Pastor's Note-

Edmund H. Sears, a Unitarian minister at Wayland, Massachusetts, wrote the hymn "It came upon a midnight clear" in 1849. It was published that year a few days after Christmas in the Boston Christian Register. While obviously a Christmas hymn due to its theme of the angels' song, there is no mention at all of Christ or His birth about which the angels sang; it is a social gospel hymn. Perhaps this is due to the theological leanings of its author, even though Sears believed in the divinity of Christ, contrary to most Unitarians. Written only a dozen years before the outbreak of the American Civil War, the peaceable leanings of the Unitarian school of thought are evident in the text.

Originally written in five stanzas, this hymn is usually published with four. The third stanza (beginning "Yet with the woes") is most commonly omitted, and the fourth (beginning "And ye, beneath life's crushing load") is next most common. The first and second stanzas ("It came upon the midnight clear" and "Still through the cloven skies they come") describe the coming of the angels and their song. The third condemns war, and the fourth commiserates with those in bondage and trial. The fifth stanza ("For lo! the days are hastening on") describes a future time of peace. Interesting perspective. "Keep Your Hand To The Plow?"

"What Child Is This?"
12/17/2023

TEXT:

Isaiah 9:6—*"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."*

OUTLINE:

I. WONDERFUL _____.

II. _____ GOD.

III. THE _____ FATHER.

IV. PRINCE OF _____.

Prayer Requests-

-Remember to pray for Families and Marriages here at Crossroads Fellowship.
-Pray for the health and unity of our Church, Crossroads Fellowship.

The Pastor and Office Staff are here to assist you in any way they can in your desire to follow Christ. Please contact the Church office at (920) 324-2093 if you would like to reach them or schedule an appointment.

Have A GREAT Week!! Love—Pastor Jeff

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, [2] fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
-Hebrews 12:1-2

Sundays Schedule
Sunday Service→10 am

Rev. Jeff Casper- Pastor
Michelle Casper-Administrative Assistant
Kathy Smith-Christian Ed/Custodian

www.crossroadswaupun.org

Welcome to CrossRoads Fellowship

December 17, 2023

This Week-

9:00 a.m.	Worship Team Practice
10:00 a.m.	Sunday Service- Children's Christmas Program Pastor Jeff- "What Child Is This?" -Nursery (Newborn-2) in nursery We will not be having the Bigs or Littles class this morning.
11:30 a.m.	We will be decorating Christmas cookies in the fellowship hall following the service.

****Monday****

6:30 p.m.	Board Meeting at the church

****Tuesday****

6:30 p.m.	"Becoming Heart Sisters" Bible Study- This is our last week of this study, bring a snack to share.

****Wednesday****

6:30-7:30 p.m.	Mid-Week Worship & Word -**Youth Group**

Upcoming Events-

- Next Sunday night we will be having our Annual Church Candlelight Service at a new time, 5:00 p.m. Come join us for this very special service!
- Christmas Dinner! If you have no plans for Christmas, you are welcome to come to the Wesley Center in Waupun on Monday, December 25th for a home-cooked meal. This will be buffet style. They will serve at 11:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Please call 920-928-3310 for reservations and state which time slot you want to attend. There is no charge for the dinner.
- There will be **No** Wednesday Night activities on December 27th.
- Fri. Dec. 29-6pm-Youth Lock-In at the church. Bring a snack to share and a $5 item for gift exchange. Pick up by 10am on Sat.
- The next Ladies Bible Study will be "Fierce"-Women of the Bible Who Changed the World. This 6-week study will begin on Tuesday, January 9th. It will be at the church at 6:30 p.m. In January we will meet on January 9th and the 23rd. Then we will return to our 1st and 3rd Tuesdays for February and March. Please let Michelle know if you would like to purchase the workbook for $14 as soon as possible.

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If you are unable to attend services for any reason we want to remind you of ways to keep connected to CrossRoads. We do have the service streaming on Facebook, that you are able to view at any time. We also have a video of the sermon available on the church website at www.crossroadswaupun.org The website is a great way to keep updated as to events, schedules, bulletins as well as the sermons. There is also a tab to continue your tithe as well as you are welcome to send it in the mail to 846 E. Main St., Waupun, WI 53963.

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If you are visiting for the first time with us this morning, we would like to extend a warm welcome to you. Please fill out a visitor's card located in the pew rack and turn it in to the Visitor's Center in the lobby after church. Thank You!