

Rejoice

Rejoice in the
Lord always. I
will say it again:
Rejoice!

Philippians 4:4, NIV



SONBURST DECEMBER 2025

Mooresville First United Methodist Church • 900 Indianapolis Road • Mooresville, IN 46158



*Now may
the Lord of peace
himself give you
peace at all times
and in every way.
The Lord be with all of you.*

2 Thessalonians 3:16, NIV

FUMC Connect



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office@moorevillefumc.org



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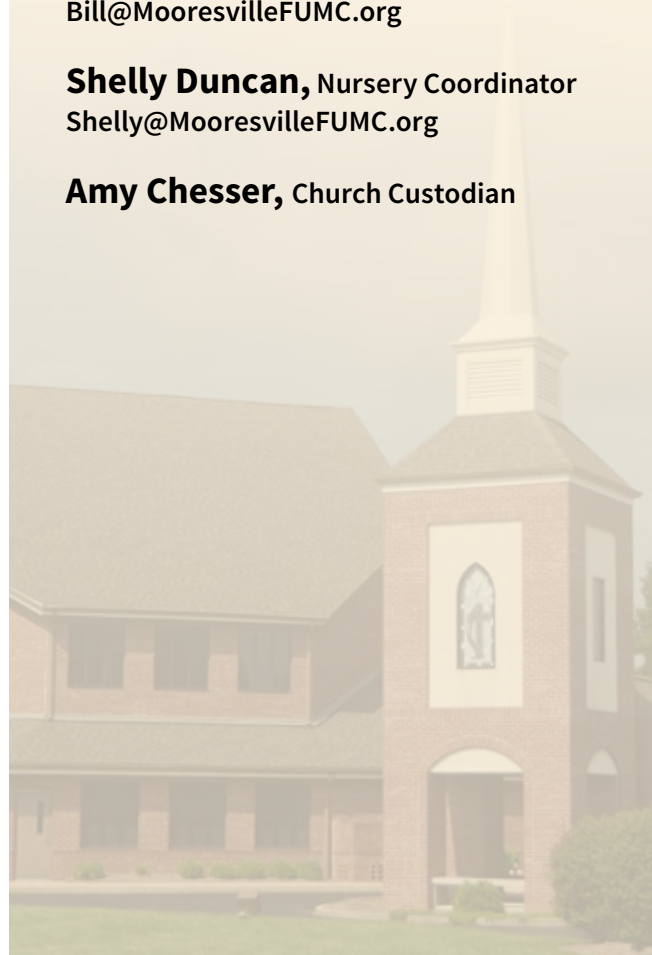
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**Greetings, Brothers and Sisters,
in the Wonderful Name of Jesus!**

There is something unmistakably sacred about December. Even before Advent begins, you can sense a quiet shift in the air—lights appear in windows, calendars fill with gatherings, and hearts begin to lean toward home, hope, and celebration. Advent meets us right in the middle of all of this and gently invites us to pay attention: *God is drawing near.*

As we move through the weeks of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, we remember that the story of Christmas is not simply about something that happened long ago. It is about what God continues to do now. God moves toward us—into our longing, our chaos, our weariness, and our searching—and brings a love that steadies and strengthens us. This truth shapes who we are as a church and how we live out our mission together.

December is also a season when many people are more open to experiencing faith or returning to church. You might be surprised how often someone will say “yes” to an invitation during this time of year. Sometimes all it takes is a simple ask: a text message, a warm conversation, or an encouraging word to someone who could use a place of peace and belonging.

So as we journey through Advent together, I want to encourage you to think of one person you can invite this year—a neighbor, coworker, friend, or family member. Someone who might need to be reminded that they are not alone. Someone who might be longing for the very hope and joy we encounter here each week.

Let’s share that gift. Let’s make room. Let’s extend the welcome that reflects the very heart of God. When Love draws near, God’s people do too.

**In the Name of Jesus Christ,
I pray we continue to...
Show Love, Share Love,
and Spread Love!**

Grace and Peace, Pastor Amber



HOPE
PEACE
LOVE
JOY



WELLNESS AWARENESS

Cheryl Howard | PARISH NURSE

“But Mary treasured up all of these things and pondered them in her heart” (Luke 2:19)



CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

Memories of Christmases past—we all have different experiences and different perceptions of the month of December. Some memories make us feel warm, some will still make us laugh or some might make our heart beat faster due to anxiety!! We might feel *nostalgic*. The word “nostalgia” means a sentimental yearning for the past that evokes feelings of pleasure with occasional notes of sadness. Derived from the Greek words “nostos” (return) and “algos” (pain), the word goes back more than 300 years. A Swiss doctor coined the term to define the troubled emotional state of homesick mercenaries. By the early 19th century, nostalgia was linked to depression. It wasn’t until 1979 that a sociologist began to redefine nostalgia in a more positive light and separate it from homesickness. Nostalgia renews appreciation for the past and sparks hopefulness for the future. Nostalgia triggers emotions, behaviors, and goals that can positively impact these parts of your life: Emotions—Behavior—Social Connectedness—Creativity.

“The best gift you can give yourself this season is balance – savor the joy, nourish your body, and let your spirit rest as much as it celebrates.” (An AI generated quote!)



WASH YOUR HANDS!

December brings many of us together in social settings. So I must put

in my annual Public Service Announcement: Handwashing with soap and running water for 20 seconds will minimize germ spread! Cover ALL coughing with your arm, not your hand. Watch the children—many of them consistently cough in the bend of their elbow. Love your neighbor by staying home when you are not feeling well.



SEASONAL TIPS

Here are a few tips to make this season a healthier one:

- > Stay active! When shopping, walk a few laps, take the stairs at every opportunity, park farther away and walk briskly to your destination.
- > Eat healthy! If you eat foods that are high in calories, saturated fat, or added sugars, choose small portions and only eat them once in a while.
- > Plan activities that don’t involve food! Volunteer in your community, Visit a museum or special holiday exhibit, Go to YouTube and make a craft!!

A CHRIST-CENTERED CHRISTMAS



For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. (Luke 2:11-20)

When was the last time you watched “A Charlie Brown Christmas?” Can you picture Linus in his “blanket” turban as he steps into the spot light at center stage? Can you hear his clear voice telling the story found in Luke?

Or how about the 1966 version of “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” with Boris Karloff as both the Grinch and the narrator!! Can you hear the Grinch pause at the height of the mountain to listen for the sounds of anguish his daring feat has caused ... only to hear the sound of SINGING!!

As the words of Isaiah 9:1-7 declare “*The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace... Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.*”

“JESUS CHRIST is the same Yesterday, Today and Forever” – Hebrews 13:8

When we open our bibles and read of the Glorious things Our Father GOD has promised we approach the dark of winter which holds Christmas with HOPE and Faith.

May the coming season bring HIS Light and HIS Love into your life.

In Christ's service

Cathy for your Prayer Team

MISSION and MINISTRIES



You really were the Church again in November. That's nothing new; you always step up to serve our community as you Show, Share, and Spread Love. We'll talk more about November later. This month is Advent, a time we prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus by spreading the joy of the season.

FOR DECEMBER

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS ARE NEEDED. This is the sole source of funding for the Churches in Mission (CIM) Utility Assistance program. There are three doors used for this program: Kroger in Mooresville, and both Walmart doors in Camby. This is managed by CIM and 100 percent of the proceeds goes towards the CIM program. Please contact us if you are interested or want to know more. To register, go to: *Registertoring.com*

DECEMBER 13 IS A BIG DAY.

MEIJER SIMPLY GIVE has a double day on Saturday, Dec. 13. For each \$10 you give on that day through Simply Give, Churches In Mission will receive a \$20 donation as a card for purchasing food through Meijer. This is an opportunity to leverage funds from Meijer into our Churches In Mission. Your missions committee will fund an opportunity to jump-start the process by purchasing \$1000 of the Simply Give on that day for a \$2000 donation from your general fund giving. Meijer will match up to \$5000, there's plenty of room for help, so spread the word to spread the love.

We will also participate in the Dec. 13 Shop with a Cop program through Churches In Mission by funding the meal baskets for the 25 families. This is also funded through your general fund giving.

The **CHRISTMAS BACKSACKS** will be filled on Sunday evening, Dec., 14 by our Youth Group. They always do an excellent job packing the sacks with love. The food for the sacks will be set up on Saturday Dec. 13. That means you can see the contents of the sacks on Sunday morning. They will be delivered to the six elementary Schools the following week. This program is funded by your general fund giving, your tithes.

NOVEMBER

- You raised almost \$4000 for Churches In Mission on Nov. 19, wow! That will really help CIM provide for those in need in our community.
- You provided over 100 gifts for the kids, mostly teenagers, at Henderson Settlement in Frakes Kentucky. The gifts will be delivered in the first week of December. Thank you for supporting the Angel Tree for the Kids in SE Kentucky.
- Over the month of November, you provided a significant amount of donated food items for CIM.
- You also provided over \$2000 in food support for CIM through your general fund giving.
- You filled 93 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child

You'll find additional information on these and other missions on the **Missions Section of the Bulletin Board** located on the wall outside of the fellowship hall.

Your Missions Committee –

Bill Allen, Becky Cothran, Dave Nance, Dan and Lynn Poledna, Paul and Dedra Weddle, Bob and Vickii Wolford.

CHRISTMAS COOKIES

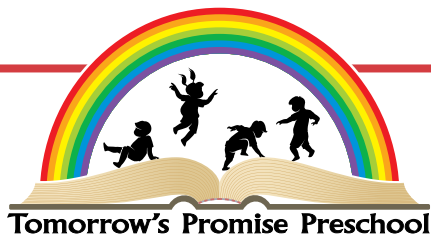
What's a best gift to give to a friend, neighbor, child, mailperson or even yourself? Why cookies of course! Don't feel like dragging all of those ingredients out, mixing them together and baking them? Let the United Methodist Women help you.



Our annual Christmas cookie sale will be December 21 in the fellowship hall right after our church service. Come and pick out the tin of your choice (each of them will have a price); pay; fill your tin with wonderful, tasty cookies and enjoy. No mess, just a thoughtful gift to give away or enjoy yourself.

The United Methodist Women wishes each of you a wonderful holiday season.

REMINDER: The UMW scholarships are still available to any lady who is planning to further their education. If interested, please contact the office, Mary Craig or Jean Ash.



Preschool Themes for December
Getting Ready for Christmas
Merry Christmas
Happy Birthday Jesus!

Preschool is on Christmas Break from
December 19 through January 2.
Preschool resumes, Monday, January 5.

Tomorrow's Promise will start enrolling
for the 2026-2027 school year in January.
Watch for an Intent-to-Register form
in the January Sonburst. Please
contact Lydia at 317-834-1787 or at
preschool@moorevillefumc.org if
you have any questions.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The children and youth are performing "The Perfect Christmas" during the 9:15 service on December 14. The children will have a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 13 from 9:30-10:15a.m.



The youth will start the second semester of school in style with a lock-in on Friday, January 9 at 6pm. We will eat dinner together, play games in the dark, watch a movie and talk about God.

Bring your friends as this is an awesome time!

Parents may pick up their students Saturday morning at 9am.



WHAT'S COMING UP

SUNDAY, DEC. 7

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING



After we eat dinner together at 4:45pm, we will take the church van to Kroger and ring the Salvation Army bell from 6-8pm while we sing Christmas carols, eat candy canes and drink hot chocolate. We do this every year and it is always a fun time!

SUNDAY, DEC. 14

FOOD FOR KIDS

After dinner at 4:45pm we will spend the evening filling sacks with food for needy families!



We need lots of help as we will end up with over 250 sacks of food!

SUNDAY, DEC. 21

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

The youth will close out the Advent season with a party from 4:45-7:15pm.

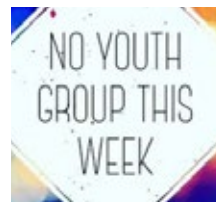


*Food, games, fun galore!
Bring a friend!*

SUNDAY, DEC. 28

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

No Youth Meeting



FROM US TO YOU



Wanting to wish your church family a Merry Christmas with a card? Bring your cards to church and drop them in the card box. They will be sorted by a volunteer. Don't forget to check back to see if you have received any!

POINSETTIAS

The Sanctuary will be decorated with poinsettias this Christmas. You have the opportunity to buy one and list it in memory or honor of someone. The poinsettias have been preordered, and there is a limited number. Cost is \$10.50. Colors are red, white and ice crystal.



HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The office will have limited hours from December 24 to January 2. During those dates, please contact the office via email or voicemail.



Blue Christmas Service

Carlisle-Branson Funeral Home and Mooresville First United Methodist Church have joined together to offer a sacred space and time to gather together for a special "Blue Christmas" service. We invite you to join us on Sunday, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, for a quiet, reflective gathering that is dedicated to those who are grieving, hurting, or finding the holiday season particularly challenging.

SUNDAY SCHOOL and RECURRING GROUPS



Please check with your leader to confirm meetings.

Group Name	Time	Location	Leader	Date	Description of Study
SUNDAY GROUPS					
Seeker Sunday School	10:30 am	Rm 106	Cathy Mosier	Meeting Now	Bible Study
Friendship Class	10:30 am	Parlor	Yeager / Harris	Meeting Now	Bible Study
Here and Now Class	10:30 am	Rm 104	Dave Nance	Meeting Now	Bible Study
Talk Back	10:30 am	Rm 110	Pastor Amber	Meeting Now	Bible Study
Alcoholics Anonymous	4:00 pm	Rm 110	Team Leaders	Meeting Now	Support group
The Crossing	4:50 pm	Rm 112	Dan Herron	Meeting Now	7th-12th grade youth group
5th/6th Grade Youth	4:50 pm	Rm 108	Dan Herron	Meeting Now	5th-6th grade youth group

MONDAY GROUPS					
Trailblazers	1:00 pm	Parlor	Cheryl Howard	Meeting Now	Bible Study

TUESDAY GROUPS					
Quilters	9:00 am	Parlor	Team Leaders	Meeting Now	Bring sewing machine

WEDNESDAY GROUPS					
Prayer Group	8:00 am	Chapel	Team Leaders	Meeting Now	Pray for our church/community
Stretch & Flex	10:30 am	Parlor	Team Leaders	Meeting Now	Chair Yoga
Handbell Choir	6:00 pm	Rm 103	Cathy Mosier	Meeting Now	Handbell practice

THURSDAY GROUPS					
LRE Visitation Team	9:30 am	Rm 104	Sandy Fanning	Dec. 11	Meet for devotions/outreach

FRIDAY GROUPS					
Alcoholics Anonymous	7:30 pm	Parlor	Team Leaders	Meeting Now	Support for addiction
Al-Anon	7:30 pm	Rm 110	Team Leaders	Meeting Now	Spouse support for addiction

SATURDAY GROUPS					
UMMen's Breakfast	8:00 am	Parlor	Team Leaders	Dec. 13	Breakfast & devotion with sharing

DECEMBER 2024

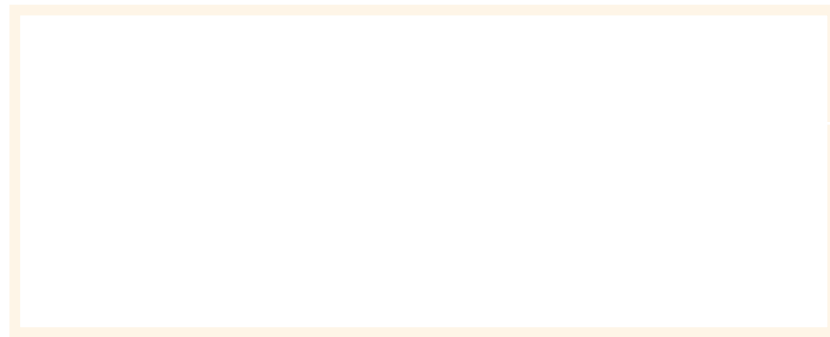
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 1pm Trailblazers	2 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 9am Quilting Group 10:30am Matter of Balance 4pm Kappa Kappa 6:30pm Preschool Christmas Program 6:40pm Bible Study Fellowship	3 8am Prayer 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 10:30pm Stretch & Flex 6pm Bell Choir Practice 6:30pm Preschool Christmas Program	4 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 6:30pm Preschool Christmas Program	5 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Alanon	6 10am Safe Sleep Class
7 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:15am Worship 10:30am Adult & Children Sunday School 2pm Blue Christmas 4pm AA 4:45pm Youth Group	8 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 1pm Trailblazers 7pm Delta Theta Tau	9 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 9am Quilting Group 10:30am Matter of Balance 6:40pm Bible Study Fellowship	10 8am Prayer 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 10:30pm Stretch & Flex 6pm Bell Choir Practice 6pm Girl Scout 2723	11 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 9:30am LRE 1:30pm Bayview 6:30pm 4H Pioneer Clovers	12 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Alanon	13 8am UMM Breakfast 9:30am Children's Program Practice
14 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:15am Worship 10:30am Adult & Children Sunday School 1pm Tutterrow Event 4pm AA 4:45pm Youth Group	15 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 1pm Trailblazers	16 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 9am Quilting Group 5:30pm Tri Kappa	17 8am Prayer 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 10:30pm Stretch & Flex 6pm Bell Choir Practice	18 9am Tomorrow's Promise Preschool 1pm Book Club	19 9am UMW Cookie Setup 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Alanon	20
21 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:15am Worship 10am UMW Christmas Cookie Sale 10:30am Adult & Children Sunday School 4pm AA 4:45pm Youth Group Christmas Party	22 1pm Trailblazers	23 9am Quilting Group	24 6pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 	25 	26 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Alanon	27
28 9:15am Worship 10:30am Adult & Children Sunday School 4pm AA	29 1pm Trailblazers	30 9am Quilting Group	31 			



Christmas Candlelight Service

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24
6PM

*"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;
he is the Messiah, the Lord."* Luke 2:11



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MOOREVILLE
First United
Methodist Church Inc.

