



monthlyTHREAD

December 2018

"I'm happiest on your fridge."

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New Teaching Series

Luke begins his exhaustively investigated, orderly account of "the things that have been fulfilled among us" with a series of stories that give us hints as to what God is about to do. There's temples and angels, surprising announcements and signs, poetic and prophetic responses - all pointing towards the fact that something big is about to happen.



God is doing a new thing and it will disrupt our world, turning everything upside down. Better yet, God will be setting everything back rightside up. Yet this new thing is really a continuation of the old thing - God fulfilling His ancient promises and prophecies and bringing history forward into the next stage.

Luke invites us to slow down and listen to the story - to be shocked and afraid at the angel's surprising announcements; to celebrate the gracious goodness and glory of the good news; to ask questions and wonder what all this means. And this is just the beginning of the story...



As the holidays approach, it is important for us to remember that we are not living out of and being formed by the culture's story of consumption and greed. Instead, we are living out of the self-sacrificial story of Jesus, who came to be with us, to be the Light in our dark world, and to reveal God's love.

This time of year, we participate in a movement called the Advent Conspiracy, which seeks to help us resist the cultural story and be resourced to live out of Jesus' story. The Advent Conspiracy reminds us to **Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, Love All.**

If you haven't received your copy of the AC Manifesto, make sure to pick one up at the CONNECTIONS Table.



Our annual Candlelight Gathering is a beautiful time of reflection, worship and celebration.

Join us for a family-friendly worship gathering, entering into the Christmas story together through songs, readings and candles.

Remember to sit near and park far to extend hospitality to our guests!

SNACKS: If you are able to make/bring some finger-foods - cookies, chocolate covered pretzels, fudge, etc., we will happily accept your sweet contributions for our evening Worship Gathering! Please let us know on your CONNECTION Card if you can bring some treats. Or, contact Melissa in the office.



Saturday, Dec. 15th
2:00-6:30pm

Milwood LightLife 5k

Celebrate life in Milwood!

5k Run/Walk through the lights
PLUS Student Snow Scramble,
Prizes, Hot Cocoa, Cookies.

**FUN FOR THE
WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD!**

**LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT
MILWOODCOMMONS.ORG/LIGHTLIFE5K**



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Year-End Christmas Giving Project

At Threads, we practice simplicity as a community by giving ten percent of all income as a church to outside ministry partners. We also refrain from taking numerous offerings for various causes throughout the year. Instead, we have only one annual ask for people to give in addition to their regular giving back to God through Threads – our year end giving project.

This year our year-end giving project is going to stay close to home as we support Milwood Commons and replenish some 'vision envelopes' for critical ministries at Threads.



Milwood Commons is a neighborhood development organization that began as an extension of Threads' calling to the Milwood Neighborhood. Milwood Commons currently holds the license for MCPC and is seeking to listen, organize and work to see a stronger Milwood.



Threads gives the first portion of any funds we receive to ministry partners. Many of the ministries at Threads are funded only after our giving and operating obligations are met. After some lean months, some of these areas (like Kids Community, FUEL, Party Crew and others) are in need of some additional funds to continue to operate without some significant changes.

As we acknowledge all that God has given us during this season of giving, we are invited to offer God an additional gift out of the abundance we have received. Join us in investing in the work God is doing around us.



An effortless way to continue to support either of these ministries throughout the year is by choosing to shop through AmazonSmile! Just go to smile.amazon.com and select your charity - Milwood Commons or Threads Church. A percentage of your purchases will be given back. Please note, you must shop through **smile.amazon.com**, not amazon.com for Amazon to give back. Let us know if you have any questions!



FUEL is our group experience for middle and high school students. We meet "roughly" every other Sunday at the Threads building from 5-7pm.

**December 9:
Ugly Sweater Christmas Party!**

Questions?
Contact Caleb Vanderhill
fuel@threadschurch.org
or 269.808.5545.

Send your phone number to
fuel@threadschurch.org to be
added to text updates.

Kids' Community

The Gospel Project - December Curriculum

- Dec. 2:** Jacob's New Name (Genesis 23 - 33)
- Dec. 9:** Joseph Sent to Egypt (Genesis 37)
- Dec. 16:** Angels Spoke to Mary and Joseph (Matthew 1, Luke 1)
- Dec. 23:** Jesus Was Born (Isaiah 9, Luke 2)
- Dec. 30:** Wise Men Visited Jesus (Matthew 2)

Key Passage: Galatians 4:4-5

Big Picture Question: Why was Jesus born? Jesus was born to rescue us from sin.



Family Advent Packets

If you'd like an easy way to observe Advent as a family, feel free to pick up an Advent Packet from the Kids' Community check-in table. It includes a short devotional for each day, as well as a fun activity suggestion for younger and older kids.