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**VUMC Weekly**

1 message

**Village United Methodist Church** <office@villageumc.net>

Thu, Dec 21, 2023 at 12:55 PM

Reply-To: office@villageumc.net

To: communications@villageumc.net

Thursday, December 21, 2023, The Chimes Newsletter, Village UMC - HSV

**From Pastor Chris**

It's sad, really. You work so hard to find just the right gift, and then it doesn't fit ...or it isn't the right color ... or it was broken in the box ... or they already had one ... or the design doesn't match what they already have ... worst of all, it wasn't what they really wanted.

That's the worst—to give someone a gift they don't really want. Nothing makes you feel worse. They unwrap the gift and then there is a short pause—just a microsecond—but in that moment you already know the truth. “Why, it's beautiful,” they say. But you can see the look in their eyes. You put on a brave front and try again. “Do you really like it?” “Like it? I love it.” But you aren't fooled. It's not what they wanted.

If this sounds like your experience, relax and let me invite you to remember. Only One Perfect Gift has ever been given! And the world was changed forever.

Mary and Joseph knew who this Child was. They knew He would bring Peace and Hope to the world. The shepherds fall on their knees before the Child lying in the manger. They knew who this Child was. He is the One they have so longed for.

The angels rejoiced and proclaimed “Glory to God in the highest! And on earth Peace...” Oh yes, they knew also! This baby that cried in the manger – this baby is God's Son born into our world. He is the good news of great joy!

The gift of Jesus gave this world the most perfect gift. It is a gift wrapped up in peace, hope, love, and joy. It is a gift that assures us that the best is yet to be.

Because of the perfect gift of Jesus, we can never be the same. What better gift could anyone ask for?

Chris



THE STAFF  
WISHES  
YOU A  
VERY  
MERRY  
AND  
BLESSED

*Christmas*

Pastor Chris,  
Pastor Regina,  
Lee Ann, Bettie,  
Mary Anne  
Nikki, Stephen,  
Lisa, Houston  
and Katie

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**\*\*\*If you are reading The Chimes on Thursday, December 21, and it is before 3:00 p.m., consider coming to the beautiful sanctuary at the church for the comfort and peacefulness of *The Longest Night Service*. It begins at 3:00 p.m.**

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## ***Christmas Eve Services December 24***

Christmas Eve Morning  
One Service at 11:00 a.m.  
and

Christmas Eve Evening  
One Service at 5:00 p.m.

Both the morning and the evening service will include the celebration of Holy Communion and the lighting of candles during the singing of *Silent Night*.

Scripture: Luke 2: 1-20



Hark! the Herald Angels Sing!  
O Come, All Ye Faithful  
Silent Night, Holy Night  
Joy to the World

Anthem: What Child is This (11:00a.m.)  
Cold and Still the Night (5:00p.m.)



## Altar Flowers

Altar flowers this Sunday are given by Karen Youngblood and Ken Harris in celebration of their 50th anniversary (Dec. 22).



KVRE.com

## Radio Ministry

If you would like to sponsor the Radio Ministry in honor of, or in memory of, a friend or family member, call the church office (501)922-1030 to reserve a Sunday. The cost is \$75.

The sermon for Sunday, December 24, will be broadcast on the radio station KVRE 92.9 on December 31.

You can hear the sermon on the radio station at 11:00 am and 5:30 pm on Sundays. Reminder, the sermon will be from the prior Sunday.

Use the LINK below to listen to the radio station anytime.

[Click this Link for KVRE 92.9 FM](#)



\*\*\*The Church Office will be closed the week of Christmas. Most church activities are also cancelled, but if you attend one of the weekly activities and have not heard from the person who leads the activity, then check with them. The Chimes will be sent on Thursday. Email articles for The

Chimes need to be sent to [communications@villageumc.net](mailto:communications@villageumc.net).

If you are needing to contact any of the staff, the best way will be to call them personally or email them. The church telephone messages will not be checked as often.

## ONE COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE DECEMBER 31

We will end the year together on December 31 with one combined worship service at 11:00 p.m.

With many traveling this coming week, it has become quite clear of a very small attendance on Dec. 31st.

Sunday School will be at 10:00 a.m.  
and our Worship Service at 11:00 p.m.

**IT'S COMING in 2024!**

Connecting, equipping, and  
engaging more people in service  
and mission as the Hands and  
Feet of Christ...

More details coming soon!



**In His Service**

Serving in ministry as the Hands and Feet of Christ

**\*\*\*Please read to the end of The Chimes as there is important information referencing a mission trip opportunity to UMCOR/Sager Brown. Find it after the January Blood Drive information.**



### **Happy Birthday**

12/22 Diane McClendon  
12/24 Phyllis Hodapp  
12/28 Gary Kistler  
12/29 Lamar Cowger  
12/29 John Shrock  
12/29 Maxine Wyatt  
12/31 Jay Law  
01/01 Shirley Scully  
01/02 Marie Godenrath



### **Happy Anniversary**

12/22 Ken Harris  
and Karen Youngblood  
12/23 Dick & Sue Mayer  
12/26 Jim & Jackie Morris  
12/29 Major & Mary Davis  
12/29 Art & Susan Torpy  
01/03 Bill & Sue Luerssen  
01/03 Slade & Elizabeth Strickland  
01/04 Austin & Maxine Wyatt

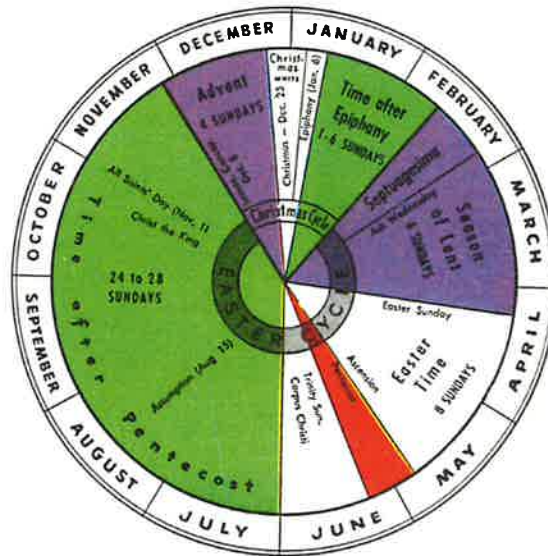


## LITURGICAL COLOR

Four weeks ago, you read information about that Advent liturgical colors being purple and blue. Some of the areas to notice these colors have been the Altar cloth, the cloths that hangs over the front of the Pastor's pulpit and from the liturgist's lectern and our Sanctuary wall banners. These cloths are called Paraments.

This Sunday we will leave the Advent season of the purple and blue paraments and experience the Christmas Season with white or gold. This season of white or gold includes Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, First Sunday after Christmas Day, New Year's Eve or New Year's Day and the Epiphany of the Lord. Added note: Communion Sundays also are white paraments.

## THE LITURGICAL YEAR



\*\*\*Next week will be the last "Did You Know?" as our 50th year celebration comes to a close and we begin our 51st year in ministry in 2024. Be looking for the last "Did you Know?" in the December 28 Chimes Newsletter.\*\*\*

**Did You Know?**



The VUMC Shepherd Group program was established in 1988 under the leadership of Dorothy and Dan Mabee who were serving as chairmen of the Care and Concerns Committee.



Our family thanks the congregation for your cards and other expressions of condolence in my father's recent passing, particularly the large contingent who attended his service on Tuesday. Your support has made the loss much more bearable.  
~ the Hartsell, Emmons and Saltmarsh families

Our 8<sup>th</sup> annual Craft Fair was a big success. We want to thank our church crafters who participated and our many members who attended. All our crafters were very pleased with the crowd. Many visitors commented to our greeters that this was their favorite craft show because everyone was so friendly.



I also want to thank Marilynn Tanner and James Holick for greeting, Glenn Wortham, Mike Pugh, James Holick, Tom Reeves and Jim Faurot for setting up and taking down of tables and chairs for the Craft Fair and getting the church ready for Sunday. A special thank you to Al Higby as Santa.

The Craft Fair for 2024 is scheduled for Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:00a.m. til 2:00 p.m. We hope to see everyone back and remember to mark your calendars.

Thank you to everyone,

Jim and Pat Faurot

### **Sock & Trinket Tree**

Did you see the video Pastor Chris' made about the Socks and Trinkets tree? It was on Facebook. The LINK is provided below. These items will go to children in kindergarten through 2nd grades at Jessieville, Fountain Lake and Mountain Pine schools. A reminder about "trinkets." They need to be items which are hand-sized or smaller, such as yo-yos, toy cars, nerf balls, etc. and no candy please. The teachers will use these "trinkets" to reward and encourage the children.

We will collect and divide them among the three schools and deliver them when classes resume in early January. Thank you for your participation and generosity in supporting this important mission.

**[FACEBOOK LINK: Socks and Trinkets](#)**



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**COME OUT OF  
HIBERNATION**  **DONATE BLOOD  
& SAVE LIVES  
THIS WINTER!**

Walk-ins are always welcome.

**Village United Methodist Church &  
Knights of Columbus Blood Drive**

**Tuesday, January 9  
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

*Fellowship Hall, 200 Carmona Rd.*

To schedule an appointment, call  
Connie Shoemaker, Primary Blood Drive  
Coordinator, at (501) 204-2530,  
OBI at 877-340-8777 or visit [obi.org](http://obi.org).



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**UMCOR/Sager Brown Mission Trip  
for 2024**

**Sunday, March 10 - Friday, March 15, 2024  
Baldwin, Louisiana**

A group of volunteers is forming now to ensure that we can attend in March of next year on the above date.

The registration fee, lodging, and cost of meals must be sent to Sager Brown the first week of January.

Please prayerfully consider being a volunteer. You will have opportunities to check and assemble hygiene kits, volunteer in the community, or provide maintenance on the Sager Brown campus. An added bonus is meeting other Methodists from across the United States that volunteer on the same week. You will come to realize it is a special place as you go about doing the Lord's work.

The total cost to you is \$330 for the week which includes: 5 nights lodging, 13 meals (Sunday & Wednesday nights we are on our own). The registration fee is \$40 and is non-refundable. Therefore, the cost for the lodging and meals is \$290. If there is enough interest, a meeting will be set up to provide further information.

Please contact Glenn Wortham at 501-922-0924 or email to [theworthams@suddenlink.net](mailto:theworthams@suddenlink.net), if you would like to volunteer or have any questions.



**Did you miss  
worshipping with us  
this past Sunday?**

**Watch online anytime!**

Click this LINK for the Contemporary Service.

**[LINK December 17, 2023, Contemporary Lessons & Carols Service.](#)**

Click this LINK for the Traditional Service.

**[LINK, December 17, Traditional CANTATA Service.](#)**

Click this LINK for the Wednesday ADVENT Service.

**[LINK, Wednesday Advent Service, December 20](#)**

**Last Sunday, the Praise Team presented a Lessons and Carol. Information: This audio for this service has some microphone distortion with the singers.**

**The 11:00 a.m. service is the Chancel Choir's presentation of the cantata "Come to the Manger".**



### **TWO WORDS**

The July 23 sermon, Pastor Chris told of two words that changed everything. Those words were "In Christ."

"The Bible in 50 Words" for our 50th Anniversary in ministry. Be looking weekly for a Bible story, a total of 25 stories, with just 2 words each. Here is the nineteenth story.

### **#19 Jesus born. Luke 2: 6-7**

Have you been following the Two Words?

**As we are in the Season of Advent and journeying to Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus, this #19 will remain the story until Epiphany.**

**The final 6 stories in 2 words will return beginning January 4.**

God made; Adam bit; Noah arked; Abraham split; Jacob fooled; Joseph ruled; Bush talked; Pharaoh plagued; Sea divided; Tablets guided; Promised landed; Judges led; Saul freaked; David peeked; Kingdom divided; Prophets warned; People exiled; Hope rose.



Get **free** COVID test kits at  
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**1-800-232-0233**

- ▶ There are no shipping costs.
- ▶ You don't have to give a credit card or bank account number.
- ▶ You only need to give your name and address.

**Anyone who asks for more information than that is a scammer.**

Report them to the FTC at  
**ReportFraud.ftc.gov** or your attorney  
general at **ConsumerResources.org.**

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL



[Click this LINK to Sign up Online for the 2024 Pledge Card form AND the 2024 Time and Talents form.](#)



### Some Dates to Remember

(check articles for more info):

- December 24 - Christmas Eve Service (Morning 11:00 am and Evening 5:00 pm)
- December 31 - Epiphany Sunday - One Service @ 11:00am
- January 7 - Baptism of the Lord Sunday
- January 10 - My Job Workshop (Wednesday)
- January 28 - UWF Sunday
- February 14 - Ash Wednesday

**\*\*\*THANK YOU** to our 2023 Leadership Team and Leadership Committees of the 50th Anniversary Year. Some of the Team will be rolling off, some will be changing ministry areas, and some will be continuing as listed below. Thank you to all for your faithful and Christ centered leadership.

#### 2023 LEADERSHIP TEAM

*\*denotes Chairperson*

##### Class of 2023

Linda Black (*\*Witness*)  
 Gary Buettner (*\*Trustee*)  
 John Whitwell (*L.T. Chair*)  
 Connie Shoemaker (*\*SPRC*)

##### Class of 2024

Debbie Perryman (*SPRC*)  
 Joe Pollard (*\*Finance*)  
 Duane Heckelsberg (*Trustee*)  
 Gary Mouton (*Trustee*)

##### Class of 2025

Rosetta DuBose (*\*Outreach*)  
 Genell Harris (*SPRC*)  
 Slade Strickland (*Trustee*)  
 Mary Hushaw (*\*Nurture*)

*Also with vote:* Glenn Wortham – Lay Leader/Lay Member to Annual Conference  
 Rick Perryman – United Methodist Men  
 Betty Weetman –United Women of Faith (*SPRC*)

*Without vote:* Senior Pastor, Financial Manager/Treasurer, Recording Secretary

CURRENT COMMITTEES: Committee on Lay Leadership; Nurture; Outreach; Witness; and Scholarship.

**CLICK LINK** BELOW to see the VUMC Weekly Calendar  
[December 24-31 LINK Weekly Calendar](#)

Rev. Chris Hemund,  
 Senior Pastor  
 Rev. Regina Turner,  
 Associate Pastor  
 Lee Ann Branch,  
 Community Life  
 Mary Anne Settle,  
 Spiritual Director

Bettie Land, Administrative Secretary  
 Lisa Hester, Communications  
 Nikki Saltmarsh, Finance  
 Stephen Edds, Music Director  
 Lisa Hester, Accompanist  
 Houston Pierce, Audio/Video  
 Katie Goodwin, Custodian

#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

9:00 PRAISE SERVICE  
 10:00 Sunday School  
 11:00 TRADITIONAL SERVICE