

DECEMBER 1, 2019

WELLSPRING CHURCH



# HOPE

COME  
THOU LONG EXPECTED  
JESUS

# WELCOME TO WELLSPRING!

**THANKS FOR BEING OUR GUEST!** New to Wellspring Church and need some information? Grab a **Connection Card** from the Connection Center outside the sanctuary or meet us there after the service for a brief guest's reception. We'd love to take a moment to get to know you and your family, and provide a small gift to you as a token of our thanks for visiting!

## SERVICE TIMES

**9:00am + 11:00am**

### WORSHIP SERVICE & CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Infant thru Age 2 - First Floor Nursery

2 thru Kindergarten - Upstairs

1st-4th Grade - Downstairs

## WELLSPRING at a GLANCE



### WORSHIPING GOD **TOGETHER**

Gathering in Unity  
Giving God Glory  
Crowning Him King



### DOING LIFE **TOGETHER**

Spending Time Together  
Filling Each Other's Needs  
Encouraging One Another



### SERVING OTHERS **TOGETHER**

Sharing Time, Treasures and Talent  
Sharing Who Jesus Is  
Sharing What Jesus Does



### SHARING JESUS **TOGETHER**

Proclaiming the Gospel  
Inviting People into the Kingdom  
Building God's Church

## CURRENTLY

COME  
THOU LONG EXPECTED  
JESUS

HOPE LOVE JOY PEACE

ADVENT SERIES • WELLSPRING CHURCH

Throughout the month of December, we will celebrate the advent of most incredible gift ever given, the Redeemer. He is Jesus, and He will save His people from their sins. Creation waited for so long, and the Savior is here with us today!

## CONNECT

We look forward to hearing from you and interacting with you. Let's keep in touch.

**PHONE:** 616.662.8955

**EMAIL:** [church@wellspringcc.org](mailto:church@wellspringcc.org)

**MOBILE APP:** [wellspringcc.org/app](https://wellspringcc.org/app)

**FACEBOOK:** [facebook.com/wellspringccmi](https://facebook.com/wellspringccmi)

**INSTAGRAM:** [@wellspringccmi](https://www.instagram.com/wellspringccmi)

Send us a note at [church@wellspringcc.org](mailto:church@wellspringcc.org) if you'd like to receive our twice-a-month email newsletter with news, events and encouragement.

## NEED PRAYER?

Please reach out if you have any prayer needs. You are welcome to meet us up front after the service, or email any requests to [prayer@wellspringcc.org](mailto:prayer@wellspringcc.org).

## TODAY

9:00 + 11:00AM

STEVE GIBSON, Lead Pastor

**NO EVENING ACTIVITIES**

## GIVING UPDATE

Your gifts help provide for the work of the ministry of Wellspring Church, and we thank you. Online giving is quick, easy and secure. You can set up one-time or automatic recurring giving, using ACH or a Credit Card by going online to [wellspringcc.org](http://wellspringcc.org). Simply click "GIVING" to get started.

### DONATIONS from NOVEMBER 1-24

GIVING: **\$88,884**

BUDGETED: **\$123,080**

SHORTAGE: **[\$34,196]**

### 2019 DONATIONS TO DATE

GIVING: **\$1,136,762**

BUDGETED: **\$1,187,440**

SHORTAGE: **[\$50,678]**

*DATA AS OF NOVEMBER 27, 2019*

### GROWING GOD'S KINGDOM

*\*GIFTS DESIGNATED FOR WELLSPRING'S*

*BUILDING PROJECT, GROWING GOD'S*

*KINGDOM, CAN BE SELECTED VIA THE APP OR*

*WRITTEN ON YOUR CHECK OR ENVELOPE.*

## GOT QUESTIONS?

Part of our meeting next week will include an answer time. We realize that some may be uncomfortable asking a question in the group setting, so we want to offer you a chance to submit a question via email to [church@wellspringcc.org](mailto:church@wellspringcc.org) prior to the meeting. This will also help us provide clarification personally if the need arises.

## THIS WEEK

### MONDAY 2

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY/MONDAY NIGHT  
FOOTBALL AFTERWARD • 7-8:00PM**

### TUESDAY 3

**TIDE RE:FRESH • 6:30-9PM  
WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY • 7-9PM**

### WEDNESDAY 4

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY • 9:15-11:30AM  
VERTICAL GIRLS BIBLE STUDY • 6:30-8PM  
WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING • 7-8:30PM**

### THURSDAY 5

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY • 6:30-8:00AM**

### SATURDAY 7

**5th-8th MALL HUNT • 1-4:30PM  
[wellspringcc.org/mallhunt](http://wellspringcc.org/mallhunt)**

## COMING UP

### DECEMBER 8

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING • 6PM**

### DECEMBER 12

**LADIES CONNECT • 7-9PM  
[wellspringcc.org/ladiesconnect](http://wellspringcc.org/ladiesconnect)**

### DECEMBER 15

**YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTIES • 5:30PM  
KIDS ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL • 5:30PM**

### DECEMBER 18

**KIDS ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL • 6:30PM  
[wellspringcc.org/ensemble](http://wellspringcc.org/ensemble)**

## NOTICE OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographs and/or videos may be taken at Wellspring Church events and services for informational and promotional purposes. Please contact us if you do not consent to having your likeness appear in any of these platforms via email at [jgamble@wellspringcc.org](mailto:jgamble@wellspringcc.org).

## TOP THREE

### ANNUAL MEETING

**NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 • 6PM**

Plan to attend for updates on personnel, budget and the renovation, a Q & A, and to vote on incoming board members. Child care will be provided up through 4th grade.

### ANGEL TREE

**NOW THROUGH NEXT SUNDAY**

If you would like to share with local children or teenagers who might not otherwise receive gifts this Christmas, take a tag from the Angel Tree in the Connection Center and return an unwrapped gift back to the Angel Tree by December 8.

### MALL HUNT

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**

BaseFiveSix and Vertical Youth, sign up today for a great Saturday together!

**INFO: [wellspringcc.org/mallhunt](http://wellspringcc.org/mallhunt)**

**FOR A COMPLETE EVENTS CALENDAR,  
PLEASE GO ONLINE TO  
[WELLSPRINGCC.ORG/EVENTS](http://WELLSPRINGCC.ORG/EVENTS)**

## WELLSPRING MOBILE APP

We are excited to make available this incredible new ministry tool.

Features include sermon audio, video and sharing, notifications to keep in touch, events calendar and complete ministry and program info.

Scan the code below or go online to [wellspringcc.org/app](http://wellspringcc.org/app) to find the download links for your device.





## ADVENT WEEK ONE: A BLESSED HOPE

Bursting with anticipation, a little girl peers out of a glittering glass window. Navigating the encased frost filled edges of frozen morning dew, she presses her face against the pane. With her eyes fixed on the long winding drive and her excitement unable to be tamed, she settles in for the big arrival. Then, in a sudden shriek of joy, she announces for all to hear, "They are coming! They are coming!"

Advent, that time of year, when we too wait with expectancy. The word "advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming". The first mention of advent in church history was around the fourth century, yet by the fifth and sixth centuries advent was common church practice. The season of advent calls to us as it did the early church, to concentrate our hearts on Christ. During the four Sunday's leading up to Christmas, we will focus on the hope, love, joy, and peace of Jesus. We look not only to the birth of Christ, but also to His return. In this advent season, the corporate call to our church body is to reflect on the person who is the Christ. A beloved bellowing found in scripture and authored from the throne room of heaven declares,

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6*

In a word, Isaiah shouts to the world, *hope*. Hope is coming! Indeed, hope has come, and hope remains. Like the child awaiting the coming of her grandparents, we too await with confidence the future coming of Christ. And in this Christmas season, we celebrate the hope which has already come in Jesus Christ.

It is important to remember this hope isn't *for* something, though it includes that, rather this hope is *in* someone—Jesus. In the person of Christ, we have hope. As the days tick by and we walk toward that bed of scratchy straw to peek into the manger, straining to catch a glimpse of Isaiah's heralded child, we rejoice! Can you picture that first Christmas day and what it must have been like when the world saw hope, in the flesh, revealed?

Luke tells us how the shepherds reacted when the coming hope arrived:

*The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen. Luke 2:20*

On that first Christmas, with faces pressed firm against the glass, the shepherds saw hope. We too press against the pane, awaiting with great expectation the second *advent*.

In the days ahead, let us prepare our hearts for the Christmas season and for the mighty return of our Lord. In this first week, may we reflect upon the glorious truths that hope came, hope is here, hope is coming again, and hope has a name—Jesus!

—Michael Goff



# SIX PROMISES GOD MAKES

The coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh is the fulfillment of God's greatest promise: The promise that he would send a Redeemer, that being Jesus Christ, to be the Savior of the world. Here are six more promises we can claim that come from God over this coming week.

## MONDAY TO SUPPLY ALL OF OUR NEEDS

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." *PHILIPPIANS 4:19*

## TUESDAY HIS GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR US

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." *2 CORINTHIANS 12:9*

## WEDNESDAY VICTORY OVER DEATH

"For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures..." *1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4*

## THURSDAY ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." *ROMANS 8:28*

## FRIDAY NO TEMPTATION WILL OVERTAKE US

"To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen." *JUDE 24-25*

## SATURDAY THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand." *JOHN 10:27-28*