

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

131 West Second Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701

301-662-1464 • www.calvaryumc.org

Calvary United Methodist Church seeks and invites all to become disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and our world.

December 15, 2024

3rd Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Worship Service



We Celebrate Our Presence Together: Gathering

Preludes

“Intermezzo”

by Franklin Ritter

Daniel Catalano, guest organist

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

by Gustav Host, arr. by Victor L. Gumma

Joyful Noise Ringers, William Davy, conductor

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” UMH #211(verses 1-4)

*Lighting the Advent Candle (read responsively) Karen and Ray Gebhart

The promise of Joy is the Divine Gift we receive.

And what will we do with it?

The gift of joy is not the same as happiness,
but rather the deep conviction that we are called to be present
in the work of bringing about “great things” —
a better world for those who need it most.

**We light the Candle of Joy as a sign that we will be
Present with Joy in the world.**

Prayer of Presence (unison)

**Holy Living Light of God,
you are our Joyful Presence.
Let this joy grow in our lives each day,
so that we may be a Present of Joy to others.
Unwrap and open our hearts.
May it be so. Amen.**

Receiving New Members

Alice Ricketts Rev. Stephen Ricketts
Christen Riegel Luke Riegel
Fred Wilson Nance Wilson
Teri Kreitzer

Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you
and we welcome you in Christian love.
As members together with you in the body of Christ
and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant faithfully to participate
in the ministries of the church
by our prayers, our presence,
our gifts, our witness and our service,
that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

The Word Present Among Us: Proclaiming

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 61: 1-7 Beth Strakonsky

Anthem: Sing-Along Hymn UMH #202 “People, Look East”
Trad. French Carol, words by Eleanor Farjeon
Sanctuary Choir, Joyce Summers, pianist

*Gospel Lesson Luke 1: 46-55 Beth Strakonsky

*Response

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Time With the Children Angela Mayer
Following the Time with the Children, all children in K-3rd grade are invited to Children's Church either in the Chapel or in the Nursery for the remainder of the worship service. Parents are asked to walk their children to narthex/lobby where they will find the children's church leader.

*Hymn “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” UMH #206

Sermon Being Present with JOY Rev. Steve Larsen

Fully Present in the Moment: Praying

Time for Reflection and Commitment

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory “In the Stillness” by Steven Scott

When we pass the offering plate in the worship service we are linking our giving with other ways we worship God.

Checks can also be sent to the church office at 131 West 2nd St, Frederick, MD 21701.

Online payments can be made easily and securely by going to www.Calvaryumc.org/give/. You can make a one-time gift or set up ongoing electronic payments. Please use this time to register your attendance here today in the red folders found in the pews.

*Doxology UMH #221 (st. 4)

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him; give him my heart.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Present to the World: Sending

*Closing Carol “Joy to the World” UMH #246

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Postlude “The Rejoicing” by George Frederic Handel

Our worship series throughout the season of Advent and Christmas is called The Gift of Being Present. It is based on a theme and materials from WorshipDesignStudios.com. The scripture lessons this month remind us “the Holy One is with you” and of God’s gift: Being present to us in the child born in Bethlehem. This year, we are invited to *offer* the gift of being present to our loved ones, our community, and to those who need it most.

Ushers: Paul Nelson, Bill Pasquerette, Bret Slovikosky, Paul Muehl, Dave Mills

Coffee Host: Leisa Moyer

Acolyte: Mikey Mills

Children's Sunday School for Preschool 3-Year-Olds through 5th Graders. Join us for songs, snacks, crafts and Bible learning! We meet in the Activities Room of the Education Building from **9:00 - 9:45 a.m. every Sunday.** For more information, please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org or sign up using this link: <https://calvaryfrederick.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/113/responses/new>

Acolytes Needed: Dates have been added to the sign-up list! Please use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b4aa9a82aa4ff2-acolyte/18827003#/> If you have any questions please contact Stefanie Harris at jujubee820@yahoo.com

Children's Church is for children in grades K- 5th, and meets in the chapel following the **Time with the Children.** Children's Church is now incorporating many elements of our traditional service so that children are interactively engaging in worship, just on a smaller scale.

WHEELBARROW/FOOD BANK We would like to sincerely thank the congregation for their weekly donations to the **wheelbarrow/food bank.** It truly warms our hearts to walk in on Sunday mornings to see the generous donations. With the season of giving upon us, there are numerous ways for us all to spread love thru giving.... hygiene items for the homeless youth (SHIP), Angel Tree gifts for children to name a few. The "Reverse Advent" food bank collection was such a success we decided to bring it back again this year.

Basically, one item per day. We will gladly take your collections and deliver them to the food bank. If you prefer to bring items weekly instead of waiting until Christmas Eve, feel free to place them in the "holiday wheelbarrow" (Please find the list of food on the Wheelbarrow in the hall outside of the Parish Hall). May your hearts be filled with the spirit of love and joy. ~Roy and Julie Schwarzenberg

SHIP Homeless for the Holiday Hygiene Drive

Calvary UMC is once again supporting SHIP's (Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership) Hygiene Drive. Now thru December 31, we will be collecting new, full sized hygiene products for students in Frederick County experiencing homelessness.

The Christmas wrapped SHIP collection box can be found in the hallway outside the Parish Hall. Listed below are the most needed items. Please contact Beth Stitely with any questions. 301-730-8282, Autumn.purple@hotmail.com.

- Ethnic Hair Care Products
- Deodorant
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Laundry Detergent
- Razors
- Hand Soap
- First Aid Items
- Dental Floss
- Mouth Wash
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Feminine Hygiene Product
- Shaving Cream
- Body Lotion
- Hair Brushes
- Hair Ties
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5 p.m. Family Service
7 p.m. Candelight and Communion
9 p.m. Candelight and Communion



Looking Ahead: Special Epiphany Study

The Old Timers & Newcomers Bible study group, that meets at 9 a.m. Sunday mornings in the conference room of Calvary's Administrative Building, will have a special study of the Gospel of John during the Epiphany season for eight weeks, beginning January 5. ALL ARE WELCOME!



Veggie Tale Movie Night is happening from **6 – 7 p.m. Friday, January 17** in the Activities Room of the Education Building. Join us for pizza, a movie, discussion, a craft and more! Wear your pajamas and bring a pillow and blanket if you'd like. Please register by contacting AmyStone@calvaryumc.org



Mission Possible Kids next meeting will be **5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Sunday, January 26** in the Activities Room of the Education Building to assemble LOVE BAGS! Join us! Please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org for more information and to order a Mission Possible Kids t-shirt.

December 15~December 22, 2024

Today, Sunday December 15

9:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Children's Choir
5:30 p.m. Youth Group

Tuesday, December 17

1:30 p.m. Wesleyan Circle Meeting
6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise Handbell

7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Wednesday, December 18

6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study

Next Sunday, December 22

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Children's Choir
5:30 p.m. Youth Group



38TH ANNUAL TOUR OF CHURCHES

CALVARY UMC EVENT THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26TH DOORS OPEN AT 3:00 P.M.

CHICKEN CORN SOUP, COOKIES, HOT CHOCOLATE, COFFEE, HOT TEA, AND WATER WILL BE SERVICED FROM 3:00 P.M. UNTIL 8:00 P.M. OR WHEN WE RUN OUT.

MUSICAL LINEUP

Tri State Harp Ensemble

Led by Sally Lay

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Trinity Brass Ensemble

Led by Matthew Stegle

5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Seasonal Organ Music played by Karen Gebhart

6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Peal Bells Ringing and Demonstration

6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Seasonal Organ Music played by Karen Gebhart

7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Peal Bells Ringing and Demonstration

7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



Prayer Concerns:

Members of Calvary:

Jim Dobbs, Patricia Pettingall, Rev. Ken Humbert, Mike Isaacs, Jackie Grimes, Helen Alysmeier, Nancy Huffman, Gracie Heller, Joyce Dixon, Lois Pacheco, Rita Sharpe, Ann Crum, Marilyn Moyers, Peggy Griffiee, Ramona Yanike, Nancy Dobbs, Judy Allen, John Stenner, Paul Metcalf

Friends of Calvary:

Ruth Spring (Friend of Stephanie Felton), Dom Norris (Friend of Drew Irving), Waldo Blake (Father of Melissa Rust), Jan Nefflen (Friend of Peggy Rhoderick), Kassidy Noble (Niece of Brad and Jennie Davy), Eileen Morrow (Cousin of Karen Gebhart), Angela Gorens (Friend of Stephanie Felton), Jerry Black (Son-in-law of Betsy Bryant), Drew Wilson, Marie Slovikosky Miller, and Mike Miller (Brother and Sister-in-law of Nancy Slovikosky), Sarah Jenkins (Sister of Mary Crum), Cheryl Christine (Chris) Irving (Wife of Drew Irving), Allan Huffman (Son of Nancy Huffman), Brian Jones (Friend of the Linda & Scott English), Scott Berry, Janet Stone (Mother of Jeff Stone), Hope Patterson and Cathy Short (Sisters of Charlotte Pasquerette), Ken Kessel (Brother of Susan Baggette), Audrey Cash (Friend of Helen Sheppard), Kitty Cooley (Sister of Connie Scoggins), Suzanne Simpson and Adam Shake (Sister & brother-in-law to Christy Mossburg), Alice and Becky Woodward (Family of Rita Sharpe), Virginia Painter Floyd, Jill and Tracy Sizemore, Gil Crippen, Jim Clark, Ida Durden, and Janella Walls, Louise Brieto (Family Members and Friends of Rita Sharpe)



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Church Staff

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Paul Metcalf, Custodian
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Joyce Summers, pianist

Calvary Weekday School

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To give online visit our website at www.calvaryumc.org/give