

December 22 and 29, 2024
Special Two-Week Edition



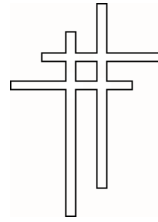
Community

Think with me today about how we come to know God in the midst of community this Christmas time of the year. To be fair, God is also known by us individuals. Religion, however, is highly communal and is enriched by being practiced with others. Part of the reason for this is that communities link and buttress our faith, support our understanding of the way the world is and how God relates to it. And part of that is surely the fact that we know love and joy in the community. If God is love, as the Bible says, then we experience God in other people. Think about your own experiences of community – the neighborhood where you grew up, the church you attended, the friends whose fellowship you remember and value. Remember the moments of singing together, praying together, listening together, talking together. The human soul doesn't reach full amplification without others. Maybe this is why heaven is always pictured as a community, a place where saints are gathered in great numbers around the throne of God. As you see crowds of people today, think of the human community as a whole, and how important it must be to God that God would enter it through the Incarnation. Let people remind you of the presence of the Divine this Christmas 2024.

Shalom,
Jim Sprouse

Please Celebrate Sunday's Message

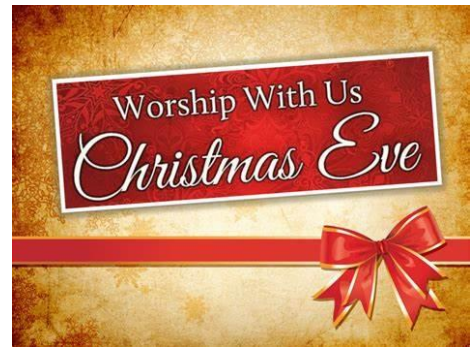
Huguenot United Methodist Church is inviting you to our Sunday Morning Worship Service. This in-person service begins at 11 a.m. Please join us and take part in our worship and praise of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!



Pastor Jim Sprouse will provide us with the message

"The Song of Mary"

We hope you will join us!



Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m.

The church nursery will be open to welcome children from 6:45 to 8:15 p.m. Thank you to volunteer Wenda Singer for assisting Rosalie on Christmas Eve.

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.



HUMC Nursery

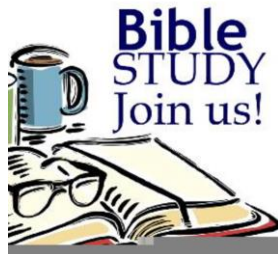
Our nursery caregiver, Rosalie Koch, is at church every Sunday and ready to welcome children in the nursery during worship from 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Thank you to volunteer Beth Woodall for assisting Rosalie this Sunday. We also thank Wenda Singer for assisting Rosalie on Christmas Eve as well as Shirley Bradshaw on Dec. 29.



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 22, is "The Word of God." The focal passage is John 1: 1-18. The background text is Isaiah 9: 6-7. The Purpose Statement is "to praise Jesus as the Prince of Peace."



The title of our lesson for Sunday, December 29, is "Salvation is for Everyone." The focal passage is Luke 2: 25-35. The background text is Acts 10. The Purpose Statement is "to find fulfillment in the birth of our Savior."

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

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



Thanks to everyone who helped make the **Joy of Crafts Holiday Bazaar** a big success! The funds raised will buy supplies for all the comfort items made during the coming year. These items 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. Thanks again for supporting Joy of Crafts. For more information, contact Molly Sprouse at mollysprouse@gmail.com.



Coffee Fellowship: Sunday, January 5

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after our 11 o'clock worship service, for our **Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, January 5**, for coffee, some light snacks and great conversations. We invite our visitors to join us for coffee fellowship, so we can answer their questions about HUMC and we can get to know them better. Thank you to Claudine and Bob Pavlik for hosting us in January! *See you there!*



Future Host?

We have scheduled our Coffee Fellowships for the first Sunday of each month.

There is a new sign-up sheet for 2025 on the bulletin board across from the Fellowship Hall to be a future Coffee Fellowship host.



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!

Ushers Needed

Are you willing to serve?

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

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.



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.



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!

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



Directory Update

Peggy Harris

Brookdale Midlothian
14016 Turnberry Lane
#405-406

Midlothian, VA 23113

**Peggy would love a ride to church!*



The Anderson Family
Anne Bartee and Family
Shirley Bradshaw
Peggy Harris
Cissy Hope
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

THE UPPER ROOM
DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

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
Judy King (Dec. 23)

Happy Anniversary to
Fred and Mary Schneider (Dec. 27)
Lee and Shirley Bradshaw (Dec. 30)



Sunday, Dec. 22 – Fourth Sunday in Advent

10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)

10 a.m...Handbell Rehearsal

11 a.m...Worship

Tuesday, Dec. 24

7 p.m...Christmas Eve Service

(Childcare provided from 6:45 – 8:15 p.m.)

Wednesday, Dec. 25 – *Merry Christmas!*

Sunday, Dec. 29 – First Sunday after Christmas Day

10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)

11 a.m...Worship

Wednesday, Jan. 1 – *New Years Day!*

Sunday, January 5 – Second Sunday after Christmas Day

10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)

11 a.m...Worship

12 p.m...Coffee Fellowship – *All invited!* (FH)

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



- Fri., Jan. 10 – Feed the Homeless @ 10 a.m. – *All are welcome!*
- Tues., Jan. 14 – United Women in Faith Meeting @ 10:30 a.m.
- Fri. and Sat., Jan. 24-25 – Cub Scout Pinewood Derby (FH)

Newsletter News

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

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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