



Hartsville United Methodist Church

224 River Street, Hartsville, TN 37074

615-374-2400 ♦ www.hartsvilleumc.org

Methodist Messenger December 2024

A Word from Pastor Tim:

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

John 1:5

Christmas comes to us here in Tennessee in the wintertime. While winter is not officially here, we are getting a foretaste of what is yet to come. Winter is a cold time. The land is barren, frozen, frigid, the days are filled with darkness, and the world seems to be silent. Did you know that it’s actually quieter in the winter? It’s not just your perception. When snow falls, it absorbs sound; leaving things much quieter than any other time of year. Maybe this is just a description of a season of the weather. Or maybe it describes your life, emotions, and attitude lately.

Over the next four weeks we will be celebrating the advent season. This is a season that celebrates the advent, or coming, of Jesus Christ into the world. Christ did not come into a world filled with sunshine and rainbows. He came to a world of suffering, pain, and despair. He came as a light into this dark world and brought us the precious gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love.

To a nation of slaves with no future, he brought hope. To a society filled with war and fighting, he brought peace. To a people in misery and mourning, he brought joy. To those who had grown indifferent, he brought love. All of these are phrased as past tense representations. But there is a present reality. Christ did not just bring these gifts to people long ago, he is here today, standing in the midst of a hurting and broken world, offering these wonderful gifts to you and I. Jesus wasn’t just the light of the world. He is the light of the world. And as John said above, the light shines, and it is currently shining. And for 2000 years, the darkness has yet to overcome it. During this season, let us remember that he is not just the light of the world, but he is the light coming into our dark world as well.

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME AT 10 AM. THE CHOICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Class	Ages	Leader	Location
Nursery	Newborn – 3yo	Gilda	Downstairs Nursery
Youth Group	4yo- 5 th grade	Kathy R.	Youth Classroom
John Wesley Class	18yo and up	John O.	Upstairs Classroom

*Sunday School
For Learning*

Mission of the Month



Every year, at Christmas time, this church hands out incredibly well stocked food boxes. To do that we need your help. In addition to our normal ways of collecting food and donations, we are naming the food boxes as the recipient of this month's special offering.

You can give by leaving donations at the altar rail during communion. Or give during any collection by writing "Food Boxes on the memo line of a check or on an offering envelope.

Christmas Dinner

It's that time again. The Christmas season is upon us. And each year we like to get together as a church family and have a Christmas dinner. We will be meeting this year on December 18th at 6 PM at Farmers Harvest restaurant.

For this dinner, you must sign up. Be on the lookout for the sign-up sheet in the narthex over the next couple of weeks. If you have any questions, see Kathy Dies.

PRAYER LIST

The backbone of a church is prayer. Place this somewhere you will see it often. Then let every sighting be a reminder to pray for these folks. Please update the church when you can on those on this list and on others who need to be added. Thank you.

Alice White	Flo Dunavant
Maxton Hawkins	Rosemary Denham
Alice Livingston	Sean Engle
Jim Hunt	Bert Gammons
Eddie Taylor	Beth Rolin
Josh Milton	Jeff Wyatt
Amanda Garey	Nancy Barley
Tia Davis	Tom Harris
Helen & Don Voss	Jill Harper
Levi Owen	David Parker
Ashley Warwick	Wendy Finn
Don Wright	Jim Marshall

Food Boxes

We need the church to step up again like it has in the past. Will be handing out 60 of the finest food boxes in town. There's a sign-up sheet in the narthex where you can indicate what you would like to donate. Or you can simply donate cash. We will be joining together at 9 AM on December 18 to pack the boxes and get them ready. And then on December 21 at 7 AM come by the church and help with the final bit of packing, and take some boxes to deliver.

Christmas Bazaar

Have you been a part of our Christmas Bazaar before? Well, we certainly need your help this year. We need your gently used Christmas decor items. That could be Christmas trees, wreaths, ornaments, or any kind of decorations for the season. These items can be brought to the church where they will be sold as a fundraiser for the United Methodist Women's group. If you have any questions, talk to Natalie.

Bible Study

Bible study is back! Our weekly bible study is back in full swing. We are studying the book of Romans. We meet each Tuesday at 6PM at Goose Creek Coffee Café. Come join us.

Christmas Caroling

Step back in time this December as we celebrate Christmas. Join us on the Square for an old-fashioned time of Christmas Caroling.

Rather than traveling around, we will stay at the square and sing there. We will warm ourselves with hot chocolate and Paul and Natalie will have Dick and Dan in attendance for carriage rides around the courthouse. Spread the word.

Ham Breakfast and Bazaar

Mark your calendars for the ham breakfast and Christmas bazaar on December 14. You can go ahead and pre-purchase a ticket for the meal by talking to John Oliver.

Remember that all the proceeds go for a scholarship to a local student. And while you're there, shop our Christmas bazaar to add to your seasonal decor.

Children's Program

Our kids are hard at work under the leadership of Kathy Robertson to prepare for us a wonderful experience this Christmas. It is their Christmas gift to the congregation. Make sure that you are in attendance to receive it. December 15 at 5 PM they will perform their Christmas program. There will be a reception following the program.

Remember, our kids will know how much we love them and support them by looking in the audience to see how many are in attendance. Don't let them down.

Dec-24

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Ham Breakfast Bazar
15 Kid's Play 5:00 PM	16	17	18 Christmas Dinner 6PM Farmer's H	19	20	21 Deliver Food Boxes
22 Caroling 2PM-4PM	23	24 C. Eve Service 5PM CH 7PM HUMC	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday Servants:

Prayer Team

01- Leah Satterfield
 08- Tina Hiatt
 15- Betty Gross
 22- Kathy Dies
 29- Kathy Robertson

Advent Reader

01 - The Dennings
 08- The Gibbs
 15- The Thurmans
 22 - The Satterfields
 24- The Dillehays

Kid's Message

01- Kathy Atwood
 08- Melissa Robertson
 15- Choir Sepcial
 22 - Beth Crabtree
 29-

Flowers

01- Mary Sanchez
 08- Kathy Atwood
 15- Poinsettias
 22- Poinsettias
 29- Poinsettias

Ushers

Bobby Satterfield Family

Help Center:

Oats

The Chapel Hill Chronicle



Chapel Hill United Methodist Church

92 Beasley Bend Road in Riddleton, TN
Sunday Worship at 9 AM
Sunday School at 10:15 AM

“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.” ~Matthew 1:23

BIRTHDAYS:

Anthony Beasley	December 8 th
Tom Shackelford	December 24 th
Happy Birthday, Jesus	December 25 th
Mack Draper	December 29 th

IN LOVING MEMORY ALWAYS:

Wilma Draper	December 12 th
B. Elaine Adair Henry	December 15 th

“The color of Springtime is flowers; the color of Winter is in our imaginations.” ~Terry Guillemets

Winter Solstice ~ Saturday, December 21st

We are thankful for your prayers, help and support for our Chili/Soup Supper held Saturday, November 23rd, at Chapel Hill UMC. We remember and thank you every Sunday morning when we open our doors for worship. **In God’s love with all of you, CHUMC.**

Christmas Eve Service at Chapel Hill UMC is at 5 p.m.

Please bring non-perishable food items to church with you on **Sunday, December 1, 2024**, for our food drive to benefit the Smith County Help Center, Carthage, Tennessee.

It is the Christmas Season in our world once again and I see the adornments of our worldly tastes going up in cities, towns and homes. Shopping for Christmas gifts is where hustle and bustle got its meaning. The Santas everywhere, children’s Christmas lists, bells ringing, decorated storefronts, food drives, toy drives and Angel Trees, wrapping paper, bows, boxes, tinsel, Christmas movies and shows, Christmas treats and decadent chocolates, oranges, pears and cranberries, eggnog, boiled custard, festive meals at grandmother’s house we go, too much money spent.

Most churches will have special services and music for Christmas. Ladies in their Christmas velvets and men in their winter suits. Little children with an eye on the Christmas trees in anticipation of the gifts from beneath to be given after their little productions of the Christmas Story. Probably bribes for their acting skills and participation.

In imagining my people in Heaven, what a season it must be at Christmastime and every day. I can imagine Heaven’s Gates decorated in blooming flowers of Christmas, God given natural light of gold and silver adorned with heavenly shimmer throughout them. The air is fresh and clean, the skies happy with puffy clouds by day, the night sky of majestic blues and purples with wisps of white inset with stars that shine like diamonds. Everyone content and satisfied with the Word, the Son and the Creation of Heaven being their eternal gifts. Merry Christmas my people. I miss you. **Happy birthday, Jesus** ~lh

“You have crowned the year with your bounty, and your paths drip with fatness.” Psalm 65:11

2025, New Year ~ Same God.



Donations Needed
Sign up in the narthex

All items need to be in
by December 14th
Monetary donations are welcome.
For more info, see
Beth Crabtree or Connie Dillehay.

Delivery will be on the 21st
Volunteers Needed!

Hartsville First United Methodist Church
224 River Street
Hartsville, TN 37074

Recipe Corner

Mary's Squash Casserole
By Barbara Rollins

2C. Yellow squash	2 Tbsp sugar
1 beaten egg	1C. Hellmann's mayo
2C. shredded Swiss cheese	1/2 stick melted butter
1/2 sleeve Ritz crackers, crumbled	Chopped onion to taste
Salt and pepper to taste	

Cut squash up and boil for 10 minutes. Allow to drain well. Mix all ingredients thoroughly and pour into a baking dish.

Top casserole with chopped pecans.

Bake at 350° until light brown, 20 to 30 minutes.

Want to submit a recipe? Send it to Pastor Tim!