

# THE WESTLYAN

*A Monthly Resource for our West Flint Community*



**DEC. 2018**



# Hope Arrives

*A monthly thought from our pastors.*

*The Westlyan is a monthly collection of thoughts, events, and information for our West Flint community.*

### **Points of reflection and conversation:**

*- Take time each week to write down or acknowledge in some way the people and things that you are thankful for.*

*- Reflect during this season: What are your hopes? Your fears?*

*- What comes to mind when you hear words like hope, joy, and peace?*

*- How do we participate today in the anticipation and hope of the coming King - who has come, who is here with us, and who will come again?*

The season of Advent is once again upon us. This season of waiting begins the 4th Sunday before Christmas and is an opportunity for us to collectively wait in anticipation for the coming Messiah. In this fast-paced age of instant gratification, each year Advent is an invitation to pause and wait, something that we as modern humans can find very difficult. The word “advent” is a translation of the Greek word “parousia” which relates to the visit of royalty, the arrival of a Queen or King. In Advent, Christians await the three comings of Christ: in the flesh in Bethlehem, in our hearts daily, and in the glory of the second coming. In 1868, Rector Phillips Brooks of Philadelphia, wrote the lyrics to O Little Town of Bethlehem, following a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. He was inspired by the night-time view of Bethlehem from the hills of Palestine and penned these words in reference to the town of Bethlehem.

*“The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight”*

These words summarize for us beautifully what this season of waiting is all about. They remind us that 2000 years ago the little village of Bethlehem hosted the defining moment in human history, when “the Word became flesh” and dwelled among us. It is in waiting that we are reminded of the promise of a coming King; who has come, who is here with us, and who will come again. This season, may we learn to create room in our hearts for this coming King, who shows up in the most unexpected ways and places, and in whom is hope, joy, and peace.

- Pastor Matt



**Selina Gaines**  
*Children's Pastor*



**Courtney Gill**  
*Youth Pastor*



**Rev. Josh Kennedy**  
*Associate Pastor*



**Brittany Klocke**  
*Office Administrator*



**Dawn Ramirez**  
*Director, Little Lamb's*



**Rev. Matthew Soulia**  
*Pastor*

# Rhythms

Events and happenings at West Flint

## Monthly

### Men's Prayer Breakfast

December 1 // 8:00am

*The first Sunday of every month.*

### Advent Dinner

December 7 // 6:00p

*Our annual church dinner. Tickets available on Sunday or at the door.*

### South House Study

1st & 3rd Tues. // 6:30pm

*A Bible study by young adults with a shared meal. All are welcome!  
Address: 1122 South Dr. Flint, MI*

### Young Adult Lunch

December 9 // 12:30pm

*Our young adults will enjoy lunch together at Pesto's after church.*

### Youth Christmas Party

December 16 // 6:00pm

*Join our high schoolers for a fun time together in the youth room.*

### Children's Cookie Decorating

December 19 // 6:30-8:00pm

*All kids K-6 are invited for hot cocoa and Christmas cookie decorating!*

### All-Church Christmas Sunday

December 23 // 9:00am

*All-church breakfast at 9am with our Christmas service at 10:45am.*

### Christmas Eve Service

December 24 // 6:00pm

*A service of familiar Christmas hymns ending in candlelight.*

### Office Closed

December 24 - January 1

### No Community Dinner

December 26

## Coming Up

### No Community Dinner

January 2

### Father/Son Nerf War

January 12

*Nerf, pizza, and bonding. What more do you need on a Saturday?*

### Lela Close Tournament

January 19

*Annual quizzing tournament.*

### EMD Youth Strengths Summit

January 26

## Weekly

Sundays // 9:30a

- Adult & teen classes
- Kids Sunday School
- Nursery

Sundays // 10:45a

- Worship in chapel
- Kids Own Worship
- Club 56
- Nursery

Sundays // 6:00p

- Youth Group

Mondays // 6:30p

- Volleyball

Tuesdays // 1:00p

- Quilting Group

Wed. // 6:00p

- Community Dinner
- Childrens activities
- Youth Group (after dinner)

*\*Dates and events are subject to change  
Print deadline is the third Monday of month prior*

# Engagement Opportunities

*Ways to get involved a serve in our community - locally and globally.*

## Glocal Initiatives

### **Little Lamb's Compassionate Ministry Center**

#### ***Christmas Wrapper Fundraiser // December 21-22***

*LLCMC is looking for present wrappers to help at their biggest fundraiser this year. We need a few wrappers for each shift at the mall kiosk. To sign up for shifts or if you have questions, contact Dawn Ramirez at 820.908.6002 or dawnramirez@comcast.net*

### **Randels Elementary**

#### **Ongoing**

*Volunteers to help during lunch hour - alternative recess classes and mentoring opportunities. If you have questions, contact Pastor Josh at josh@westflintnazerene.org*

### **West Flint Nazarene Children's Ministry**

#### **Sundays and/or Wednesdays**

*We are looking for a few more adults who would like to join the rotation of children's ministry volunteers.*

## Monthly Prayer

**O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

*Prayers of Thanksgiving, The Book of Common Prayer*