

Worship OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday of Advent

Worship

8:30 & 11 a.m. – Nave

Children and Youth Choirs Present the Music of Advent and Christmas

Matthew 3:1-12

Wednesday, December 11

11:40 a.m. – Nave

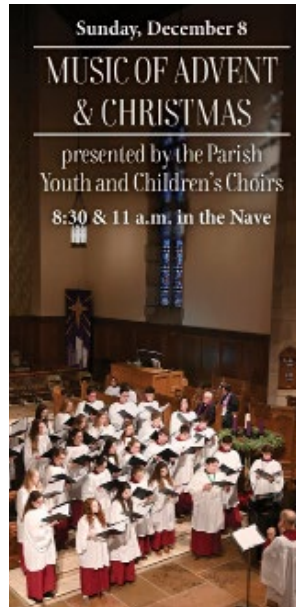
Rev. Dawn Chesser

The Midweek Advent Service is held in the Nave and will be preceded by a recital by the Carter High School Musical Theater Class, dir. Daniel Johnson-Webb.

Lunch in Parish Hall at 12:30 pm (\$8.00).

Call 524-3048 to make a reservation.

HAPPENING AT CHURCH STREET



Please Sign Up to Welcome Christmas Worshipers!

There are many opportunities to spread Church Street and Christmas cheer this holiday season, and greeting our guests is a huge need. Please sign up to be a greeter at one of our many upcoming services or events. Use the QR code at right or call Gabe Blake at 865-300-8186 to sign up.



Last Chance to Share Feedback - Celebrating Our Strengths, Discerning Our Future

Let your voice be heard as we celebrate Church Street's strengths and discern the future of our church. If you were unable to attend a Listening Circle during the weekend of November 22-24, or if you have additional feedback to share, you may share your feedback online directly with the facilitators (the form is submitted directly to Dr. Gilliam and Rev. Hixon and does not filter through anyone at Church Street). Your information will be kept confidential with the facilitators. Please complete the online survey no later than December 9. [Use this link: http://bit.ly/csumcsurvey19](http://bit.ly/csumcsurvey19)



Decorate the Tree this Sunday

Children and their families are invited to the Welcome Center on Sunday at 9:30 to decorate their very own tree. Children may bring an ornament to decorate the tree (ornaments are not guaranteed to be returned).



All are Welcome at Church Street!

We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God's image. We welcome and celebrate the gifts God has given to all persons without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, disability, status, economic condition, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religious affiliation. We respect diversity of opinion and expressions of Christian faith. We believe God loves everyone unconditionally! As God loves us, so let us love and serve in the name of Christ.

Calendar: December 8 - December 14

Worship

Worship
 Sunday, 8:30 & 11 am, Nave

Rejoice! TV Broadcast
 Sunday, 8:00 am, WVLT-TV

Midweek Noonday Service & Lunch
 Wednesday, 12 pm, Nave
 Recital at 11:40 am, Lunch at
 12:30 pm in Parish Hall (\$8)

Sunday School 9:40 AM

UMW

Christmas Lunch for Staff
 Tuesday, 11:30 am, Parish Hall

Children & Youth

Youth Christmas Party
 Sunday, 12:30 pm,
 CLC Lower Level

Wesley House Tutoring
 Tuesday, 4:15 pm, Offsite

Youth Band
 Wednesday, 6:15 pm,
 CLC Lower Level

High School Prayer Breakfast
 Thursday, 8 am, Offsite

Adult Choir & Brass Rehearsal
 Saturday, 10 am, Nave

Meetings & Ministry

Advent Bible Study
 Sunday, 5 pm, rm-201A

Benevolence Team
 Monday, 12 pm, Office

Sharing Shop
 Monday, 12 pm, CLC 126

Advent Bible Study
 Wednesday, 9:30 am, rm-201A

Soup Kitchen
 Thursday, 11 am, Parish Hall

Singles & Fellowship

Bridge Group
 Monday, 6 pm, rm-201C

Music

Parish Adult Choir Rehearsal
 Wednesday, 7 pm, rm-306

Master Arts Series Dinner
(reservations required)
 Thursday, 6 pm, Parish Hall

MAS Christmas Concert
(open to all)
 Thursday, 7:30 pm, Nave

Beacon of Hope

BOH Benevolence Team
 Tuesday, 12 pm, Vestal UMC

BOH Christmas Party
 Tuesday, 5 pm, Vestal UMC

Next Messenger

Please submit written articles and photos that you wish to be published in the next edition of *The Messenger* by Friday at noon to communications@churchstreetumc.org.

UMW News

UMW Thanks All for Participating in Bake Sale

Many thanks to those who baked and those who bought items at the UMW Bake Sale. We made **\$2400 for our Mission Projects** to enhance the lives of women and children locally and around the world.

- Verna McLain, President



Olive Branch Olive Oil Available

Olive oil bottles are still for sale until Christmas! The organic olive oil from Palestine is a fair trade product and has received the Palestine Standards Institution extra virgin certification. We did not sell all the bottles at the UMW Bake Sale. If you would like to order a bottle (\$15/bottle), please contact

Elaine Ralston: aralston1025@tds.net.



UMW Christmas Program and Luncheon

Christmas Service and Message by Rev. Dawn Chesser will be in the Nave at 11:00 am on Saturday, December 7

We will have the installation of the 2020 officers for our United Methodist Women unit at Church Street during this service. Please come and show your honor and support for the wonderful job the outgoing officers have done and welcome our new and returning leaders! Luncheon will follow in the Parish Hall at noon. Circles sit together for this special luncheon.

Come and Celebrate Our Year Together and the Blessings of our Outreach!

Poinsettias On Sale December 8 & 15

Each year, church members are invited to purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone special. Each poinsettia is \$12. To reserve a poinsettia, visit the Chapel Hallway on Sundays, December 8 & 15, or call the church office at 524-3048 by December 15.



Mark Your Calendar:

On Sunday, Dec. 29, Church Street will have ONE worship service at 11 am in the Nave. Sunday School will take place at the regular time, 9:40 a.m.

CLERGY CONNECTION

Together, let's think about...

Advent

Happy New Year! Or better yet, Happy Advent! A new year in the Christian calendar has begun, and we once again begin preparations for Christmas. The season of Advent is a season of preparation: both in the church building and in our hearts.

While we want to skip ahead to the glimmer and joy of Christmas, Advent is necessary to get us truly ready. At Christmas, we hope for the second coming when we remember the incarnation of Jesus Christ. Yet, Advent reminds us that the world is not quite right and our hope is not in this world, but in a Savior. Advent invites us to slow down, realize our shortcomings and refocus on Christ as our only hope. Christmas would not be possible without Advent. One way to prepare your heart during this season of Advent is to use the Advent Devotion booklet prepared by



our Congregational Care team. Each day offers a new story, Bible verse, and prayer to ponder throughout the season.

Just as we need Advent to prepare us spiritually for Christmas, we also need Advent to prepare physically for Christmas. Over the next few weeks, you will notice changes around the

church, especially in the Nave. Last Sunday, the first week of Advent, the liturgical colors changed to purple and our Advent wreath was lit for the first time. Next Sunday, the Nave trees will be up and decorated with Chrismons, symbols of our Christian faith. In the last week of Advent, poinsettias will decorate the front steps of the Nave, as we honor special people in our lives. Each new element brings us one step closer to Christmas and helps us further prepare in Advent.

As we prepare our building and our homes for Christmas, how are we also preparing our hearts for Christ this Advent?

— Rev. Palmer Cantler

Church Street thanks Lisa Stanley, Ann Warwick, Anne Trent and Keith Bailey for their dedication to preparing the church facilities for Advent.



Blue Christmas Service

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 12 pm in the Chapel
The service is designed for those who have experienced any kind of loss. Lunch follows (\$8) in Parish Hall. Make a reservation by calling the office at 524-3048 or emailing reservations@churchstreetumc.org.



Getting Ahead Graduation

Beacon of Hope celebrated new graduates from the "Getting Ahead" class that took place throughout the fall at Vestal UMC. Pictured at left are the graduates, class facilitators, nursery workers, Rev. Palmer Cantler, and Dona McConnell. Congratulations grads!

Adult Confirmation Class Continues

On Sunday, December 8, Rev. Rick Isbell will continue his series on important faith topics as he explores "Ways of Discipleship." The primary ways in which we carry out our discipleship are through worship, devotion & prayer, service and fellowship. We will begin our discussions on Dec. 8 and continue in January. As our act of service, the class is asked to bring coffee (no K-Cups), tea or hot chocolate for the Beacon of Hope Food Co-op this Sunday. These are items that are in high demand and greatly needed. Join us in Parish Hall at 9:40 am.



Table Graces Available

In an effort to remind families to pray together at mealtime, this helpful little booklet of table graces has been prepared by the spiritual enrichment team. Designed to sit upright on the dining table, adults and even small children can easily choose among the 42 prayers to offer gratitude regularly for God's provision. This handsome collection would make a fitting holiday gift or stocking stuffer and is available in the office or around the church. A donation of \$5-10 is requested per booklet.

Our Prayers

Home from the Hospital:

Paula Buckner
Rylee Walton

Christian love and sympathy to:

The family of Sue Cox, who died on November 27.

The family of Judith Fay Young Mitchell, sister of Katherine West, who died on November 29.

The family of LuNell Sharp, mother of Clyde Wood, who died on November 13.

Our Presence: December 1

Sunday School	280
Sunday Worship	600

Our Gifts: December 1

Operating Budget	\$42,388.12
Building Fund	\$510.00
Other	\$24,248.65

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of 12/3/2019

We have received 257 commitments totaling \$1,436,232.

To fund a budget with no increases from 2019, we need to receive pledges totaling at least \$1,700,000. Please prayerfully consider making your commitment to the mission and ministries of CSUMC for 2020.

GIVE PLUS+

Give Plus App

It's easier than ever to tithe and give to Church Street. In three steps, you can download, set up, and give directly from a secure mobile giving app. Please search for the GivePlus app in your App Store or Google Play, select Church Street UMC, and begin your donation.

Our Church Family

IN MEMORIAM

Sue Cox

Joined: 4/5/1970 Died: 11/27/2019

Memorials

In memory of:

- **John Longmire**
Building Fund: Ryan, Beth & Hudson Heatherly, Phillip D. & Marilyn E. Bevins, Fountain City UMC Open Door Sunday School Class, Rev. Larry and Loretta Best, Janice Hixson, Mary Ellen Smethells, Jane Gulley, Anonymous
Missions: Aaron & Gabrielle Blake
- **Jack William Arms & Linda Norman Arms**
Chancel Enhancements: Ann Marie Tugwell
- **Bernard Roger Hall**
Music Ministry: Ann Marie Tugwell
- **Mildred Sneed**
Building Fund: Anonymous
- **LuNell Sharp**
Youth Ministry: Anonymous
- **Bobby Sayne**
BOH Food Co-Op: Rick & Cindy Shepard, Joe Sayne
- **Judith Young Mitchell**
Youth Ministry: Anonymous

Altar Flowers

The Chancel Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Carl & Betty Bell, by Celia & Andy Ferguson and Rachel & Alan Burley and families.

The Advent Wreath is given in loving memory of Dr. Lucian Trent, Edward & Kathleen Crawford, and Wilmer & Jo Loveless by Mike & Mary Crawford.

LECTIONARY READINGS

December 8

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7,18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

Contact Us

Church Office [\(865\) 524-3048](tel:8655243048)

Hours: Mon.– Fri., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fax number [\(865\) 521-0288](tel:8655210288)

Pastor On-Call Number [\(865\) 320-9100](tel:8653209100)

For emergencies, call the On-Call Number and the pastor on call will answer or you may leave a message and the pastor will return your call.

www.churchstreetumc.org

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Twitter: [@ChurchStreetUMC](https://twitter.com/ChurchStreetUMC) and

Instagram: [churchstreetumc](https://www.instagram.com/churchstreetumc)

Staff Directory

Dial 521-0 + extension

Senior Pastor	Chuck Starks–260
Senior Associate Pastor	Dawn Chesser–279
Associate Pastor	Palmer Cantler–298
Minister of Spiritual Enrichment	Jan Wade–264
Visitation Pastors	
	Rev. Andy Ferguson, 865-806-0086
	Rev. Jim Bailes, 865-919-8328
Director of Music Ministries	Tim Ward–276
Music Associate/Organist	Edie Johnson–277
Children's Ministry	Katryn Bancroft–282
Child Care Coordinator	
	Sarah Burtch, 865-567-0913
Youth/College Ministries	Jenny Cross–287
Preschool Director	Beth Libby: 524-3511
Church Administrator	Kate Spencer–268
Bookkeeper	Francine Jenne–267
Administrative Assistant	Kelly Woods–262
Executive Secretary	Doris Lively–271
Receptionist	Nancy Keen–270
Part-time Secretary	Eileen Weber–278
Director of Communications	Katie Strangis –299
Sterchi Lodge Caretakers	
	Jack & Barbara Bratton, 828-622-3524
Maintenance Supervisor	Keith Bailey–295
Head Custodian	Jeffery Rose–274
Custodians:	Dedra Ellison, Robin Crain, Kevin Bailey, Jacob Jenne
Beacon of Hope	Dona McConnell: 599-5047



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