



Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

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A Year in the Bible



***We've reached the
homestretch of our
year of Bible reading!***
Chronological Readings:
Dec 1 2 Corinthians 11:1-

Issue: #175

December 1, 2019

A Message From Pastor Carol



When Jesus was born to a young unmarried girl in the humble shelter for animals, the people of the first century were unaware of God's reaching out to offer all the gift of love. The business of being obedient to the king's call for the census, finding shelter for the interim, providing care for large extended families was the distraction of the day. Being called home did not afford time or space for anticipating the arrival of the Prince of Peace.

I believe we are being called home this Advent not to be counted, but to be touched. God is reaching out to each of us to restore our spirits and become aware of God's love. We all are waiting for something but are we all anticipating God to come close? Advent invites us into the time and space we need to experience the gifts of the manger - hope, peace, love and joy. God is waiting for you.

Blessings,
Pastor Carol



13:13, Acts 20:7-12
Dec 2 Acts 20:13-21:36
Dec 3 Acts 21:37-23:35
Dec 4 Acts 24:1-26:32
Dec 5 Acts 27:1-44
Dec 6 Acts 28:1-31,
 Ephesians 1:1-2:22
Dec 7 Ephesians 3:1-5:14
Dec 8 Ephesians 5:15-
 6:23, Colossians 1:1-23
Dec 9 Colossians 1:24-
 4:18
Dec 10 Philemon 1:1-25,
 Philippians 1:1-2:11
Dec 11 Philippians 2:12-
 4:23
Dec 12 James 1:1-3:18
Dec 13 James 4:1-5:20,
 1 Timothy 1:1-2:15
Dec 14 1 Timothy 3:1-
 6:10
Dec 15 1 Timothy 6:11-
 21, Titus 1:1-3:15, 2
 Timothy 1:1-18
Dec 16 2 Timothy 2:1-
 4:18
Dec 17 2 Timothy 4:19-
 22, Hebrews 1:1-4:13
Dec 18 Hebrews 4:14-
 7:28
Dec 19 Hebrews 8:1-
 10:39
Dec 20 Hebrews 11:1-
 12:29
Dec 21 Hebrews 13:1-25,
 1 Peter 1:1-2:3
Dec 22 1 Peter 2:4-5:11
Dec 23 1 Peter 5:12-14,
 2 Peter 1:1-3:18
Dec 24 1 John 1:1-4:6
Dec 25 1 John 4:7-5:21,
 2 John 1:1-13, 3 John
 1:1-15
Dec 26 Jude 1:1-25,
 Revelation 1:1-2:29
Dec 27 Revelation 3:1-
 6:17
Dec 28 Revelation 7:1-
 10:11
Dec 29 Revelation 11:1-
 14:20
Dec 30 Revelation 15:1-
 18:24
Dec 31 Revelation 19:1-
 22:21

Church Christmas Party

Saturday, December 7



Ladies In Fellowship Together (LIFT)



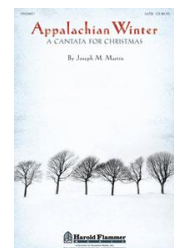
Thursday, December 12
 6:30 pm

The monthly LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) meeting on Thursday, December 12, at 6:30 pm at the home of Lois Eaton. Go to [L.I.F.T.](#) for more information. Bring a snack or covered dish to share. We will enjoy food, fellowship and a short devotional. If you do not have time to prepare a dish, please join us anyway - we want you with us! Come join us for this time of fellowship!

"Appalachian Winter" Cantata

Sunday, December 15
 10:30 am worship

Holy Covenant Music Ministries invite you to a presentation of the cantata "Appalachian Winter" during worship on Sunday, December 15.



Food Pantry Needs



Communion Sunday, December 8

You are invited to bring canned meats, soups and canned fruit during Communion. There will be bins available at the platform for donations.

Children Formation



Covenant Kids Worship

For the season of Advent, children ages 3 thru second grade are invited to participate in our new Covenant Kids' program. Covenant Kids is a worship program designed especially for this age group that will take place during the 10:30 worship service, in the Covenant Center. Children who participate in Covenant Kids will learn the meaning of Advent: a time of waiting with anticipation.

Angel Tree



Sunday, December 15

The Angel Tree is up in the narthex! Adopting an angel is simple. Take a paper angel off the tree with information about your angel. Purchase new, unused items and remove price tags. Put items in a bag and attach your angel to the outside of the bag.

Bring your bagged gifts to Holy Covenant by **Sunday, December 15!**

Please contact [Donna Johnson](#) or [Linda Hill](#) with questions.

Blood Drive

Sunday, December 22
8:30 am to 12:30 pm
in the parking lot

Make a donation, save a life!



Christmas Eve Family Worship

Christmas Eve
Family Worship
December 24
5:30 pm



Adult Formation



Film Discussion Guide

Are you planning to see *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*? The Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church have created a [discussion guide](#) to go along with the movie. Perhaps your family or your small group will find it useful.

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Unity Worship

Staff

Rev. Carol Sparks
csparks@hcumc.org
 Senior Pastor

Shaun Littlejohn-Taylor
 Interim Choir Director

Beth McClure
bmclure@hcumc.org
 ECDP Director

Christine Perry
cperry@hcumc.org
 Financial Administrator

Elise Webb Odell
ewebb@hcumc.org
 Administrative Assistant

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship



Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion



Dinner & Game Night is Back!



Friday, December 27
6 to 9 pm
in the Covenant Center

Bring your family, friends and your favorite games! Dinner will be potluck. We will have a love offering basket for

any donations guests wish to give toward dinner. Contact holycovenantunity@gmail.com with any questions.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The Blanton family; Rhonda King's family; the Webb family; the McLaughlin family; Pat Underhill; Jim McKee; Charles Holley; Betty Morse; Carlos Ponce; Susie Ponce; Don Luce; Mary Harrison; Florence Richter; Peggy Castenada; Tyler Ackerman; Randy Sutherland; Jan Reynolds; Jojo Sain; and Mike Gilbert.

Our Loved Ones in the Military

KeNi Gaines, Zach Glass, Jake Oliver, Antonio Ramirez, Ashton Rudolf and Diana Rudolf.

Community Mentors

More Mentors Needed!

Looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity? Give a child the gift of reading! Only 20 minutes a week gives a child the boost he or she needs to succeed. Holy Covenant's Community Mentors' program pairs adult mentors with children in our local elementary schools. If you are interested in participating this school year, please contact [Andrea Allen](#).



Holy Covenant
united methodist

**meeting Christ in our local community
to serve our children and youth**



We are welcoming and open to all people;
black or white or brown, you are welcome here;
rich or poor, young or old, you are welcome here,
gay or straight, citizen or sojourner, you are welcome here.

Holy Covenant United Methodist Church, hcumc.org
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