

## December

Dec 10 Men's Business Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Dec 11 Seven @ Seven  
Dec 15 Ladies Holiday Party at 7:00; sign up today  
Dec 18 Seven @ Seven  
Dec 24 No Evening Services  
Dec 27 No Ladies Bible Class  
Dec 31 6:00 p.m. devotional followed by New Year's Eve Party in the Fellowship Room—Bring Snacks & Games

## January

Jan 02 Devotional at Winfield Rest Haven; van leaves at 6:30  
Jan 03 Teen Supper in the basement at 6:30 p.m.  
Jan 14 Elders and deacons meet after evening services  
Jan 24 Bring cookies for Winfield Rest Haven

## LADIES HOLIDAY PARTY—FRIDAY at 7:00 p.m.

Ladies, this is your last chance to get in on the Holiday Painting Party. The cost is \$10.00 per person. If you want to participate, please sign up in the foyer and give your money to Jennifer Hines or Vickie Ricke today. We will have some finger foods there, so if you want to bring a snack to share, that is up to you. All you need to bring is yourself. Make sure you sign up today!

## STAY SAFE

Avoid riding in cars because they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.

Do not stay home, because 17% of all accidents occur in the home.

Avoid traveling by air, rail or water; 16% of accidents involve those forms of transportation.

Of the remaining 33%, 32% of deaths occur in hospitals. So, avoid hospitals.

But, you will be pleased to learn that less than .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders.

The safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at church! Bible study is safe too. The percentage of deaths during Bible study is even less.

For safety's sake, attend worship services whenever the doors are open and read your Bible. It could save your life.

PRAYER IS THE KEY OF THE DAY  
AND THE LOCK OF THE NIGHT



## FROM THE PREACHERS DESK

The following is part of an article by Bobby Valentine about the birth of Jesus in the unique eyes of Luke. May times people view church or Jesus as something that only the good and clean obtain. When we look at the Christmas story, it really was a messy one! Nothing seemed to be perfect (or even going a little on track). Jesus' birth was not at all what the world would expect as a king's entrance. Then again, this is no ordinary king. Valentine states:

*"There is, perhaps, an even greater surprise here at the birth of Jesus. This one we may (because of our pious traditions regarding Christmas) overlook even though Luke emphasizes it. In Lk. 2.7 the Evangelist Theologian tells us, "And [Mary] gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger . . ." A few verses later in 2.12 we read, "This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." A few more verses down in 2.16 we learn that the lowly shepherds "went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger."*

*When the Bible repeats something, as Luke has done so here 3x in just a few verses, it is wanting to underline and highlight what is being said. Luke wants his readers to know, and not forget, that the manger is extremely important to the message of Christ's birth.*

*Why? What is so important about this rather mundane point? Luke uses the word fatne 4x in his Gospel – and only he uses the term – the other time is in 13.15. The word means something like "feeding trough!" It is the place the animals eat their food. Luke wants to stress the manger because it makes the same point conveyed by the presence of the shepherds. The feeding trough is Luke's way of telling us that the Messiah, the Promised One of Israel, arrives not in glory and grandeur but in utter destitution. The Messiah is poverty stricken! The Shepherds are there because Jesus is in their class. An older Jesus will say, "Foxes have holes, birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." (Lk 9.58).*

*Remember that Jesus was buried in a borrowed tomb. Laid in a feeding trough as a infant, nowhere to call his home as an adult and not even a place to be buried . . . the Promised Messiah teaches us that God works through the lowly, the powerless and the humble. God works through those who willing sacrifice grandness for the sake of outcasts of our world."*

So remember the next time that you don't get life just perfect. He came for you. Remember the next time you really mess things up. He came for you. Remember the next time you are barely hanging on. He came for you. Remember the next time you have no hope. He came for you!

—Preacher

## FAMILY NEWS

Richard Wartick is in MICU following surgery. Continue to keep him in your prayers.

## PRAYER LIST

Teresa Pierce, Richard Wartick, Rita Carroll, Jim Wilson, Tom McReynolds, Dalton Brownlee, Cecil Drinnen, Scott Callaway, Tim Evans, David Brundage, Matt Norris, Norma Gooch, Eliza Conwell, Larry Helton, Patsy Pierce, Allen Stone, Deedra Bostick, Crystal Anderson, Jack Edwards. *Shut-In's:* Bertha Brown, Jerry Howell, Dorothy Lauterbach, Gene Deffenbaugh, Maxine Cole, Georgia Spencer, Bennie Jefferies.

## CHANGES ARE COMING!!!

Changes are coming to our Life Groups and to Sunday evenings! Starting in January, we will be meeting on Sunday evenings in small groups, both in homes and in the building. The format will be primarily Bible study and discussion, with time for fellowship each week. We hope this will be an opportunity to develop closer ties within the church, as well as a good time to bring others in from outside. This will be done for 12 weeks on a trial basis, to see if it works well for this congregation. Plan to sign up and participate as details are provided. See you at Life Group!



Make plans to join us in the new year for devotionals, fellowship and coffee. We meet every Monday morning at 7:00 a.m. at the No. 7 Coffee Shop.

Check us out!

[Church Website](http://www.wellingtonchurchofchrist.org)

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*Every Sunday during the sermon we offer Children's Church to boys and girls ages 3 years through 2nd grade. They will meet in the library for stories, crafts and learning about Jesus.*



**THE NIGHT BEFORE  
CHRISTMAS: JERUSALEM**

**SUNDAY, 10:30 AM**  
SCRIPTURE READING  
PRAYER  
COMMUNION

USHERS  
CLIPBOARDS  
DISMISSAL PRAYER

**SUNDAY, 6:00 PM**  
PRAYER  
COMMUNION  
DISMISSAL PRAYER

**WEDNESDAY, 7:00 PM**  
LEAD SINGING  
DISMISSAL PRAYER

**ATTENDANCE**  
**SUNDAY—December 3**

BIBLE CLASS.....	64
A.M. WORSHIP.....	107
P.M. WORSHIP.....	NC
CONTRIBUTION.....	\$2,600

**WEDNESDAY—December 6**  
ADULTS...34    TEENS...12    KIDS...9    **TOTAL...55**

**COMMUNION PREP**  
December    Kevin Dodds

**COORDINATOR**  
December    Alan Shields

**ELDERS**  
Rex Harris    Marvin Kline  
Ed Newberry    Tom Norris

**DEACONS**  
Kevin Dodds    Aaron Hines  
Leroy Lewis    Mike Neal  
David Pierce    Alan Shields

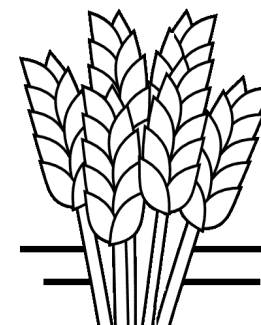
**MINISTER**  
Michael Nelson

**THOSE WHO SERVE**

**December 10**  
Kevin Dodds  
Brian Turney  
Roger Brownlee, Rex Harris  
Joe Church, Parker Dodds  
John Wartick, Chuck Garver  
Riley Nichols, Daniel Garver  
Tom Norris

**December 10**  
Leroy Lewis  
Rex Harris, Joe Church  
Tom Norris

**December 13**  
Tom Norris  
Tom Kirkwood



*“Reaching Inward, Outward  
Upward, Downward”*

**Wellington  
Church of Christ**

217 W. 13th St.    Wellington, KS 67152    620-326-7511

