



Greetings to one and all,

Christmas is a sacred time of year, it is also a time of glitz, glitter, getting, gathering and giving and so much more. That is why the Upper River Ministry Churches are planning a joyous time of Christmas celebrations for 2022! Our gala Progressive Dinner is set for Saturday December 10th...The food will be delicious; the spiritual moments will be reflective and meaningful. We start at Forest at 4:00pm and continue to John Stewart and Marseilles. You will want to make plans to attend... Advent readings are part of every worship each Sunday. Our messages will center on how the "Grinch" tried to steal Christmas but could not quit do it. We will see why. And then there will be memorable celebrations on Christmas eve and Christmas day on Sunday this year. There will other gathering and celebrations, so check your bulletins and mark your calendars. Remember this is the crowning of the year.

The Christmas season and the new year coming always give opportunity to say what an honor it is to be your pastor and to serve with a group of gracious pastors in the Upper River Ministry charge. I find great joy and meaning in working among you in these days. Lynn and I look forward to 2023. Our grandson is growing and we have a granddaughter arriving in February or March. Our daughter, son in law and son continue to make us proud.

At Advent and Christmas, the prophetic words of Isaiah come to mind, For unto us a Son is born, unto us a Child is given...for all eternity. Yes, it is time to celebrate!

Have a Merry and meaningful Christmas and a delightful New Year...

Sincerely

Pastor Johnny

Merry Christmas from Pastor Betsy and Jeff!

That's right, I said Merry Christmas!

No Happy Holidays greeting here.

Christmas is all about the most amazing gift of all.
The most perfect gift was a tiny child born in a stable and
laid in a manger. The very gift from God.

Salvation, Redemption, Grace, Mercy and Love
are just a few of the gifts we receive
when we invite Jesus into our hearts.

Remember that every perfect gift is from above.

During this time of the season, make it a priority to share some
Love and Grace with one another.

Make life a little better for everyone by sharing some JOY!

J - Jesus O - Others Y - Yourself

"Joy to the World, the Lord has come!"

May God bless you all and watch over you this Christmas Season!





Church Family,

It feels like just last week I wrote a Christmas letter to the church. But here I am again writing to all of you to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Sue and I feel blessed that we are able to continue to serve the charge during another holiday season. I look forward to sharing the word of God with all of you this advent season. I also look forward to the times of celebration with all of you at events like the charge progressive dinner and the Christmas eve services. The time of Christmas I have always enjoyed especially the Christmas Eve service.

Sue and I continue to feel blessed in our personal lives. Our children are doing great and are making great strides in the lives. Jackie and CJ are building a house in Sunberry, Ohio. Tyler and Megan bought a home in Upper Sandusky. All four of them have great jobs and are also living blessed lives. Sue and I are enjoying our three grand dogs Axel, Remington aka Remi, and our newest addition Ruby. Our dog or should I say Sue's dog Lou aka Grumpy Uncle Louis is still with us and is still fighting the good fight against the evil of the neighborhood cats.

It is a Christmas tradition to exchange gifts. Throughout the year I feel like I receive gifts and blessings from God. I also feel I receive gifts from my church family. The trust that you show to allow me to be your pastor I consider a gift. What may seem like a simple compliment after the service that expresses appreciation for the sermon is a gift. I give credit to God for everything I say that is pleasing during a service. The acknowledgment that something touched you during the service means a lot to me. The biggest gift is when you tell me that I have been included in your prayers. That is the biggest gift and one that I need to hear. I am blessed to be able to serve God and my church family.

Sue and I look forward to the new year and we are excited to see what God planned for all of us this new year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Pastor Doug

Upper River Ministries Charge

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UPPER SANDUSKY, OHIO 43351

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2022

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Do you know what
ministries are taking place
at your church?

To Name a Few:

Prayer

Acolytes

Quilt making

Cards

Bible Study

Operation Christmas Child
(Shoe Box Ministry)

Food Pantry

Dinners

Youth

Media Team

Youth

Financial Secretaries

Bookkeepers

Attendance trackers

Membership

Communion Stewards

Ushers/Greeters

Thank you for all you do
behind the scenes!



Forest UMC 6:30 pm

John Stewart UMC 7:00 pm

Marseilles UMC 7:30 pm

Progressive Dinner—December 10th

4:00 pm start at Forest UMC for Salad/Soup

2nd stop at John Stewart UMC for the Main Course

3rd stop at Marseilles UMC for Dessert

Food—Fellowship—Fun!!

(Forest & Patterson; JS, Wharton & Wesley Chapel; Marseilles & Salem)