



# New Glimpses

December, 2025

Volume 17, Issue 12

## A Word From Pastor Jamieson

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### December Sermon Schedule

#### Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 2025

Peace - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Pastor Carol Preaching

#### Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 2025

Joy – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Matthew 11:2-11  
Called into the Wild

#### Dec 21<sup>st</sup> 2025

Love – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Matthew 1:18-25  
Love vs Real Life

#### Dec 28<sup>th</sup> 2025

First Sunday of Christmas  
Luke 2:8-21

“IS THERE ANYONE WHO KNOWS WHAT CHRISTMAS IS ALL ABOUT?!”

### Winter Star by E.J. Prevoznak

The Winter Star floats on the horizon, but I didn't care. In gloom of early winter's bleak gloom, I couldn't see. The night's horizon not believing I have a prayer. But the Winter Star leapt up and told me I could be free. I say to the crew, “drop the chains of the past for we cannot sail onward.” For I know it will guide me to my savior's grace Point us toward that star ahead and for all our hearts adored. Where in faith his birth will lead to a new embrace Of the forgiveness I set out to find Winter Star followed by so many wayfarers on a course no longer undefined

“Advent and Christmas are different.”, a common refrain uttered by many church leaders this time of year. I don't remember having an Advent calendar growing up. Perhaps if I did, I would have understood that Advent isn't Christmas and wouldn't have needed someone explaining to me that Advent and Christmas are different. I just cared about all the trappings that come with the season. The continuous supply of hot chocolate, cookies, and turkey / stuffing / and cranberry sauce sandwiches not caring too much about the waiting part of Advent. Just get me to the fun stuff. But there is beauty in the waiting, and we can explore this together.

Advent is the beginning of our worship year so that we may explore new Scripture that presents God's story of love and grace revealed to us. The Advent 2025 theme for United Church of Beloit is “Between Hope and Memory”. It is inspired by Elie Wiesel's Nobel lecture where he writes:

*“Without memory, our existence would be barren and opaque, like a prison cell into which no light penetrates; like a tomb which rejects the living. Memory saved the Best, and if anything can, it is memory that will save humanity. For me, hope without memory is like memory without hope.”*

This sermon series will help us in our faith journey by exploring places we remember yet longing for the echoes of something more. Together with our Advent devotional and book study, we will be able to pray and hear God's word in meaningful ways.

As the holiday season earnestly begins every year, the distractions of the season confuse us, and we get lost in the dark nights of the wilderness that John the Baptist warns us about. can be so dark so we pray that we can keep our focus on the light of Christ. We feel the love and comfort of family and we feel the loneliness and sadness of loss. The comfort and temptation to dwell in these memories is powerful, but Advent is not about staying still. The candles of the Advent wreath are like lamp posts pointing us towards the hope that are beyond memories.

Jesus is coming! Whose responsibility is it to “prepare the way” and get ready? Let us pray that Christ call us onto this road for we shall not wait here. Week 1 of Advent points directly at Christ's coming where we find hope and encouragement as Paul exhorts us to “lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.” (Rom 13:11-14). Week 2 of Advent, John the Baptist cries out to us to proclaim there is a voice crying out in the wilderness (Matthew 3:1-12). Will we hear it? Week 3 of Advent, or Gaudete Sunday, is always an occasion of joy with special music. However, these Scripture lessons bring an expectation of patience to wait for the coming of the Lord. “Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord” (James 5:7-10). The promise to Abraham is not forgotten in week four. Joseph learns that his soon-to-be wife is pregnant but doesn't know what to do. But he is reassured that this child is special “and they shall name him Emmanuel” (Matthew 1:18-25). Our preparation and waiting culminates in our special Christmas Eve service. We are on this journey towards Christmas together as we lift our hearts as Christ—the “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace”—comes to the world. See you soon.

Blessings,  
E.J.



CLICK THE NEW QR CODE FOR TITHES & OFFERINGS



*"The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed"*  
Proverbs 11:25



**December, 2025**

We will begin a new fundraiser to help supply the church with new hymnal books. Calling all bakers, crafters, and painters. We are looking to raise \$1,000. If you would like to see a copy of the new hymnal book, please see Pastor Jamieson.



**Little Known Fact**

Did you know that one of the first recorded Christmas celebrations in Wisconsin was in 1824 near Green Bay where gathered guests of French, Native, English, and American heritage ate porcupine.

*From the desk of Pastor Carol*

God so loved the world....  
God so loved the whole world. All of creation. All of the people who ever lived, who live now, or whoever will live!  
God so loved... so deeply loved...that God gave us a baby, born to a couple not yet married, not yet making a good living, a couple who would have to flee the country to keep that precious infant safe from the authorities. It hardly seems possible. But God SO loved!! And so once again, we will light the candles, sing the songs and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus.

Please join us this December for all our services and events. And please have a Merry Christmas!



Tuesday December 2nd is known nationally as "Giving Tuesday" and UCB is participating in a big way! We believe that "everyone who willing and whose heart moved him came and brought and offering to the LORD for the work" (Exodus 35:21) We are asking for your support to continue the great work of this ministry in giving when ever we have opportunity. If you have not done so, please take a moment and fill-out and return your UCB pledge card for 2026 and be a part of "Giving Tuesday".

**Mission of The Month**

**DIVINE INTERVENTION MINISTRIES**

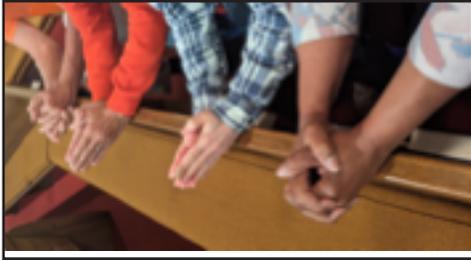
A small congregation in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood, Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church is committed to ministries that address social justice and equity.

**Divine Intervention** provides winter emergency overnight safe sanctuary for those experiencing homelessness from December 3 through March 25. Dinner is served nightly, and take-away foods are provided each day. Tippe continues to upgrade the physical warming space for our guests as well as for our volunteers, with an emphasis on increased comfort and safety.

Tippe also remains dedicated to supporting literacy among Milwaukee's children through our **Arts and Science Literacy Camp (ASLC)**. The innovative mission of ASLC is to offer an integrated arts approach to supporting literacy, immersing students in the foundations of science while engaging in fine arts expression. Camps are offered weekly during the summer and after school throughout the school year for K-3 through Sixth Grade.

Learn more about Tippe at our new website [tippemission.org](http://tippemission.org).  
Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church  
2366 N. 80th Street  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

**PRAYER CORNER**



Lord, please guide us this holiday season toward those who might need love, kindness and basic resources. As we celebrate, help us to also give our resources to people who have far less. We trust you to guide us toward these people, and we thank You for Your continued guidance. In Christ's name I pray, Amen.

**Don't forget to pick-up your December Prayer List**

**Advent 2025**  
**United Church of Beloit**  
 · Between Memory and Hope ·

Advent Bible & Book Study – See Pastor E.J. for schedule  
 Advent Services Every Sunday Nov 30 – Dec 21 @ 10:00AM  
 Lunch Time Chapel Service & Communion – Tuesday Dec 9th @ 11:30AM  
 Foundry Christmas Party – Tuesday Dec 9th @ 6:30PM  
 Christmas Eve Service – Wednesday Dec 24th @ 7:00PM

United Church of Beloit  
 657 Bluff Street Beloit, WI 53511  
 www.unitedchurchbeloit.org  
 Weekly Services Every Sunday at 10:00AM  
 Contact us for more information:  
 608-362-6857 / ucinfochurch@gmail.com

**What does it Mean to be a Pastor?**

**By: Michelle Bullock**

*“Let us not become weary in doing good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up.” Galatians 6:9*

On Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, the official installation service for Pastor Earl Jamison Prevoznak took place. What a joyous occasion it was. Accepting the mantle to shepherd the people of God is truly a calling that carries a lot of weight. Oh, sure there are the weddings, the baby baptisms, funerals, etc. However, these duties extend far beyond those. The responsibilities are bigger than Sunday morning worship and are multifaceted. So, what does it *really* mean to be called as a Pastor?

The title “pastor” comes from the Latin word for ‘shepherd’. The analogy of shepherding highlights the role of caring for, guiding, and protecting the “flock” (the congregation), much like a shepherd cares for their sheep. It also implies a responsibility to “feed” the flock through teaching and to be mindful of their needs and fears. They protect the sheep from spiritual danger of false teachings, and internal conflicts, promoting the peace and purity of the church. Yes, they provide spiritual guidance to individuals and families. Visiting the sick and dying, comforting those who are grieving, and offering support during a crisis. Shepherds are “worship leaders” administrators. They equip others to serve in their own work of ministry by guiding and scriptural instructions. Thereby helping and allowing others to use spiritual gifts to build the body of Christ. Pastors lead community outreach and efforts of evangelism, carrying the message beyond church walls.

The characteristics and calling of a Pastor are viewed as a distinct and holy calling from God, not merely a job or a position of authority. Spiritual qualifications emphasize, personal integrity, humility, patience, self-control, and the ability to teach. Expected to lead by example, modeling a Godly life and servant leadership after Jesus Christ, the “Chief Shepherd”.

The process may have taken some time for United Church of Beloit, but the reward of due diligence and patience on your part is now here!

*The installment of Pastor Jamieson was a wonderful event! Son Ulysses and dad playing "Shall We Gather at the River." Ulysses played his dad's favorite Hymn "Wayfaring Stranger."*



*It was a blessing to have Pastor Dave Ewing bring the word for the occasion. Also pictured, Ministers of the Presbytery of Milwaukee Rev. Kim Trimboli as Moderator and Rev. Sam Massey.*



*Pastors Dave Ewing, Carol Taylor, Jamieson Prevoznak, and Kim Trimboli*

*Pastor Jamieson, Liah, and Ulysses*



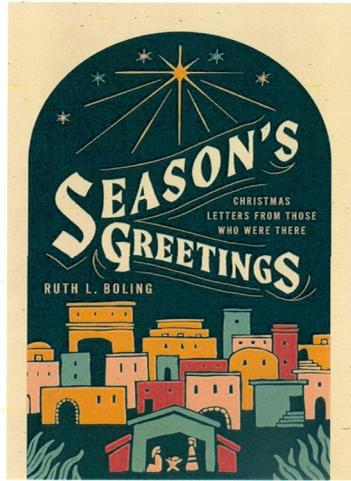
*Elder Martin Taylor, Pastor Carol Taylor, Pastor Tracey, Kenney, Bethel AME Church*



*Pastor Carol, Pastor Jamieson*



Francine Case	12/1
Baylor Moore	12/1
Heather Brown	12/5
Jennifer Eley	12/5
Ken Campton	12/8
Christine Figi	12/12
Matt Hooker	12/13
Mark Spreitzer	12/16
Rhonda Beck	12/17
Samantha Richards	12/19
Dave Burwell	12/23
Preston LaMendola	12/23
Tami Marks	12/31



Advent Bible / Book Study Devotional Schedule

**Week 1**  
 Wednesday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> 3:30PM – 4:30PM @ UCB  
 Thursday Dec 4<sup>th</sup> 11:30AM – 12:30PM @ UCB

**Week 2**  
 Tuesday Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 4:30PM – 5:30PM @UCB  
 Wednesday Dec 10<sup>th</sup> 11:30AM – 12:30PM @UCB

**Week 3**  
 Wednesday Dec 17<sup>th</sup> 3:30PM – 4:30PM @ UCB  
 Thursday Dec 18<sup>th</sup> 11:30AM – 12:30PM @ UCB

**Week 4**  
 Tuesday Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 11:30AM –12:30PM @UCB  
**Luncheon**

\*\*\* Welcome to attend any meeting as able.\*\*\*  
 \*\*\* Zoom Meetings Available if Requested \*\*\*



**December Activities**

**Sunday, December 7th**  
 Communion Sunday

**Wednesday, December 3rd**  
 Church Life Board meets, 4:30p.m

**Wednesday, December 3rd**  
 Advent Class @ 4:30p.m.

**Thursday, December 4th**  
 Advent Class @ 12:30p.m.  
 (See Schedule for all classes)

**Tuesday, December 9th at 11:30a.m.**  
 Prayer & Communion Service

**Tuesday, December 9th**  
 Finance & Facilities Bd meets  
 By Zoom @ 6:30p.m.

**Thursday, December 11th**  
 Men's Breakfast/Bible Study  
 @8:00am

**Sunday, December 14th**  
 Deacons Outreach Bd.  
 11:30am

**Wednesday, December 17th**  
 Governing Council meets, 4:30p.m..

**Sunday, December 28th**  
 Joint Worship Service  
 w/Sun Valley Presbyterian @ UCB  
 10:00a.m.

**Wednesday, December 31st**  
 New Years's Eve Worship & Party  
 5:00-9:00p.m.

**Christmas & New Year's**  
 at  
**United Church of Beloit**  
**Worship and Event Schedule**

**Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols**  
**Wednesday Dec 24th**  
**Cookie/Hot Chocolate Fellowship 6PM**  
**Candlelight Service 7PM**  
**Joint Worship w/Sun Valley Pres**  
**@ United Church of Beloit**  
**Sunday Dec 28th 10AM**  
 ★ **New Years Eve Worship & Party**  
**Wednesday Dec 31st 5-9pm**

United Church of Beloit  
 657 Bluff Street, Beloit, WI 53511  
 Tel: (608) 362-6857 E-mail: ucbinfchurch@gmail.com  
 Office Hours: M–F 9:00 a.m.– 1p.m.  
 Ministers: Each member of Christ's Church  
 Lead Pastor E.J.Prevoznak  
 Licensed Lay/Interim Minister Pastor Carol Taylor  
 Church Treasurer Gary Kovanda  
 Financial Secretary Valerie Fjalstad  
 Church Secretary Michelle Bullock  
 Custodian Savvas Mourtzis

Member Church of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches and Wisconsin Congregational Association, and the Presbytery of Milwaukee (PCUSA).

If you have a need contact;  
 Pastor E.J. Prevoznak Cell: (707) 714-7039  
 Pastor Carol Taylor Cell: (608) 201-1114  
 Pastor Carol Taylor Home: (608) 365-4131