

Welcome to Christ UMC. We are glad you are here!

Children are always welcome in worship. Activity packs are available near the Sanctuary entrance.

A nursery play space with a live stream of the worship service is open throughout the morning and is adjacent to the church office.

Pastor Nancy Special Offering We are collecting a love offering in honor of Pastor Nancy that will support the CUMC Foundation. You may note "Love Offering" with your gift or choose "Love Offering" from the giving options at cumethodist.com/give.

John Varona's Last Sunday We invite you to join us on Sunday, January 14 to celebrate John Varona's ministry with us. On his final Sunday, John will participate in our 9am traditional service and we will hold a reception for him from 10am-11am. Though John will soon conclude his service as our principal organist, we give thanks that he will serve as a guest musician at CUMC from time to time.

How Civil Wars Start and How to Stop Them Join Reverend Gary Lueck in searching for answers on how to stop civil wars with the book, "How Civil Wars Start: And How to Stop Them" by Barbara F. Walter. Sessions will be Sundays, January 7, 14, 21, 28 and February 4, 4:30 – 6:00pm, in-person in Room 145. **Please RSVP to the church office by today.** The book can be purchased from any major bookseller.

Winter Worship Series We kick off our Winter Worship Series entitled "To Tell the Truth-Christian Cliches & What the Bible Doesn't Say" on Sunday, January 14th. We'd love to hear some of the Christian cliches and sayings that you're familiar with too. Email your favorite or questionable Christian clichés to samantha@cumethodist.com.

Thrift on Fifth January Sale Our store has gotten full again despite our best efforts. We're therefore planning a January Sale; half price on everything from January 6th through January 20th.

MLK Day Community Celebrations We encourage you to be part of Rochester's community activities commemorating Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. On Monday, January 15 the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce and NAACP Rochester Branch will hold events that include a Freedom March and Freedom Rally. Register at <https://business.rochestermnchamber.com/events>.

Annual Meeting Feb. 4, 2024 We invite you to our annual church conference meeting, which will be on Sunday, February 4 following our two worship services. The meeting begins with a community potluck meal and we will begin our annual meeting work at 12:30pm. Contact Pastors Jenny or Kirkland for more info.

The Upper Room Disciplines 2024 The 2024 Upper Room Disciplines devotional book is available for purchase in the church office. Small print is \$13 and large print is \$15. You can also order it as an eBook for \$9.99 from Cokesbury or Upper Room, or \$8.49 on Amazon for the Kindle.

VBS 2024 We are excited to announce our Vacation Bible School dates and theme for 2024. Mark your calendars for August 5-9, 2024 for "Digging In and Growing Deep!"

MNCare Public Option Tour: Healthcare Listening Session

Thursday, January 18 | 6:30-8pm
People of Hope Church
3703 Country Club Rd SW, Rochester



Could a public option for health insurance benefit you and your family?

Scan to RSVP:



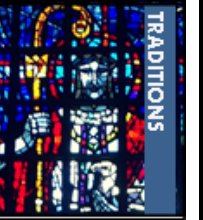
CHECK IN &
CONNECT WITH US!

Thanks for worshipping with us!
Scan the QR code and let us know
you're here!



Christ United Methodist Church

Creating committed Christ followers for the transformation of the world



9:00am Traditions Worship

January 7, 2024

PASTOR NANCY'S RETIREMENT SUNDAY



May your retirement be as bright and cheerful as your years of hard work

We welcome you and name the sacred power of the
Wahpeton people on whose land we stand

Pastor Jenny pastorjenny@cumethodist.com

Pastor Kirkland pastorkirkland@cumethodist.com

Pastor Nancy pastornancy@cumethodist.com

Pastor Amanda pastoramanda@cumethodist.com

507-289-4019
email@cumethodist.com
cumethodist.com

Christ United Methodist Church

With open hearts, open minds and open doors, we welcome people of all races, nationalities, theologies and abilities. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. We offer a safe and compassionate place to reconcile faith, identity, hope, understanding and mutual respect.

Prelude	“St. Laurence Fanfare” John Varona, Organ	GJB
Welcome	Rev. Jenny Cannon, Rev. Kirkland Reynolds	
*Opening Hymn	“What Gift Can We Bring”	UMH 87
Children’s Message	Rev. Amanda Larsen, Jody Peterson	
Invitation to Give		
Offertory Music	“For the Beauty of the Earth” Chancel Choir	Rutter
Doxology	“In the Bleak Midwinter”	UMH 221 (vs. 4)
*Prayer of Dedication		
Pastoral Prayer	Rev. Nancy Wheeler Handlon	
*Hymn	“We Three Kings”	UMH 254
Hearing the Word	Matthew 2:1-12	Stephen Handlon
Responding to the Word	One: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us.	
All: Thanks be to God.		
Message	“The Gifts of the Wise”	Rev. Michelle Hargrave

Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive communion, which is served with bread and nonalcoholic grape juice. Gluten free also available.

Prayer After Communion

Recognition of Pastor Nancy’s Ministry

An Order of Farewell to a Pastor

Clergy Blessing

***Closing Hymn** “I Come with Joy” UMH 617

Connections and Next Steps

Benediction

Postlude “Festivity”
John Varona, Organ Douglas Wagner

*indicates please stand as you are able

Communion Servers: Chuck Wheeler Handlon, Linda Youlden

We invite you to join us in Wesley Hall after today’s worship service for a reception celebrating Pastor Nancy and her ministry.

You are welcome to remain seated or to depart during the postlude

Congregational Prayers

- For family of Ted Colescott on his death on Jan. 1
- For Toni Mangskau on the death of her brother on Dec. 31
- Gratitude for Pastor Nancy’s ministry at CUMC and in the Minnesota Conference
- Gratitude for all who serve in Caring Ministries at CUMC
- For light and wisdom for all who serve in leadership
- For Perry, Iowa and Perry High School community
- For peace and the vision of beloved community



If you would like to sponsor this ministry, please send an email to our Director of Operations, Jack Jefferson at jack@cumethodist.com. The 9am service airs Sundays @11:30am on KOLM radio 1520 AM.