

Our 2022 Advent/Christmas Special Services Schedule

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Come sing all your Christmas favorites at this festive service in the Nave. Hear traditional Advent readings and enjoy instrumentalists and vocalists.

Christmas Parade Float

Saturday, December 10

Our congregation will have a great float in the Oak Ridge Christmas Parade! If you want to participate, contact Shelby Fowler (sfowler@fumcor.org).

Children's "A Merry Little Christmas Party"

Sunday, December 11 from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Join Ms. Shelby in the Multipurpose Room for games, a sugar cookie decorating station, hot chocolate bar and more!

Chancel Choir Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 11 at 4:00 p.m.

Our traditional choir will join with the choir of Chapel on the Hill to offer "Thy Light Has Come," with carillons, handbells and a full orchestra. No tickets are required. Seating is limited, so come early. Overflow seating will be available in the Parlor and Fellowship Hall.

A Service of Lamentation and Hope

Sunday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Grief is often challenging, especially during the holiday season. This service will use scripture, song and the words of Desmond Tutu to honor the challenges of the season while reminding us of the gift that Christ is with us always.

Early Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Each year, many in our church travel out of town prior to Christmas Eve. They miss the joy of sharing Holy Communion and Candlelight in our beautiful building. So, this year we will provide an Early Christmas Eve experience on the Thursday of that week. All are welcome to join us in singing carols, sharing Communion and raising candles a few days early.

Christmas Eve Services of Holy Communion and Candlelight

Saturday, December 24

- Children and Family Service at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- Contemporary Service at 7:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room
- Traditional Service at 11:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Ushers Needed: With all of the services we have in December, we need ushers to fill close to 60 spots! If you are hospitable, whether a seasoned usher or someone who would like to give ushering a try for one of our special services, please contact Lois Withrow (loiswithrow@gmail.com).

Thanksgiving Came on a Wednesday

The day before Thanksgiving was a busy one in our church building. Numerous volunteers cooked, packed, and distributed 170 Thanksgiving meals for our Wednesday Community Meal. Not only did they clean up afterward, they managed to give out 110 pies that night—pies that members in our congregation generously donated. The distribution of meals is always quick and efficient. The vast majority of meals and pies were distributed out of the Welcome Center doors in a 20-minute time period beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Not only that—a few dozen people attending our Recovery Ministry were served a hot Thanksgiving meal in the MPR beginning at 6:00 p.m. Many of these folks began arriving at 5:45 p.m. through those same Welcome Center doors. Was it a recipe for confusion, chaos, even some conflict? No. It was exactly the opposite. Our volunteers warmly welcomed the Recovery attendees while deftly distributing meals and pies. It was a wonderful, grace-filled time of community, gratitude and fellowship. In short, our church was caught red-handed being the Church. Thanks be to God!

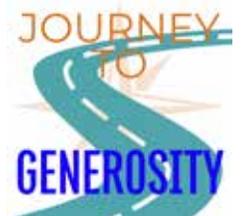
Marvelous Monday

The first Marvelous Monday - A monthly Fellowship Gathering will kick off this coming Monday, December 5. We invite older adults to come to watch Christmas in Connecticut together and enjoy some holiday treats. We will meet from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



Stewardship Campaign Update

Here are the latest numbers from our "Journey To Generosity" stewardship campaign. To date, we have received 202 estimates of giving, which represent 81% of the 250 goal. Those estimates total \$1,053,548, which is 88% of our \$1.2M goal.



We Celebrate

Fern and Matthew Pruss welcomed twin girls, **Molly Mae** and **Margaret Day**, on Friday, November 25. Wendell and Anne Lawson are proud grandparents.

In Sympathy

Kathryn Crumm, sister of Dee Crumm, who died November 22. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

In the Hospitals

Richard Edwards (UTMC)
no visitors, please

Dismissed

Linda Houlberg
Charlie Keller

Our Gifts

Offering This Week:	\$7,777
2022 YTD offering:	\$1,203,722
2021 YTD offering:	\$1,202,040
Mission Offering:	\$1,700

Worship for December 4

Second Sunday of Advent

Sermon: Don't Settle; Aim Higher

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10

8:45 am & 11:00 a.m. Traditional Services

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

Preaching: Rev. Mark Flynn



1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Return Service requested

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Christmas Shoppe News

Thank you to all who have selected one of the 101 children to support for our Christmas Shoppe. Our congregation made such a difference, the United Way has asked us to add 20 more children to our list. Great job, church! If you have not yet selected a child (or you are looking for even more joy!), please prayerfully consider using the signup genius on the front page of our website. Share the love of Christ with children that otherwise will not have a joyful Christmas morning.

We still need a few other items also:

- socks/underwear- all sizes
- diaper wipes
- outdoor toys
- STEM or craft kits
- items for children's shoppe
- holiday bags or wrapping paper
- gift cards to area restaurants for teenagers

All items are due back to the church by December 12. Volunteers will receive them from you in the Welcome Center on Sunday, December 4 and 11!

RSVP for XYZ: Don't forget that reservations for our Senior Adult Luncheon are due no later than Thursday, December 8. Come hear Choirmaster/Organist Josh Sumter and our Wesley Singers.

Special Offering for December: Girls, Inc.

Special offerings are collected to benefit organizations outside our church. Girls, Inc. focuses on serving the most vulnerable within our community: girls who experience adverse childhood experiences, girls living in lower economic areas, and girls who experience home instability. Over the past year, Girls, Inc. has served over 700 girls through its center and outreach programs in Knox, Anderson and Blount counties.

Four years ago, Girls, Inc. began providing enrichment programs at Briceville Elementary School one day each week. Due to this program's success and the high demand from teachers and parents, Girls, Inc. now offers an after-school program that runs all week and serves 60 girls per day. The Briceville community has a population of 1,411 people who have little access to running water, internet service or phones, and are part of a food desert. At Briceville Elementary School, where only 18% of students are expected to graduate from high school, there are no other after-school programs.

COVID prevented Girls, Inc. from holding their usual fundraisers this year, so they really need your help. Please consider your generous support for the girls in our community.

Pastors Mark Flynn, lead • Jenny Caughman, spiritual care • Denna Hornby, associate

Contact Information 865.483.4357 • www.fumcor.org • Pastor on call: 865.272.9862