

Focused Prayer

As you pray this week, consider the general points below to help guide your requests and praises.

Health Needs

Thank God for the recovery of health and mobility, slow though it may be, for all recovering from injury and/or surgery
 Pray for strength and courage for all who are battling blood sugar issues, this time of year is especially hard for many
 Pray for the recovery of those suffering from flu and other viruses, and pray that it not spread
 Pray for grace for yourself and others to "...of our own spiritual choice, to be free and joyous in God..." because "a merry heart does good like a medicine" (Proverbs 17:22)

Community & Country

Praise God for the wonderful interactions, and continue to pray for the impressions that God made on all who participated in Journey to Bethlehem
 Please continue to pray for the safety of the schools in our area, remembering also those who are grieving nationwide
 Pray that the Spirit of "peace on Earth, good will toward men" prevail over anger, anxiety, stress, and mayhem

Our Church – Local and World-Wide

Pray that we may individually and corporately humble our hearts and seek the Lord as never before, turning away from all that would separates us (Isaiah 59:2) from Him, that we comply with His conditions, and by submission to one another in the fear of God be truly "in one accord" so that Pentecost, by God's grace, will be a reality in 2025
 Let us continue to pray with and for each other, for we need each other's prayers now as never before

Other requests

Praise God for His mercy as we pray for the protection of all who will be traveling, that His purposes can be realized
 Pray that The Comforter, The Holy Spirit, will be experienced in a very special way during this season, by all who have suffered loss.
 Please continue to pray for God's providential leading for those needing employment, housing, and/or a car

Giving Guide

We thank you for supporting our local and global church through your giving. You may place a tithe envelope in any of the locked boxes at the sanctuary entrance doors or scan the QR code in the box below to give online.

Financial Report through December 15, 2024

To financially support any of our church ministries, please mark your tithe envelope accordingly.
 Any undesignated contributions turned in by tithe envelope will remain in the local church



	Yearly Budget	Monthly Budget	Rec. this month	Budget to date	YTD Rec.
Church Budget*	\$223,200	\$18,600	\$7,636	\$214,625	\$200,079
Media Ministry	\$20,500	\$1,708	\$433	\$19,750	\$21,964

*Church Budget consists of: Christian Education (41%), Church Expense (30%), Evangelism (3.5%), Building Maintenance (3%), Operating Reserves (Working Capital) (3%), Media Ministry (3%), Pathfinders (3%), Sabbath School (3%), Contingency (2%), Youth/YA (2%), Community Services (2%), Worthy Student (2%), Adventurers (1%), Personal Ministries (1%), and Social Committee (0.5%)



December 21, 2024

Happy Sabbath and Welcome to the Cicero SDA Church

Sabbath School – 9:45 a.m.

There are adult Sabbath School classes located in the church sanctuary and in the fellowship hall – please feel free to join either class. For the location of children, youth, and young adult classes, please ask the greeter for directions.

Worship Service – 10:50 a.m.

Mission Spotlight

Announcements & Welcome

Art Miller

Praise through Singing

Worship through the Written Word

Hebrews 6:17-20

David Currier

Garden of Prayer

David Currier

Children's Story

Sara Reichert

Worship through Giving

Art Miller

Church Budget

Music for Meditation

Steve Newby

Worship Through the Spoken Word

"Between Two Advents"

Pastor Aaron

Closing Hymn

#125

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Sunset tonight at 5:23 p.m.

Sunset next Friday at 5:27 p.m.

Announcements

Membership Transfers – First Reading

To Cicero:

Raian, Jaira, Janice & Jehuraian Villacrue from the Bloomington SDA Church, Bloomington, IN

Mission Spotlight

Today we will be showing our monthly mission spotlight video starting at 10:50 a.m. in the sanctuary. Be sure to watch so you can see how your mission offerings are helping spread God's word this quarter.

Journey to Bethlehem Thanks & Pack Up Help

As always, a huge thank you to our Journey to Bethlehem team and cast for another successful production. We saw around 650 guests over both nights (lower numbers this year due to rain on Sabbath evening). Everyone that we interacted with said they really enjoyed the story and the way it was presented. This is one of our biggest community outreach efforts each year, and we are thankful for the opportunity to share God's message.

We do need help packing things up and getting them placed into our new storage containers. It won't take too long if we can get a number to come and help! We will be working from 9:00 a.m. to noon tomorrow. If you work quickly, you will keep warm too! We really appreciate all that can donate some time to help finish up this year's production pack-up.

Christmas Eve Service

We will be having our traditional Christmas Eve service of music and readings Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. We hope you'll come and enjoy a bit of peace and worship with us before the busyness of Christmas day.

Year-end Letter

Pastor Aaron has written a letter summarizing the past year for our church and giving some goals for the coming year. There are hard copies available in the lobby if you did not receive the email version. Please feel free to take a copy.

Labels for Education

We have received our first check in the amount of \$138 for the 552 canned vegetarian food UPC labels that were collected over the past year or so! Thank you for contributing, and we are continuing to collect them until we have enough labels for another submission to Atlantic Foods. The monies we receive go directly to support our elementary school. We can take any canned (no frozen) UPC barcodes from Worthington or Loma Linda vege-foods.

Thirteenth Sabbath & Communion

Due to the holidays and travel, we will have our Thirteenth Sabbath program and Communion service on January 4. Be planning for your special 13th Sabbath mission offering and also a donation to the love offering.