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December 2021

CHRIST
METHODIST CHURCH
UNITED
Grace In The City

THE NEW

SPIRIT

Thresholds: Entering the Christmas Story
Christmas Eve and Pre Eve Worship

December 23:

5pm Christmas Pre-Eve Service in the ECC

December 24: Christmas Eve Services

12pm - Contemplative Worship

4pm - Children's Worship

7pm - Festival Worship

10pm - Communion Worship

Join us for worship every Sunday at 9am & 11am In-Person or Online

[Facebook.com/cumethodist](https://www.facebook.com/cumethodist)

[YouTube.com/ChristUnitedMethodistChurchRochesterMN](https://www.youtube.com/ChristUnitedMethodistChurchRochesterMN)

Archived on YouTube & on our website: <https://cumethodist.com>

Open M-F 9am-3pm - Call the Office 507-289-4019

Pastor's Pen

WITH REV. KIRKLAND REYNOLDS, EXECUTIVE PASTOR

The other day I was stopped in my tracks when I realized how many stars dotted the sky. Well, I should say the other morning, since it was my turn to take my family's yelping Labrador Retriever puppy outside. That's life with a new puppy, and though I was tired (and to be honest: annoyed), seeing the stars in the sky changed the entire moment for me.



There were so many stars, far more than I could count. And not a cloud in the sky.

Standing there, looking up, holding my puppy's leash, I felt profoundly grateful to bear witness to those many lights in the sky. It is a gift when we awaken to the beauty around us.

Star gazing was absent among the many blessings my family previously knew in our life in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, DC. The collective luminance of street lights, house lights, and tons of other electrified lights, washed out a lot of the night sky. It was challenging to see the most common constellations, let alone the International Space Station as it passed over us.

There is so much more to see in the sky over Rochester. I am delighted by how many stars I get to see here, even with the artificial evening lights that shine around us and wash out some of the starlight in the night sky.

We are entering the season of Advent and the story of God's light coming to shine among us on Christmas. We will move through this season together, lighting candles as the dim lights at the start of our journey become brighter week by week, culminating in the dazzling brightness of a church filled with candles on Christmas Eve.

One of the messages in Advent is that God's light always shines among us.

Encouraging the church to love God by loving people, the Apostle Paul writes in Philippians 2:15 that we are to shine like stars in the sky. For us, the church at 400 5th Ave. SW in Rochester, MN, we are wise to think about how we can let our lights shine. Serving people, responding to poverty and hunger, advocating for peace with justice, sharing gifts through Christmas Anonymous, showing up when someone needs help or hope, these are good and faithful ways to shine.

The Apostle Paul would surely agree. We should note that Paul's encouragement is also directed toward how we let our lights shine in the church. We can also let light shine when we are gentle towards each other, presume grace when seeking understanding, embrace the diverse ways we respond to God's acceptance and call, and presume there's a generous smile under face masks when we see each other in meeting rooms or Zooms or in line to light a candle during worship.

We find ourselves at the threshold of a world we long to enter: where light, health, and peace are found with us and with all the world. The good news is God comes to us, showing us the way by bringing us light.

Church, in this Advent may we behold all the lights that shine among us.

Be well and keep the faith,

Pastor Kirkland

Pastor Kirkland



We're Hiring! Apply Today to Join Our Team.

Christ UMC is hiring for our Director of Youth Ministries position, which is 30 hours per week. The Director of Youth Ministries supports CUMC's mission by fostering an engaging, fun, safe and inclusive environment for youth faith formation. Head to cumethodist.com/career-opportunities to view the position description. Contact Pastor Kirkland to apply or for more info.

Thresholds: Entering the Christmas Story

ADVENT 2021 CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 28: Advent decorating after 9 & 11am services
Advent Wreath kits distributed

November 30, December 7, 14, & 21: Noon Advent Organ Concert Series

December 5: 10am Chrismon Workshop

December 15: 7pm Service of Lessons & Carols with Chancel Choir

December 19: 9am Children's Pageant

11am Youth Pageant

3pm Longest Night Worship

December 23: 5pm Christmas Pre-Eve Service in the ECC

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Advent at Christ United Methodist Church 2021

During last year's Advent season we desperately missed hosting the myriad of events that would fill our building with a constant joyful hubbub. This year we have filled our church calendar with concerts, worship, pageants, and workshops. There is sure to be something for everyone!

November 28 - We will begin distributing Advent packages after worship services These contain Advent Devotionals written by the congregation and staff of Christ UMC and an advent wreath. If you can't make it to church that day, no problem! They will be available for pickup from the church office anytime during business hours. If you need us to deliver one to you, let us know! We can get them to you. Also that day we will decorate our spaces after both services!

November 30, December 7, 14, & 21 - Noon Advent organ recitals John Varona and guests will lead these weekly organ recitals. Enjoy seasonal favorites played by these talented musicians.

December 5th - 10am Chrismon workshop Our church has a long history of telling the Christmas story through the "Chrismon" tree. On December 5 you will be able to create a couple of these symbolic ornaments for your own tree

December 15 - 7pm Service of Lessons and Carols Join us for this Wednesday evening musical feast. Our choir will sing, our bells will ring, and we will explore the meaning of the season through song and scripture.

December 19 - 9am Children's Pageant & 11am Youth Pageant Both programs tell the story of the birth of Jesus. The 9:00 service will have younger children singing, ringing and acting out the traditional Christmas story. The 11:00 service will have our youth presenting "The Chosen One," a Christmas play that looks at challenges faced by people (and vegetables) asked to do a hard task

December 19 - 3pm Longest Night Service The Advent and Christmas season can be a difficult time. The Longest Night Service is a service of meditation, healing, and hope.

December 23 - 5pm Christmas Pre Eve with the Arise Band The Arise Band will play Christmas favorites and we will host an early Christmas Eve Service in the ECC featuring a time of candlelighting.

December 24 - Christmas Eve Christmas Eve services are back in the building! We will have contemplative worship at noon, 4pm will be children focused worship, our music centered festival worship is at 7pm, and the communion service will be at 10pm this year. Each service will include a time of candlelighting. The 4pm and 7pm services will be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.

Christ UMC is proudly hosting Christmas Anonymous again this year.

Donations and volunteers are welcome. Christmas Anonymous will hold a “drive-through” store day at CUMC on Saturday, Dec. 11.

Christmas Anonymous (christmasanonymous.org) is an organization local to Rochester Minnesota that has been in existence for over 50 years. It is a 100% volunteer organization, whose sole mission is to help families and people in need in Olmsted county have a wonderful Christmas.

To enable that, Christmas Anonymous (CA) accepts donations of toys and outerwear; and then distributes these articles back to families in need. Visit CAs donation page for details.

Donations may be brought to CUMC from Monday, November 29 through Saturday, December 4.

Christmas Anonymous is fully supported by donations from the community. There are no paid positions and we minimize our expenses by getting discounts and donations of goods and services whenever possible, and we shop for the best possible deals. You may sign up on CA’s volunteer page if you’d like to help. Currently CA helps the community in two ways:

1. Helping families in need via our ‘store’ where parents can shop without paying for new and gently-used toys, teen gifts, boys and girls new clothing, hats, gloves, knitwear, used boots/skates, gift wrap, new and used outerwear, and food for a holiday meal for the entire family.
2. Helping seniors in need with boxes of food for a holiday meal, stationery, and other household items.



Christ UMC Foundation provides grants assisting with funding need in a variety of areas. Does your group have need for a future grant? **Submission deadlines are February 15; June 15; and October 15. Mark your calendar with these deadlines.**

Please note the deadline dates published in the November SPIRIT are incorrect. Make note of these correct dates.

Proposals for the next grant cycle must be received by **February 15, 2022**. Please anticipate your need so you don’t miss the opportunity to apply for funds.

The use of monies in the Foundation funds is at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors of Christ UMC Foundation subject only to the limitations in the Foundation’s Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws provided that the grants are broadly in support of the ministry named in the title of the fund.

Established in 1973, the Christ UMC Foundation is available to members and friends of Christ UMC who desire to make a gift that will make a lasting difference in the on-going missions of our church. In 2022 the Christ UMC Foundation will be seeking new members to join the board and/or serve on various committees that report to the board. During this season of thanksgiving and joy please prayerfully consider if this is something you might enjoy being part of as we continue to utilize and grow the funds entrusted to us.

The 11:00am Arise Service has returned to the ECC!

After nearly two years, the Arise Worship Service has returned to the ECC. The seating has been rearranged to be conscious of social distancing, and all of the usual covid safety guidelines will still apply.

We we are grateful to be worshipping with you in the ECC!



Congregational Care:

Grief and the Holidays

This year you may not feel like joining in the holiday merriment. Your heart may be heavy with grief, disappointment, deep sadness. There may be one single cause or many. It may be a personal sadness or one that is public. No matter your particular circumstances you just don't feel like celebrating.

Here are some ideas to help you get through the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Know that you are not alone. You may feel alone, but that doesn't mean that you will always feel that way. There are church friends who will come along side of you in the midst of your sadness. You are part of an amazing community of caring people: Parish ministers, Lay Visitors and Pastors Jenny, Kirkland and Nancy as well as members of the congregation.

Scripture passages such as the 23rd Psalm, Psalm 42 and Psalm 121 and others may be a source of strength for you. Words from our hymnals may be of comfort. Lighting a candle, listening to meditative music, listening to a meditation app all may be useful. Going for a walk in nature can help.

Giving aid to someone in need is a great way to lift one's spirit. We have lots of opportunities to offer: help with church mailings, call a shut-in, volunteer with Thrive, Saturday Noon Meals, Quilting, Prayer Shawls and more.

If you have a prayer request, you may fill out a form on our website, email one of the pastors or call the office.

Come to the Longest Night Service Sunday December 19 at 3 pm in the sanctuary.

God's peace be with you,

Pastor Nancy

Pastor Nancy

Longest Night Service

For many people, Christmas is a painful reminder of loss---loss of a loved one, loss of a job, loss of health, loss of a relationship, and others.

The Longest Night Service is for those who recognize that this Christmas season is not a happy one. It is meant to offer hope and companionship.

There will be candle lighting, reflective prayer and music, mutual support, scripture and poetry.

The service will be on Sunday, December 19 at 3 pm in the sanctuary.

You are welcome to bring a photo or small memento for the memory table.



Period Equity

Through November and December CUMC will serve as a collection site for the Period Equity Project which partners with community groups to distribute menstruation supplies to people in need. Be on the lookout for a collection box in the commons and stay tuned for more information.



Community Healers

Fellow Kindred Spirits and Beloveds, I hope this article finds you basking in the Joy and Hope the beautiful season of Advent brings. As we evolve and transition into what our Community Healers Ministry will look like for our Church and the healers in our community, I wanted to share a story of Hope and a prayer for you.

The other day while I was giving chemotherapy to a patient, she was actively working away on her lap top writing lesson plans for school. In fact, she had a zoom call with her speech students while she was with us. I thought internally “What an ‘Eshet Chayil’ (*Hebrew for Woman of Valor*),” still working so diligently for her students in this pandemic while her body is being put through hell. I noticed a sticker on her computer that said, “It’s not a mask. It’s a Mitzvah” so I proceeded to ask her what that meant. She told me “Well in my Jewish faith a Mitzvah is a commandment but represents doing a good deed from religious duty.” She went on to explain, “a selfless good deed, not done for you but the better of the community or for another.” Now, I know that masks are not fun to wear, and if we’ve been vaccinated why should we care? But right now, the surge in Olmsted County is exhausting our healthcare system. So, let’s do our Mitzvah this holiday season and wear our masks for our healthcare workers and our amazing brave and wonderful teachers.

Prayer for a Nurse (healthcare workers) from

To Bless the Space Between Us – John O’ Donohue

May you embrace the beauty in what you do
And how you stand like a secret angel
Between the bleak despair of illness
And the unquenchable light of spirit
That can turn the darkest destiny toward dawn

May you never doubt the gifts you bring.
Rather, learn from these frontiers
Wisdom for your own heart.
May you come to inherit
The blessings of your kindness
And never be without care and love
When winter enters your own life.

Watch for more information in the New Year from your Community Healers Team.

Merry Christmas!

Blessings,

Armanda Vanderheiden *Community Healers Ministry*



United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women continue to make quilts. Most of 2020 the ladies were sewing and tying individually. But, during 2021, 121 quilts have been delivered in Rochester. The women make twin, baby, youth, nap and lap quilts. They have been given to the following facilities this last year: River Bend, Eden Brook, Cottage Wood, Samaritan Bethany, Gift of Life, Hope Lodge, Ronald McDonald, Families First, and Adult & Teen men and women. The ladies are meeting twice a month on Tuesday afternoons. Watch the calendar in January, all are welcome, no sewing skills are necessary.

Children's Ministry



Youth Ministry



Serving and Giving Together

We had a fun day off school at Feed My Starving Children on November 5. 29 people from our church packaged enough food to feed 22 children for a year! We learned about the difference programs that feed kids make in the health and vitality of children. On November 21, the children also made their own commitments to give through and support our church in 2022.

Christmas Programs

Our Children and youth will present Christmas programs in worship on December 19. Both programs tell the story of the birth of Jesus. The 9:00 service will have younger children singing, ringing and acting out the traditional Christmas story. The 11:00 service will have our youth presenting "The Chosen One," a Christmas play that looks at challenges faced by people (and vegetables) asked to do a hard task. Be on the lookout for Iron Man to appear on stage! Rehearsals for these projects are Wednesday evenings for children and Sunday afternoons for youth.

Advent Activities between worship services

We have Advent activities from 10:00-11:00 on Sundays November 28 and December 5. We will be decorating the church and creating Advent wreaths on Advent 1 (November 28). You will be able to take a kit home to celebrate Advent all season. December 5 is a Chrismon crafting workshop. Our church has a long history of telling the Christmas story through the "Chrismon" tree. On December 5 you will be able to create a couple of these symbolic ornaments for your own tree.

Christmas break

Our programming for children and youth will take a break December 22-January 1. Youth group resumes January 2 and CU Wednesdays start back up on January 6. Watch for more creative opportunities in January for children, youth and families!

Children & Youth Advent Activities



Sunday, November 28 - Advent 1

We'll decorate the worship spaces after church & hand out Advent Wreath kits!

Sunday December 5 - Advent 2

10am Chrismon Workshop

Wednesdays throughout Advent

Rehearsal for children's Christmas pageant during CU Wednesdays

Sundays throughout Advent

Rehearsal for youth Christmas pageant 4:30-6pm

Sunday December 19 - Advent 4

9am - Children's Christmas Pageant

11am - Youth Christmas Pageant

4:30pm - Youth Christmas Party



ASP is Back for 2022!

Christ UMC will be sending a couple of teams on ASP this coming summer. We are scaling back our numbers as we move forward in a covid-aware reentry into ASP. We will still have an amazing time, followed by a retreat, but some things will look a little different. Our trip is scheduled for July 2-11, 2022. ASP Sunday will be July 17. There is also a mandatory team building and training retreat on February 20-21. If you would like to be included on this year's team or provide other support to ASP, please let Pastor Amanda or Pastor Kirkland know ASAP.



Faith → Life: Learn from Christ's Teachings

"A human being is a part of the whole called by us universe, a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings as something separated from the rest, a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty." Albert Einstein

The Faith→Life team is planning for the winter session beginning January 2022. Would you consider forming a group that meets weekly to grow relationships with others in our church community? Would you consider forming a connect group based on a shared activity? Would you consider facilitating a short-term class to learn more about a topic of interest. If so, contact Kathy Estry at rk.stry@gmail.com

Third Sunday Faith→Life Forum Offered in person & via Zoom

Every third Sunday (except December) we offer forums given by insightful guest speakers that cover a wide range of relevant topics. *No registration required.* You can join in-person or by clicking on the Zoom link provided in the Sunday worship reminder the day of the forum.

There will be no Third Sunday Forum in December

All past forums are available on our YouTube channel. Type <https://tinyurl.com/Faith2Life> into your browser.

Ongoing Sunday Classes

Contemporary Issues

Host: Joel Charlson **Time:** Sundays at 10:00 AM **Place:** Room 146

Scripture verses and critical questions related to the topic lead to in-depth discussions that apply to how we live our daily lives. If you are interested in joining the class email Joel Charlson at joel.charlson@gmail.com to receive the weekly *Wired Word* or meet us in Room 146!

Inquiring Spirits

Hosts: Ed Shafer **Time:** Sundays at 10:15 AM **Place:** Zoom

Group members suggest theological topics or books of interest to study. The group is currently reading "Faith: Essays from Believers, Agnostics and Atheists" by Victoria Zackheim. New participants are always welcome. As weather permits the class has met at Soldiers Field Park for picnic, study and fellowship. For further information contact Ed at shaferchurch@hotmail.com.

Connect Groups

(View a complete listing and register at cumethodist.com/faith-life)

Breakfast Fellowship

Hosts: Amy Humphrey and Dean Swanson ~ **Time:** 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8:30 AM ~ **Place:** Charlie's Restaurant at Hillcrest Shopping Center

New members of any age are always welcome to drop in; no registration required.

Dinner/Lunch Club

Dinner/Lunch Club is back with a few changes! The groups will be a maximum of 6 people who will share a meal and conversation 2 or 3 times in each other's homes or restaurants. It will continue to be a wonderful way to develop friendships within our CUMC family. To learn more about Dinner/Lunch Club contact Marjie Blaisdell at mblaisdell@gmail.com or Mary Schmidt at oronocomb@yahoo.com.

Knit One Pray, Too

Host: Marjie Blaisdell ~ **Time:** Wednesday 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon ~ **Place:** WebEx

Contact Marjie at mblaisdell@gmail.com to receive a link to the WebEx meeting. The group is knitting prayer shawls and scarves and hats for winter.

Men's Coffee Group

Host: Dick Estry ~ **Time:** Thursdays at 8:00 AM ~ **Place:** Room 145

Whether you are a long-time member, new to CUMC or looking for a men's fellowship group, you are invited to drop in for coffee and conversation. For more information email Dick Estry at rk.stry@gamil.com.

A NEW CONNECT GROUP - How Many Methodists Does It Take to Play Cards?**Host:** Millie and Brian Webb **Time:** Third Sunday of Each Month (Starting January 16, 2022): 7:00-9:30 pm**Place:** Rotating locations

We are hoping to start a group of people to play card once a month. Who wants to help build connections through fun and fellowship? We would play two or even three tables of a light card game and enjoy chatting. **Hand and Foot** is the name of the game: It's a bit like 4-player Canasta, but with two hands for each player to play with (a Hand and a Foot). We welcome newcomers with no idea how to play, or experienced players willing to keep it light and fun. **Singles or couples are welcome** to sign up, as we will rotate partners anyway. If you would like to just "sub in" when needed, let us know that, too!

Each month would be at a different house, chatting, playing cards, and sharing light snacks and drinks (like water, pop, sparkling water, beer, or wine if you like). Are you interested? We just need your name(s), email and/or phone/text number. Let us know the best way to reach you! We will put together a contact list and schedule by Jan 9! Brian's email: bkwebbus@gmail.com Millie's mobile number is 608-212-9706 (call or text)

Short Term Classes**Advent Bible Study**

Host: Pastors Jenny & Kirkland **Time & Place:** Sundays, November 28, December 5, 12, and 19 at 10:00am in the Fireside Room; - OR - Tuesdays, November 30, December 7, 14, and 21 at 7:00pm on Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3753504116>

As part of our Advent season Pastors Jenny and Kirkland are hosting a 4-week bible study exploring how each of the four Gospels introduces the person of Jesus.

Watch the Wednesday Connections email, the New Spirit newsletters, and the Sunday worship reminder for updates on offerings as they become available! Also check out cumethodist.com/get-involved/faith-life for a complete listing and registration information.

Complete listing and registration at cumethodist.com/faith-life (or click get involved then faith→life)

**Saturday Noon Meals**

We continue to serve 40 meals each Saturday to The Landing. We are grateful for our volunteers and community partners who provide food donations that include Channel One, Peoples Food Co-op and Family Service Rochester. We also appreciate the additional donations in November of squash and potatoes from the Kreofsky family in Plainview. We also have enjoyed the continued volunteering of medical students from the Mayo Clinic. On November 6th we welcomed Pastors Jenny and Kirkland and their children, Molly and Nolan, who assisted in preparing a meal of chicken, potatoes, and squash.



Please contact Kathy Lombardo at Kathryn.lombardo@gmail.com or by telephone at 507-398-2686 if you are interested in volunteering or supporting this mission program.



Thank you again for your generous support of the SNMs program

– Kathy and Phil Lombardo

CUMC Vegetable Garden Ministry

The vegetable garden has been put away for the winter! We were very fortunate with the beautiful weather this fall which allowed tomatoes and squash to be harvested through November 6th. The last of the tomatoes were canned on November 7th and the canning equipment has been put away until next year. We welcomed Girl Scout Troops from St. Francis (first grade Troop 47962 and fourth grade Troop 47882) on November 6th when they completed a service project of cleaning the vegetable beds and squash garden. It was a beautiful fall day in Minnesota, and we greatly appreciate the work they provided. We also want to thank Garrison Lloyd for the maintenance work he provided with the garden beds on November 8th.

Thank you for your support of the vegetable garden this year. If you would be interested in volunteering with the vegetable garden in 2022, please contact Kathy Lombardo at Kathryn.lombardo@gmail.com or by telephone at 507-398-2686. Thank you again for this mission



– Kathy Lombardo

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 28 First Sunday of Advent	November 29	November 30	1 8am Christmas Anonymous Donation Center Open 10am Knit One Pay, Too 5pm Jubilee Bells 5:30pm Children's Pageant Music Rehearsal 6pm Confirmation 6pm Pageant Rehearsal 6pm Celebration Bells 7pm Chancel Choir 8pm Facebook Devotional	2 8am Christmas Anonymous Donation Center Open 8am Thursday Men's Group 8:30am Covenant Group 1pm Women's Book Group 4pm Women's Connect Group 7pm UMW Circle 4 8pm Facebook Devotional	3 8am Christmas Anonymous Donation Center Open	4 7:30am Saturday Noon Meals (Serve @ 11am) 8am Christmas Anonymous Donation Center Open 6pm Rochester Chamber Music Society Concert
5 Second Sunday of Advent 9am Sanctuary Worship 10am Christmas Workshop 10am Contemporary Issues 10:15am Inquiring Spirits 11am Arise Worship 4:30pm Youth Group	6 10am Women's Connect Group 11:15 Men's Discussion Group	7 12pm Advent Organ Recital 1pm Covenant Group 7pm Advent Bible Study 8pm Facebook Devotional	8 8:30am Breakfast Fellowship 10am Knit One Pay, Too 5pm Jubilee Bells 5:30pm Children's Pageant Music Rehearsal 6pm Confirmation 6pm Pageant Rehearsal 6pm Celebration Bells 7pm Chancel Choir 8pm Facebook Devotional	9 8am Thursday Men's Group 8:30am Covenant Group 1pm Women's Book Group 4pm Women's Connect Group 7pm UMW Circle 4 8pm Facebook Devotional	10 10am Rug Hooking Group 10am Women & the Sacred	11 7:30am Saturday Noon Meals (Serve @ 11am) 8am Christmas Anonymous Store Day
12 Third Sunday of Advent 9am Sanctuary Worship 10am Contemporary Issues 10:15am Inquiring Spirits 11am Arise Worship 4:30pm Youth Group	13 10am Women's Connect Group 11:15 Men's Discussion Group	14 12pm Advent Organ Recital 1pm UMW Quilters 1pm Covenant Group 7pm Advent Bible Study 8pm Facebook Devotional	15 10am Knit One Pay, Too 5pm Jubilee Bells 5:30pm Children's Pageant Music Rehearsal 6pm Confirmation 6pm Pageant Rehearsal 7pm Service of Lessons and Carols 8pm Facebook Devotional	16 8am Thursday Men's Group 8:30am UMW Circle 2 8:30am Covenant Group 10:30am Circle 8 1pm Women's Book Group 1:30pm Ruth Circle 5:30pm Leadership Board Meeting 7pm UMW Circle 4 8pm Facebook Devotional	17 9:30am UMW Book Group	18 7:30am Saturday Noon Meals (Serve at 11am) 9:30am Children's Pageant Rehearsal 10:30am Youth Pageant Rehearsal
19 Fourth Sunday of Advent 9am Sanctuary Worship 10am Advent Bible Study 10am Contemporary Issues 10:15am Inquiring Spirits 11am Arise Worship 4:30pm Youth Group	20 10am Women's Connect Group 11:15 Men's Discussion Group	21 1pm Covenant Group 4:30pm Hopeful Earthkeepers Monthly Meeting 7pm Advent Bible Study 8pm Facebook Devotional	22 10am Knit One Pay, Too 6pm Celebration Bells 7pm Chancel Choir 8pm Facebook Devotional	23 8am Thursday Men's Group 8:30am Covenant Group 1pm Women's Book Group 4pm Women's Connect Group 5pm CoffeeShop Christmas Pre-Eve Worship	24 Christmas Eve Services 12pm 4pm Contemplative Children Festival 7pm 10pm Communion	25 7:30am Saturday Noon Meals Prep (serve at 11am)
26 10am Combined Worship Service	27 Building Closed	28 1pm UMW Quilters 8pm Facebook Devotional	29 10am Knit One Pay, Too 8pm Facebook Devotional	30 8am Thursday Men's Group 8:30am Covenant Group 1pm Women's Book Group 4pm Women's Connect Group	31 No events	January 1 - New Year's Day

Poinsettia Order Form

Please fill in the form below if you would like to share a poinsettia plant with others this Christmas season. You can place this form in the offering plate or turn it into the church office. Each plant is \$15. The deadline for poinsettia orders is end of day December 7th. Please indicate below if you wish to pick up the poinsettia on December 26th, or if you would like to have it delivered to a homebound or bereaved person. *Thanks for supporting this ministry of caring to our homebound and bereaved members.*

Name (please print): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

plants x \$15.00 = \$ _____ . ____

- Please deliver to a homebound or bereaved member.
- I will pick up between 10am-12Noon on December 26th.

In memory of: _____



It is not too late to participate in our 2022 stewardship campaign! You can make your pledge in person or online. To view all of our Stewardship materials online, simply head to cumethodist.com/stewardship-2022 and click on the various links on screen. We always have stewardship materials available in person as well. Stop by the church office any time the building is open if you'd like to receive a brochure and pledge card that way. Thank you for your generosity and support of all the missions and vision of Christ UMC.



The CUMC Tree of Life: Living, Celebrating, & Remembering With You

Welcome New Intentional Disciples!

We welcomed three new intentional disciples into our midst in worship November 21 on Commitment Sunday.

Welcome to Mary Johnson, Noralyn Carpenter, and Susan Curtis!

Christ United Methodist Church
400 Fifth Avenue SW
Rochester, MN 55902
Phone: 507-289-4019
Fax: 507-289-3648
E-mail: email@cumethodist.com

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Thresholds: Entering the Christmas Story

ADVENT 2021 CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Find us online: cumethodist.com