

December 15, 2024



Did You Know?

Did you know how surprised most people are to learn that there are very few sayings or stories of Jesus found uniformly in all four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John? There really aren't that many.

Here's one: **Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.**

If you grew up Christian, surely, you've heard this saying tossed about – maybe before the preacher asked for volunteers to help with a church-wide clean up event.

Let's stop and think about what's going on here. Jesus is saying there is a moral between us, our neighbor, the Christ, and God.

This is an amazing chain of being that isn't evident to the casual observer. This new Christ-like way of seeing – this new way of shaping reality – is the core and foundation of the entire Christian revelation and revolution.

This saying of Jesus' is designed to reshape our understanding of who God is and where God is – of who we are and where we are, too.

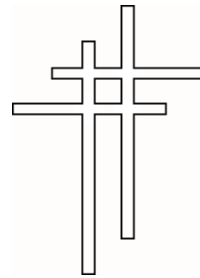
God in Jesus is no longer out there. Religions from the beginning of time have imagined God as out there somewhere.

We have to ask: What happened in Jerusalem in the first century, and in the life and ministry of this person named Jesus that compels all four Gospels to talk in such a counter-intuitive yet self-assured way – that in Jesus, God has come among us?

*Shalom,
Jim Sprouse*

Please Celebrate Sunday's Message

Huguenot United Methodist Church is inviting you to our Sunday Morning Worship Service. This in-person service begins at 11 a.m. Please join us and take part in our worship and praise of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!



Pastor Jim Sprouse will provide us with the message

"The Gifts of Joy"

We hope you will join us!

Audio recordings of our HUMC Sunday Morning Worship Services are available at HuguenotUMC.org under the Worship tab. We hope you will find these recordings beneficial and will share them with your family, friends and neighbors.

TUNE IN

HUMC Nursery

Our nursery caregiver, Rosalie Koch, is at church every Sunday and ready to welcome children in the nursery during worship from 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Thank you to volunteer Maria Wright for assisting Rosalie this Sunday.



Assisting Families of Inmates

A big thanks to all who contributed gifts for the children of incarcerated parents. Children should not have to suffer because of the sins of their parents. If we can help, we should and we did.

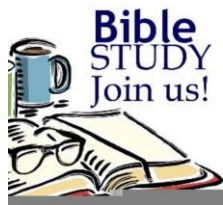


Christmas Blessings,
Darlene Storer

Adult Bible Study / Sunday School

Our Adult Bible Study/Sunday School class begins at 10 a.m. and meets in the Fellowship Hall.

The title of our lesson for Sunday, December 15, is "Filled With Joy." The focal passage is Luke 1: 46-55.



The background text is 2 Peter 1: 21. The Purpose Statement is "to proclaim joy in the midst of darkness."

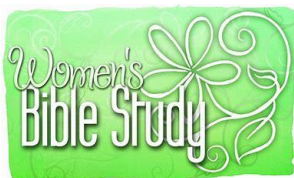
We hope you will join us. We look forward to your participation in our class. If you have

time and wish to, please read the lesson in the Student Book before our class meets on Sunday. If you have any questions, comments, feedback, or suggestions for improvements regarding our HUMC Adult Bible Study, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Gerry Flinchbaugh 804.314.4817 gflinchb@gmail.com

Women's Bible Study

All women are welcome to join the Women's Bible Study. We meet in the Fellowship Hall of the church at **10 a.m. on Thursdays**. We are using the Adult Bible Study from Cokesbury and the emphasis in this particular series is Finding Balance. This series offers Bible references and a study of the suggested references. The emphasis of the study will be Finding Balance through work, spiritual practices, rest, and celebration. These Adult Bible Studies offer a lot of truth, Bible study, and direction on better ways of living. Study booklets will be provided and a DVD will be used to enhance discussion with each lesson. If this is of interest to you, please join us. -Sarah Coffey



Pastor Jim will be forming a **Confirmation Class** to begin in early January. Any youth 12 years and older, please let him know of your interest!



Please contact Pastor Jim if you are interested in joining the Usher Team.



Joy of Crafts

Please plan to drop by the annual Holiday Bazaar **THIS Sunday, Dec. 15, after worship in the Fellowship Hall. It's the last Sunday to shop for gifts and support Joy of Crafts. There will be cider and cookies for all. Your purchases help fund all the comfort items we make in the next year, so your support is greatly appreciated.**

Meanwhile, Joy of Crafts continues to make and donate comfort items to local nursing homes, hospitals, dialysis center and homeless shelters. The donations go to From the Heart, a local clearinghouse for many needs in the community.

The items we've been making include activity mats and marble mazes for Alzheimer's patients, fleece mittens for dialysis patients, wheelchair totes, chemo port shirts, drain bags and neck pillows. In addition, a shipment of 30 handmade t-shirt dresses will go out this month to Dress a Girl Around the World. Special thanks to Judy Anderson, who sews so many of these treasures.

Check out the display in the hallway to see what the donated items look like. ALSO, there are many projects that knitters and crocheters can submit to From the Heart, including a recent call for white handmade blankets for newborns. For more information, contact Molly Sprouse at mollysprouse@gmail.com.

2025 Offering Envelopes

Our 2025 offering envelopes have arrived and are on the credenza near the entrance. Please pick yours up so you can start using them in January. The new boxed sets include an Initial Offering envelope to help defray the envelope cost, so you can include a donation for them with your January offering. The boxed envelopes for 2024 included some extra envelopes so please discard them at the end of the year since the envelope numbers have changed for some of our members. A few extra sets of envelopes were included with our order. If you did not receive 2025 envelopes and would like a set, please see our church treasurer, Chip Woodall.



Mission Moment

Thank you all very much for your generous support of our Veterans Liberation Services outreach. We appreciate your participation in this outreach.



For the next several weeks before Christmas, in addition to our **Blessing Box**, our mission outreach will be focused on the **Bainbridge Community Food Bank**. The Bainbridge collection cabinet is located at the end of the hallway past the Fellowship Hall. We are requesting your donations of canned meats and particularly canned ham along with canned vegetables. We want to do our part to reach out to families in need especially during this holiday season. Thank you in advance for your support of this outreach. **"Whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."** Proverbs 11:25.

Blessing Box Reminders

When outside temperatures begin to freeze, please do not place items like glass bottled drinks, carbonated beverages, and any liquids in thin plastic containers into the Blessing Box, as they can freeze and potentially burst or become unusable in cold weather.

Key points to remember:

Glass containers: These are prone to breaking when frozen.

Canned drinks with high carbonation: The pressure from freezing can cause the cans to explode.

Thin plastic containers: These can crack or break when exposed to extreme cold.



Instead, focus on donating items such as: canned goods with pull tabs, individually packaged snacks, dry goods like pasta and rice, warm clothing items like hats and gloves, and hygiene products with sturdy packaging.

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=+when+outside+temps+begin+to+freeze%2C+what+items+should+not+be+placed+in+a+Blessing+Box%3F+>

Please place your donations of the above non-recommended items in our alternate location, the **Bainbridge Food Cabinet** at the end of the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you,
Rosalie Koch

Please Check it Out!

Please check the bulletin board for **Mission Connection Updates**. Updates are made frequently. The latest updates include Hams' Happenings and Henderson Settlement. Check it out, please!



Preschool Pizza Fundraiser

Our preschool has an ongoing fundraiser with Marco's Pizza. Just use the code: **HUMCPSAF** when ordering **PIZZA!** over the phone or online and the school receives a portion from each sale all year long. Participating locations include the Marco's Pizza on Sheila Lane and on Midlothian Turnpike.



Dear Huguenot Family,
Thank you for the cards, prayers, and support during my transition from civilian to Marine. Huguenot is known for its patriotism and I feel honored to be a recipient of your spiritual and patriotic love. I resume my journey to my chosen field in January and appreciate all your continued support.



Gratefully,
John 'Gavin' Lyle



The Anderson Family
Anne Bartee and Family
Shirley Bradshaw
Peggy Harris
Linda Smith
Judith Westerhouse

In an effort to keep the prayer requests current, names posted will be removed after 30 days unless requested otherwise.

PRAYER
changes
THINGS

Where the World Meets to Pray

Copies of the **January-February** edition of The Upper Room are now available on the greeting table at the front entrance. Please consider making a donation in the labeled box.



Happy Birthday to
Chip Woodall (Dec. 16)



Sunday, Dec. 15 – Third Sunday in Advent

10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)
10 a.m...Handbell Rehearsal
11 a.m...Worship
12 p.m...**Holiday Bazaar** (FH)

Tuesday, Dec. 17

6:30 p.m...Church Council Meeting (Zoom)
7 p.m...Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday, Dec. 18

10 a.m...Preschool Chapel with Pastor Jim
7 p.m...Choir Practice (CR)

Thursday, Dec. 19

10 a.m...Women's Bible Study (FH)

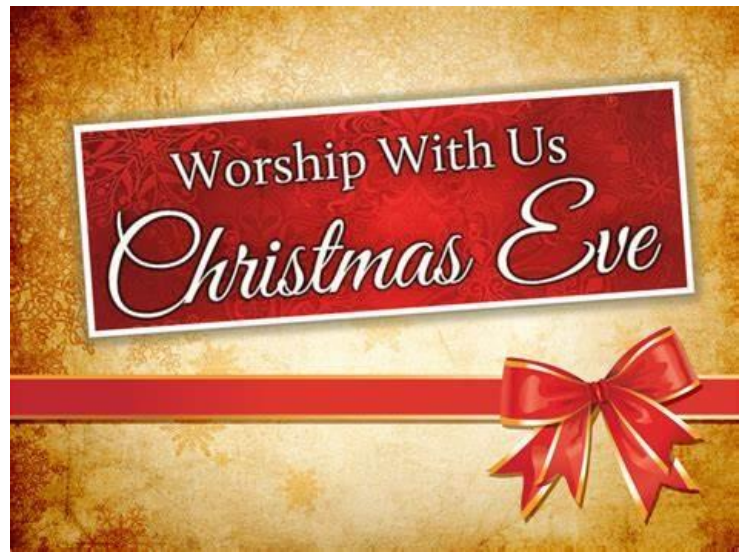
Friday, Dec. 20

9 a.m...Library Work Session (L)

Sunday, Dec. 22 – Fourth Sunday in Advent

10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)
10 a.m...Handbell Rehearsal
11 a.m...Worship

CR – Choir Room **FH** – Fellowship Hall
K – Kitchen **L** – Library **PR** – Puppet Room



Join us!
Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

Newsletter News

If you have an article for the next *pulse* newsletter, please email it to Elaine by **Wednesday at 10 a.m.**

Note: **There will not be a newsletter published on Friday, Dec. 27, so Elaine needs your time sensitive articles as soon as possible.**

Please know that submitted articles may be edited to provide clarity and increased inclusion. This newsletter and the Sunday Bulletin are posted on the church website by Friday evening.

Church Office Hours:

Pastor Jim is in the office on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Elaine is in the office every Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. These hours are subject to change on occasion.

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