



No Bridge Service on December 15

December 8, 2024 – 9:45 AM

**WORSHIP MUSIC**

Unclouded Day  
Angels, from the Realms of Glory  
Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Sing Joy  
Mary, Did You Know?  
*Jack Price, Trumpet*

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 1:39-56 NRSV

**MESSAGE**

Inviting the Overthrow of the Empire  
*Pastor Nathan Decker*

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

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**CUMC STAFF DIRECTORY**

Ministers ..... All Disciples of the Congregation  
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*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](http://www.chesterumc.org) \* *A Stephen Ministry Congregation*



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

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

**WORSHIP MUSIC**

Majestic  
Glorious Day  
O Come, All Ye Faithful  
Here I Am to Worship

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Sing Joy  
Mary, Did You Know?  
*Jack Price, Trumpet*

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 1:39-56 NRSV

**MESSAGE**

Inviting the Overthrow of the Empire  
*Pastor Nathan Decker*

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

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**December 8, 2024**

**A Service of Worship and Praise**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in**

**11:00 AM**

**Advent**

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Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting Our Neighbors

Prelude

*Sing Joy*

Jack Price, trumpet

Advent Wreath Lighting

Rick Poole, Candle Lighter

The Chancel Choir sings...then

Cynthia Corley, Liturgist

**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: In a world filled with conflict and confrontations

**People: We humbly seek the gift of peace.**

Leader: For the storms that sometimes rage within us

**People: We humbly seek the gift of peace.**

Leader: As we rush and hurry our way through busy lives

**People: We humbly seek the gift of peace.**

Leader: And for those around us we know are carrying heavy burdens

**People: We humbly seek the gift of peace.**

**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. 224

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

\* Affirmation of Faith – Christmas Affirmation

\* Gloria Patri No. 70

**Glory be to the father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Anthem

*Celtic Advent Carol*

Chancel Choir

Why We Give

Offertory

*Mary, Did You Know?*

Jack Price, trumpet

\* 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

**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. 250

*Once In Royal David's City*

Scripture Reading

*Luke 1:39-56*

NRSVUE

Message

*Inviting the Overthrow of the Empire*

Rev. Nathan Decker

\* Hymn No. 217

*Away in a Manger*

\* Benediction

\* Choral Amen

Chancel Choir

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

## Calendar

*December 8, 2024 – December 15, 2024*

**Today: Sunday, December 8**

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

*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!*

Adult SS-Various  
 Youth Sunday School  
 11:00 AM Traditions Worship-  
 Sanctuary.  
 11:00 AM Play Practice-DFH  
 4:00 PM NO Youth Activities  
 5:00 PM Advent Study- Virtual

1:30 PM Prayer Shawl- Parlor  
 7:00 PM Finance Meeting- 116

**Friday: December 13**

10:00 AM Worship Committee

**Saturday: December 14**

8:00 AM Breakfast with Santa-  
 Trinity UMC  
 10:00 AM Chancel Choir Dress  
 Rehearsal- Sanctuary  
 3:00 PM Children's Christmas  
 Pageant Practice-  
 Sanctuary

**Monday: December 9**

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

**Next Sunday: December 15**

8:15 AM Nursery until 12 PM  
 8:30 AM Children's Christmas  
 Pageant- Sanctuary  
 9:30 AM UMW Cookie Sale- DFH  
 9:45 AM NO Bridge Worship Today  
 Sun Sch PreK-107  
 Sun Sch Gr K-5-206  
 Adult SS-Various  
 Youth Sunday School  
 11:00 AM Christmas Concert-  
 Sanctuary  
 4:00 PM Youth Christmas Party-  
 Smith Home  
 5:00 PM Advent Study- Virtual

**Tuesday: December 10**

10:30 AM NO Joy Singers  
 2:00 PM Stephen Ministers- 226  
 3:00 PM Rest Stop-Annex  
 7:00 PM Chancel Choir- Music  
 Suite

**Wednesday: December 11**

11:00 AM Bulletin Deadline  
 5:30 PM Handbell Choir-Music Ste  
 5:45 PM Wacky Wednesday- Trinity  
 6:00 PM Cub Scouts- 226  
 6:30 PM Crew- 206  
 7:00 PM Chancel Choir- Music  
 Suite

**Thursday: December 12**

10:30 AM Ada Mae Bookman  
 Fellowship- DFH

**Sunday Worship**

December 15 8:30 Children's Christmas Pageant, 11:30 Christmas Cantata  
 December 22 Invitation to Awe Luke 1:57-79

**Our Assistant Nurse**, Pat Baake, is available *today*, 9:00 AM, Room 105.

**"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!

**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](mailto:julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)

**Christmas Cookie Sale:** Sunday, December 15, Davis Fellowship Hall. The UMW will be selling Homemade Christmas Cookies by the tin 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. **How it works:** You pick your tin, go down the row and select your choice of cookies to fill the tin. POC: Susan Petrey, (804) 938-5396.

**Red Cross Blood Drive:** Wednesday, December 18, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Davis Fellowship Hall. All blood types are needed. Use this link to reserve a donation appointment.  
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=chesterumcva>



**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.

**Personalized Offering Envelopes** have arrived. If you have requested personalized offering envelopes, please pick up your box located on the white table in the Welcome Center.

**Pecans:** There are 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 .

**Keep In Prayer:** Michael Rodriguez; Cathy Epps; The family of Bill Talley III; Anthony Napolitano; Dorothy Gonzalez; Diane Duffy; Dustin Munchel; Heather & Matt Escobar; Jane Spain; Bob & Johnnie Davis; Doug Pike; Harley Young; Sandra Cherny; Sharon Buchanan; Caroline Maxwell; David & Patti Lacy; Victoria Harrington; Marie Purdue; 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 Manna; Summer Vaughn; Lynda Richardson; Mary Tyree; Ken Farmer; Susie Hall; Ella Hilton; Jo Kiser; Erika Hilton

**Our Presence on December 1, 2024**

8:30 AM Fresh Start.....	108
9:45 AM Bridge.....	45
11:00 AM Traditions.....	175
Online.....	40
<b>Total Worship Attendance.....</b>	<b>368</b>

**CHESTER UMC ONLINE RESOURCES**

- **Website:** [www.chesterumc.org](http://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://eepurl.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](mailto: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](mailto:rmachachi@aol.com).
- **The Chimes** – Submit items to [assistant@chesterumc.org](mailto:assistant@chesterumc.org) no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of *January*, March, May, July, September, and November.

**Leading Our Worship Today, December 8, 2024**

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

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](mailto:pastordeckergmail.com) or Steve Osborne [sosbor60@gmail.com](mailto:sosbor60@gmail.com).



**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. Thank you for your understanding.

**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 3:00 PM, 7:00 PM and 10:00 PM services on Christmas Eve. Please sign up in the pew pad, today.

**Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, December 15, 2024**

<b>Greeters:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Laura Houglund
	<b>11:00</b>	Teresa Dombrowski, Donna Nunery
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Gordon Jones*, Bill Comer * Head Usher
	<b>11:00</b>	Gordon Morris*, Marshall Henry, Larry Koon, Geoff LeSueur, Steve Osborne
<b>Advent Candle</b>	<b>8:30</b>	The James Family
	<b>11:00</b>	Joel Furtick
<b>Nursery:</b>	<b>8:30, 9:45, 11:00</b>	Carla Adams

**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](mailto:julianaparadie@chesterumc.org).

**Adult Small Group Bible Study:** 9:45 AM, Room 213 “Our Pad” facilitated by Jeff Marlin [jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:landisfamily05@gmail.com) and Eric Hougland [ehougland88@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:JONESGJ215@gmail.com)

**Senior Singles Sunday School Class:** 9:45 AM, Parlor. POC: Cynthia Corley [cacorley@ctsi.net](mailto:cacorley@ctsi.net)

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

**Youth Group:** Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 PM -5:30 PM, Annex. *No Youth Group on 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](mailto:youthleaders@chesterumc.org)

**Bridge Builders:** Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:smorris787@aim.com)

**Village People Study, Socialize, & Service Group:** 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:music@chesterumc.org)

**Handbells:** Wednesdays, 5:45 PM, Sanctuary. For Adults. POC: Joshua Wortham [music@chesterumc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:wva_lady@verizon.net)

**Women's Christian Book Club:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays, 6:30 PM, CUMC Parlor. *Though I Stumble*, by Kim Cash Tate. Amazon link <https://a.co/d/gIw7jB3>. POC: Jennifer Brame [jrbrooksiee@gmail.com](mailto:jrbrooksiee@gmail.com)

**Kidz Zone Night:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, 6:00 PM, Join us for food and a variety of fun activities! POC: Charlotte Brummette [Charl208@yahoo.com](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM, Room 205. POC: Susan Petrey 804-938-5396
- **The Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship:** Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:mcoker2003@comcast.net)

**Christmas 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](mailto: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.

**Volunteers Needed!!!** We need volunteers for the Nursery on both December 22 and December 29 as our Nursery workers are going to be out of town. If you have any time between 8:15 AM-12:00 PM to give to the Nursery please contact the Church Office at [office@chesterumc.org](mailto:office@chesterumc.org) or call 748-6006.

**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](mailto:karen.k.cole67@gmail.com)

**Church Childcare Position Available:** We're looking for a caring and reliable employee 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](mailto: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 with two options: Sunday nights (December. 8, 15), 5:00 PM-6:00 PM, Virtual. Or Monday mornings (December 9, 16), 10:00 AM-11:00 AM, in person, Room 216

**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, and personal hygiene items. POC: Diane Merryman at [dianemerryman@gmail.com](mailto:dianemerryman@gmail.com), 804-586-4189

**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. *Fresh Start Donut Schedule:* December 15: Laurie & Chip Cobb; \* December 22: Eileen Steck; \* December 29: Eileen Steck. Interested in helping? Contact Andy & Eileen Steck [andyei10twitchell@gmail.com](mailto:andyei10twitchell@gmail.com)



**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](mailto: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](mailto:finance@chesterumc.org)



# Christmas Worship

Sunday, December 15	8:30 AM	Children's Christmas Pageant
	9:45 AM	No Bridge Service
	11:00 AM	Christmas Concert
Monday, December 16	7:00 PM	Christmas Concert
Tuesday, December 17	7:00 PM	Christmas Concert
Tuesday, December 24	3:00 PM	Family Christmas Eve Service
	7:00 PM	Candlelight Communion Service
	10:00 PM	Candlelight Communion Service

~ No Nursery Christmas Eve ~





## *Christmas Concert*

**Sunday, December 15, 11:00 AM**  
*Chancel Choir & Chamber Orchestra*

**Monday, December 16, 7:00 PM**  
**Tuesday, December 17, 7:00 PM**  
*Joined by the Chancel Choir from  
Trinity UMC Chesterfield*

**All are welcome!**

**Chester United Methodist Church**  
12132 Percival Street  
[www.chesterumc.org](http://www.chesterumc.org)

