

12/11/2016
Connection Card

Please place completed form
in offering plate.

Welcome! Whether you are a guest or a member,
we'd love to connect with you! Let us know how we
can help you.

- I need to update my contact information.
- I'd like to begin receiving the Gobin Weekly via email.
- I'd like to begin receiving the Gobin Monthly Newsletter via email.
- I'd like to begin receiving weekly emails for the Digital Prayer Chain.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

I AM A:

- Guest
- 1st time 2nd time 3+ times
- Out-of-town guest
- Regular attender
- Member

Prayer Requests or Prayer Needs

How can we pray for you?

Please feel free to send prayer requests to
prayers@gobinumc.org
throughout the week!

- For Prayer Team
- For Digital Prayer Chain
- Confidential

This Week

Please consider using the following resources
throughout the week ahead.

Questions for Reflection

- What specific gifts from God are you grateful for this Christmas? How will you show your gratitude this week?
- How do you define "Bethlehem"? Where do you see suffering happening in this community?
- What is one specific action you will take this week to show concern for people who are living in poverty?

Prayer for the Day

God of joy, by your spirit may our celebrations of the Savior's birth increase our cheer and confidence in him, and lead us to serve our neighbors with gladness, giving thanks to you at all times for your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scriptures for Sunday, December 18

Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

Scriptures for each Sunday can be found at:
lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu

Question for Reflection & Prayer Resources:
(2016). *The Redemption of Scrooge Leader Guide*. Abingdon Press, Nashville.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ABUNDANT HEALTH DOWN HOME DINNER: AFTER SERVICE

The Abundant Health group is putting on a "Down Home Dinner" after Sunday morning worship today. Stay for great food and even better fellowship! Funds raised will be donated to Maternal & Child Health.

MITTEN TREE: NOVEMBER 28TH - DECEMBER 12TH

Please help us decorate the tree outside the church office with your donations— we need hats, gloves, and scarves for both children and adults. Again this year, we will take the items to Head Start, Johnson & Nichols Clinic, and Beyond Homeless. Feel free to contact Joe & Rita Ferguson if you have any questions: 765-653-9258.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE: DECEMBER 21 @ 7PM

Christmas can be a painful time for some. We need the space and time to acknowledge our sadness and concern; we need to know that we are not alone. We need encouragement to live the days ahead of us. For these reasons, Gobin Church offers a special "Blue Christmas" service on December 21, the longest night of the year. The service will begin at 7pm.

Come out and join with us in sharing and hearing prayers, scripture, and music that acknowledge that God's presence is for those who mourn, for those who struggle - and that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness. Everyone, regardless of church background (or lack of it) is welcome. The short service will be followed by a brief time for light refreshments and fellowship.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: DECEMBER 24 @ 7PM

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE: DECEMBER 25 @ 10:30AM

MORNING PRAYER: WEDNESDAYS AT 8:30AM

Everyone is invited to morning prayer in Peace Chapel as we pray over Sunday morning worship connection cards and prayer requests for the week.

DON'T FORGET— this is just a glimpse of what goes on at Gobin! All are welcome to join in fellowship. To stay up-to-date and find out more, please visit our Events page at gobinumc.org/news-events/events or call the church office at 765-658-6010 for more info!

HAVE AN EVENT YOU'D LIKE TO SCHEDULE AT GOBIN?

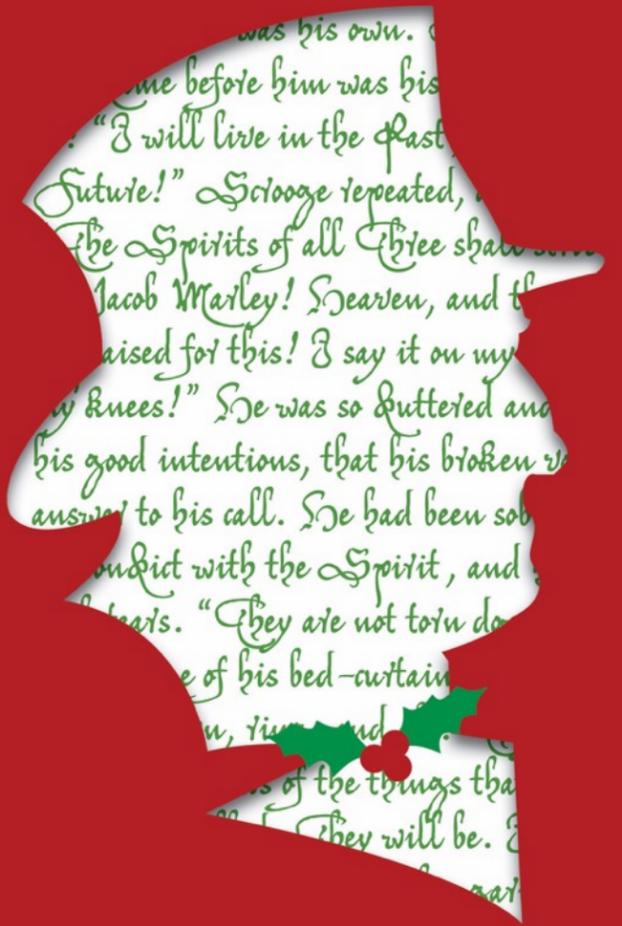
Gobin Church is committed to Radical Hospitality. We have a number of meeting rooms to accommodate your gathering. Feel free to call the church office to reserve it on the Gobin schedule! You can also put in a reservation request online at:
gobinumc.org/reserve-a-room/.



Gobin Memorial
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

connect. grow. serve.

Sunday, December 11, 2016



The Redemption of
Scrooge

Our Mission

The mission of Gobin Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

To create a spiritual community that is full of life by honestly sharing our whole selves with one another in relationship.

—Rev. Bryan Langdoc, Pastor of Gobin
pastor@gobinumc.org

The Life of Christmas Present: Look Upon Me

Third Sunday of Advent, December 11, 2016

"God has pulled the powerful down from their thrones and lifted up the lowly. God has filled the hungry with good things..."

Luke 1

This Advent/Christmas series will take a look at how living in God's economy of grace and justice is the antithesis of the life-threatening addiction to money, success, exclusion and looking out for ourselves. The chimes of the clock-tower bells in Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" provide a wake-up call for Ebenezer Scrooge and turn him from his resentment, fear and isolation. Just as God's presence was born anew into this world, we too can be born anew, woken up and redeemed into renewed life, joy, passion, generosity, humility and love.

WE GATHER

Gathering Music	"O Come All Ye Faithful" <i>by John Wade, arr. by Barbara Kinyon</i>	Bells of Gobin
Welcome		Rev. Bryan Langdoc
Threshold Moment		Barbara Paré and Gobin Choir
Opening Prayer		
Opening Hymn	"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"	UMH #196
Passing the Peace		

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

A Blessing of the Children		Beth Watson and Ross Davies <i>[children are invited to children's church]</i>
Scripture Reading— Pew Bible Page #187		Alisa Isaacs-Bailey Deuteronomy 15:7-11
Scripture Reading— Pew Bible Page #956		Alisa Isaacs-Bailey Matthew 2: 1-18
Caroling	"In the Bleak Midwinter"	UMH #221 verses 1-3
Dramatic Reading		
Caroling reprise		
The Word in Music	"Love Came Down on Christmas" <i>arr. Hal Hobson</i>	Gobin Choir
Sermon	The Life of Christmas Present: Look Upon Me	Rev. Bryan Langdoc

WE RESPOND

Prayers of the People **"Ring Out Your Truth"** Marilyn Culler
Ring out your truth
Ring out your love
Reverberate in our lives
Come, Lord, come!

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Ring out your truth
Ring out your love
Reverberate in our lives
Come, Lord, come!

Offertory Solo *"He Shall Feed His Flock"* Marietta Bargen, solo

Doxology

Praise God who blesses everyone!
Praise Jesus Christ, who is to come!
Praise Spirit, making Three-in-One!
All praise the miracle begun!

Prayer of Dedication

Generous God,
we give you thanks for all you have given us
and we offer our gifts
for the sake of being your hands and feet as the Body of Christ.
Open us to even more ways to give
so that we might look upon the world with compassion. Amen.

WE GO FORTH

Closing Hymn **"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"** UMH #213

Benediction

There's a little Scrooge in each of us
wanting to turn away from the pain of poverty, violence and hatred in the world.

This week may you be visited by a surprising love
that calls you to actions of love.
And when you feel it, even if for just a fleeting moment,
know the miracle has just begun in you, for the sake of the whole world.

May you be blessed by our God who loves you deeply;
by Jesus, the true gift of God to each of us—this season and in all our days;
and the Spirit who shows up just in time!

Benediction Song **"God Bless Us Everyone"**

Come together, one and all, in the giving spirit.
Gifts abound here, great and small, joyously we feel it.
Blessings sent us from above guide us on our way.
We raise our voice as we rejoice, bow our head and pray.
A miracle has just begun. God bless us everyone!

Postlude

Steven Snyder, piano

Gobin Memorial United Methodist Church

PO Box 66, 307 Simpson St.
Greencastle, IN 46135
(765) 658-6010
www.gobinumc.org

Children & Nursery

We love it when children stay to join us in worship. Liturgy boxes are located near the South entrance and are available for children to use and participate in the worship service. Children are invited to go to Children's Church immediately after A Time for the Child. In addition, a nursery is available for children ages 4 and under in Wesley Hall.

This Week's Scripture Reading

Scan this QR code to instantly pull up the Epistle & Gospel Readings on your smart phone!



Online Giving

You can make donations to Gobin online at www.gobinumc.org or via text message from your smart phone or electronic device. If texting, please text your amount to: 765-253-4477.



Available in the Narthex.

