



**CROWN HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
DECEMBER 2025**

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CONGREGATIONAL MEETING DECEMBER 7, 2025 AT 10:35 IN THE SANCTUARY

ADVENT SERVICES

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - DEC. 7 - 3pm

CHRISTMAS CANTATA - DEC. 14

REMEMBRANCE TREE - DEC. 21 - immediately following worship

CHRISTMAS EVE - NOON

Childcare will be available during noon Christmas Eve service only

CHRISTMAS EVE - 6pm

SWEATER SING-A-LONG DEC. 28

Aaron's Alley

Advent has officially arrived!

Like clockwork, the calendar has turned far enough to reach this point in the year. While it always surprises me (I mean...every. single. year I am surprised when Advent arrives), Advent also always arrives right on time. Here's what I mean

It seems that in October and November, life gets crazy. Maybe it's because we have children in the home still, or maybe it's because we fill our calendars as full as we can. Or, maybe that is part of life. The year winds down, the seasons change, and the weather requires us to alter our behaviors a little. Then, seemingly all of a sudden, the season of Advent is upon us.

And, yet, every year, I need this season to be here right when it gets here. You see, Advent is designed to be a season of anticipation. At CHCC, we use this time to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ child into the world. We recognize that Jesus was born 2,000 years ago, but we also prepare ourselves for Christ to enter the world anew.

The anticipation, the waiting, the preparation are designed to open our senses to the possibility of Christ meeting us again. If we are able to find quiet times of reflection and prayer during this season of Advent, we can use that time to listen to the movement and calling of God in our lives. By spending time in prayerful listening, we can become attuned again to the voice of God in our world, and when we begin to train ourselves to listen to God's voice in this noisy and chaotic world, we do so in hopes that God will guide our path towards greater understanding of who God is and what God is doing in our world.

I know that last paragraph may sound like it's just preacher-speak. It's not real...it's just imagined language to make us feel something. But, if we read the psalms, we learn that people have been searching for a connection to the holy for millennia. Psalm 85:8 reads, "Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his

faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts."

So, this year, let's take a little time from all of the plans and preparations for the "big day," and let's reconnect to our God, let's spend time preparing to encounter Christ again, and let's anticipate what God might do in our lives in unexpected ways.

Will you join me for that this year?

Happy Advent,

Pastor Aaron

A Message from Madison

It's the most wonderful time of the year and we have a ton happening in our Children's and Youth programs. On December 7th at 3pm our Children's choir invites you to join us for the annual Christmas Play in the Fellowship Hall! They have been working incredibly hard the last few weeks and cannot wait to share the good news with joyful noises.

Special thanks to Kayli Christensen and Carrie True who have helped organize and direct this year. Come join in on the fun! Our Youth will be enjoying time in community with one another at Slick City on December 10th and then trading goofy and fun ornaments on December 17th ! Rooted will be on Christmas break until January 7 th .

This has been a wonderful year for both ministries. Here are a few highlights: Sweetheart Lunch, Youth Galantines, four students went through Pastors class, two students graduated high school, a youth mission trip to Kansas City, two full days of summer mission, campers at all four camps this summer, average of 8 kids in our nursery on Sundays, many laughs, exploring the bible in new ways and lots of memories. Thank you to all of our volunteers in 2025. We consistently need at least 8 volunteers on Sunday mornings to make our programming successful. We cannot have a successful ministry for our students without your help!

Happy Advent!

-Madison Showalter

[Calendar](#) - click here
[Prayer List](#) - click here

Dear Crown Heights Family,

Traditionally, during this time of year, Crown Heights Christian Church collects a special Christmas love offering for our wonderful staff to show our appreciation for their work and support throughout the year. As our church has continued to grow in 2025, our staff has done an excellent job fostering that growth to make sure all new visitors feel comfortable and confident in our church's mission, leading them to becoming members. Their hard work and dedication to our congregation is always on display, and I hope you will join me in providing a little extra "thank you" to these wonderful souls.

If you would like to participate in this cash gift program, please make your check out to Crown Heights Christian Church and note "Staff Gifts" in the memo. You can either mail the check to the church to the attention of Pam Ballew or bring it to the church office. You can also use the Shelby Next app to donate by selecting "Staff Christmas" from the list of funds.

As we prepare for the beautiful season of Advent, we wish you and your family health and happiness now and throughout this Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Peace and blessings to you all,

Jacob Russell



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