

December 3, 2017
1st Sunday of Advent



Community United Methodist Church

950 Gould Avenue Northeast

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

763-788-9009

www.communitymethodistchurch.org

VISITOR INFORMATION

Welcome to Community United Methodist Church!

If you're visiting Community for the first time, we have a welcome gift we'd like to share with you that is located just outside the sanctuary doors. Inside of the gift bag, you'll find a **peace candle** for use in your personal devotions or to share with your home congregation as well as more information about our ministries.

On the lower level of the church, you'll find a staffed nursery. Infants and children are always welcome in the service as well.

Everyone is invited to a time of fellowship in the lower level of the church immediately following worship. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to see you again.

*We are a congregation called to
serve God's people in Columbia Heights and around
the world through our various outreach,
mission and educational ministries.*

*Thank you for worshipping with us at
Community United Methodist Church today!*

Large print hymnals and bulletins are available, as are hearing devices and back supports. Ask an usher for assistance.

Community United Methodist Church

December 3, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.

A time of quiet reflection is appreciated as we gather for worship. During this time, you may wish to use one of the prayer slips at the end of each pew to request a prayer to be lifted up during the service.

Chimes

Organ Prelude:

“Awake My Heart With Gladness”

-Paul Manz

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent wreath:

This week we begin our journey of waiting, Advent brings us into a spirit and state of anticipation.

We know that waiting can be harder for us than want at times.

Our hope comes through God, the God of the present and the God of our future.

We want to recognize God’s hope in the world!

Our hope comes in many ways – we stand in a place of hope through the words of Isaiah as we light the candle.

Isaiah 9:2-7 2[b] The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. 3 You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. 4 For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you

(* Please rise in body or spirit, as you are able)

have broken as on the day of Midian. 5 For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 6 For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. We recognize our Wonderful Counselor that brings our hope this morning.

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” v 1

Red Hymnal #211

*** Hymn**

Choir Introduction: *“The King of Glory Comes”*

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Red Hymnal #234

Lighting the Peace Candle

We pray with all of our brothers and sisters in Christ for the people of Myanmar and Thailand.

Give us this day our daily bread. All good gifts of the earth come from your generous hands, God. Although this abundance is not shared equally among us, guide us to be mindful that each and every one of us must pray: Give us this day our daily bread. Amen.

Anthem

“Come, Emmanuel, Come”

-Jay Rouse

(* Please rise in body or spirit, as you are able)

Children's Time

Hearing the Word

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

Reader: These words inspired by God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"We Have Hope and We Have Wonderful Counselor"

Rev. Linda McCollough

* Hymn

"Star Child"

Black Hymnal #2095

Our Time of Prayer

Sharing of the Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

"I Wonder As I Wander"

-Appalachian/Mark Hayes, arr.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

All are welcome to Christ's table in the United Methodist tradition. Grape juice is used instead of wine. Gluten Free option is available by servers to the right of the communion rail. You may go the rail after receiving the elements.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

We lift up our hearts.

We lift them up to God!

(* Please rise in body or spirit, as you are able)

Let us give thanks God.

It is right and good to give thanks and praise God always.

It is a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to God, creator of heaven and earth, and all the universes. We are one, all people, all creation living.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord. God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor's blessings.

The Lord's Prayer

Red Hymnal #895

*** Hymn**

"Go, Tell It On The Mountain"

Red Hymnal #251

**Merry be your Christmas, peaceful be your home;
Joyful be your family, blessed be each one.**

*** Benediction**

Postlude

"Good Christians, Rejoice"

-Paul Manz



(* Please rise in body or spirit, as you are able)

Thank you to our Worship Team

Greeters: Shirley Rusnacko
Liturgists: Youth and their leaders
Advent Family: The Wilson Family
Music Leaders: Organist - Sharon Ruhnke
Bell Choir - Karen Schneider
Music Director - Elaine Hill
Sound System: Andy Bixler



THE MITTEN TREE

You are invited to help adorn the mitten tree for SACA with scarves, mittens, gloves, hats and socks of all sizes. Thank you for your generosity!

Food Barrel Sunday

Today is Food Barrel Sunday. Please bring in your non-perishable donations and place them in the food crib outside of the sanctuary. These food donations go to SACA for people within our community.

Community Dinner

Our next dinner is **December 11th**. Please invite your friends and family and join us for a free meal and get to know other people within the community. Supper starts at 5:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

(* Please rise in body or spirit, as you are able)

Ringling of the Bells

Please join us in bell ringing for the Salvation Army at the St. Anthony Cub Foods store on the following Fridays: **December 1st, December 8th, or December 15th.** We ring from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and need your help! Please see Dick Meixner after service to sign-up for an hour time slot that you can ring with us!

Welcoming Home Baby Ian

We are celebrating the homecoming of Ian Rodriguez. Please join us on Sunday, December 10th, following worship for a light lunch and celebration. The family is registered at Target and Amazon.com

CHRISTMAS CARD FOR MISSIONS

UMCOR is on the move and we will help make the world a safer, more livable place with donations this year. We have responded with health and birthing kits, flood buckets and mission trips. The UMCOR Christmas Card for Missions will be available for signing on Sunday Mornings on **December 3rd, 10th, and 17th.** Every year we accept monetary donations to give to UMCOR, decorate a tiny tree and send goodwill to our church family and beyond. Thank you for supporting this mission!

COMMUNITY'S HOLIDAY COOKIE WALK, POINSETTIA SALE AND BOUTIQUE

Saturday, December 16, 2017

Just to refresh our memories...As you may recall, the Holiday Cookie Walk is a beautiful sight to behold. With YOU and your help, we will have another grand assortment to offer for our **25th Year!!** The procedure is as follows:

This event will be in the Social Hall from 9:00 a.m. to Noon or until we are sold out. Down the center of the Social Hall there will be long tables with assorted trays of donated Christmas Cookies. A buyer is given a box and two plastic gloves upon arrival. The choice of cookies is the buyer's (as many, or as few, as they want to buy). When finished and ready to leave, the box/boxes are weighed and they will be charged \$8.00 a pound. Some items will be priced per piece.

INGREDIENTS DONATIONS – If you plan on donating any baking supplies, they need to be at church no later than **Sunday, December 10th** as Rondine will go shopping on Monday for the supplies that are not furnished.

BAKE & NO BAKE COOKIE DAY – In addition to having cookies baked at home and donated, there will be a bake day on **Tuesday December 12th** at the church starting at 8 a.m. The no-bake cookie-making will begin at 5pm We really need a lot of hands for both of these events, and it is great fun! Please feel free to bring your own favorite cookie cutters and rolling pin. We no longer mix dough at church, but will be soliciting from our members, some batches of the cookie dough that we will bake on Tuesday – and hoping that this will not decrease the amount of cookies that you will make at home to bring.

COOKIE DECORATING – The decorating takes place **Wednesday, December.13th at 9am**, so bring your aprons and bag lunch and join the fun.

YOUR HELP is needed to bring in Christmas cookies you have baked at home. As always, we are going to be extra careful in the handling of the cookies and we will wear plastic gloves at all times. Please bring your baked items in disposable boxes or containers, to the church on **Friday, December 15th, before 2 pm.**, or before 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. This allows time for setting up and creating prepackaged 1 pound boxes.

QUESTION: How many cookies should I bring?

ANSWER: As many double batches as you possibly can.

QUESTION? What kind of cookies should I bring?

ANSWER: Think of the cookies you would like to have for a “company’s coming” tray. Last year we had about 35 different varieties! Some Examples are...

Pecan Tassies	Spritz	Peanut Blossom	Candy Cane
Date Filled	Date Balls	Chocolate Covered Cherries	
Thumb Prints	Decorated Sugar Cutouts	Pinwheels	Russian Teacakes

TABLES & TRAYS – your help is needed on Saturday, December 16th, to keep the trays filled with cookies and the tables filled with trays of cookies. Join us for a few hours of fun. A sign-up sheet will be available. See Anna Lexvold or Rondine Mehling.

I know that with your help, we will have another successful Holiday Cookie Walk with the proceeds going to expand the mission of our church.

Thank you for all you do! The Special Functions Committee

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, December 3, 2017

Christmas Card for Missions

Food Barrel Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship: 1st Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Fellowship – Social Hall

Monday, December 4, 2017

4:30 p.m. Women's Meal at Culver's

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. Game Night!

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

8:00 a.m. The Breakfast Club @ Perkins:
696 County Rd D West, New Brighton

9:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. UMW Executive Board Meeting/Lunch

5:30 p.m. Pot Luck Dinner

6:00 p.m. Confirmation

6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Window Installation Prep

5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice

Friday, December 8, 2017

Window Installation

Ring the Bell: Salvation Army

10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga

Our Vision

We are an urban, intergenerational, inclusive and welcoming Christian fellowship woven into the fabric of our community.

Our Staff

Pastor	Linda McCollough
Ministers	All the Congregation
Office Manager	Karyn Naber
Music Director	Elaine Hill
Organist	Sharon Ruhnke
Bell Choir Director	Karen Schneider

Church Office: 763-788-9009

Pastoral Emergencies: 612-978-2917

Visit us online at

www.communitymethodistchurch.org

or find us on Facebook

Pastor Linda's Email:

pastorlinda@communitymethodistchurch.org

Office Email:

office@communitymethodistchurch.org