



# December 2018

Sharon Springs United Methodist Church  
 Pastor Galen Crippen  
 520 W. 6th Ave., P.O. Box 339  
 Sharon Springs, KS 67758

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> <b>Children's Choir</b> <b>Christmas Program</b> <b>Basket Dinner</b>	3	4	5 <b>UMW at 1:30 P.M.</b>	6	7	8
9 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Holy Communion</i>	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	17	18	19 <b>UMW prepares Cookie Plates 1:00 P.M.</b>	20	21	22 First day of Winter
23 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	24 <b>Christmas Eve Service</b> <b>5:00 P.M.</b>	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26	27	28	29
30	31				Sunday School 9:45 A.M. Worship Service 11:00 A.M.	

## A TALE OF THE CANDY CANE

The account of the candy cane's origins circulates every Christmas season and is more likely a fun story than historical fact. No matter; tales often contain truth. This tasty treat can convey important elements of our Christian faith.

The stripes remind us of the heart of Christmas, our Savior, Jesus: White for his purity; red for his blood shed on the cross. The candy cane resembles the cured staffs of the shepherds — the first people to visit the Christ-Child and worship at the manger. And when the cane is turned upside down, it becomes a letter J, for “Jesus”.

Indeed, Jesus turns our lives upside down and inverts our presumptions: A poor baby born in a stable becomes King of Kings and Lord of lords; enemies aren't for hating but loving; blessings aren't for hoarding but sharing; the world works for war, but Jesus calls us to live in peace; receiving is better than giving; sinners are made saints; and death is conquered as God grants us eternal life.



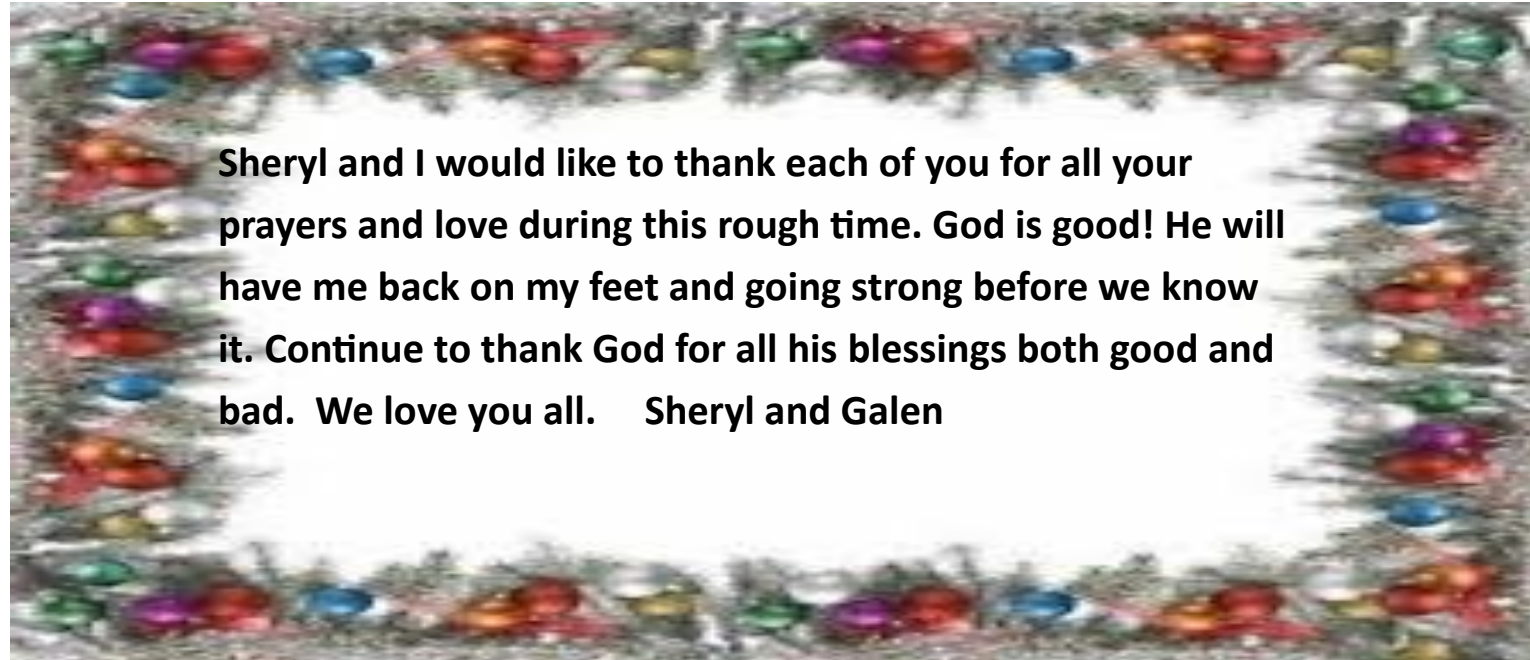
## Bible Quiz

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Some parts of the Christmas story, as commonly told, aren't actually recounted in Scripture. Which of the following details *is* recorded in the Bible?

- A. Mary rode a donkey to Bethlehem, and Joseph walked alongside her.
- B. Angels announced that a Savior, the Messiah (or Christ), had been born.
- C. There were three wise men.
- D. Shepherds and wise men (or Magi) worshiped Baby Jesus together.
- E. None of the above.

See Matthew 1:18-2:12 and Luke 2:1-20, (especially verse 11). Answer: B



**Sheryl and I would like to thank each of you for all your prayers and love during this rough time. God is good! He will have me back on my feet and going strong before we know it. Continue to thank God for all his blessings both good and bad. We love you all. Sheryl and Galen**



Just as the longest night of the year approaches, we light all four candles on our Advent wreath. Indeed, Christ's light shines in our darkness, and the darkness cannot banish it. John 1:5