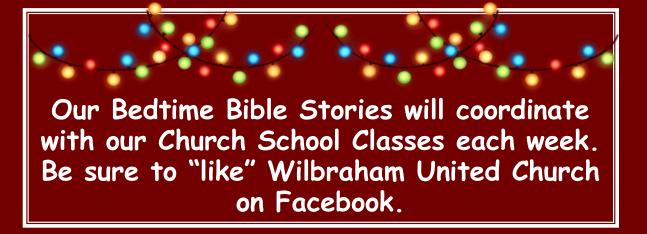


## Bedtime Bible Stories





Tuesdays at 7:15 p.m. Join Wilber the Chicken and Rev. Paul on Facebook LIVE!



# Church School Schedule

#### Church School Winter-Advent-Christmas-Epiphany 2020-2021

Topic/Scripture	ZOOM or NO ZOOM
	ZOOM OF NO ZOOM
1 <b>1</b>	200M :)
1 0 7	
	ZOOM :)
Angels Visit	ZOOM :)
Luke 1:26-28	
Jesus is Born	NO ZOOM
Luke 2:1-20	
Simeon and Anna	NO ZOOM
Luke 2:22-40	
Jesus the Word	NO ZOOM
John 1:10-18	
Jesus' Baptism	ZOOM :)
Mark 1:4-11	
God Calls Samuel	ZOOM :)
1 Samuel 3:1-20	
Jonah and the Big Fish	ZOOM :)
Jonah 1-4	
Jesus Heals	ZOOM :)
Mark 1:29-30	
	ZOOM :)
Mark 9:2-9	-
	Jesus is Born Luke 2:1-20 Simeon and Anna Luke 2:22-40 Jesus the Word John 1:10-18 Jesus' Baptism Mark 1:4-11 God Calls Samuel 1 Samuel 3:1-20 Jonah and the Big Fish Jonah 1-4 Jesus Heals Mark 1:29-30 The Transfiguration

ZOOM TIMES Pre-K/K/1 8:45-9:00 Grades 2-3 9:00-9:15 Grades 4-5 9:15-9:30 Grades 6-8 9:30-9:45 Sunday Worship 10:00 (Facebook Live/Live Stream)

> Class materials will be ready on Thursday 12/3. Videos and Family Pages will be sent each week, even when we don't have class! Emails with ZOOM links will be sent on the Saturday before class.



Wilbraham United Church Cordially Invites You to Our

DRIVE-THRU DROP-OFF FOR "AJ'S STOCKINGS FOR LOVE"

## Saturday, December 12 9:30am-12pm



In loving memory of AJ Arnold who passed away July 2017 whose biggest joy was giving his family Christmas stockings, we will be hosting a drive-thru drop off site for this project at Wilbraham United Church from 9:30-12:00. We will be collecting the below for stockings that will be donated and given to local families and non-profit organizations.

Visit <u>https://www.facebook.com/AjsStockingsofLove</u> for more info and to purchase items directly from their amazon wish list.

## **Stocking Stuffers Ideas**

- Books
- Crayons, markers, coloring books, children's scissors, stickers
- Candy
- Small toys (play doh, matchbox cars, bubbles, etc)
- Toiletries for children & adults

- Gloves, mittens, socks, hats for all ages
- Christmas stockings
- Gift cards welcome and will be available to purchase during the drive-thru event at the church.

\*\*\*During this event we will also collect Christmas Cards for our shut-in members and canned goods for the Survival Center\*\*\*

Happy Birthday Ruth Karlson December 13th

BETHECHURCH OUTERCHURCH Stay Home. Social Distance. Wash Your Hands. Check on the Elderly. Live Stream Worship. Give electronically. Support each other. Love God. Flatten the curve. Pray Daily.





## Are you looking for another way to serve your church, God, and community?

### **Consider supporting Loaves and Fishes!**

**Every third Thursday of the month at 11 am** volunteers from this worthwhile ministry gather to deliver dinners and desserts to the South Congregational Church in Spfld. Stuart Johnsen makes casseroles while additional volunteers make cakes and transport the food. In usual circumstances, the food is served by members of this mission to those in the community who are underserved and unhoused. Currently due to the Coronavirus pandemic, our volunteers are not serving the food.

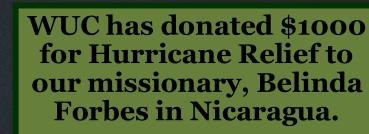
If you are interested in baking casseroles or in a larger role in Loaves and Fishes, please contact Stuart Johnsen. Please contact Judy Hoffman if you are interested in baking or Nancy Peck to assist with transporting food. If you are interested in making a donation, please send to

WUC with Loaves and Fishes on the envelope.



Judy - Email: <u>imjrhoffman@hotmail.com</u>, Phone: 413-596-8353 Nancy – Phone: 413-596-6952





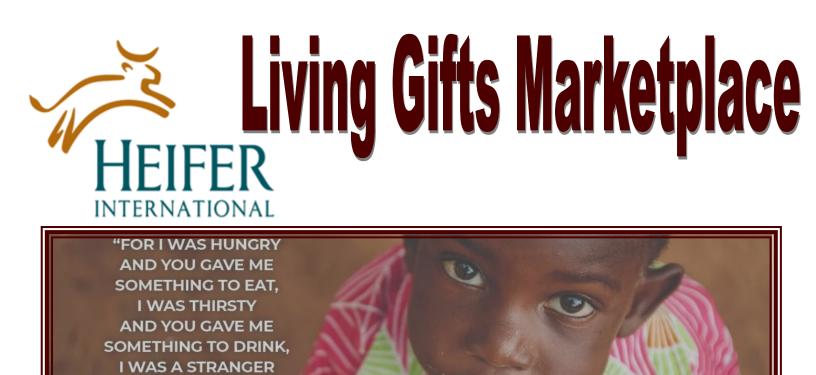
WUC Outreach will match the first \$1000 raised on our Heifer Marketplace

### Looking for a way to support our Outreach Missions?

#### Please consider donating to any of our current missions:

- Parish Assistance
- Loaves and Fishes
  - Open Pantry
- Community Survival Center
  - Emergency Fuel Fund
    - CRUDEM
    - Neighbors in Need

Please reach out to a member of Outreach or Aimee Walat if you have any questions.



When you are considering your holiday shopping think about helping out a family less abundantly blessed in material goods by donating through Heifer International.

Our church is sponsoring it's own Living Gift Marketplace. You can either donate a set amount of money or purchase something specific - like a flock of chicks or a goat, or a cow or water for life or any number of important life changing gifts.

Here's a link to our marketplace.

AND YOU INVITED ME IN." MATTHEW 25:35

https://fundraise.heifer.org/campaign/living-gift-market-unitedchurch-in-wilbraham/c311088



## **News from Nicaragua**

#### Hurricanes in Central America Dr. Belinda Forbes, United Methodist Missionary to Nicaragua

www.belindagbgm.blogspot.com

God is good, all the time

My thanks to all who have reached out with words of support and prayers.

As I write this update the sun is shining again after the Central American Region withstood the rage of two back-to-back hurricanes in the last three weeks. Damage assessments are now are underway, and we hold in prayer our brothers and sisters in neighboring Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Belize, Costa Rica, Panama and Caribbean islands who are also suffering losses. Here in Nicaragua, Hurricane Iota (dubbed "Idiota," Nicaraguans never seem to lose their sense of humor, even in an emergency) had a much wider impact across the country than Hurricane Eta but both provoked serious flooding, crop loss, destroyed buildings and roadways and sadly, some deaths are being reported. Energy and cell phone service is slowly coming back in some AMC project sites in the affected areas and contact has been made with staff who have some damages to their homes and the AMC offices but all are safe. A staff person in Rosita told me yesterday that they have WiFi but no electricity and pay a local "entrepreneur" a \$1 an hour for charging devices. AMC was already responding to Eta and is now working double time for what will be needed to respond to both disasters.



## Knit, Stitch, Pray

Are you feeling down and disconnected? Please join this new to WUC group for a time of fellowship, praying, and being productive (or not). I have run this group for a few years now, out of my previous church and latterly out of my home. As getting together in person is becoming harder due to the Coronavirus and colder weather, I wondered about starting up a Zoom group. This would be a very relaxed group which I would be happy to facilitate once a week or so. The group would bring knitting, crocheting, sewing projects along to the virtual meeting. We would pray for the recipient of our labors, work on our projects and share our thoughts about our community.

I have been known to teach knitting and would be happy to help a beginner. I have supplies and knitting needles to share. Some of the things that I enjoy working on are prayer shawls, layettes, pillowcases, hats and various other projects for the community or those in need. The remit of this group is a bit different from Piecemakers as they focus on quilts for the NICU. Those in this group are also welcome to work on their projects too. My availability right now is Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri afternoons, Saturday all day and Sunday afternoons. Please email me if you are interested or text me. It would be great to get to know each other and work on our projects at the same time.

#### Karen Gatchell 413-237-1598 gatchell@charter.net



## How can I help?

- Loaves and Fishes donation of time or money, assist with administration
- . Buying shopping cards
- Participate in our monthly drives
- . Volunteer at any of our upcoming events (in person or assist from home)
- . Reach out to a church member by phone, email or the old fashioned way and send a card or a note.
- Assist with our weekly meal train
- Share your photos and articles with the congregation through the Branchline
- Sew masks for the greater community



#### Hello friends -

We wanted you to know that while the Wilbraham United Players might be waiting in the wings for the pandemic to end, and for the ability to take the stage again, we're still active and getting ready for our next season. We're busy organizing and planning, and we thought we'd use our downtime to focus on some fundraising. We're doing a fundraiser selling Rada Cutlery's kitchen products to raise money for WUP and our preparations for hitting the stage again.

Whether you're an avid cook or hate to cook, there are plenty of products to choose from. Be prepared for upcoming weddings, holiday gifts, and other occasions. These quality knives, kitchen utensils, dip and soup mixes make great gifts and stocking stuffers. Every purchase you make using this unique shopping link

<u>https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=4710429.72ab4d</u> helps our group and gets shipped right to your door within a few days, so feel free to shop often! Every little bit helps. Plus, when you order your Rada products through the WUP Rada Store you are guaranteed the best prices on their products! A link to our Rada fundraising shop can also be found on our website at <u>www.wilbrahamunitedplayers.org.</u>

Rada Cutlery is well known for their quality 100% USA Made kitchen products and great value. We hope you will take a moment to browse the catalogue and choose some items for your holiday gift giving or personal needs.

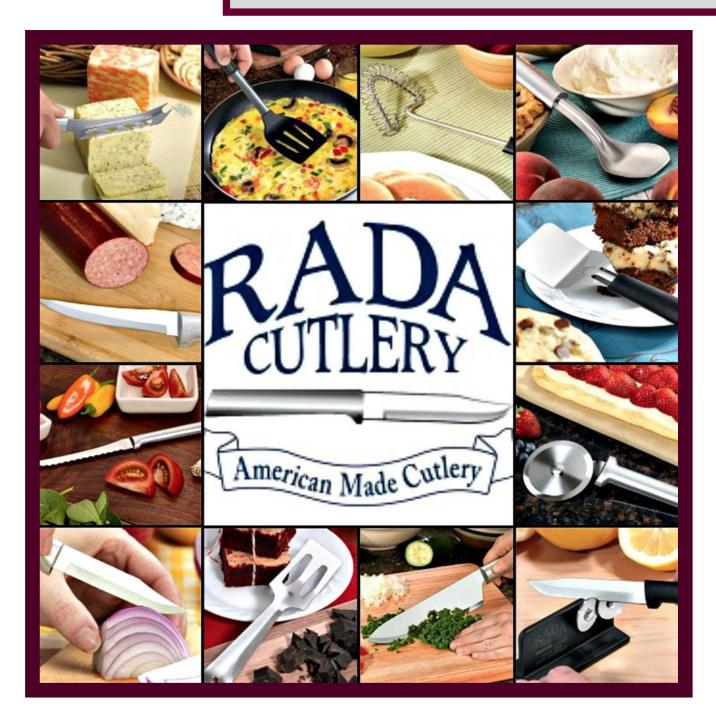
Thank you for your continued support.

Wilbraham United Players



## WUP Fundraiser For more info visit

<u>www.wilbrahamunitedplayers.org.</u> Or <u>https://radafundraising.com?</u> <u>rfsn=4710429.72ab4d</u>





- Church School via Zoom from 8:45-9:50 am
- Sunday morning Worship service at 10 am on Facebook Live
- Office hours in the Zeckhausen Rm with Pastor Chip: Tues and Wed. 10 am –2 pm With Rev. Paul Tues. 3:30-5 pm and Thurs. 5:30-7 pm
- Bedtime Bible Stories with Rev. Paul and friends on Tuesdays at 7:15 pm on Facebook Live!
- Wed. Evening prayer service at 7:15 pm on Facebook Live
- Participate in our monthly collection drives and events
- Visit our website to stay up to date on events, hours, meeting minutes, bulletins and our monthly calendar
- Read the Branchline
- As always, feel free to call us at 596-2511



Aimee Walat Ext. 100 Pastor Chip Ext. 103 Rev. Paul: Ext. 105 Holiday Shopping Card News PLEASE order ahead for your holiday gift cards! Give them as gifts, or use them for your own shopping! This is a vital fundraising effort for our church! We will be carrying a very limited supply of the following gift cards for the holiday season...

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Amazon **Big Y** Chipotle **Cinemark and Regal Cinemas CVS** Dunkin' Home Depot Lowe's Olive Garden/Longhorn Steakhouse Panera **Starbucks** Stop&Shop Subway Unos Walgreens Walmart

We are trying to reduce our inventory so that we no longer carry multiple retailers and tie up precious funds for the church so please order ahead! Orders will be placed as follows (use order form, or place online at www.shopwithscrip.com which includes list of over 750 retailers available):

<u>Place Your Order By</u> Sunday Dec 6th Sunday Dec 13th Receive Your Cards By Sunday Dec 13th Sunday Dec 20th

Thank you, The Shopping Card Ministry Team Connie, Lisa, Wendy, Candy, Kathy and Tim

#### Family Order Form

#### Wilbraham United Church

orders due on Sunday

Name							Customer	#			
Check #							Order Dat	e			
Clothing & Accessor	ies			Dining - Casual				Discount Store & Ou	tlets		
Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
American Eagle® \$25.00	10%		\$	Boston Market \$10.00	12%		\$	Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		s
Children's Place \$25.00	12%		s	Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25.00	8%		\$	Walmart \$50.00	2.5%		\$
DSW (Designer Shoe	8%		\$	Carrabba's Italian Grill	10%		\$	Electronics & Office			
Varehouse) \$100.00				\$25.00				Product	%	QTY	Total
DSW (Designer Shoe Warehouse) \$25.00	8%		\$	Carrabba's Italian Grill \$50.00	10%		s	Best Buy \$100.00	4%		\$
Famous Footwear \$25.00	8%		\$	Cheesecake Factory \$25.00	5%		\$	Best Buy \$25.00	4%		s
inish Line \$25.00	10%		\$	Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$	GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$
Foot Locker \$25.00	8%		s	Chili's Grill & Bar \$50.00	11%		\$	Office Depot / Office Max \$100.00	5%		s
Gap \$100.00	14%		\$	Chuck E. Cheese's \$10.00	8%		s	Office Depot / Office Max \$25.00	5%		s
Gap \$25.00	14%		\$	Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	Staples \$100.00	5%		s
J. Crew \$25.00	13%		s	Denny's \$10.00	7%		\$	Staples \$25.00	5%		\$
Jos. A. Bank \$25.00	10%		\$	Happy Dining \$25.00	8%		\$	Entertainment		L	
L.Bean \$100.00	16%		\$	IHOP \$25.00	8%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total
L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$	LongHorn Steakhouse	8%		s	Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$
ands' End \$100.00	15%		s	\$25.00				Cinemark Theatres	4%		s
ands' End \$25.00	15%		s	On The Border \$25.00	11%		\$	\$25.00 Cinemark Theatres	8.5%	<u> </u>	s
r.J.	7%		s	On The Border \$50.00	11%		s	Single Admit \$11.00	0.3%		2
Maxx/Marshalls/HomeG oods/Sierra \$100.00				Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	10%		\$	Dave & Buster's \$25.00	13%		\$
T.J. Maxx/Marshalls/HomeG oods/Sierra \$25.00	7%		\$	Outback Steakhouse \$50.00	10%		\$	Regal \$25.00 Regal Premiere e-Ticket	8% 10%		s s
Falbots \$25.00	13%		s	P.F. Chang's China Bistro \$25.00	8%		\$	\$10.50	1070		ľ
Jnder Armour \$25.00	11%		s	Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$	Fast Food			
Department Store			•	Texas Roadhouse	8%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total
Product	%	QTY	Total	\$25.00	0.01			Bruegger's Bagels \$10.00	7%		s
ICPenney \$25.00	5%	seri	s	TGI Fridays \$25.00	9%		s	Burger King \$10.00	4%		\$
(ohl's \$25.00	4%		s	Uno Pizzeria & Grill \$25.00	12%		\$	Chipotle Mexican Grill	10%		\$
Macy's \$100.00	10%		s	Dining - Fine				\$10.00 Chipotle Mexican Grill	10%	<u> </u>	s
Macy's \$25.00	10%		s	Product	%	QTY	Total	\$25.00			-
Nordstrom \$100.00	4%		s	Ruth's Chris Steak House \$50.00	10%		\$	Cold Stone Creamery \$10.00	11%		s
Vordstrom \$25.00	4%		s	Discount Store & Ou	tlets			Dairy Queen \$10.00	3%		s
Dining - Casual	- 10		Ľ	Product	%	QTY	Total	Domino's \$10.00	8%		s
Product	0/	QTY	Total	Burlington \$25.00	8%		\$	Dunkin' Donuts \$10.00	3%		\$
99 Restaurants \$25.00	13%	- Cerri	s	Kmart \$25.00	4%		\$	Dunkin' Donuts \$25.00	3%		\$
Applebee's \$25.00	8%		s	Target \$100.00	2.5%		s	Great Harvest Bread	6%		\$
Applebee's \$50.00	8%		s	Target \$25.00	2.5%		s	\$10.00 Little Caesars Pizza	8%		s

#### Make Checks Payable To: Wilbraham United Church

Total Due All Columns:



\$

#### Family Order Form

#### Wilbraham United Church

orders due on Sunday

Name							Customer	r #			
Check #							Order Da	te		$\neg$	
Fast Food				Health & Beauty				Specialty Retailer			
Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	To
Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		s	ULTA \$25.00	4%		s	American Girl \$25.00	9%		s
Papa John's Pizza \$10.00	8%		s	Walgreens \$100.00	5%	<u> </u>	s	Build-A-Bear Workshop \$25.00	8%		s
Smashburger \$10.00	10%		s	Walgreens \$25.00	5%		S	Container Store \$25.00	9%		s
Starbucks \$25.00	7%		s	Home Decor				Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft	6%		s
Starbucks \$50.00	7%		s	Product	%	QTY	Total	Stores \$25.00 PetSmart \$25.00	5%		s
Subway Restaurants	6%		s	Bed Bath & Beyond \$100.00	7%		s	Vera Bradley \$50.00	7%		s
Subway Restaurants	6%		s	Bed Bath & Beyond \$25.00	7%		s	Sporting Goods & O	utdoors	s	-
\$50.00 sweetFrog \$10.00	10%		s	Crate and Barrel	8%		s	Product	%	QTY	То
Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		s	\$100.00 Crate and Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	Dick's Sporting Goods \$100.00	8%		s
Taco Bell \$25.00	5%		s	Pottery Barn \$100.00	8%		s	Dick's Sporting Goods	8%		\$
Wendy's \$10.00	6.5%		s	Pottery Barn \$25.00	8%		s	\$25.00 REI \$25.00	8%	<u> </u>	s
Gas & Auto				Williams Sonoma	8%		s	Travel			ľ
Product	%	QTY	Total	\$25.00 Home Improvement			L	Product	%	ΩΤΥ	То
AutoZone \$25.00	8%		s	Product	%	ΟΤΥ	Total	Budget Car Rental	8%	QII	s
Jiffy Lube \$30.00	8%		s	Ace Hardware \$25.00	4%		s	\$50.00			ľ
Shell \$25.00	1.5%		S	Home Depot® \$100.00	4%	L	s	Choice Hotels \$100.00	4%		s
Speedway \$25.00	4%		s	Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		s	Choice Hotels \$50.00	4%		\$
Speedway \$50.00	4%		s	Home Depot® \$500.00	4%		s	Delta Air Lines \$250.00	4%		s
Grocery				Lowe's \$100.00	4%	L	s	Disney \$100.00	3%		\$
Product	%	QTY	Total	Lowe's \$25.00	4%	<u> </u>	s	Hilton \$100.00	2%		\$
ShopRite \$100.00	4%		s	The Home Depot®	4%	<u> </u>	s	Southwest Airlines \$250.00	4%		s
ShopRite \$25.00	4%		s	\$100.00	7/0		·				
Stop & Shop (NOT TOPS) \$100.00	4%		s	The Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		s	4			
Stop & Shop (NOT TOPS) \$25.00	4%		s	The Home Depot® \$500.00	4%		s	4			
Stop & Shop (NOT	4%		s	Online Shopping				4			
TOPS) \$50.00 Health & Beauty				Product		QTY	Total	4			
Product	0/	QTY	Total	Amazon.com \$100.00	2.25%		s	4			
Bath & Body Works	70 12%	GII	s	Amazon.com \$25.00	2.25%	<u> </u>	s	4			
\$10.00				Groupon.com \$25.00	7%	<u> </u>	s	4			
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	12%		s	Omaha Steaks \$25.00	11%		s	4			
CVS Pharmacy \$100.00	6%		s	Overstock.com \$25.00	8%		s	1			
CVS Pharmacy \$25.00	6%		s	Shutterfly \$25.00	9%		s				
Great Clips \$25.00	8%		s	Zappos.com \$100.00	8%		s				
		<u> </u>		Zappos.com \$25.00	8%		s				

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## Wilber's Fabulous Adventures



In case you were missing the pageant: I present.... Wilber's Christmas Poultry Pageant

# For unto us a child is born

Isaiah 9:6









## Do you love reading the Branchline?

Would you, a family member or friend like to receive this newsletter by mail? If so, please contact admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org or call Aimee Walat at 413-596-2511 ext. 100.

We would be happy to send along a copy of the Branchline and share all the great happenings here at Wilbraham United Church!

## Who blew a fuse?

## **Coming up in January's Branchline...**

- Information about the Annual Meeting
- Pictures of our incredible congregation
- . Riveting news articles
- . Adorable clip art
- . And more Wilber sightings!



#### Daily Lectionary Scripture References -December 2020 (Year B)

**Tues. Dec. 1** Psalm 79 Micah 4:6-13 Revelation 18:1-10

#### Wed., Dec. 2 Psalm 79 Micah 5:1-5a Luke 21:34-38

**Thurs., Dec. 3** Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Hosea 6:1-6 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

#### **Fri., Dec. 4** Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 Jeremiah 1:4-10 Acts 11:19-26

**Sat., Dec. 5** Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 Ezekiel 36:24-28 Mark 11:27-33

**Sun., Dec. 6** Second Sunday of Advent Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8

#### **Mon., Dec. 7** Psalm 27 Isaiah 26:7-15 Acts 2:37-42

**Tues., Dec. 8** Psalm 27 Isaiah 4:2-6 Acts 11:1-18

#### Wed., Dec. 9 Psalm 27 Malachi 2:10-3:1 Luke 1:5-17

**Thurs., Dec. 10** Psalm 126 Habakkuk 2:1-5 Philippians 3:7-11

#### Fri., Dec. 11 Psalm 126 Habakkuk 3:2-6 Philippians 3:12-16

**Sat., Dec. 12** Psalm 126 Habakkuk 3:13-19 Matthew 21:28-32

**Sun., Dec. 13** *Third Sunday of Advent* Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 *or* Luke 1:46b-55 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

**Mon., Dec. 14** Psalm 125 1 Kings 18:1-18 Ephesians 6:10-17

**Tues., Dec. 15** Psalm 125 2 Kings 2:9-22 Acts 3:17-4:4

Wed., Dec. 16 Psalm 125 Malachi 3:16-4:6 Mark 9:9-13

**Thurs., Dec. 17** Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 2 Samuel 6:1-11 Hebrews 1:1-4

**Fri., Dec. 18** Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 2 Samuel 6:12-19 Hebrews 1:5-14

**Sat., Dec. 19** Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 Judges 13:2-24 John 7:40-52

**Sun., Dec. 20** Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38

Mon., Dec. 21 Luke 1:46b-55 1 Samuel 1:1-18 Hebrews 9:1-14

#### **Tues., Dec. 22** Luke 1:46b-55 1 Samuel 1:19-28 Hebrews 8:1-13

Wed., Dec. 23 Luke 1:46b-55 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Mark 11:1-11

**Thurs., Dec. 24** *Christmas Eve* Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

**Fri., Dec. 25** *Christmas* Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12] John 1:1-14

**Sat., Dec. 26** Psalm 148 Jeremiah 26:1-9, 12-15 Acts 6:8-15; 7:51-60

Sun., Dec. 27 First Sunday after Christmas Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 148 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40

**Mon., Dec. 28** Psalm 148 Jeremiah 31:15-17 Matthew 2:13-18

**Tues., Dec. 29** Psalm 148 Isaiah 49:5-15 Matthew 12:46-50

Wed., Dec. 30 Psalm 148 Proverbs 9:1-12 2 Peter 3:8-13

Thurs., Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 Psalm 8 Revelation 21:1-6a Matthew 25:31-46

Wilbraham United Church	÷	-	December 2020	•		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	-	2	°	4	5
Turkey Trot - Parking Lot 10 am - Worship - FB Live		7:15 pm – Bedtime Bible Stories – FB Live 7:30 pm – Bible Study Happy Hour - Zoom	10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 7:15 pm – Evening Prayer Service – FB Live	10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 5:30 am – Office Hours with Rev. Paul	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed
9	2	8	6	10	7	12
8:45 am – Church School 10 am - Worship – FB Live		3:30 – Office Hours with Rev. Paul 7:15 pm – Bedtime Bible Stories – FB Live 7:30 pm – Bible Study Happy Hour - Zoom	10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 6:45 pm – Staff Meeting - Zoom 7:15 pm – Evening Prayer Service – FB Live	10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 5:30 am – Office Hours with Rev. Paul 7 pm Governing Board - ZH	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed	Holly Fair Cancelled 9:30 am - AJ's Stockings for Love 9:30 am - Thrift Shop - Closed
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8:45 am – Church School 10 am - Worship – FB Live		3:30 – Office Hours with Rev. Paul 7:15 pm – Bedtime Bible Stories – FB Live 7:30 pm – Bible Study Happy Hour - Zoom	10:00 am - Office Hours with Pastor Chip 7:15 pm - Blue Christmas Prayer Service - FB Live	9:15 am – Loaves and Fishes 10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 5:30 am – Office Hours with Rev. Paul	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:45 am – Church School 10 am - Worship – FB Live 12 pm – Church Without Walls	7 pm - Finance Commission - Libr	3:30 – Office Hours with Rev. Paul 7:15 pm – Bedtime Bible Stories – FB Live 7:30 pm – Bible Study Happy Hour - Zoom	10:00 am – Office Hours with Pastor Chip 7:15 pm – Evening Prayer Service – FB Live	4:00 pm – Christmas Eve Service – FB Live	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed
27	28	29	30	31	-	2
10 am - Worship – FB Live		3:30 – Office Hours with Rev. Paul	10:00 am - Office Hours with Pastor Chip 7:15 pm - E vening Prayer Service - FB Live		9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed	9:30 am - Thrift Shop – Closed



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