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# Lawrence County UMC News

DECEMBER  
2024

BEDFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
BEDFORD GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
BEDFORD WESLEY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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## God's Garden

I somehow found a little time to do some necessary repotting and trimming for my indoor plants. As I worked, God reminded how much tending He has to do with me.

- ◆ I sometimes need pruning—My plants work extra hard to push adequate nourishment to dying branches in the hopes of keeping them alive and vibrant. Trouble is, once the dying process starts, there is little that can be done to reverse the process and the extra effort made in the attempt to revive something also results in the denial of needed nutrients to the living parts of the plant. The solution is to cut off the dead or dying parts so that all the plant's energy is devoted to the living parts that remain. I, too, frequently try to hold on to thoughts or behaviors or stuff that no longer serve a useful purpose.
- ◆ My roots start showing—When my plants get too big for their pots, I have to replot them. I'm not a fan of this particular part of indoor horticulture because I inevitably get potting soil all over everything. It **IS** messy, and dirty, and sometimes can require ingenious maneuvers to get the appropriate amount of soil in and around the plant so that it has space to grow, but in the end, both the plant and I are pleased with the result. Exposed human roots are God's way of suggesting that maybe it's time to move on from a place, an attitude, or a behavior and settling somewhere that is more conducive to your development and relationship with God.
- ◆ I stretch in odd ways because I'm not getting enough sun. You've probably already guessed that I, too, need more Son in my life. I'm grateful that God consistently reminds me of this daily requirement for Christian growth.

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And I haven't mentioned the watering, feeding, cleaning, etc. that happens all the time!

We ARE God's garden and He tends us with love, grace, mercy and forgiveness. Under His care, we thrive.

Blessings,  
Pastor Judi

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## Scrooge

Lee Cuba has an important role in the Little Theatre of Bedford's production of *A Christmas Carol*. In honor of his effort, the Advent sermon series this year will be based on *The Redemption of Scrooge* by Matt Rawle. The book is available for purchase if you'd like to follow along.

**SCROOGE**



If you want to see Lee's performance, the theatre is located at 1704 Brian Lane Way and performances are scheduled for:

- ◆ 6 December 2024 - 7:00 pm
- ◆ 7 December 2024 - 2:30 pm
- ◆ 8 December 2024 - 2:30 pm
- ◆ 13 December 2024 - 7:00 pm
- ◆ 14 December 2024 - 7:00 pm
- ◆ 15 December 2024 - 2:30 pm

Tickets can be purchased online at <https://ltb.ludus.com/> or by calling 812-279-3009.

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## Soul Food

Five Soul Food members went to Martinsville to watch candy canes being hand-made at the Martinsville Candy Kitchen. It was really interesting and we got to taste a piece that was still warm. It was delicious. Most of us bought some candy canes or candy cane pieces and some chocolate candies. They had quite a variety of candy and the owner making the candy canes told us about the procedure and about how he and his wife came to own this candy store. On the way home, we stopped in Mooresville at Gray's Bros. for a meal and FREE PIE! All our meals were quite tasty and most of us brought home part of our meals because the servings were huge.

Our book for December 4 is *The Christmas Hummingbird* by Davis Bunn. Our January 8 book is *Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon.

~Linda Schoonmaker



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## Historic Church Tour

Downtown Bedford's Historic Church Tour is Sunday, December 1 from 1:00—4:00 PM. This is a free event and our church is included in the tour. **We still need volunteers to conduct tours of our church!** We also need donations of cookies. If you are able to help with the tours, please be at the church by 1:00 PM.



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## United Methodist Women

Grace UMW will meet at their Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, December 4 at 6:00 PM for a Christmas party. All women are invited to attend. Please bring two gifts (\$10 or less)—one to trade and one for auction.



United  
Women  
in Faith

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## Next Generation

Youth will be baking cookies on Sunday, December 8 and decorating them the following Sunday, December 15. Everyone is invited to go caroling on Friday, December 20 beginning at 6:00 PM; caroling will be on 14th and 15th street.





- 1 Karyn Price
- 7 Cathie Whitted
- 11 Lamar Peterson
- 21 Kristen Bell and William Barnes
- 26 Kay Greenhaw
- 29 Jack Plummer, IV

## UPCOMING Events

December 1, Historic Church tours from 1:00—4:00 PM

December 3, Hospitality Committee at 9:00 AM

December 4, Soul Food at 10:30 AM

December 7, LIFE Fantasia, doors open at 9:00 AM

December 10, Administrative Council at 6:00 PM

December 20, Next Generation Caroling at 6:00 PM

December 21, Longest Night Service, online

December 24, Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 PM

Every Sunday, Chimes Practice, 8: 45 AM

Every Sunday, Choir Practice, 9:30 AM

Last Monday of the month, Euchre at 2:00 PM

Every Tuesday, Men's Breakfast at Bob Evans at 9:00 AM

Every Tuesday, Bible study at 4:00 PM

Every Thursday, Fiber Time at 2:00 PM

### *Bedford First United Methodist Church*

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*Making disciples Jesus  
Christ for the transfor-  
mation of the world.*