



PLATTE CITY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Weekly E-News  
December 18, 2024

The Final E-News of 2024!

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[Click here to see Pastor Robert's weekly message](#) - or click on the picture.



### WHAT CHILD IS THIS

We have hopes for Christmas; that everything will go well for our celebrations. But larger than that, we have longings and hopes for life that cannot be satisfied outside of this little baby who is the center of our Christmas celebrations.

- December 01: Wonderful Counselor
- December 08: Mighty God with Christmas Choir Special
- December 15: Everlasting Father with Children's Christmas Program
- December 22: Prince of Peace



- December 24: What Child Is This? Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service, 5 and 7 pm

Join Us On  
*Christmas Eve*  
Communion & Candlelight

PLATTE CITY  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
PASTOR ROBERT SEFRIT  
14040 N Highway

December 24, 2024  
*Christmas Eve*

WHAT *Child* IS THIS  
Services at 5 pm and 7 pm

*Be sure to snap a Family Christmas Photo in Fellowship Hall before, after & between each service.*

**Christmas**  
**Special Offering**

The Offering will pay off the past due balances of lunch accounts at Platte City Elementary Schools  
Over \$45,000 is past due in the district (not a typo!!)  
Special envelopes will be available or make a note on your check or other envelope.

**Will you help with the Christmas Eve Services?**

Several helpers, especially Readers, are still needed. Call or text the office if you can help with either service.

**Christmas Holiday Information (also on Calendar below)**

- Office Open 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, Monday, December 23; Monday, December 30; Thursday, January 2. Return to normal hours on Monday, January 6 (Monday through Thursday, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm)
- No E-News the weeks of December 25 or January 1
- All 2024 financial contributions must be in the office by noon on December 30 to be credited to 2024.



**Christmas Choir Special Music on December 8**

*"Breath of Heaven - Mary's Song" and "A Celtic Noel - The First Noel"*

Featuring a solo by Calla Sefrit and Sarah Parker on flute; Directed by Ted Hanman

Thanks for sharing your talents!



**Children's Program, "the Tale of the Drowsy Shepherd" was presented on December 15**

Thanks to all the helpers with the children and with the snacks, and especially to Janice Popejoy, Director and Delinda Rhyne.





Thank you for your Generous Support of the 2024 Angel Tree Families! The gifts for 10 families were given to a local teacher on Monday. As you know, we learned of another family in need on Tuesday. Since that time, you have shared \$300 in Amazon gift cards and \$375 cash. Gifts have been purchased and will be shipped directly to the family in time for Christmas!

**Thank You! Thank You!!**



**On Sunday, January 12, following the 10 am service, we will have an All Church Conversation and Potluck Meal**

The purpose of this conversation is to help us begin to discern our next steps as a church. During this All Church Conversation we will have opportunities to talk at our tables and share our ideas and hopes and dreams for the church. Through this process we will narrow our focus down to a few areas that we want to work on in 2025 and in the future. We value your prayerful in-put and consideration of where God might be leading us in 2025 and beyond.

The Leadership Council will provide the main dishes. We invite everyone else to bring a side dish.

Thank You!

### Worship in January & Beyond

As you might recall, in order to make room for the people who are already here and to plan for future growth, we are making plans to have two Sunday morning worship services. Slightly over 50 percent of those responding to our survey said they are best able to connect with God through traditional worship. The rest of those surveyed find contemporary or blended worship (a combination of contemporary songs and hymns) helps them best connect with God.



As a result of all this, The Leadership Council and Pastor Robert decided to move to the following worship schedule with the aim of starting in the month of January:

- 9 am - Traditional Worship
- 10 to 10:45 am - Social Gathering in Fellowship Hall
- 10:45-11:45 am - Blended Worship

However, in January we will continue with our one 10 am Traditional service until a Blended Service Worship leader is hired. If you or if you know someone who is interested in this ministry position resumes may be sent to [plattecityumc@gmail.com](mailto:plattecityumc@gmail.com). You can see the ad that has been used posted below.

Once a Blended Worship leader is hired, we will begin to move toward our new schedule. At that time will continue to offer Children's Sunday School lessons during the 9 am Traditional Service identical to how it is now.

Unfortunately, at this time, we only have enough children's ministry volunteers for the 9 am Traditional Service. For the 10:45 Blended Service, we would like to offer a time for children to worship together through music and activities that build on that week's lesson. This would not be a repeat of the Sunday School lesson offered at the 9:00am Traditional Service but a continuation of the lesson. **In order for us to offer this during the 10:45 Blended Service, we will need some more volunteers. We are encouraging the families who utilize this service to be Safe Gathering Certified and rotate facilitating Children's Worship at the 10:45 service.** If you would be willing to do this or would like more information please contact Carrie VanNess ([cvanness05@gmail.com](mailto:cvanness05@gmail.com)).

Have you downloaded and completed your Profile and Picture in the Instant Church Directory?  
(If you've already added a picture, you can update or make a change anytime.)

[You can read instructions for all devices here.](#)



**Children's Church (Sunday School)**  
**NO Children's Church or Nursery on December 29**

The December unit is "CHRISTMAS" from the books of Matthew and Luke.

[Click here to check out the Children's page on the website for full details.](#)

The December Memory Verse is from our Bible Buddy, Olivia, the owl:  
*"For this is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only son"~ John 3:16*

LIFT is offered to students in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade and meets each Tuesday that school is in session, from 4 pm to 5:30 pm.

**Final LIFT for 2024 on December 17 was celebrated with a Christmas Party!**  
**We'll see you all on January 7, 2025!**

In December, lessons will focus on "Christmas Storytellers: We Prepare for Jesus Together".  
[Click here to check out all the details on the Children's page of the website.](#)



Transportation to the church is available from Compass and Siegrist schools. Parents pick up kids at 5:30.

Contact Delinda for more info - [pcumcchildrensministry@gmail.com](mailto:pcumcchildrensministry@gmail.com).

**Always a Good Time! Invite your Friends!**

# IGNITE YOUTH

## IGNITE YOUTH MISSION

Ignite a generation of current and future leaders who are ready to go out and transform the world through gospel-driven programs that promote leadership, community, and service.

## IGNITE YOUTH VISION

- Gospel-Driven: At the heart of everything we do.
- Community: You belong here. We are a community doing life together. All are welcome.
- Leadership: Students are given the opportunity to lead within the organization, community, and world.
- Service: We will serve together in the community through mission trips and community activities.

Youth Group meets on Sunday evenings at 6.  
**No Youth Group on December 29 or January 5.**

All students in Middle School and High School are invited to attend.

In December, join us for "*Remember When*", a 3-week series from the Gospels looking at the Christmas story to see how something we may have heard long ago can still help us grow today.

[Click here to read all the details on the Youth page of the website.](#)



The Youth Group is looking for volunteers that would like to be a part of meetings on Sundays from 6 to 8 pm. If you would like to be a mentor to our youth please contact Carrie VanNess at [cvanness05@gmail.com](mailto:cvanness05@gmail.com) or call the church office for more details.

If you are looking for another way to be involved, the youth group is also looking for volunteers to provide dinner on Sundays beginning in September. There is a signup in Fellowship Hall.



## Apartment Update from Kayla Laderoute

We have a new resident in our apartment at Hillcrest! Her name is Raelynn. She is involved in Pawsperity, a dog grooming certification program where she is training to be a groomer. It is an excellent job training program. On her days off, she volunteers at Hillcrest Thrift Store in Platte City. Please keep Raelynn in your prayers and pray for her success in the program.

## WORSHIP LEADER NEEDED

PCUMC is currently looking for a part-time  
Worship Leader for the new  
Sunday 10:45 am Blended Worship Service,  
beginning January 2025.

This person will provide lead vocals as well  
as recruit and provide leadership for  
a worship band.

For more information or to apply, please contact us  
or send your resume using the info above.

**Sunday, December 22**

**Message - What Child Is This? Prince of Peace**

- 10 am - Worship in the Sanctuary. Watch online at You Tube and Facebook Live.
- 11 am (following worship) - Short meeting for all Christmas Eve Worship Helpers
- 6 pm - Youth Group Gathering

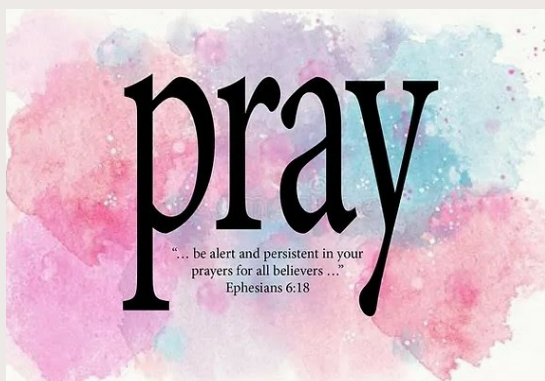
**Mark Your Calendar**

- Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Worship Services at 5 pm and 7 pm - Opportunity for Family pictures before, after and between services.
- Christmas Office Schedule:
  - Open 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, Monday, December 23; Monday, December 30; Thursday, January 2. Return to normal hours on Monday, January 6 (Monday through Thursday, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm)
  - No E-News the weeks of December 25 or January 1
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**2025**

- Sunday, January 5 - Retirement Party for Delinda Rhyne, following Worship
- Sunday, January 12 - All Church Conversation & Potluck following Worship (see details above)



One of the clearest marks of a healthy church is a commitment to prayer. Prayer binds us together. Prayer helps us grow closer to God. Prayer shapes who we are and what we do. Prayer changes things.

- Every Tuesday at noon, The Prayer Team meets in the Prayer Chapel.
- Every Wednesday afternoon, the



**Our Mission**

To make new disciples of Jesus Christ for  
the transformation of the world.

Prayer Chain email group receives a list of Prayer Concerns. If you would like to be a part of this Prayer Ministry, please respond to this email or call the church office.

As always, if you have prayer requests, you may complete a Prayer Request Card or contact the church office or Pastor Robert.

**Our Vision**  
**Ignite: Faith. Hope. Love**

PCUMC is a place where FAITH is kindled, HOPE is ignited, and God's LOVE burns bright through us into our church, community, and world.



You can view past worship services any time using these links.

Click [here](#) for all staff email addresses & updates from the CDC.  
Click [here](#) for info about giving options and [here](#) for an form to schedule automatic payments.



Platte City United Methodist Church | [www.platteciumc.com](http://www.platteciumc.com)



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