



THE JESSE TREE

ASHOOT
SHALL
COME
OUT
FROM
THE
STUMP
OF JESSE
(ISAIAH 11)

DECEMBER 23, 2018



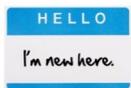
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First Time Here?



Welcome! We are so glad that you're here! In the pew rack in front of you, you'll find a Welcome Card that will

help answer some of the questions you may have. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to ask an usher or someone sitting in the pew next to you.

Current Sermon Series

Join us today as we finish our Advent sermon series! Advent, the days which include the four Sundays prior to Christmas, is a time of waiting and preparing for the coming of Jesus. We see this both in the Christmas story and in Jesus' promise to come again. There are lots of traditions surrounding the season, but one that is making a comeback is the Jesse Tree – based on Isaiah 11:1. Here God promises that what looks like a royal family dead end (Jesse's stump) will see a new tender shoot emerge (Jesus). It's a message of hope, one that we all need as the days get darker and the nights get colder. You are invited to join us in December as we take this journey – to prepare for the coming of Christ and to rekindle hope.

Connect and Grow!

OUR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

Dec. 23, 7:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Eve Worship

Dec. 24, 3:00 p.m. - Family Christmas Eve Worship featuring Improv Nativity, where every child gets to participate!

Dec. 24, 7:00 & 9:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

CHRISTMAS EVE EVE

Join us **tonight** at 7:00 p.m. for a modern Christmas service, featuring our Praise Band. It will feature uplifting music, a powerful message, and a time of reflection as we explore the story of Christ's birth and prepare to celebrate the hope of Christmas.



DECEMBER 30 COMBINED SERVICE

On **December 30**, we will gather together for one service at 10:00 a.m. Come and sing lots of Christmas carols with us!

JANUARY COMMUNION

We have moved January's Communion to **January 13**. Come join us on that day to partake in the Spirit of Christ and begin the first sermon in our new series: Wonderlife.

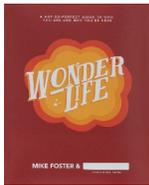


SEED SUNDAY

Start off your new year with a new tradition! On **January 6**, our worship will focus on the fruit of the Spirit that Paul lists in Galatians 5 - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. The service will conclude with an invitation to randomly select one of these fruit as a focus for the coming year. We're trusting God to seed your faith with more love or joy or peace or . . . Pray and trust God to guide your hand to the "seed" that will have you growing more into Christ's likeness (fruit of the Spirit) in 2019.

UPCOMING SERMON SERIES: WONDERLIFE

"Today you are you. That is truer than true. There is no one alive who is youer than you." Dr. Seuss is absolutely correct - there is no one like you on this planet! But perhaps the bigger question is DO YOU KNOW YOU? In January, Community Church will launch a new worship series designed to help you discover the answer to that question. Your unique you has a unique story that God wants you to use to love and serve others. Do you know what that is?



Our series is called WONDERLIFE*, based on the workbook by Mike Foster. You are fearfully and wonderfully made for a purpose and this four-part series is designed to help you discover it. Are you looking for some not-so-perfect guidance to who you are and why you're here? Then please join us. If you would like to dig deeper into our Wonderlife sermon series, we will have copies of the Wonderlife Workbook available for \$14 on the Resource Table in the narthex very soon. Keep an eye out for them! If you would like to pre-order the Workbook, you can do so here by January 2, 2019: <http://bit.ly/CUMCwonderlife> or contact the church office.

PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR

The next PwP is **January 13** at 12:30. Pick up a flyer at the welcome desk and RSVP Pastor Stan via text or phone – 443-517-8437.



CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Community United Methodist Church has been immeasurably blessed by God with the people and resources that have been given to us to do ministry in our community and beyond. So each year on Christmas Eve and Christmas Eve, we designate 100% of our offering to local and global missions as a sign of our continued trust in God's goodness and provision. In keeping with the tradition of supporting missions with the Christmas Eve Offering, the Church Council has chosen the following local and global missions as recipients for this year's offering: Back Pack Meals Ministry, Manna House, and Zimbabwe Volunteers in Mission. Please join us in celebrating the birth of our Savior and in supporting these wonderful ministries!

We are taking up a special collection for our Backpack Ministry at the 3:00 Christmas Eve Improv Nativity. Please consider bringing one or more of the following items to model for your child the love of Christ for children in need:

- ~Applesauce (individual 4 oz cups)
- ~Macaroni and Cheese (family size boxes)
- ~Mixed fruit cups (individual 4 oz cups)
- ~Snack Pack pudding cups
- ~Fruit Snacks (9 oz pouches)
- ~Peanut butter (16 oz jars)

CCCC COAT DRIVE

Cleaning out your closets? Our annual coat drive for the Crofton Christian Caring Center has begun. Look for our red-ribboned box in the Narthex to place your clean, gently used coats. The forecast is for a cold, wet winter. Help keep those in need warm and dry.

GOOD NEWS MINISTRY BREAKFAST

The Good News Jail & Prison Ministry Chaplains' Office would like to invite you to the 20th Annual Herman Fletcher Memorial Prayer Breakfast scheduled for **January 10** at 8:00 a.m. at Trinity UMC, 1300 West Street, Annapolis, MD 21401. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. There is no cost of admission – an offering to support the GNJ&PM Chaplains will be taken. RSVP by January 4, 2019 by calling (410) 222-4549 or e-mail chase.wood@goodnewsjail.org.

SUNDAY MORNING “NO BUSINESS ZONE”

In an effort to allow our church leaders time to prepare and focus their hearts for worship, we are requesting that you kindly postpone your church business inquiries (ex. facilities issues, staff concerns, financial matters, etc.) for our leaders to another time outside of Sunday mornings. Thank you in advance for helping our leaders to participate fully in worship.

Make a Difference

DID YOU KNOW?

Robin Lee provides major support for the Children's Ministry here at CUMC. She can be seen teaching Sunday School every week, volunteering for VBS, and helping with the Women's Retreat, among many other things. If you see her, please thank her. **Well done, good and faithful servant!**

BABY PANTRY SOCK DRIVE

The Baby Pantry here at CUMC is holding their yearly sock drive. They are in need of baby socks - sizes 2T, 4T & 6T (Hanes, Fruit of the Loom or Carter's brands preferred.) Please donate new socks only; no used socks will be accepted.



FOOD PANTRY ITEM OF THE MONTH – Macaroni & Cheese

Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist/Lector – Barb Julian

Altar Guild – Nancy Kripner

9:00 Greeters – Vicki Duane

10:45 Greeters – Margaret Cullings

9:00 Ushers – Jim Cole, Barry Elm, & John Holly

10:45 Ushers – Don Amos & Margaret Cullings

Our Prayers

Please use the blue prayer card in your pew rack to request prayer for any concern or person. Your request will be shared among our dedicated prayer servants.

Week of December 16, 2018 –

Bonnie Haskett, Jim & Jaimie Haskett, Bill Shade, & Dennis Shreve Jr.

Week of December 9, 2018 –

Lois Amos, Henry Sul

Week of December 2, 2018 –

Margie Sabol & Family

Week of November 25, 2018 –

Elynor Dalton, Janet Elm, Sarah Kerrigan, Eric Cattanach & Lissa Webb

Long-Term/Chronic Illnesses and Nursing Home residents: Lois Amos, Mikie Beyer, Jr., Blake Bing, Mike Chisari, Joe Griffith (Clark's brother), Ellen Hainsworth, Vaughn and Mary Lehman (parents of LuAnn Dodson), Roger McCrady (Brian's father), Catherine Nester, Lura Sellers, Ron Shurer, Norma Wiberg, Sally Yost

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given in honor of Rick, Nick, & Andrew by Kathlyn Sia.

Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, December 23

9:00a Children's Sunday School
9:00a Contemporary Worship
9:00a Adult Formation – EK James
9:00a Adult Formation – Mike Gorman
10:15a Coffee Fellowship
10:45a Children's Sunday School
10:45a Youth Gathering AM
10:45a Traditional Worship
2:00p Giving Tree Deliveries
7:00p Christmas Eve Eve Worship

Monday, December 24

3:00p Family Christmas Eve Worship
7:00p Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship
9:00p Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship

Tuesday, December 25

Church Office Closed – Merry Christmas!

Wednesday, December 26

6:30p Praise Band
6:45p Naranon

Thursday, December 27

6:30p AA

Friday, December 28

6:30p Cork Scrooge: A Recovery Play

Saturday, December 29

8:30a AA
9:00a Orchestra Rehearsal

Sunday, December 30

10:00a Christmas Carols Service
10:15a Coffee Fellowship

Staff & Lay Leadership Directory

Stan Cardwell, Lead Pastor

Hilary Ann Golden, Director of Youth & Communications

Marissa Fischer, Office Admin Assistant

Lynn Bogovich, Traditional Music Ministry

Michelle Cardwell, Director of Children's Ministry

Monica McGirt, CDC Director & Nursery

Dave Lanzer, Council Chair

Steve Hendershot, Scouting Representative

Mary Beth Holly, Finance Chair

Sara Turner, Trustees Chair

Vicki Duane, Lay Leader

Bryan Deehring, Lay Leader to Annual Conference

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