



December 1, 2024 – 9:45 AM

WORSHIP MUSIC

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
Days of Elijah
Boundless Love

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Greens

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:25-38

MESSAGE

Inviting the Waiting
Pastor Nathan Decker

Having trouble seeing the screen? Just ask an usher for a copy of today's large print song lyrics.

CUMC STAFF DIRECTORY

Ministers..... All Disciples of the Congregation
Lead Pastor: Nathan Decker.....nathandecker@chesterumc.org
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Preschool Director: Whitney Graham.....preschool@chesterumc.org



A Community in Christ
Chester United Methodist Church
Embrace – Love - Impact

12132 Percival Street, Chester, Virginia 23831 * Church: (804) 748-6006
Web Site: www.chesterumc.org * *A Stephen Ministry Congregation*



FRESH START SERVICE
December 1, 2024—8:30 AM



Please sign the attendance pad and pass it to your neighbor.

WORSHIP MUSIC

Glory to God Forever
Days of Elijah
Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble?
Sing to the King

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Greens

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:25-38

MESSAGE

Inviting the Waiting
Pastor Nathan Decker

Having trouble seeing the screen? Just ask an usher for a copy of today's large print song lyrics.

December 1, 2024

A Service of Worship and Praise
11:00 AM

1st Sunday in
Advent

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting Our Neighbors

Prelude

Holy, Holy, Holy

Jean Wallace, Organist

Advent Wreath Lighting

Joel Furtick, Candle Lighter

The Chancel Choir sings...then

All Sing: Lord, we are waiting for peace to reign. Lord, we are listening for love's refrain. For hope, peace, and joy and love to unite in the beauty and wonder of Advent's holy light.

Leader: For those of us facing difficult challenges

People: Ignite our hearts with hope.

Leader: For the end of wars wreaking havoc and pain in our world

People: Ignite our hearts with hope.

Leader: For safety for those fleeing the tyranny of oppression

People: Ignite our hearts with hope.

Leader: For the light of forgiveness to shine in our hearts

People: Ignite our hearts with hope.

All Sing: Lord, we are waiting for peace to reign. Lord, we are listening for love's refrain. For hope, peace, and joy and love to unite in the beauty and wonder of Advent's holy light.

* Hymn No. 196

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Why We Give

Offertory

The Green Family

* Doxology No. 94

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Claudia Nagy

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

Hymn No. 204	<i>Emmanuel</i>	
Scripture Reading	<i>Luke 2:25-38</i>	NRSVUE
Message	<i>Inviting the Waiting</i>	Rev. Nathan Decker
Holy Communion		Rev. Decker & Steve Osborne
* Hymn No. 211	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	
* Benediction		
* Choral Amen		Chancel Choir

* *Please stand as you are able.* **Bold print indicates a response in unison.**

Advent Candle Lighters

8:30 Eric & Laura Houglan **9:45** Jack O'Connell **11:00** Joel Furtick

Altar Flowers: To God be the glory! In memory of family and friends no longer with us. They are always missed, but especially during the Holidays! By Donnie and Sherri Snelson.

Calendar

December 1, 2024 – December 8, 2024

Today: Sunday, December 1

8:15 AM Nursery until 12:00 PM

8:30 AM Fresh Start Worship- DFH

9:45 AM Bridge Worship -Sanctuary

Sun Sch PreK-107

Sun Sch Gr K-5-206

Adult SS-Various
Youth Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditions Worship-
Sanctuary.
11:00 AM Play Practice-DFH
1:30 PM Key Club Meeting- 116
4:00 PM NO Youth Activities
5:00 PM Advent Study- Zoom

Monday: December 2

10:00 AM Advent Study- 226
6:30 PM Boy Scouts-DFH
7:00 PM Music Reading-Music Ste
7:00 PM Jean Craig Fellowship-205

Tuesday: December 3

10:30 AM NO Joy Singers
2:00 PM Stephen Ministers- 226
3:00 PM Rest Stop-Annex
6:30 PM Jr. Girl Scout Troop-116
7:00 PM Service of Remembrance-
JT Morriss & Son, Chester
7:00 PM Cancel Choir- Music Suite

Wednesday: December 4

10:00 AM Visitation Team-226
5:30 PM Handbell Choir-Music Ste
5:45 PM Wacky Wednesday- Trinity
5:45 PM Youth Bible Study-Trinity
6:00 PM Cub Scouts- 226

7:00 PM Cancel Choir- Music Suite

Thursday: December 5

1:30 PM Prayer Shawl- Parlor
6:00 PM Women's Book Club- DFH

Friday: December 6

Saturday: December 7

10:00 AM Children's Play Practice-
Sanctuary
10:00 AM Happy Birthday Jesus
Party- DFH
5:00 PM Posada Christmas
Celebration- DFH

Next Sunday: December 8

8:15 AM Nursery until 12 PM
8:30 AM Fresh Start Worship- DFH
9:45 AM Bridge Worship- Sanctuary
Sun Sch PreK-107
Sun Sch Gr K-5-206
Adult SS-Various
Youth Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditions Worship-
Sanctuary
11:00 AM Children's Play Practice-
DFH
4:00 PM No Youth Activities
5:00 PM Advent Study- Zoom

Sunday Worship

December 8 Inviting the Overthrow of the Empire Luke 1:39-56 NRSV

Our Parish Nurse, Cindy Webb, is available *today*, 9:00 AM, Room 105.

Poinsettia & Wreath Sales: *Today is the last day to order!* Help beautify the Sanctuary for Christmas. Find an order form in this bulletin. Wreaths will remain in the Sanctuary windows.

*We are truly blessed if you are a guest who has chosen to worship with us today!
First-time guests are invited to pick up a blue Welcome Bag from the Atrium or
Narthex. Thank you for celebrating the Lord with us today!*

Poinsettias may be taken home after Christmas. Make checks payable to CUMC (Memo: wreath or poinsettia.)

Service of Remembrance: Tuesday, December 3, 7:00 PM at JT Morriss & Son Funeral Home, 3050 W. Hundred Rd, Chester. In remembrance of our lost loved ones. All are welcome. Suggested arrival time is 6:15-6:30 PM.

Posada Celebration: Saturday, December 7, 5:00 PM -7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall.

We'll celebrate the Christmas holiday with Latin traditions at our Posada from 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, December 7, in the fellowship hall. We'll provide an authentic dinner, a pinata for the kids, a religious observance and gift-filled shoeboxes for children.

Here's how you can support our ESL families and this important ministry:

- Wrap a shoebox or take one from the Welcome Center and fill it with gifts. Please indicate on the form if you're offering gifts for a boy or girl and which age: 0-2, 3-5, 4-8 and 9-14. Keep lids separate so contents can be inspected. Please return gift boxes by Tuesday, December 3.
- Donate toward the meal and sides that we're providing.
- Help at the party, especially if you speak Spanish. We'll start setting up at 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 7.
- Pray for a meaningful event that builds stronger connections with our ESL families and friends.

If you'd like to invite friends who speak Spanish to join the fun, please ask them to register so we can provide age-appropriate gifts for the children. Use this link to register.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4DADAD2FA4FFC16-52783538-posada#/>

For more information, please contact Kris Spadaccia at kspadaccia@outlook.com or cell (804-357-7463 (please text first)).

"Ballad of Bethlehem" Christmas Concert, Sunday, December 15, 11:00 AM; Monday, December 16, and Tuesday, December 17, 7:00 PM. On Monday and Tuesday night, we will be teaming up with the Chancel Choir from Trinity UMC (Chesterfield.) Come hear 80 voices and our chamber orchestra proclaiming the miracle of Christmas!

Keep In Prayer: Michael Rodriguez; The family of Bill Talley III; Tony Shores; Anthony Napolitano; Dorothy Gonzalez; Diane Duffy; Dustin Munchel; Heather & Matt Escobar; Jane Spain; Bob & Johnnie Davis; Robin Sitten; Doug Pike; Bob Chenoweth; Harley Young; Sandra Cherny; Sharon Buchanan; Caroline Maxwell; David & Patti Lacy; Keith Green; Victoria Harrington; Marie Purdue; Pam Overton; Syrl Ellis; Susan Young; Brooke & Mary Ann Hamilton; Pamela Brown; Seth

& Beth Davis; Judy White; Angie Lawhon; Edward Borocho; Summer Lannan; Teresa Morgan; Wayne & Ginny Virag; Gary Williams; Jim & Dee Watkins; Deborah Napolitano; Mary Luther; Barbara & Buck Dance; Charles Cressell; Harold Worcester; Debra Harms; Gwen Byer; Casey Jones; Mary Ann Bellamy; Dick Weis; Penny Creed; Bryan Mannetta; Joe & Diane Mannetta; Summer Vaughn; Lynda Richardson; Mary Tyree; Ken Farmer; Susie Hall; Ella Hilton; Jo Kiser; Erika Hilton

Our Presence on November 24, 2024

8:30 AM Fresh Start.....	76
9:45 AM Bridge.....	53
11:00 AM Traditions.....	170
Online.....	43
Total Worship Attendance.....	342

CHESTER UMC ONLINE RESOURCES

- **Website:** www.chesterumc.org.
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/ChesterUnitedMethodistChurch/>.
- **Facebook Closed Group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChesterUMC/>.
- **Instagram:** [Instagram.com/chesterumc](https://www.instagram.com/chesterumc)
- **Daily Email News:** Visit <http://ceepurl.com/blV9TV> to subscribe.
- **Daily Devotionals from Pastor Nathan:** <https://www.facebook.com/BetterTogether.Devos/>.
- **YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/c/ChesterUMC>.
- **Prayer Chain Email:** to subscribe or to submit a prayer request, email Michelle at office@chesterumc.org with “Prayer Chain” or “Prayer Request” in the subject line.
- **CUMC Library Catalog:** <https://16538.rmwebopac.com> (password: CUMC). Search for titles, peruse our inventory, and much more. POC: Ron Dombrowski rmachachi@aol.com.
- **The Chimes** – Submit items to assistant@chesterumc.org no later than the 3rd Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and *November*.

Leading Our Worship Today, December 1, 2024

Greeters:	8:30	Karen Comer
	9:45	Jesse & Brenda Stacy
	11:00	Betty Labin, Jim Rhodes
Ushers:	8:30	Gordon Jones*, Bill Comer * Head Usher
	9:45	Herb McCulloch*, Scott Pugh
	11:00	Beth Stewart*, Andrew Brummette, Bob Huffman, Jane Huffman, Steve Osborne
Communion:	8:30	Juliana Paradie, Caroline Morgan, Paige Irving
	9:45	Marg Kutz, Jack O’Connell, Dawn Hall
	11:00	Steve Osborne, Colton Kasky, Sandy Sims
Nursery:	8:30, 9:45, 11:00	Staff Members; Carla Adams, Samantha Garcia

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=chesterumcva>

Confirmation Class: Confirmation class is a spiritual journey of youth who wish to grow in their faith in Jesus. All youth are welcome to participate; previous Baptism is not a requirement; previously confirmed youth are also welcome. We are planning to have a Confirmation Interest Meeting for parents and youth on January 26, 2025, 2:00 PM at the Annex. If your youth is interested in growing more in their spiritual journey, please sign up through this link: <https://forms.gle/sVsFrLwFqGndQfNg7> POCs: Pastor Nathan and Juliana Paradie

Rest Stop is a Chester UMC after school program designed to provide rest and encouragement to at-risk youth from Thomas Dale High School. During the school year we meet weekly on Tuesday afternoons at the Annex. Do you have a special gift to share with these young people or just an abundance of love to give? Call Susan to volunteer or to sign up to provide a meal. Make a check payable to CUMC; memo Rest Stop, to help cover our small expenses including gas for the church bus. You will leave Rest Stop with a joyful heart, receiving more than you gave! Please prayerfully consider how you can help. POC: Team Leader, Susan Petrey (804) 938-5396.

Stephen Ministry: Stephen Ministry needs your help! There are people in our congregation and community who could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister. You can likely name two or three yourself- A young person seeking direction. Someone grieving a loss. A person with chronic or life-threatening illness. Someone whose marriage has ended. We have trained Stephen Ministers ready to walk alongside these same people. If you are aware of someone who could benefit from a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Nathan, pastordeckergmail.com or Steve Osborne sosbor60@gmail.com.



Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, December 8, 2024

Greeters:	8:30	Steve & Joan Osborne
	9:45	Stephanie Decker
	11:00	Will Schmidt, Linda Large
Ushers:	8:30	Wendell Landis*, Ron Dombrowski * Head Usher
	9:45	Jim Watkins*, Kim Young
	11:00	Will Herrmann*, Harold Crowder, Dean Hutchins, Larry Koon, Bob Kutz
Advent Candle	8:30	The Harvey Family
	9:45	Cornelia Dewitt
	11:00	Rick Poole
Nursery:	8:30, 9:45, 11:00	Staff Members; Carla Adams, Samantha Garcia

Children's Sunday School, KIDZ ZONE: 9:45 AM. Pre-K (Rm. 107); Grades K-5 (Rm. 206)
Come join our Kidz Zone Ministry. POC: Juliana Paradie julianaparadie@chesterumc.org.

Adult Small Group Bible Study: 9:45 AM, Room 213 “Our Pad” facilitated by Jeff Marlin jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com.

Fresh Start Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Room 221, at the top of the old stairway. New to CUMC? Looking for a small group? Join the Fresh Start Sunday School Class in study, fellowship, and service. All are welcome. Beginning December 1, *The Christmas Letters*, by Margrey deVega. POC: Susan Petrey, 804-938-5396.

Friendship Ministry Class: 10:40 AM, Room 116, for adults who are developmentally challenged. POC: Mari and Dan Hayes JLMinNaples@msn.com

The Gathering Small Group: 9:45 AM, Room 205. Join with other young families for a time of study and fellowship. POC: Brion & Sonja Seward 1bseward@comcast.net, /Andrew Brummette.

Journey Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Annex and Google Meet, Join by video link: <https://meet.google.com/ptm-pieh-vve>. POCs: Carolyn Landis landisfamily05@gmail.com and Eric Hougland ehougland88@gmail.com

Seekers Sunday School Class: 9:40 AM, Room 226. Our Advent Study, *Christmas From The Back Side*, by J. Ellsworth Kalas, will be covered November 24 through January 5. All adults are welcome. POC: Gordon Jones JONESGJ215@gmail.com

Senior Singles Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Parlor. POC: Cynthia Corley cacorley@ctsi.net

Middle & High School, Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Annex Loft. Grades 6-12. POC: Juliana Paradie julianaparadie@chesterumc.org

Youth Group: Grades 6th-12th, 4:00 PM -5:30 PM, Annex. *No Youth Group on 12/1 & 12/8*. On December 15, 4:00 PM, Christmas party at Emily & William’s home. Hamburgers and hotdogs provided. Bring a side to share. Meet for weekly for fun, fellowship and outreach. POCs: Emily Smith & Jess Hargraves youthleaders@chesterumc.org

Bridge Builders: Meets 2nd Sundays, 12:15 PM, Room 116. (*No meeting in December*) Join us as we pursue ways to build bridges of acceptance for our neighbors who do not look, think, speak or pray like us. POC: Maureen Coker mcoker2003@comcast.net

United Methodist Men: If you are seeking to give and receive fellowship, mentorship, service to Church and community, and study The Word of God with other men. POC: Brion Seward 1bseward@comcast.net

OTHER SMALL GROUPS

Faith Keepers Women’s Prayer Group: Mondays, 9:00 AM at Grants Coffee Co. (11884 Chester Village DR). POC: Sherri Morris smorris787@aim.com

Village People Study, Socialize, & Service Group: 3rd Mondays, 2:00 PM, Community Room at Chester Village Senior Apartments (11701 Chester Village Drive).

Beginner Reading-Music Classes: Mondays, 7:00 PM, Music Suite. Learn to read music. For more information, call or email Tom McHugh at (804) 240-2456 vthokietom@gmail.com.

Joy Singers: Tuesdays, 10:30 AM, Music Suite. Rehearsals for our retired folks. This group sings for local nursing home residents and community groups. POC: Joshua Wortham. music@chesterumc.org

English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM. Next semester: January 7 through March 11. POC: Pastor Nathan nathandecker@chesterumc.org

Youth Bible Study: Wednesdays, 5:45 PM- 7:00 PM, Trinity UMC, 6600 Greenyard Rd, Chester. POC: Juliana Paradie julianaparadie@chesterumc.org

Kidz Zone Wacky Wednesdays: Wednesdays, 5:45 PM-7:00 PM, Trinity UMC, 6600 Greenyard Rd, Chester. POC: Juliana Paradie julianaparadie@chesterumc.org

Chancel Choir Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 7:00 PM. Singers of all skill levels are welcome to join! POC: Joshua Wortham music@chesterumc.org

Handbells: Wednesdays, 5:45 PM, Sanctuary. For Adults. POC: Joshua Wortham music@chesterumc.org

Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study: Thursdays, 7:30 AM at Grants Coffee Company, 11884 Chester Village Drive. POC: Gordon Morris gordo15458@aim.com

Women's Fellowship Luncheon: 3rd Thursdays, 11:30 AM. Join us each month at a local restaurant for good food and conversation. December 19, lunch at Howlett's Restaurant in Chester. RSVP no later than Monday, December 16. POC: Joan Osborne josbor61@gmail.com

Prayer Shawl Group: Thursdays, 1:30 PM, Parlor, or you can work on your project at home. All are invited to join us! We can provide yarn and will happily teach you how to knit or crochet. POCs: Beverly Trevillian (804) 337-2367; Betty Stone (804) 914-0433 wva_lady@verizon.net

Women's Christian Book Club: 1st Thursdays, 6:30 PM, CUMC Parlor. *Though I Stumble*, by Kim Cash Tate. Amazon link <https://a.co/d/glw7jB3>. Next meeting is December 5, potluck meal and holiday celebration in Davis Fellowship Hall. Chicken provided. Please bring side or dessert. POC: Jennifer Brame jrbrooksiee@gmail.com

Kidz Zone Night: 3rd Saturdays, 6:00 PM, Join us for food and a variety of fun activities! POC: Charlotte Brummette Charl208@yahoo.com

United Methodist Women (UMW) is to "be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global

ministries of the church.” Call Susan Petrey, 804-938-5396, to learn more about UMW, our two participating fellowships, and how you can become involved.

- **The Jean Craig Fellowship:** Meets on the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 PM, Room 205. *Next meeting, Monday, December 2.* POC: Susan Petrey 804-938-5396
- **The Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship:** Meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, 10:30 AM, Room 226. *On December 12, we will meet in Davis Fellowship Hall.* POC: Martha Miles, 804-748-5476

Bridge Builders: Meets 2nd Sunday, 12:15 PM, 116. (*No meeting in December.*) Are you a disciple who believes God is calling you on a journey of racial justice and reconciliation? To build relationships in the community promoting understanding, compassion and togetherness? Join us as we pursue ways to build bridges of acceptance for our neighbors who do not look, think, speak or pray like us. “Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God”-Micah 6:8. POC: Maureen Coker mcoker2003@comcast.net

Backpack Ministry: Thanks to everyone who is supporting this ministry with gifts of food or monetary donations. It takes a lot to feed 63 children every weekend and we could not do it without your help. If you are a part of an organization that looks for ways to help, please consider suggesting our Backpack Ministry. We are available to come to a meeting and explain about our program and the needs. As always, thank you. POC: Karen Comer kgcomer@verizon.net

Bridge Builders Jail Ministry: As part of our mission to make change in the community, Bridge Builders has a Jail Ministry with the Chesterfield County Jail HARP program (Helping Addicts Recover Progressively). A team of volunteers visits the jail the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month, facilitating a book study. These men have shared joys, sorrows, dreams and talents such as poetry, music, songs and stories, enriching the lives of the men as well as the volunteers! Become a volunteer involves submitting paperwork for access into the jail, writing to the men, providing monetary donations for study books, and praying for the men in the HARP program, as well as those ministering to them. POC: Maureen Coker mcoker2003@comcast.net

Help Spread Sunday Smiles! Our Hospitality Team needs volunteers to pick up donuts and brew coffee on the second and third Sundays of each month. Interested in helping? Contact Andy & Eileen Steck andyei10twitchell@gmail.com

Happy Birthday Jesus- Preschool Party: Saturday December 7, 10:30 AM, Fellowship Hall. Preschoolers, please join us for the Happy Birthday Jesus Party to celebrate Jesus' birth. Games, activities, video, snacks, and of course a birthday cake! All preschoolers, from birth to Pre-K and siblings are welcome. Parents will need to stay to assist their children.

POC: Jackie Farley j.farley312@comcast.net

Christmas Pageant: Sunday, December 15, 8:30 AM, CUMC Sanctuary. Invite your friends and family to the Kidz Zone Christmas Play. Experience our amazing "WOW!" Christmas Nativity Play. POC: Juliana Paradie julianaparadie@chesterumc.org

Christmas Cookie Sale:

- **Cookies Needed!** The UMW will be selling Homemade Christmas Cookies by the Tin in the Fellowship Hall, following both worship services on **Sunday, December 15**. United Methodist Women and members of the congregation, please commit to donate homemade cookies. Call or email Katey McCarney, 402-0084 or ks.petrey@gmail.com, and leave your name, a phone number, how many dozen and what kind of cookie you will prepare. Deliver cookies to the church kitchen on Saturday, December 14, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Questions? Call Susan Petrey, 804-938-5396.
- **Christmas Cookie Sale:** Sunday, December 15, Davis Fellowship Hall. The UMW will be selling Homemade Christmas Cookies by the tin in the Fellowship Hall, following both worship services. Proceeds will go to support our gifts to mission local, national and international, including, but not limited to, our CUMC food pantry and Backpack Ministries, United Methodist Family Services, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief. **Sign up in the pew register with your name, phone number, whether you'd like a \$5, \$10 or \$20 tin**, and whether you have any food restrictions (gluten, peanuts, etc.). **How it works:** You pick your tin, go down the row and select your choice of cookies to fill the tin. These are not prefilled tins unless you call and specifically request prefilled. **All orders are due no later than Sunday, December 8.** Questions? Call Susan Petrey, 804/938-5396.

Christmas Cards For Veterans: Share the holiday cheer with Veterans at Richmond VA Medical Center and Sitter & Barfoot, and Veterans Care Center by writing a message of gratitude . Sign only your first name and leave the envelope unsealed. Drop off cards to the Missions Closet or place them in the Sharing Bin outside in the Church parking lot, no later than *Sunday, December 15*. POC Karen Cole, karen.k.cole67@gmail.com

Pecans: We still have delicious pecans for sale in the Church Office. \$12 per bag; halves or pieces. If you ordered your pecans ahead of time and have not picked them up, please stop by the office to pick them up.

Church Childcare Position Available: We're looking for a caring and reliable individual to help with childcare in the Nursery on Sundays and during ESL classes. If you love working with children and can commit to a few hours each week, OR know someone that may be interested, please contact Pastor Nathan nathandecker@chesterumc.org or call (804) 748-6006.

Advent Study: Marg Kutz will be facilitating this study. The Old Testament ends with the book of Malachi, and the New Testament begins with the book of Matthew leaving a gap of approximately 400 years, known as the "silent years." In this study we will explore the events and the possible impact of these "silent years" on the Jewish people, their faith, and the arrival of Jesus. No study book or homework.

Join us for three sessions with two options:

- Sunday nights (December 1, 8, 15), 5:00 PM-6:00 PM, Via Zoom.
Use this Zoom link: <https://calendar.app.google/Y75Uc2t4vCuJiYni6>
- Monday Mornings (December 2, 9, 16), 10:00 AM-11:00 AM, in person, Room 216

Sunday Fresh Start Donut Schedule: December 8: Laura Houglan; * December 15: Laurie & Chip Cobb; * December 22: Eileen Steck; * December 29: Eileen Steck.

2026 Youth International Missions Trip: Youth Group is planning to go to Guatemala for an International Missions Trip. If your youth is interested, please fill out this survey. Your child must be age 13 by 2026. Survey Link: <https://forms.gle/QAQX3GFA1ANxCSDp9>

A Place of Miracles Clothing Closet is requesting coats and gloves- all sizes, all genders. Newborn clothes and diapers, boy's clothes sizes 7 to 9, personal hygiene items- soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, and conditioner.
POC: Diane Merryman at dianemerryman@gmail.com, 804-586-4189



Zelle Giving: Zelle is a great way to send your donations to the church. Find Zelle in the mobile banking app of your bank. You must have a smartphone to use Zelle. Our e-mail address is finance@chesterumc.org Simply select the Zelle payment option on your bank's app, input our e-mail address above or scan this QR Code.
POC: Julie Jones, Financial Administrator, finance@chesterumc.org

Looking Ahead

<i>Sunday, December 15</i>	<i>8:30 AM</i>	<i>Children's Christmas Pageant</i>
	<i>9:45 AM</i>	<i>No Bridge Service</i>
	<i>11:00 AM</i>	<i>Christmas Concert</i>
<i>Monday, December 16</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>	<i>Christmas Concert</i>



CUMC Christmas Sharing Tree: CUMC has collaborated with Chesterfield Mental Health Support Services for more than 12 years to provide Christmas cheer to roughly 100 adults who are developmentally challenged. **Use this link** to select an individual to adopt. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A49ADA82FA7FE3-53552286-holiday> Gift tags are available on the tree in the Welcome Center for those who do not have internet capabilities. Please place your wrapped gifts under the tree no later than ***Wednesday, December 18***. Be sure to label the gift(s) with the ID # on the tag(s) you choose. The ID # is essential to identify the gift recipient. When choosing a tag, please fill out your contact information on the Tag Number Card and place the form in the silver wooden box next to the tree. Thank you for your generosity!

The Church Office will be closed during the week of Christmas. Please have all bulletin submissions turned into the Church Office no later than 10:00 AM, Monday, December 23.

Parents of Little Ones. The nursery will be closed for childcare during our Christmas Eve services. Families are encouraged to worship together. Thank you for your understanding.

Christmas Eve Clean Up: We need a few volunteers to vacuum and tidy up following the 7:00 PM and 10:00 PM services on Christmas Eve. If you are willing, please contact the office at office@chesterumc.org.

