

# December



## Community United Methodist Church

December begins in the season of Advent, the four weeks of waiting for the birth of the Christ child. I am afraid that as a people we are not very good at waiting. I mean, retail outlets had their Christmas toys and decor on sale before Halloween was even over. If we were any good at waiting, I suspect we'd be more inclined to hit the brakes rather than the gas when the traffic light turns yellow.

But Advent is not passive; it is a season of active and watchful waiting. This season is tapping into the world's longing for redemption, salvation, and transformation. This year as we wait for Christmas to arrive, we will turn to "Todo la Tierra/All Earth is Waiting" hymn 210 in the United Methodist Hymnal to guide our worship. The first verse of this hymn reminds us of what is at stake in our waiting: "All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty." This hymn invites us to look back at the story of the Incarnation and to look forward to the coming kingdom of God when the will of God will be done on earth as in heaven. All earth is waiting for this fulfillment. So, in worship this Advent we will watch for the signs of the nearness of Emmanuel, God with us.

Once again this year we will celebrate Travelers' Christmas Eve on December 17. This is a special worship service for those who will be traveling, celebrating with family and friends, or otherwise unable to attend Christmas Eve candlelight worship. This service is nearly identical to our Christmas Eve worship service; at both of those services we will sing Christmas hymns, read the Christmas story from scripture, and light candles as we celebrate the birth of Christ. These are two great opportunities to share with friends, family, and your church family as we celebrate Christmas together.

I hope you will join us this Advent for All Earth is Waiting as we wait, watch, and worship together.

# Sunday Sermons

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

Scripture Reading: Romans 13:11-14 and Matthew 24:36-44

Message: Signs and Times

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 and Matthew 3:1-12

Message: Signs and Stories

December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10 and Matthew 11:2-11

Message: Signs and Truth

December 17, 2025

Travelers' Christmas Eve

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7 and Luke 2:1-20

Message: Signs and Glory

December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16 and Matthew 1:18-25

Message: Signs and Faithfulness

December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7 and Luke 2:1-20

Message: Signs and Glory



## December Birthdays



Tina Bodily 12/04

Kelsey Patterson 12/05

Stephen Engberg 12/09

Charlene Mc Cracken 12/09

Cindy Pierce 12/13

Ned McCracken 12/13

Betsy Holden 12/18

Susan Wagner 12/24

Rick Wetz 12/28

Wendy Turnboo 12/29

Ruthmarie Rivas 12/29

Walter Hupp 12/31



## XYZ CUMC

The December XYZ luncheon will be held at Rainbow Gardens at 11:30 on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. The address is 1851 Valley Dr Ogden. Sign up sheet is on table in narthex.



## Stewardship!

### Stewardship Campaign Wrap-Up: A Season of Gratitude and Commitment

As we bring our annual stewardship campaign to a close, our church family has once again shown what it means to live generously and faithfully. This season has been more than a financial effort—it has been a shared journey of reflection, gratitude, and renewed commitment to the ministry God has entrusted to us. Over the past several weeks, we have prayed together, listened to heartfelt testimonies, and explored how our gifts—both spiritual and material—support the mission of our church. We were reminded that stewardship is not simply about sustaining programs; it is about participating in God's work of healing, teaching, and transforming lives. Every gift is an expression of faith and a sign of trust in God's abundance. Your generosity ensures that our ministries remain strong: worship that uplifts, outreach that serves our neighbors in need, education that nurtures disciples of all ages, and fellowship that binds us together as the body of Christ. Because of you, these essential ministries will continue to grow in the year ahead. As we look forward to the coming season, let us carry the spirit of this campaign with us. Stewardship does not end with a pledge card; it continues in our daily choices to live thankfully, give joyfully, and serve wholeheartedly.

Thank you for your faithfulness and for the many ways you help our church shine as a beacon of hope in our community. May God bless the gifts we have offered and the ministry we share—today and always.

## CUMC FINANCES

General Operating  
Oct Income \$20,652  
Oct Expense 21,456  
Oct Net Loss -804

YTD Inc 248,715  
YTD Exp 233,755  
YTD Net Inc 14,960



"Having first, gained all you can,  
and, secondly saved all you can,  
Then give all you can." —from a  
sermon in the Works of John  
Wesley

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Linda Binkley

# FUEL Committee

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## Adult Advent Study

Advent is an ideal time to join the adult Sunday school class for a 4 week Advent study. We meet at 10:30 am in the Upper room. We will be studying *On the Way to Bethlehem* by Rob Furquay. Each week includes a video with the lesson. This book follows the long journey to Christmas, beginning in Rome with a decree issued from the seat of worldly power for a census, setting into motion events leading to the birth of the Savior of the world in a town that represents the very opposite of worldly power, Bethlehem.

Chapters include:

Rome – A Place of Longing

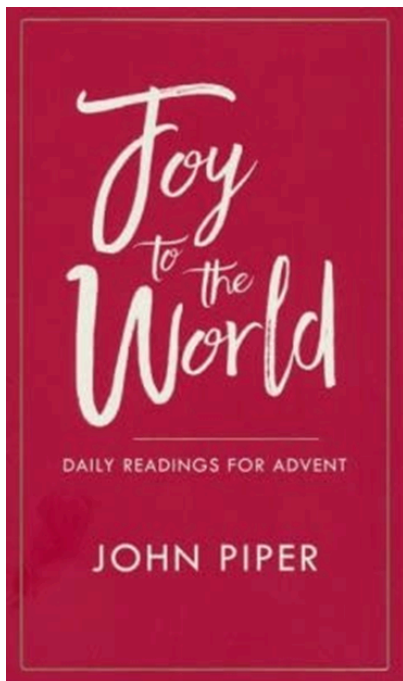
Jerusalem – A Place of Waiting

Nazareth – A Place of Simplicity

Bethlehem – A Place of Humility

Author Rob Fuquay provides insight into the geographical and historical significance of Rome, Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, along with the important characters through whom the Christmas drama unfolds. You will be drawn into those places in a way that helps you experience the spiritual truths each location holds. The reflection we give in these places prepares the heart and soul to experience wonder, awe, mystery, and joy.

## Free resource for December:



Advent is a season when we prepare our hearts, minds and souls for the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The FUEL committee is offering this free book with daily readings based on scripture. It is too easy to become overwhelmed and stressed by the busyness of the season. Pick up a copy and experience the joy and peace that our Beloved Savior desires to give to each of us!





Join us for “Cocoa, Cookies and Coloring” on Saturday, December 13 from 10:45 – 11:45 am for children and youth and 1-2:15 pm for adults. During the time for children and youth, they will have the opportunity to decorate cookies to eat and share with others and color festive holiday cards for our homebound members. The adults will be able to select cookies to take home or share. While coloring cards, we hope to share favorite Christmas memories and traditions. Everyone will have the chance to indulge in some hot cocoa and toppings. Adults are encouraged to bring two dozen Christmas cookies to share for the cookie exchange. Please sign up on sheets in the narthex. If you have questions, contact Andrea Nelson at [aen7@hotmail.com](mailto:aen7@hotmail.com)



## Christmas Bell Concert Sunday, December 7 6:30 PM

**Join us as we ring in the  
Christmas season!**

**Come early to fill your plate with refreshments!**

**A Love Offering will be taken at the end of the concert  
if you would like to donate to the Handbell Ministry.**



# Children's Ministry



We are so THANKFUL for being able to help others!! Our Children and Youth group went shopping for, and made 40 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child!! Our children and youth love making those, and serving others.

We are excited to have our annual Make It and Take it on December 5<sup>th</sup>, and hope to see a lot of kids there!! Thank you to those who have signed up to help!! We are definitely a church that Serves With Christ, and Loves Like Christ to help our children and youth Grow in Christ!!



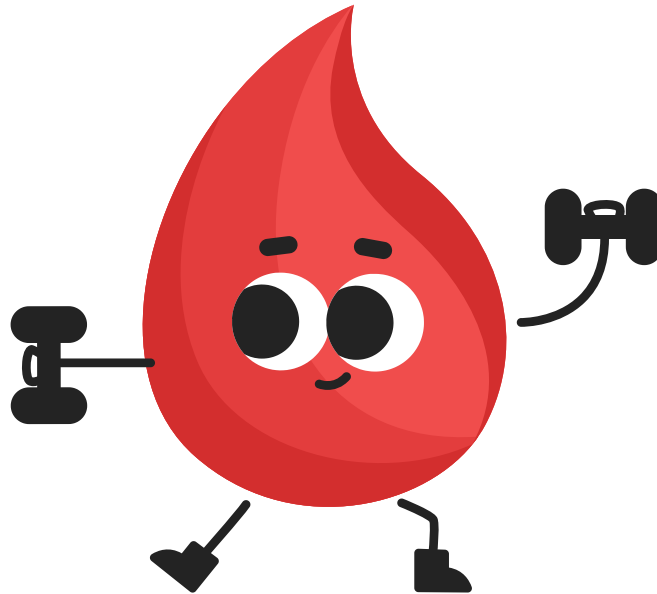
## MAKE IT AND TAKE IT

DECEMBER 5TH 3:00-5:00PM

JOIN US FOR CRAFTS, MUSIC  
AND DELICIOUS TREATS!



Community United Methodist Church  
Is hosting a Blood Drive  
Wednesday, December 17th 2-6 p.m.  
Find the signup information in the Narthex



## Men's 2 or More

Saturday December 20th  
9:00 AM Upper Room



CUMC at the Terrace





## DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

Make It and Take It Christmas Presents

December 5, 3-5 p.m.

Christmas Bell Concert

December 7, 6:30-8 p.m.

Cocoa, Cookies and Coloring

December 13, 10:45-11:45 a.m. for children and youth  
and 1-2:15 p.m. for adults

Blood Drive

December 17, 2-6 p.m.

Travelers' Christmas Eve Worship

December 17, 7 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

December 24, 7 p.m.

For more information visit **community-umc.net** or call **801-479-7430**