

activity and the next. I invite you, though, to pause every now and then. Take a deep breath. Notice the beauty that God has put before you. Remember the presence of God who holds you through all your busy days. Lift your arms with the bare tree limbs in praise to the Creator of the Universe, the Prince of Peace, the Messiah who comes as a light in our very dark world.

Jesus may not have been born in December. His real birth date is unknown. But, I'm glad that we celebrate the coming of Jesus as our days grow gray and dark. Somehow, remembering God's great action of incarnation – coming to earth as a tiny baby – does something for my heart and soul. I hope it will do something wonderful for yours, too.



**ADVENT/EPIPHANY
DEVOTIONALS – *Discovering the Holy in the Ordinary***

Make sure to pick up this beautiful little devotional book to use during Advent and Epiphany. They are located on the table at the back of the sanctuary for every family in the congregation. This one is written by my friend, Yvonne Riege, who lives in northern Indiana. I have to say -- it looks wonderful! I can't wait to begin reading and praying with Yvonne's thoughtful words. I hope they will be a blessing to all of us as we watch, wait, and celebrate the birth of Jesus! *Pastor Paula*

ADVENT CHILDREN'S STORY SERIES

Beginning on Sunday, November 29 and going through our Christmas Eve Service, Pastor Paula will read portions of the beautiful story, *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey*, to the children each week. And, each week, we will build the nativity set as "Jonathan carves the figures." This story will work

its way into the hearts of young and old alike. If there's a child in your life, or a family you know who does not worship anywhere, this might be a great time to invite them to join us for worship!

"ADOPT A FAMILY" CHRISTMAS CHARITY

Our congregation will once again participate in Jefferson Township's "Adopt a Family" Christmas charity. Gift ideas for the family will be hanging on a small Christmas tree in the sanctuary as soon as we receive them. If you plan to participate please bring **unwrapped gift** to the sanctuary by **Sunday, December 12**. Place unwrapped gifts under the tree.

The trustee's office staff and other volunteers will be wrapping the gifts Dec 17 & 18. Please contact Julie Potter or Joe Smith (765)489-4824 if you are interested in wrapping.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Our Christmas Eve service will include candle lighting and music as usual, but