

Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year to all

The church office will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019, through Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020. We'll reopen on Jan. 2.

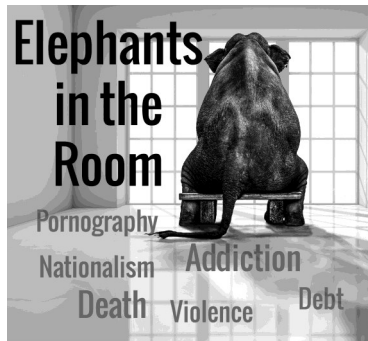
Christmas Eve offering

FEEDING HAITI'S HUNGRY: The humanitarian situation in Haiti, difficult and even dire in "normal" times, has worsened in 2019 because of protests and violence fueled by anger at unending government and economic corruption resulting in scarcity and soaring prices of basic goods, plus crumbling of already poor healthcare infrastructure. People can't work, schools have been shut down, and children are going hungry. Our Christmas offering will support the hunger relief efforts of UMCOR/Eglise Methodiste d'Haiti (Methodist Church of Haiti) and PEARLS in Haiti. Please make out checks to WBLUMC with "Haiti" in the memo line. Get more information online at pearlsinhaiti.org, facebook.com/pearlsinhaiti, eglisemethodistedhaiti.org and umcmmission.org/umcor.



New series starts Jan. 5, 2020

Most of the time people seem to avoid talking about the big things, the things that cast shadows over our lives, consume our attention, threaten us, or cause us to turn away in embarrassment. It's time to talk about the Elephants in the Room: pornography, nationalism, debt, addiction, violence, and death. If you've ever wondered what to say, or dreaded the mention of these topics, this series is for you.



Christmas Carol singalong

We'll have one service at 10am on **Sunday, Dec. 29**, featuring a singalong with our favorite Christmas carols. Sunday school will be on break Dec. 29, returning on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020, at 9am and 10:45am.

Pick up your poinsettias

Thanks to all who bought poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas. You may pick up plants after the **10pm service** on Christmas Eve. Any plants not picked up by **Sunday, Dec. 29**, will be donated.

January 2020 events

- Jan. 1:** Church office closed; no Wednesday night children's and youth activities or adult choirs.
- Jan. 5:** Two services and Sunday school restart; Baking with a Purpose bread pickup with donations going to Bridging.
- Jan. 11:** "YearCompass" special event led by Pastor Bill Eaves
- Jan. 12:** All-church charge conference
- Jan. 19:** Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday, with guest artist Roland Hawkins at 9am Traditions and 10:45am New Crossings
- Jan. 20:** Wild Game dinner, 6pm

Prayer at WBLUMC:

If you would like to request a prayer from the prayer team, please write it on a prayer request card in the pews, or contact Dave Hegdahl at shgdahld2@comcast.net. The **Email Prayer Chain** accepts email requests via a call or email to a pastor or the email prayer chain lead,

WBLUMC STAFF

Bill Eaves, Senior Pastor
bill.eaves@wblumc.org, 763-355-7825 mobile
John McBride, Associate Pastor
Missie Aberle, Next Generation Minister
Lori McBride, Missions & Faith Development Minister

Joan Hartman, Director of Children & Family Ministries
Peteria Cochran Rount, Director of Traditional Music
John Koziol, Jr., Director of Music
Gerald Gurs, Chancel Choir Director

Patricia Kytola, Director of Operations
Lauri Hopple, Administrative Assistant
Lori Hughes, Website & Social Media
Carol Houghtby, Treasurer
Carolyn Keith, Financial Secretary

White Bear Lake
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NOURISHING THE HUNGERS OF LIFE

10pm Worship | Tuesday, December 24, 2019

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE; PLEASE SEE USHERS

• PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE



White Bear Lake
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1851 BIRCH STREET, WBL, MN 55110 | 651-429-9026 | WBLUMC.ORG

Christmas Eve 2019

PRELUDE

“Corelli Pastorale ad Libitum”
Mike and Liz Sobieski, violins; John Koziol, piano

WELCOME

+ OPENING WORDS (responsively)

Here we have come to worship the living God,
whose love casts out fear,
and speaks hope in desolate places,
and gives new life in a barren land.
Thanks be to God for the good things
that God is doing now
in our midst and in the world around us.

Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King!

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.
Come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

+ OPENING CAROL “Joy to the World” No. 246
Verses 1, 2 & 4

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Billy Grant

LESSON The Promise Isaiah 9:2-7
The prophet announces the birth of a child who will bring peace and justice to all people.

ANTHEM “Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” Geistliche Kirchengesang
Chancel Choir arr. Jay Rouse

LESSON The Birth Luke 2:1-7
Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph against a backdrop of emperors and taxes.

ANTHEM “O, Holy Night” Adolphe Adam
Paul Gutmann, baritone

LESSON The Announcement Luke 2:8-14
An angel brings good news to watchful shepherds.

+ CAROL “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” No. 240

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, we give you thanks for all the gifts you have given us. We thank you for safe shelter, plenty of food, healthy friends and family. May we be generous now so that others may know these gifts as well. We pray for all people to be safe, to be healthy, and to have access to food and shelter. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

OFFERTORY “Pastorale” from *The Messiah*
Mike and Liz Sobieski, violins; Peteria Cochran Routt, organ

ANTHEM “Christmas Angel” Corlynn Hanney
Nancy Rausch, soloist

MESSAGE Together Pastor Bill Eaves

+ UNISON READING “The Work of Christmas” Howard Thurman

**When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.**

+ LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
Tip only the unlit candle when lighting. Please keep your candle lit through the singing of “Silent Night.” As you go, please leave the candle in the basket in the narthex.

+ CAROL “Silent Night” No. 239
Violins, Handbells, Choir and Congregation, Organ & Piano
1, 2,3 & repeat 1

+ THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

+ POSTLUDE “Corelli Trio Sonata, Opus 1, No. 7”
Mike and Liz Sobieski, violins; John Koziol, piano

A special thank you to the candle lighters, readers, musicians, soloists and ushers for helping with our service.