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## *Come to our Christmas Workshop*

We are hosting a community-wide Christmas Workshop on Saturday, December 5 from 9 a.m. till noon. We will serve breakfast, have a variety of craft workshops, and offer a gift shop for children to choose gifts for their parents. Invite your friends, bring your family, and come to this fun holiday event!



## *Come Hear the Orchestra*

The Lake Area Community Orchestra will present their 2015 Winter Concert here at West Lake Christian Church on Sunday, December 6 at 7:00 p.m. They will entertain you with a variety of Christmas music, including *On This Day Earth Shall Ring*, *A Carol Triptych*, *Santa's Journey*, *Pat-A-Pan*, plus a 50th Anniversary tribute to *The Sound of Music*.

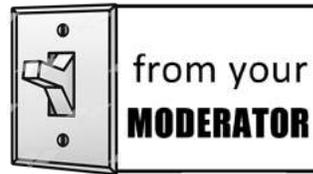
Come enjoy a wonderful evening of music. This is a free concert for the community though we will offer a free-will donation for the orchestra. Be sure and stay for refreshments following the concert.

## *Come Join Us for Christmas Eve*



We will celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, with a service of candlelight, communion and song on Thursday, December 24 at 5:30 p.m. Come discover when heaven came down to Earth.





The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus the Christ. It is celebrating a truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God. Advent also symbolizes the spiritual journey of individuals and a congregation, as we affirm that Christ has come, that He is present in the world today, and that He will come again in power. That acknowledgment provides a basis for Kingdom living, arising from a profound sense that we live "between the times" and are called to be faithful stewards of what is entrusted to us as God's people.

So, as we celebrate Christmas as God's entrance into "our" world where "all creation is groaning awaiting its redemption," we confess our responsibility as those called into relationship with Christ to "love the Lord your God with all your heart" and to "love your neighbor as yourself."

The Christmas story is a story of love, hope, redemption and relationship. So, what happened? How did it turn into stuff, stress and debt?

Can Christmas still change the world? It is a question each of us must answer, as individuals and as a congregation. As you celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ this season remember there are many who do not know of the love, hope and redemption that comes through relationship with Jesus.

We have a mission. That mission is "Helping others know Jesus Christ through our words and actions."

May the Spirit of Christ fill your hearts and your homes always.

Love in Jesus,  
Kelly

As part of my daily routine, I use "The Secret to Abundant Living: Learning How to Ask" as a great way to start the day. Recently the suggested reading was: Romans 12:4-8 and I found the Easy-to-Read Version (ERV) interesting.

"4 Each one of us has one body, and that body has many parts. These parts don't all do the same thing. 5 In the same way, we are many people, but in Christ we are all one body. We are the parts of that body, and each part belongs to all the others.

6 We all have different gifts. Each gift came because of the grace God gave us. Whoever has the gift of prophecy should use that gift in a way that fits the kind of faith they have. 7 Whoever has the gift of servicing should serve. Whoever has the gift of teaching should teach. 8 Whoever has the gift of comforting others should do that. Whoever has the gift of giving to help others should give generously. Whoever has the gift of leading should work hard at it. Whoever has the gift of showing kindness to others should do it gladly." (Underlining is mine.)

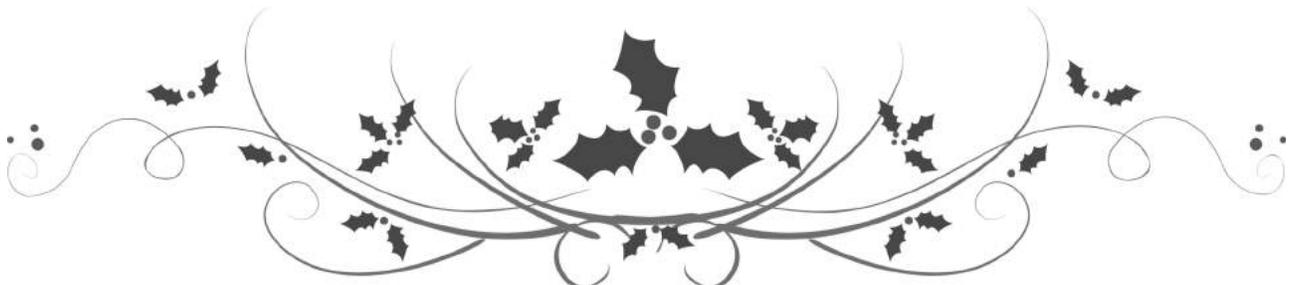
On a next page in this Newsletter, you will find a list of folks who have stepped up to share many of those underlined gifts for our church. Now "they" could use some help and suggestions in trying to share those gifts, so why not contact one or two of them to let them know you share the gift described above. Their phone numbers are included – how could we make it any easier?

Paul went on to say: "So I beg you, brothers and sisters, because of the great mercy God has shown us, offer your lives as a living sacrifice to him..... Considering what he has done, it is only right."

Before we chat again, you will have celebrated one of the greatest days the world has ever seen – Jesus's birthday.

Have a Merry Christmas.

Kent Elliott



# Congregational Meeting



**Sunday, December 13, 2015**

We will be voting to approve the 2016 Spending Plan along with the election of the 2016 Officers, Board Members (Committee Chairs), and Elders.

Please plan on staying after the worship service for this very important meeting held in the sanctuary.

## 2016 Nominations for Officers and Committee Chairs

<b>Moderator</b>	Kent Elliott	723-2071
<b>Vice Moderator</b>	Carroll Rinker	374-5996
<b>Board Secretary</b>	Sharon King	374-5018
<b>Treasurer</b>	Charlie Turner	374-4805

<b>Committee Chairs</b>		
<b>Building/Grounds</b>	Nip Mohler	374-4184
<b>Church Growth</b>	Norma Johnson	207-0546
<b>Communications</b>	Mary Elliott	723-2071
<b>Education</b>	Carrol Lowrance	873-5040
<b>Stewardship</b>	Joe Proch	374-9217
<b>Worship</b>	Chris Turner	374-4805

### Elders

Jim Arnold	Gerri Beard	Jack Chapman
Susan Chapman	Carol Easter	Kent Elliott
Mary Elliott	Cindy Hoch	Herb Keck
Joyce Keck	Peggy Lippitt	Carrol Lowrance
Mel McKeown	Nip Mohler	Carroll Rinker
Mike Thrams	Susan Thrams	

## Securing Our Future in 2016

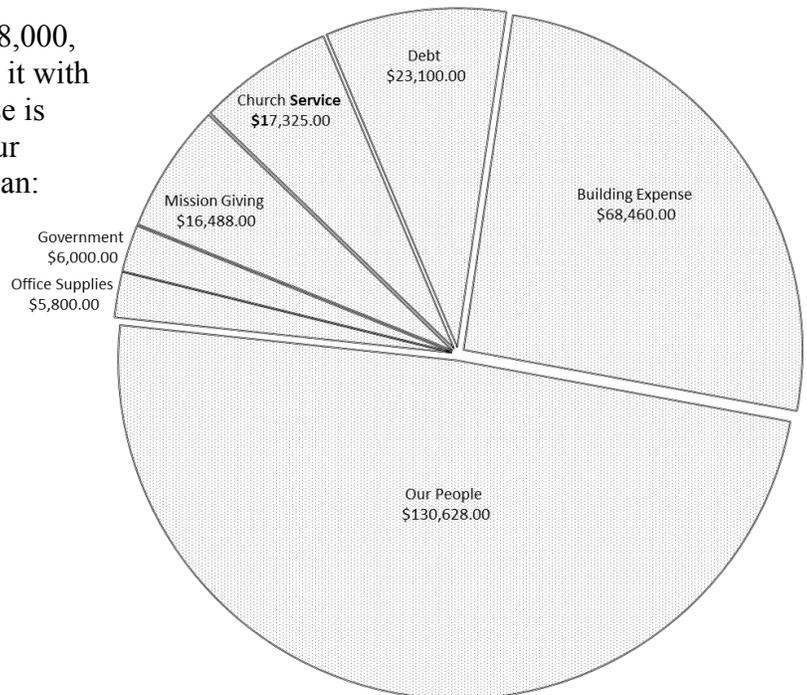
“If we locked our doors today and never came back, would the community notice?” That was the question Kelly asked last year and the year before. Your answer is the measure of our success in our efforts to take the love of Christ to our community. 2014 saw 26 new members and 18 so far in 2015.

At our December 13, 2015 Congregational meeting we will be voting on the Spending Plan for 2016 and asking you to confirm by vote those who have committed themselves to help lead this congregation for next year.

This year’s spending plan is more than \$268,000, and remember, it is a plan - you have to support it with your gifts to make it happen. The major increase is for our building and grounds, our people, and our church services. Here is a little picture of the plan:

More details will be provided at the Congregational Meeting on December 13, right after the worship service in the sanctuary. See you there.

Kent Elliott  
Moderator



## Christian Women's Fellowship



*All  
women of  
West Lake  
Christian Church  
are invited to the  
Christian Women's Fellowship  
Christmas Luncheon  
on Tuesday, December 8, 2015  
11:30 a.m. at The Club  
at Indian Rock Golf Course  
Lunch is \$12.00  
RSVP to Mary Cline  
by November 30  
573-374-8167*

## Attention Diaconates

The following persons have been and I pray will continue to be Diaconates for the coming year. If for some reason you cannot serve, please call me before I do the scheduling for the first four months of 2016.

We would welcome anyone who would like to become a new Diaconate in 2016.

Nancy Milburn  
573-873-5039

Bobbie Aubuchon  
Mary Cline  
Mary Ellen Flinn  
James Harrod  
Ed Mock  
Rick Pace  
Betty Snitker  
Kathie Williams  
John & Lisa Harris  
Greg & Donna Kissell  
Joe & Peggy Proch  
Randy & Karen Shackelford  
Charlie & Chris Storm

Joy Baze  
Kent Elliott  
Diane Gilmore  
Norma Johnson  
Coleen Modglin  
Norm Richardson  
Sue Wentz  
Mike & Beckie Huckriede  
Ed & Nancy Milburn  
Ron & Marilyn Rothove  
Kirk & Karen Storm



Do you have questions about prayer? Want to deepen your prayer life? Wonder how you can effect change for the better in your church, your community and the world?

Despite God's promise of the power of prayer to change our world, many of us never experience this. Join a study of this book by John Maxwell to learn together how to have a more effective prayer life and build a prayer partners team to support our pastor, grow our congregation, minister to our community and change our world.

When: Tuesdays 9-11 a.m. OR 6-8 p.m.  
(same info in each group)

Where: Choir Room  
Leader: James Harrod

Join the group at any time.



*Christmas  
Fellowship Dinner*

We invite you to our Christmas Fellowship Dinner following the worship service on Sunday, December 20. We will furnish the ham and the congregation is asked to contribute salads, vegetables, and desserts. We hope you will join us for this annual holiday tradition.



## Salvation Army Bell Ringing

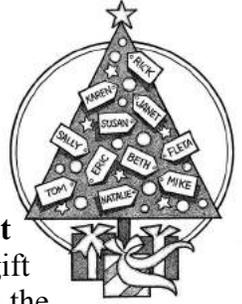
Hi Everybody-

I'll be looking for you with bells and clipboard in hand! I have two-hour time slots (from 9:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m.) to fill. We start November 23 and end Christmas Eve! Hope to see you at G2M. My phone numbers are 573-374-0662 or 573-286-7617.

Nancy Pate

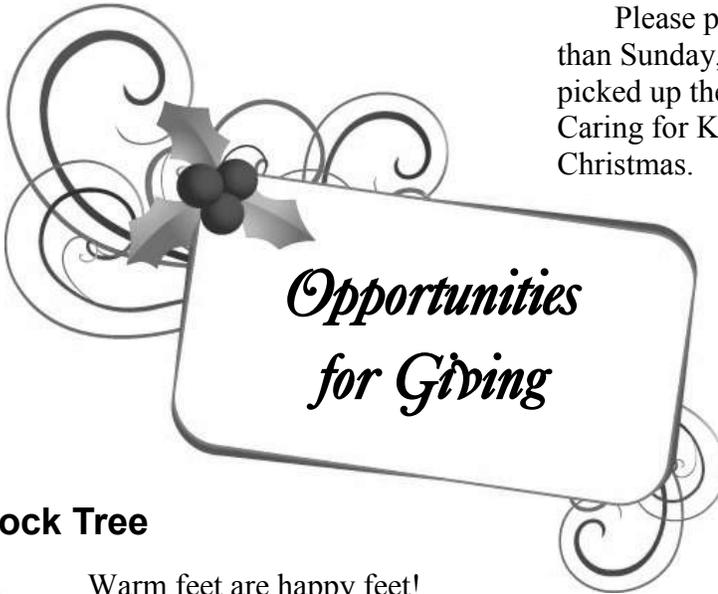
## Children's Giving Tree

This special tree is decorated with numbered paper ornaments. **Select an ornament, sign the clipboard with your name, your phone number, and the ornament number.** All presents need to be gift wrapped and bundled together, and the **ornament taped to them.**



Please place the gifts around the tree no later than Sunday, December 20. The gifts will be picked up the next day by the Morgan County Caring for Kids Coalition for distribution before Christmas.

Thank you for your generosity. If you have any questions, please call Sharon King at 374-5018.  
Worship Committee



## Sock Tree

Warm feet are happy feet! Whether they are big or small, short or tall, fill our Sock Tree with all sizes and styles of socks for LAMB House.

We are very blessed to have such a wonderful staff here at West Lake Christian Church. In December we will be honoring our staff with love gifts to thank them for all they do all year long.

Our staff includes:

- Kelly Caldwell, Pastor
- Sandy White, Administrative Assistant
- Marilyn Rothove, Financial Assistant
- Scott Huckriede, Custodian
- Dona Johnson, Music Coordinator
- Sharon King, Pianist



## Special Christmas Offering

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of

Mid-America has had quite a year of transition! We are grateful to everyone who planned, promoted, and implemented the transformation from four separate Areas into one unified Region.

We lift up prayers for Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism efforts, Women's Ministries, New Church Starts, Youth Ministries, Men's Ministries, Disaster Preparedness, Outdoor Ministries, Leadership Development, and our Disciples Care Team.

We ask that you support these important and varied missions with your prayers, involvement, and your financial gift this Christmas. Our **2015 Special Christmas Offering** to support the ministries of our Region, will be taken on **Sunday, December 13, 2015.**



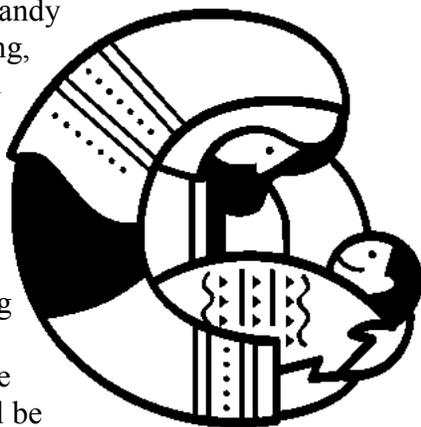
## Gifts for the Staff

If you would like to contribute to the love gifts for any or all of these people, you may give them to Pat Roberts or place them in the individual bags in the parlor by **Sunday, December 20.** We will celebrate our staff at the Fellowship Dinner that day.

Worship Committee

## Small Packages, Big Things!

Remember that candy commercial declaring, “Big things come in small packages”? The prophet’s message to tiny Bethlehem is similar: “Though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel” (Micah 5:2, NIV).



We’ve all felt too small for a certain role: too little to play with the big kids... too skinny to make the football team... short on the skills needed for a choice assignment. Perhaps we fear our gift of money is too little to make a difference, or that small amount of time we can volunteer isn’t even worth it.

But God brings big things out of “small packages.” From a newborn baby - merely six to eight pounds of helplessness - God brought salvation for the whole world. Rest assured, he’ll do big things through you, too.



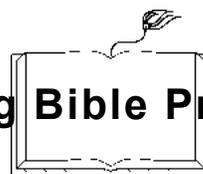
## Church Directory Addition

### New Member:

**Kathryn Casteel** joined 11/15/15  
573-529-777  
184 Myra Dr.  
Laurie, MO 65037

Please be sure to make these additions in your directory so that you will always have the most current information. Thank you. Sandy White

## Applying Bible Principles



“Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work — this is a gift of God.” (Ecclesiastes 5:19)

Don’t you just love gifts? There is great satisfaction both in getting gifts and in giving them. Since we are created in the image of God, it stands to reason that He also must take great delight in giving and receiving gifts.

All that we have comes from His hand, but in particular, Solomon indicated that money and riches and the ability to enjoy them are gifts from God. In other words, God gives us that which is rightfully His, and then He allows us the enjoyment of wealth and money. As we enjoy what He has entrusted to us, no doubt He takes great pleasure in our enjoyment if our actions are in conformity to His Word and His will.

How can we be sure that our enjoyment of money and wealth is according to God’s plan? The Bible contains a great deal of specific instruction as to how we are to use money, but this guiding principle is to motivate our entire lives, including the use and enjoyment of wealth: “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” (1 Corinthians 10:31)

There’s nothing wrong with money. There’s nothing wrong with enjoying the things that money can buy. Solomon was correct when he said that both are gifts from God. The key is to use money in such a way that our enjoyment will bring glory to God. One of the primary ways to do that is to give to the Lord and His work here at West Lake Christian Church.

During the past few months, have you kept God’s glory — especially giving to Him — as the number one priority in your use of money? Or have other things taken the place of your giving to God?

Copies of the monthly Board Minutes and Financials are always available in the church office.



If you wish to purchase a red or white poinsettia from the Worship

Committee, fill out this order form with your name and the name of the person you wish to honor. Place your form and check in the Worship mail slot in the reception office. The cost is \$10 for each poinsettia.

Poinsettia Order Form	
Name	_____
In Memory of	_____
In Honor of	_____
Number of poinsettias @ \$10 each	_____ Total \$ _____
Red poinsettia	_____ White poinsettia _____



### From Our Parish Nurse

Betty Greenley



LRHS Parish Nurse Network  
Wellness Tip of the Month

## Diabetes

### WHAT IS IT?

Diabetes is a group of diseases marked by high levels of blood glucose resulting from lack of insulin production or the inability of the body to use insulin effectively.

Types of Diabetes include:

1. Type 1 - the body does not produce insulin.
2. Type 2 - the body does not use insulin properly and is combined with an insulin deficiency.
3. Gestational Diabetes - occurs during pregnancy.
4. Pre-diabetes - a person's blood glucose levels are higher than normal (100-120), but not high enough for a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes (120 and above).

Symptoms include:

1. Frequent urination
2. Excessive thirst
3. Extreme hunger
4. Unusual weight loss
5. Increased fatigue
6. Irritability
7. Blurry vision

### STATISTICS

1. 29.1 million people have Diabetes-one in eleven people.
2. Over 1.4 million new cases/year in ages 18-79.
3. It's the 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death.

### COMPLICATIONS

Complications of diabetes include heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, diabetic neuropathy (numbness or pain in the hands or feet), kidney disease, blindness, amputations, dental disease, and pregnancy complications.

### TREATMENT

See your family doctor if you have any of the symptoms described. He/she will do some blood work to see if you have diabetes. If you do have diabetes, then medications, diet changes, and exercise may be recommended.

### PREVENTION

1. Exercising 30 minutes a day
2. Maintaining a good BMI weight (18.5-24.9)
3. Eating a healthy diet



# A NOTE OF THANKS...



Dear Church Family,

Each prayer, kind word, and act of kindness you did during Mom's illness and death was much appreciated. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and caring. It is truly a blessing to belong to such a wonderful church.

Blessings,  
Shelby and John Conley



A big thank you to all who signed up to donate food for the Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner at the Senior Center. Your generosity blessed many people.

Coleen Modglin  
Food Assignment Coordinator

The following names have been in need of our prayers. Please call the church office if you would like a name on the prayer list. Names will be taken off the list after one month, but you are always welcome to request that the name be added again.

- Jim Arnold
- Betty Bailey - Joe Proch's sister
- LeAnn Beard - Gerri Beard's niece
- Stacy Bennett - Maggie Houdek's niece
- Ivene Burnett
- Terry Cooper
- Carolyn Garrison - Vicki Hanrahan's friend
- Arnold Hancock
- Phyllis Hill
- Maggie Houdek
- Mike Jones - Hofer's friend
- Kay Kastner
- Patricia & Ericka Kenyon
- Deseree Lintz - Dolly Mill's granddaughter
- Barb Lucietta
- Bill Manns
- Gerrie Mikolitch - Jack Hanrahan's aunt
- Mel McKeown
- Ginger Norman
- Alene Reed
- Bill Rosche
- Mike Thrans
- Linda Thomson - Maggie Houdek's sister
- Bill Vaughn
- Aiden & Amanda Williams
- Mick Williams
- Nick Wilmurth - Linda Milburn's son
- Doris Yates

### The Knolls & Laurie Care Center

- Helen Blackwell
- Maxine Ellis
- Stanley Field
- Lorene Wilcox



### December Birthdays

- 4..... Marty McGinnis
- 6..... Mary Alice Geise
- 6..... Lynn Hicklin
- 13..... Judith Richardson
- 13..... Betty Snitker
- 14..... Donna Killion
- 19..... Louise Bailey
- 19..... Shirley Hunter
- 24..... John Gazaway
- 25..... Clara Rosche
- 31..... Betty Greenley

### December Anniversaries

- 1..... Jack & Vicki Hanrahan
- 19..... Lenny & Sharon Hofer
- 21..... Ross & Nancy Carbonell
- 31..... Fred & Mary Cline

If your birthday or anniversary is not included, please notify the church office.



We mourn the loss of Arlene Mohler on October 28, 2015. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Nip and his family.



# DECEMBER

2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Sunday Morning Schedule</u></p> <p>9:00 a.m. Bible Study 101, Small Group            9:30 a.m. Parables, Elementary, Youth            10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship</p>		<p><b>1</b></p> <p>9:00 Partners in Prayer</p> <p>6:00 Partners in Prayer</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p> <p>5:00 Praise Team</p> <p>6:30 Supper &amp; Soul</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>9:00 Christmas Workshop</p>  <p>7:00 NA</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>  <p>7:00 Orchestra Concert</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise            9:30 Prayer Ministry</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>9:00 Partners in Prayer</p> <p>11:30 CWF Luncheon</p>  <p>6:00 Partners in Prayer</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p> <p>5:00 Praise Team</p> <p>6:30 Supper &amp; Soul</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>6:00 Elders</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>7:00 NA</p>
<p><b>13</b></p> <p>11:30 Congregational Meeting</p>  <p>Community For Christ Food Drive</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise            9:30 Prayer Ministry</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>9:00 Partners in Prayer</p> <p>4:00 Church Growth</p> <p>6:00 Partner in Prayer</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p> <p>12:00 Newsletter Deadline</p>  <p>5:00 Praise Team</p> <p>6:30 Supper &amp; Soul</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>7:00 NA</p>
<p><b>20</b></p>  <p>11:45 Christmas Fellowship Dinner</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise            9:30 Prayer Ministry</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>9:00 Partners in Prayer</p> <p>9:00 Newsletter Folding</p> <p>6:00 Partners in Prayer</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p> <p>5:00 Praise Team</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>  <p>5:30 Christmas Eve Service</p> <p>Office is closed</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>  <p>Christmas Day</p> <p>Office is closed</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>7:00 NA</p>
<p><b>27</b></p> <p>CHRISTMAS Joy</p> 	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise            9:30 Prayer Min.</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>9:00 Partners in Prayer</p> <p>6:00 Partners in Prayer</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p> <p>5:00 Praise Team</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>New Year's Eve</p> <p>Welcome 2016!</p>  <p>Office is closed</p>		

**West Lake Christian Church** (Disciples of Christ)

936 Hwy. O  
Laurie, MO 65037  
(573) 374-0647

“Address Service Requested”



Website: [www.westlakechristianchurch.org](http://www.westlakechristianchurch.org)  
Phone: 573-374-0647  
Fax: 573-374-8195  
Office Hours: Mon-Thu 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Ministry Team**

Kelly Caldwell, Pastor  
Email: [Pastor@westlakechristianchurch.org](mailto:Pastor@westlakechristianchurch.org)  
Sandy White, Church Secretary  
Email: [Westlakechristianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:Westlakechristianchurch@gmail.com)  
Marilyn Rothove, Financial Associate  
Email: [Marilyn@westlakechristianchurch.org](mailto:Marilyn@westlakechristianchurch.org)  
Dona Johnson, Music Coordinator  
Betty Greenley, Parish Nurse

Presorted Standard  
Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 14



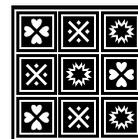
**Elders Meeting Date Change**

The Elders meeting in December will be on Thursday the 10th at 6:00 p.m. Current Elders will be hosting the new 2016 Elders with a Christmas party.



**Would you like a set of pre-printed offering envelopes for 2016?**

Call Sandy at the church office and let her know if you want monthly or weekly offering envelopes.



Total funds raised from the sale of quilt raffle tickets was \$900. Congratulations to Peggy Lippitt for winning this year's quilt.

Our mid-week worship service will not meet on Wednesday, December 23 or 30.

We will start up again on January 6 at 6:30 p.m. in Loehr Center.



Due to the holidays, the church office will be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, December 24 and 25, and also on New Year's Eve, December 31.

The staff wishes you a very Merry Christmas and Joyful New Year!

**KELLY Sandy Marilyn Scott**  
*Dona Sharon*

