



Happening

@ Geist Christian Church

Advent 2021 - January 2022

As Advent, Christmastime and the New Year approaches, Geist Christian Church is preparing room for the Holy to dwell among us. Here are some of the opportunities that will challenge and encourage all to create the space and to abide together within it. Come! There is room for all. Let us journey together.

Advent

2021

Advent: The Inn: Housing the Holy

- Begins November 28
 - Mud Creek Campus and Promise Road Campus
- This Advent season, we consider how our lives and church can become a house where the Holy is born anew, opening doors ever wider to those seeking shelter from the onslaught of life. Discover how the prophets call us to care for our neighbors and “make room in the inn,” as the spaces within us are filled with the light of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. You can find sermon titles and texts for the sermon series by going [here](#).



Mud Creek Campus Worship

- 8550 Mud Creek Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46256
- Sundays, 9:00 am & 10:30 am. Online live-stream, 10:30 am, youtube.com/mudcreeklive

Promise Road Campus Worship

- 12756 Promise Road, Fishers, Indiana 46038
- Sundays, 9:00 am & 10:00 am. Online live-stream, 10:00 am, youtube.com/promiseroadlive

Music Sunday: A Home for All

- Sunday, December 12
- Mud Creek Campus - 9:00 am & 10:30 am. Online live-stream, 10:30 am, youtube.com/mudcreeklive
- Promise Road Campus - 9:00 am & 10:00 am. Online live-stream, youtube.com/promiseroadlive

At the Mud Creek Campus: Celebrate the Christmas season as the Chancel Choir, Orchestra, Chancel Ringers, and Jubilant Ringers present two performances of sacred music in our annual Music Weekend Celebration. This tradition is a highlight of the Christmas season and we hope you will join us for the celebration. Plan to arrive early as the extended prelude will begin fifteen minutes prior to the start of each service.

At the Promise Road Campus: For this year's Christmas concert, the Promise Road Praise Team presents selections from "A Drummer Boy Christmas" from eclectic Australian rockers for King & Country. Joining the praise team is ace violinist Anna Hodge, along with the string section from the Woomblies Rock Orchestra (including last year's guest cellist, Grover Parido).

Christmas Eve: Invited Home

- December 24
- Mud Creek Campus & Promise Road Campus

The long-awaited Messiah has been born and on him the light shines. It's up to us to open the doors of our lives and to say "yes" and "welcome" to the Messiah. We are invited home to the heart of God as a closed door becomes open to new possibilities.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service Times

Mud Creek Campus

- 3:00 pm - Children and Family Service
- 5:00 pm - Youth and Family Service
- 7:00 pm - Service of Lessons and Carols
- 9:00 pm - Service of Candlelight and Communion
- 11:00 pm - Service of Candlelight and Communion

Promise Road Campus

- 1:30 pm - Service of Candlelight and Communion
- 5:30 pm - Family Service
- 7:30 pm - Service of Candlelight and Communion

Engage

Advent Bible Studies

For more information on any of these opportunities,
please contact connect@geistchristian.org.

Light of the World Advent Study

- Mondays at 6:30 pm (November 29 - December 20)
- Zoom Meeting ID will be shared with those who register

Amy-Jill Levine is an author and biblical scholar of New Testament studies. In *Light of the World* she explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. Take some time this Advent season to prepare for the birth of the Christ child through the study of the people and events that surrounded the Christ child in real time. Sign up with the QR Code or [online](#). Purchase the book [online at Abingdon Press](#).



Making Room: Sharing the Love of Christmas Advent Study

- Thursdays at 10:30 am (December 2 - December 23)
- Mud Creek Campus

Often Advent preparations have an inward focus as we prepare for the significance of God breaking into our world through the birth of the Christ child. But in a closer examination of the Advent story, we quickly learn that the focus of the coming of the newborn king is outward. During Advent, you are invited to explore the warmth of welcome at Christmas following interactions with Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, and the magi. Just as Jesus made room in God's kingdom for a host of people that society wanted to leave on the margins, beginning with the appearance of the shepherds, we too should ask ourselves who we can make room for this Christmas.

Serve

For more information on the latest service opportunities
please contact serve@geistchristian.org.

Season of Giving: Christmas

Christmas is a stressful time of year for many in the community. For those families with food insecurity, it is an especially trying time. Geist Christian Church cares for 120 families during the Christmas holiday. Fill a stocking and food bag, purchase gifts for children and/or make a donation to buy a ham and other fresh items. Pick up lists and bags at either campus beginning November 21 through December 12 and return everything by Wednesday, December 15. Volunteer to deliver the items on Saturday, December 18. Sign-up at either campus. Go here to [download and print lists and to donate](#) for hams and fresh items.



The Warming Tree

- December 26 - January 16
- Mud Creek Campus & Promise Road Campus

During cold winter days, there are many in the community looking for proper protection from the elements. To help those most in need, donate new gloves/mittens, hats, scarves, earmuffs, etc. for men, women, and children. Both campuses will have a bare Christmas tree that will be available for decorating with these much needed items. Let us warm the tree, as we warm the community

Engage

Special Advent Events

For more information on special Advent events
please contact connect@geistchristian.org.

Daily E-mail Sentence Prayers During Advent

- November 28 - December 25

The pastors offer daily prayers via -email during the season of Advent. Sentence prayers, in additions to a regular time of meditation, allow focus on a single daily though on the journey to Christmas. Past recipients are sent them automatically. If you would like to receive them, send a request to epray@geistchristian.org.

Grief Service: Journey from Loss to Living

- Sunday, December 5, 6:00 pm
- Mud Creek Campus

Those attending the grief service are invited to submit pictures of loved ones to the church office by November 24 for display during the service. Please include name, date of birth and death. Drop the pictures off at the Mud Creek Campus or email them to office@geistchristian.org. Pictures will be returned the week after the service.

Breakfast with Santa

- Saturday, December 11, 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- Promise Road Campus

It's Christmastime! Get ready for games, crafts, a light breakfast and of course, Santa himself! Come take pictures with Santa and have a little fun along the way. Register using the QR code or by [using this link](#).



Youth Christmas Party

- Sunday, December 12, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Promise Road Campus

Students in grades 7-12 are invited to a night of Christmas fun and games! Bring a wrapped gift worth no more than \$15 for the White Elephant gift exchange. Come for some surprises and a healthy dose of holiday cheer.

Sounds of the Season

- Wednesday, December 15, 1:00 pm
- Mud Creek Campus. Online live-stream, youtube.com/mudcreeklive
- Cost \$5

Minister of Music, Schuyler Brinson presents "Sounds of the Season." Enjoy an afternoon of carols and holiday favorites as we celebrate the Christmas season. Light refreshments will follow in the Great Hall. RSVP to lori.kline@geistchristian.org or call 317-842-3594.

GCC Youth Babysitting Fundraiser: Parents' Afternoon Out

- Sunday, December 19, 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- Promise Road Campus
- Infants to 5th grade. Masks required for children age 3 and up.

With less than a week until Christmas, this is the perfect opportunity to drop off your child for an afternoon of fun while you finish up some Christmas shopping, wrapping gifts, or just spend a few moments alone. The afternoon includes games, crafts, snack time, and a Christmas movie. A free will offering of your choice will benefit the youth and their 2022 mission trips. Use the QR code to register or by [using this link](#). RSVP by Friday, December 17.



Young Adult Christmas Party

- Monday, December 20, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- The Burtners Barn

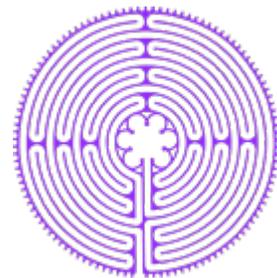
Young adults ages 18 & up, who are out of high school, gather for some holiday fun, food, and fellowship! Share

a meal together and join in a friendly game of Christmas Trivia. Grab your friends, brush up on all your holiday knowledge, and get ready for a lively night with a few surprises!

Longest Night Labyrinth Walk

- Tuesday, December 21 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- Promise Road Campus

Days get shorter and nights longer, the light seems weaker and the dark seems stronger making December 21, the Longest Night, night of the Winter Solstice, perfect for a labyrinth walk. A time to reflect on places of darkness in our lives and world while remembering the very next dawn will bring days getting longer and nights shorter, darkness that ebbs and light that grows. Mere days later we celebrate Light breaking into our world with the birth of Jesus. Come and go as your schedule allows. The walk is outside so dress accordingly. Follow the lit path to the labyrinth by the firepit. (In case of bad weather, a canvas labyrinth will be laid for a walk in the gym.) Hot chocolate available in the lobby. Face the darkness and celebrate the Light.



Engage

New Year Programs & Events

For more information on programs and events in the New Year
please contact connect@geistchristian.org.

Lessons from Lasso Series

- Begins January 9
- Promise Road Campus

Join us in January for a six-week sermon series based on the hit Apple TV show Ted Lasso. The show invites viewers to imagine another way of being in the world, another set of values to prioritize, another approach to decision-making and relationship-building. The show and this series will make you laugh, cry, feel good, and teach some valuable lessons about life.

In the Beginning Series

- Begins January 2
- Mud Creek Campus

Kick off the new year with a five-week sermon series on the book of Genesis. This series sets the stage for the year as we review some of the pivotal stories from Genesis including creation, the flood, Abraham, Jacob's Ladder and Joseph.

Annual Meeting

- Sunday, January 23 at 7:00 pm
- Mud Creek Campus and Zoom

Members of Geist Christian Church are invited to join the in-person/virtual Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 23 at 7:00 pm. This will be held at the Mud Creek Campus, and a link will be available for those who would like to attend virtually on a Zoom Webinar. (Unlike Zoom meetings, the Webinar allows only speakers to be seen and heard, but members online will have the ability to ask questions and vote on issues.)

Ladies Bible Study

- Tuesdays at 11:30 am – 1:30 pm (Begins in January)
- Mud Creek Campus

Open to women of all ages and stages, this is a group ready to do several book studies throughout the year. Led by Jodi Burtner, the group is very casual with open book discussions that are always a treat! Look forward to lots of love and laughter, with plenty of support through prayer and friendship while learning more about Christ. This winter, the group will study 1 John: *Walking in the Fullness of God's Love* by Wendy Blight. Books are available to be purchased for \$15 each.

Kerygma Study

- Thursdays at 10:30 am (Begins January 13)
- Mud Creek Campus

Kerygma is a mid-week study that uses a variety of resources to encourage lively discussion, to help deepen one's faith. There is free expression of ideas and opinions and lots of laughter. On January 13 we begin a book study on the book *The Bible with and Without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently* by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler.

New Small Group

- Wednesday, January 19, 6:15 pm - Meal together at designated tables
- Weeks of January 24 through February 21 - Gatherings of table groups in homes and restaurants for fellowship and fun!
- Promise Road Campus

Why not get acquainted with a few more people at Geist Christian Church by meeting new friends, sharing of yourself with other Christians, creating a closer community ~ all are part of the hopes for this event. Mark your calendar, and plan for the whole family to participate! Registration begins after Christmas.

Serve



Ongoing Mission

For more information on the latest service opportunities
please contact serve@geistchristian.org.

Heifer International Quarter Collection

An ongoing project for even the youngest of children, quarters collected every week are adding up! We're on a mission to end hunger and poverty in a sustainable way by supporting and investing alongside local farmers and their communities through Heifer International. Bring quarters to either campus.

Food Pantry Support

The Geist Christian Church supports two local food pantries. The Mud Creek Campus items are donated to The Sharing Place, and the Promise Road Campus supports the Come-To-Me Food Pantry at the Fishers United Methodist Church in Fishers. All non-perishable and dry goods are gratefully accepted.

Engage



Ongoing Studies, Small Groups & Programs

For more information on ongoing small groups & programs
please contact connect@geistchristian.org.

Children

Children's ministry is a caring, engaging and safe environment where children connect with stories from the Bible on Sunday mornings. Contact children@geistchristian.org to get involved.

Five.6

Five.6 is a fun, engaging and safe environment for students in grades 5 & 6 to connect and grow in their faith. Contact children@geistchristian.org to get involved.

Youth

- Sundays beginning January 9
- Mud Creek Campus or Promise Road Campus

Youth Ministry is a place for students in grades 7 - 12 to explore their faith through discussion, service, and play. Contact youth@geistchristian.org to get involved.

Taking Flight

- 2nd Tuesday of every month, 7:00 pm
- Mud Creek Campus or Promise Road Campus

Taking Flight Ministries is a college support ministry for parents, grandparents and other adults with a heart for post-high school young adults. Email Michelle at TakingFlightMinistries@gmail.com for more details.

Weekday Ministries

- Mud Creek Campus and Promise Road Campus

Geist Christian Church's Weekday Ministries program offers classes for ages 1½ thru Kindergarten. The school provides a safe, secure hands-on learning environment where God's love is integrated throughout the day. For more information, explore geistwdm.org. Contact wdm@geistwdm.org.

Chancel Choir (Mud Creek Campus)

- Rehearsal – Thursdays, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
- Mud Creek Campus, Sundays 8:30 am rehearsal prior to services

The Chancel Choir leads worship each Sunday at the 9:00 am & 10:30 am services from September through May and at other special services throughout the year. Contact Schuyler Brinson, Minister of Music at schuyler.brinson@geistchristian.org.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

- Wednesday at 7:00 am
- Mud Creek Campus

The Bridge (small group for men)

- Wednesdays 6:00 pm -7:30 pm
- Promise Road and/or Off-site

Page Turners (book club)

- Wednesdays, 6:30 pm (every other month - the 4th Wednesday beginning in September)
- Mud Creek Campus

Women's Prayer Breakfast

- Thursdays, 7:30 am
- Mud Creek Campus

Soul Sisters (fitness small group)

- Thursdays at 7:00 pm
- Promise Road Campus

Exploration Bible Study

- Selected Fridays at 6:30 pm
- Mud Creek Campus and Zoom

Wonder Years (Bible study for women)

- Sundays, 9:15 - 10:00 am
- Mud Creek Campus

Jubilate (adult Sunday School class)

- Sundays, 10:15 am
- Mud Creek Campus

Seekers (adult Sunday School Class)

- Sundays, 10:15 am
- Mud Creek Campus

Engage

Upcoming Special Events

A Weekend of Wine for Some ~ Compassion for All

- Saturday, February 26, 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm at the Old Oakland Golf Club, 11611 E. 75th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46236

A night to remember with wine, food and music to raise funds for Week of Compassion, the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Tickets: \$50/person. Silent auction supports the Geist Christian Church youth mission trips.

- Sunday, February 27 - Guest Preacher Rev. Vy Nguyen, Executive Director of Week of Compassion is giving the message.
- 9:00 am at the Mud Creek Campus and 10:00 am at the Promise Road Campuses

Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner

- Tuesday, March 1, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Mud Creek Campus

Mark your calendars for this youth fundraiser as we prepare for Lent! All you can eat pancakes, sausage, and tater tots served by our dedicated youth. Tickets will be sold at the door, \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 6 years and under.

Worship

Geist Christian Church

Whether you choose a more traditional setting at the Mud Creek Campus or prefer a contemporary worship experience at the Promise Road Campus, all are welcome at Geist Christian Church – a congregation rooted in faith, committed to meaningful relationships with one another, and filled with a passion for service in the community and around the world.

Mud Creek Campus Worship

- 8550 Mud Creek Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46256
- Sundays, 9:00 am & 10:30 am, Online live-stream, 10:30 am, youtube.com/mudcreeklive

Promise Road Campus Worship

- 12756 Promise Road, Fishers, Indiana 46038
- Sundays, 9:00 am & 10:00 am, Online live-stream, youtube.com/promiseroadlive

Geist Christian Church

What We Believe

Geist Christian Church is a part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). We believe that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior. This statement is more than words or simply a profession of faith. It is the only question we ask when one wishes to affiliate with Geist Christian Church and our faith is expressed out of this simple profession. There are no other creeds or confessions that act as a test of faith.

- We believe that the Lord's Table is open and inclusive. Communion, which we celebrate weekly, is open to all who confess Jesus as the Christ. Gathering around the communion table is a constant reminder that Christ gave his life for us.
- We believe in the ministry of all believers. While there are ministers on the staff, each member and participant of the church is gifted in many ways; each is a minister of the church. We seek to use our gifts together, as the body of Christ.
- We believe in the love of unity. Recognized or not, we are in relation to one another. We believe that we are to work together as denominations to be the witnesses of Christ. In short, we believe that we are Christians only and not the only Christians.
- We believe in the justice of God. We are called to love and serve all of God's people. We serve the marginalized and distressed in our community and around the world.

www.geistchristian.org
office@geistchristian.org

317.842.3594

To receive the weekly email newsletter, send a request to

gccenews@geistchristian.org