

**Sunday, December 15 following worship**  
**Our Mission: Veterans Home Care Packages**  
**Mark your calendars for your next mini mission immediately following dinner!**

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

Please e-mail all newsletter articles to:  
[rachel.stoneman@bentonumc.org](mailto:rachel.stoneman@bentonumc.org)

All articles are due by the 20th of each month for the next month's newsletter.

**Impact Mini Mission**  
**Sunday, December 15**  
**immediately following worship service.**  
Our Mission: Veterans Home Care Packages  
Register by emailing:  
[linda.silas@bentonumc.org](mailto:linda.silas@bentonumc.org)

*Journey to Bethlehem*

**DECEMBER 7 | 6:00-9:00 PM**  
**RAIN DATE: DECEMBER 8 | 6:00-8:00 PM**

If you are not signed up, please come anyway—you may be needed for substitutions.  
Please contact Ron or Ginny Jones at (318) 469-3693 for more information about serving in

**The Journey to Bethlehem**—our drive-through nativity.



# INsight

December 2019  
Monthly Newsletter of  
Benton United Methodist Church

## Weekly Events

<b>Sundays</b>	
Worship .....	8:15 AM
Sunday School .....	9:15 AM
Fellowship .....	10:15 AM
Worship .....	10:30 AM
Boy Scouts .....	2:00 PM
Bible Study (at the Hearne home)....	5:00 PM
<b>Mondays</b>	
Bodies On a Mission.....	9:00 AM
<b>Tuesdays</b>	
Intercessory Prayer Team .....	9:00 AM
<b>Wednesdays</b>	
Bodies On a Mission.....	9:00 AM
The Closet @ BUMC .....	9:30 AM
The Closet @ Chapel .....	11:30 AM
WOW! Dinner .....	5:30 PM
WOW! Study & Activities .....	6:10 PM
Choir Practice.....	7:00 PM
<b>Thursdays</b>	
Gospel of John Bible Study ....	10:30 AM
Alcoholics Anonymous .....	6:00 PM
<b>Fridays</b>	
Bodies On a Mission.....	9:00 AM

## A Word From Pastor Brad

Dear Church,

A colleague in ministry shared some helpful tidbits on how to make this Advent season be the very best that it can possibly be. I wanted to share.

1. Commit to a spiritual reading this Advent. Find an Advent reflection, passage of scripture or a spiritual memoir to read through to keep you spiritually grounded.
2. Just say no. Advent is richer when it's not overbooked. Give yourself permission to say "no". This is easier said than done. It's difficult to turn down good things, but every "no" means a "yes" to what matters most.
3. Choose a special way to give this Advent season. The possibilities are limitless.

Remember this: Making Advent meaningful is all about what happens before it even begins.

Have a blessed Advent season,  
Your Preacher



*Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.*

**Isaiah 7:14**

## Monthly & Special Events

- Sunday, December 1**  
United Methodist Men Breakfast..... 7:00 AM
- Wednesday, December 4**  
Cypress Area Garden Club Meeting..... 10:00 AM  
WOW! Dinner & Christmas Caroling..... 5:30 PM
- Thursday, December 5**  
Dinner with Friends..... 6:30 PM
- Saturday, December 7**  
Journey to Bethlehem ..... 6:00 PM
- Sunday, December 8**  
Rain Date for Journey to Bethlehem..... 6:00 PM
- Tuesday, December 10**  
Benton Fire Department Family Dinner ..... 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 11**  
Youth Christmas Program..... 6:00 PM
- Thursday, December 12**  
Morning Glories @ Olive Garden..... 11:30 AM
- Friday, December 13**  
Sew Crazy Ladies ..... 10:00 AM
- Sunday, December 15**  
United Methodist Men Breakfast..... 7:00 AM  
Christmas Cantata..... 8:15 & 10:30 AM  
Mpact Mini Mission for Veterans Home ..... 11:30 AM
- Tuesday, December 17**  
Food Truck Unloading..... 8:00 AM  
Food Bag Packing ..... 9:00 AM  
Nightingales UMW @ Ralph & Kacoo's..... 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, December 18**  
The Closet @ A Cross Faith ..... 11:30 AM  
The Table Food Lunch & Devotion ..... 11:30 AM  
The Table Food Distribution..... 12:30 PM  
The Toy Shoppe..... 12:30 PM  
Children's Christmas Program ..... 6:00 PM
- Friday, December 20**  
Just a Bunch of Lit Wits..... 7:15 AM  
Random Acts of Christmas ..... 5:00 PM
- Monday, December 23-Tuesday December 31**  
*Church Office Closed*
- Tuesday, December 24**  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service..... 5:00 PM
- Saturday, December 28**  
Souper Saturday..... 7:30 AM

### Just a Reminder for 2019 Contributions

The 2019 year end is approaching soon. All 2019 contributions must be received by December 31, 2019, in order to receive credit on your 2019 Contribution Statement .

Thank you for generous giving.

Blessings,  
Carolyn



## WOW! Wednesdays in December

- 12.4**  
5:30 PM Dinner  
6:10 PM Christmas Caroling
- 12.11**  
6:00 PM Youth Christmas Program  
*Dessert to follow*
- 12.18**  
6:00 PM Children's Christmas Program

# Jesus

## The True Gift Of Christmas

### The Toy Shoppe & Wrapped in Love

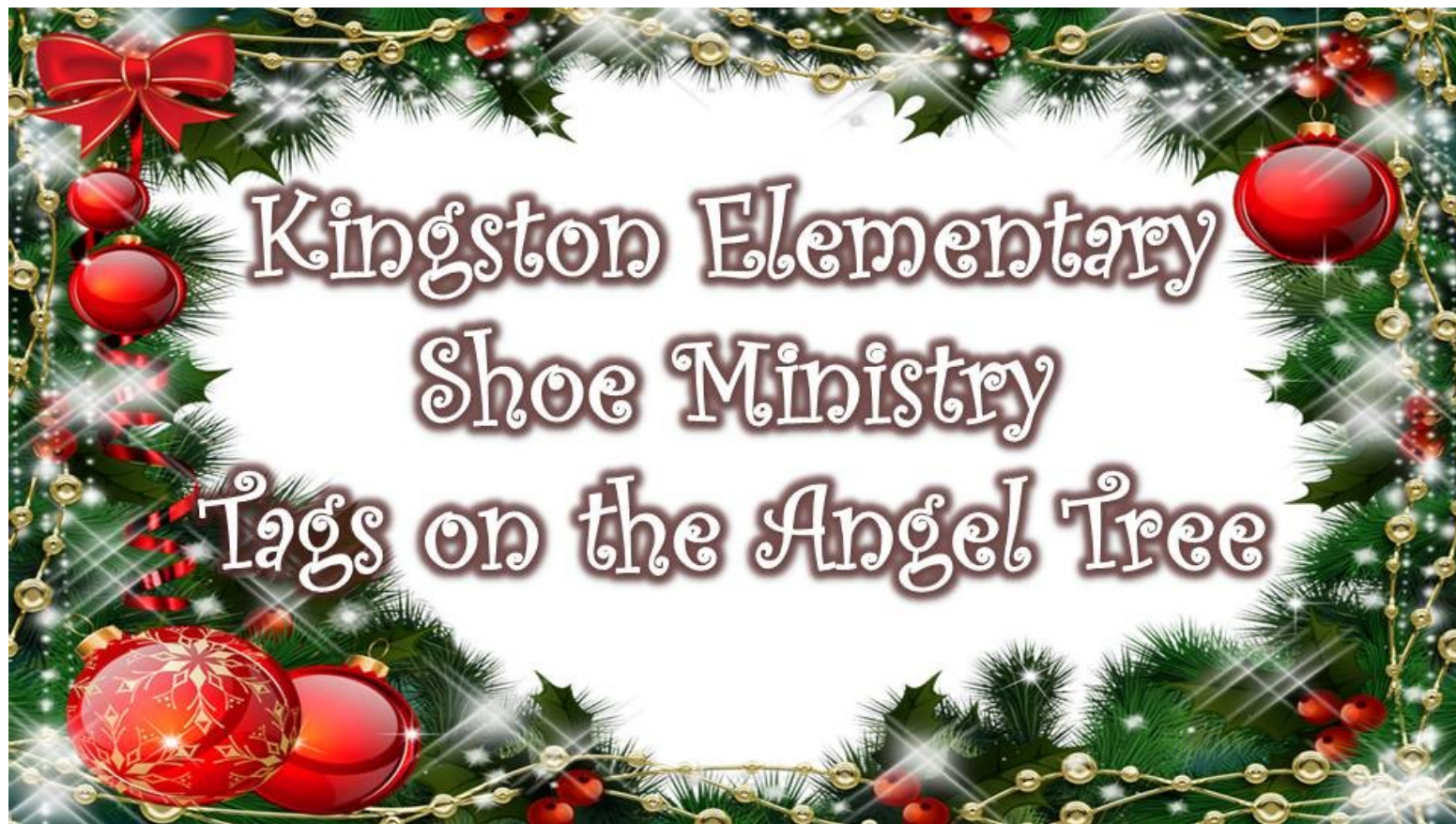
The Toy Shoppe & Wrapped in Love Set-Up TBA  
Please contact Ashley Stinson if you want to help at (318) 349-5913

**Wednesday, December 18—We Need YOU!!**  
12:30 PM—Helping Shoppers, Wrapping Gifts, & Distributing Food

Toys needed for ages 0-12 (*\$15-20 in value*)  
Gift cards needed for teens  
(*\$20 in value from Bass Pro, Academy, etc.*)  
Wrapping Accessories needed (*Bows, gift boxes, ribbon, etc.*)

To serve, please contact:  
**Ashley Stinson (318) 349-5913**

# Serving Our Community



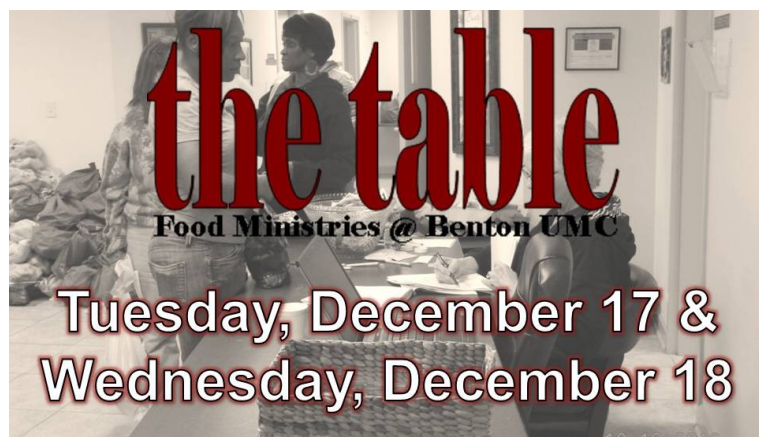
## Souper Saturday Needs You!

We need people to ride along with drivers for deliveries, or to be substitute drivers, soup cooks, and sandwich makers. We have very dedicated volunteers—a family of Christ's servants! We serve on the last Saturday of each month. Please join us to see if this is where you connect in service.

For more information on Souper Saturday, contact:

Katherine Kavanaugh  
318.218.7730

[katkavanaugh@bellsouth.net](mailto:katkavanaugh@bellsouth.net)



**Tuesday, December 17**  
8:00 AM Truck Unloading  
9:00 AM Bag Packing

**Wednesday, December 18**  
12:30 PM  
Food Distribution

## The Table Food Ministry

For more information on The Table, contact:  
Kim Hauser [kimdenise1996@gmail.com](mailto:kimdenise1996@gmail.com) or Rachel Stoneman [rachel.stoneman@bentonumc.org](mailto:rachel.stoneman@bentonumc.org)

# 2019 Christmas Calendar

## Collections:

New Toy Collection for Toy Shoppe  
Angel Tree for Kingston Shoes  
Shoes for Family in Need  
Christmas Dinners for Families from Kingston Elementary School

**Wednesday, December 4**  
5:30 PM—Dinner & Caroling

**Saturday, December 7**  
6:00 PM—Journey to Bethlehem

**Wednesday, December 11**  
6:00 PM—Youth Program

**Sunday, December 15**  
8:15 AM—Christmas Cantata

**Wednesday, December 18**  
12:30 PM—The Toy Shoppe & Wrapped in Love

6:00 PM—Children's Program

**Friday, December 20**  
5:00 PM—Random Acts of Christmas

*Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

Tuesday, December 24 at 5:00 PM



# Loving Jesus Through His Children



**Emergency Food Pantry Donation**  
 Benton UMC—you all are amazing! The response for filling the ER Pantry has been wonderful. Some of the harder to stock items came in ONE big load (soup and spaghetti sauce)!

A BIG THANK YOU for all of the food delivered to the Benton UMC Emergency Food Pantry on November 8. And very special thank yous to those who made it happen: David Doyal and his friends, Jeff, Clay, and Alex at IES and the Campbell Soup Co. employee store.

And Cub Scout Max, thank you for your muscles. You did lots of heavy lifting!



# Thank you, Benton UMC

State of Louisiana



JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR

JOEY STRICKLAND  
SECRETARY

Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs  
 Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home

October 24, 2019

Benton United Methodist Church  
 c/o Ms. Sue Shadow  
 4615 Palmetto Rd.  
 Benton, LA 71006

On behalf of the veterans residing at the Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home, I would like to express my appreciation for allowing me to speak at your church. The gift bags will help our spirits when they are delivered. I also wanted to thank your Church as one of your parishioners made a donation anonymously. The receipt is attached so you know it was placed in our veterans' recreation & welfare fund. Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Wesley Pepitone  
 Administrator

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 Our Mission: Veterans Home Care Packages  
 Mark your calendars for your next mini mission immediately following dinner!

3130 Arthur Ray Teague Parkway • Bossier City, Louisiana 71112  
 Telephone (318) 741-2763 • FAX (318) 741-2783

# Preparing for Advent

