



10:00 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE
December 31, 2023

Call to Worship

Friendship Greeting

Announcements

Offering

God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen

We Three Kings

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Praise & Petition

Message

Wise Men Still Seek Him

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Benediction



December 31, 2023 • 10:00 AM

Today's Message:

Wise Men Still Seek Him

Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor Travis Deans

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM: THE SERIES

Week #6: *Wise Men Still Seek Him*

December 31, 2023 – Travis Deans
Matthew 2:1-12

Notes & Comments:

C&MA Christmas Offering

Please prayerfully consider making a contribution to the Alliance Great Commission Fund to enable new ministries to launch and established ministries to continue to do God's work in every nation. If you feel led to make a donation, please designate your offering envelopes or online contributions to the Great Commission Fund. We thank you for your support of Alliance International Workers.



CTAC Christmas Offering - Last Day to Donate!

Please note that all monies collected in this year's Christmas offering will be split evenly between Genesis House and the Good Works Life Recovery House.

You can donate through the offering using your Christmas envelopes or regular envelopes clearly labeled "Christmas offering," and by giving online and indicating "Christmas" in the memo/notes field. Additionally, all donations given at our Christmas Eve candlelight service will go to support these organizations.

Alliance 40 Days of Prayer Initiative - Starting January 1st!

The theme this year is **NOW**. If you would like to receive the weekly emails, please register at: 40days.cmalliance.org. Each week, those subscribed to the list will receive an email containing a video summarizing the week's prayer focus, an attachment with the daily devotionals for adults, daily devotionals for youth (via Instagram), and weekly devotionals for children. In addition to devotional content, you are invited to join various livestream events, including virtual prayer gatherings led by local Columbus Alliance churches each Tuesday at 7:30 PM EST, as well as a livestream event on the final evening of the 40 days on Friday, February 9th.

Candidating Sunday with Pastor Marc Trujillo

Next Sunday, **January 7th**, Pastor Marc Trujillo will be joining us for a candidating Sunday.

After the morning worship service, we will have a fellowship meal which will be followed by Pastor Marc and his wife Kim sharing their testimonies and his philosophy of ministry, as well as a Q&A time. We hope you will be able to join us for this special time of fellowship! Please sign up in the foyer.





Please check the Christmas card boxes in the foyer to see if you have any cards waiting for you!

If you ordered a Christmas poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one, please be sure to take it home today. Thank you!



New Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2024 are available in the foyer. If you do not see a set prepared for you and you would like one, please contact Andrea in the church office.

2024 Bible Reading Plans

If you'd like to read through the Bible in 2024, please check out these resources. On the welcome table in the foyer, you will find two versions of plans for reading through the Bible in a year...one that is cover-to-cover and one that includes daily readings from both the Old and New Testaments.

We also encourage you to check out *The Bible App* on your smartphone. This app allows you to select a Bible reading plan & will track your progress. The app also allows you to invite friends to join you in following the same reading plan. *If you're an auditory learner*, visit www.faithcomesbyhearing.com for audio recordings of the Bible to listen to at home or while on the road.



Men's Small Group

Our next men's small group meeting will be held here at Cherry Tree Alliance on Saturday, **January 13th**. The meeting is from 8:00 - 10:00 AM and will include breakfast and a time of study based on the book *Beautiful Outlaw* by John Eldredge. Please sign up at the bulletin board in the foyer.

Capital Campaign - New Church Van

We have ordered a van for approximately \$65,000, which will take at least one year to arrive from the manufacturer. As we wait, we need to begin collecting funds for this expense. **To contribute to this fund, please mark your offering envelopes or online donation "Van."** We thank you for your support!



CALL TO PRAYER

DECEMBER 2023



A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Recently, we were encouraged by a testimony from two of our ministry colleagues, Firmin and Veronique, a couple from the national church who serve at our orality center. They were trained to partner with international workers to plant churches through orality, an interactive storytelling technique that connects the Bible with many oral cultures, where people learn best through story. This outreach involves traveling to remote villages, and Firmin has been recovering from a motorcycle accident to one location that left him on crutches.

One evening, two military men knocked on the door of the center. The leader of the two was a sergeant in the army. He asked to see the pastor. Veronique was alone with the children. Understandably unnerved, she explained that Firmin wasn't there but offered to answer any questions.

The sergeant said, "Since you arrived in our village, there has been light where once it was dark. I've watched you from our military camp, and God has shown me that you are genuine. There is a light that shines from this place. I wondered what I could bring as a gift, but all I have

are these two cakes of soap. I brought them so the pastor can wash his clothes."

Veronique received the soap and told him, "The light that shines from here is not us. It is Jesus. You can have the same light in you." She continued to share with him from God's Word, and he listened with interest. The sergeant said that his wife attends church, but he never saw the point. Veronique invited him to return the next day for the service, and he did. It was a wonderful time with several testimonies of changed lives.

Recently, Firmin and Veronique had felt discouraged, wondering why it was so hard to see growth in their ministry, especially with hindrances such as motorcycle accidents. The sergeant's visit gave them hope that they are having an impact, even if they can't see it yet. The visit also encouraged us because we've had a burden to pray for breakthrough among those in the military camp. This experience affirmed that God is leading us in those prayers. Pray that these soldiers, who move frequently to other camps, will be drawn to Christ.

by Jay and Beverly, Alliance international workers serving with aXcess in Congo

TO ACCESS ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS, PLEASE VISIT CMALLIANCE.ORG/PRAY.



Capacity Announcements

Capacity: Wednesdays, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM / 6th-12th Grade
Please contact Pastor Joshua with any questions
at capacityallianceyouth@gmail.com.

Capacity WINTER JAM 2024 Trip - Capacity will be traveling to the Petersen Events Center the night of **January 19th** for the annual Winter Jam Concert! If a student 6th -12th grade would like to join, please reach out to Pastor Joshua as soon as possible as we are already making travel plans! Winter Jam cost is a \$15 donation at the door.

Moms in Prayer - Mondays at 6:00 PM

Please ask the church office for Teresa's number for the meeting details.



Bible Quiz Practice

Tuesdays 6:00 - 7:00 PM / 2nd-12th Grade
Please contact Pastor Joshua with any questions
at capacityallianceyouth@gmail.com.



AWANA Clubs

Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 PM.
Ages 3 years old - 5th Grade



Register online at: www.cherrytreealliance.org/ministries/childrens-ministry

International Workers of the Week

Please pray for our Alliance workers of the week, M & I, who serve the persecuted church in the Middle East and Europe. Please pray for them in these areas of their ministry: *"We long to see the local church strengthened, walking in freedom to God's glory by coming along leaders through discipleship/counseling enabling them to reach the least reached all around them. As we network with others we hope to strategically work for the furtherance of God's kingdom. **Prayer Requests:** Pray for faithful, spiritually healthy believers and leaders in the Middle East and Europe despite persecution and pressure from the world so that the local church will be viable and thrive. Pray for the needed stamina, flexibility and health to travel to provide discipleship and hospitality as we hear many sad stories in our work. Pray for more workers in the harvest fields that are white for harvest to come over and help us."*

Prayer of the Day

Happy New Year! We hope you have a wonderful & safe New Year's Eve! We ask for your continued prayers for Cherry Tree Alliance as we enter 2024. Please pray for our candidating weekend next Sunday with Pastor Marc & Kim Trujillo, for the Lord's direction for both the Trujillos and the Pastoral Search Team, and travel mercies for Pastor Marc & Kim.



Kids & Capacity Sunday Ministry

Jr. Kids Church - 10:00 AM on Sunday Mornings
Ages Pre-K / K-2nd Grade / 3rd through 5th Grade
Nursery Care available

Capacity Church - 10:00 AM on Sunday Mornings
6th-8th Grade - Contact Pastor Joshua with any
questions at capacityallianceyouth@gmail.com.



Immerse Small Groups

College Age Group - Sundays at 5:00 PM
Ladies' Small Group - Wednesdays at 6:30 PM



Offering plates will be passed during the service. You may also place your offering in the wall lockbox outside the church office door. To give online, visit our website at www.cherrytreealliance.org/giving to check out our electronic donation service using the program Tithe.ly.

Thanks for your faithful giving!

GIVING

Operating Fund Giving for December: \$21,602
(Amount needed monthly: \$27,734)
Last Week's Great Commission Giving: \$615

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Worship Service: 132
Capacity Church: 21
Livestream Views: 171

Cherry Tree Alliance Church

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www.cherrytreealliance.org
Guest WiFi: ctac7777

