

STAR GIFT PICK-UP December 31 & January 7

On Epiphany each year, Christians remember the Magi following the star to baby Jesus. We trust that God can use many stars to draw us closer into relationship with Jesus. You can receive your Star Gift in the Narthex before or after worship on December 31 or January 7. Each star will have a unique word. As you prayerfully take one, trust the word you receive to guide you closer to Jesus in the next year.

CARING MINISTRIES

Our Caring Ministries offer many ways for you to find Christian care for a number of life's struggles. We're here to walk alongside you this winter.

STEPHEN MINISTRY:

Confidential, one-on-one care with a trained lay minister. Request a Stephen Minister at 615.577.4881 or bumc.net/stephen.

BUMC COUNSELING CENTER:

Independent therapists with private practices on the BUMC campus. Visit bumc.net/counseling to learn about available therapists.

LAY-LED MINISTRIES:

Provide support and presence for members (prayer shawl, flower ministry, meal delivery, caregiver respite, note-writing). Contact caringministries@bumc.net to request care or get involved.

PASTORAL CARE:

BUMC clergy are available for pastoral counseling. Contact caringministries@bumc.net to request care.

NEWCOMER LUNCH

January 7, 12:15 p.m.

If you are interested in joining BUMC, have joined recently, or are new to BUMC and interested in getting more connected, join us at our next newcomer lunch. Learn more about our mission, values, and ministries, and hear from Dr. Davis Chappell. RSVP at bumc.net/events.

5TH GRADE AFFIRMATION RETREAT February 2 & 3

This retreat is a non-overnight stay. It is a combination of small group devotions, large group worship and messages, team building activities, and journaling exercises for 5th grade students to encounter God in ways that help them feel affirmed as a child of God and enable them to articulate their faith. Registration opens January 1 at bumc.net/events.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 24-27, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Save the date for the best week of the summer with BUMC Kids! VBS is for children currently in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Registration will open at bumc.net/vbs on March 1!

MEN'S RETREAT

February 2-4,
Beersheba Springs Assembly

Join us for a weekend of inspiring teaching, outdoor activities, and community with other men! Rev. Matt Tuggle from Highland Park UMC (Dallas, TX) will be our guest speaker, sharing "4 Bible Stories Every Man Needs to Know." At the retreat, you'll experience great teaching, discussion about real issues with other men, and plenty of free time to unwind and experience time outdoors. There will be opportunities to rest, hike, play pickleball, sit around the campfire, and more. Registration begins at \$170. Sign up at bumc.net/events.

STUDENT MINISTRY SPRING KICK-OFF

January 7, 5-8 p.m.

Kick off our Sunday Nights with worship and Discipleship Groups! We are excited to continue our school year theme of Camp BUMCSM with a series on worship music and a flag football game on February 11. We're excited to have our 6th graders join our 7th-12th graders on Sunday nights for the spring!

FEED A FAMILY THIS CHRISTMAS

You can continue to give to our Christmas Food Basket fundraising, and we will make sure your gifts get to our local ministry partners to support neighbors in need this Christmas. You can write a check with Christmas Baskets in the memo line and drop it in the offering plate.

CONNECT RELATIONALLY & GROW SPIRITUALLY IN 2024

As we approach a new year, consider how you want to deepen your faith in one of our Sunday School classes. We will have a Sunday School Fair on January 28 following each worship service for you to find a place where you can grow in your faith alongside others. bumc.net/sundayschool

SPONSOR A STUDENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

Give the gift of education this Christmas by sponsoring a student at one of our 3 partner schools in South Africa! Your sponsorship helps to provide students with education, healthcare, safety, and nutrition throughout the school year. The South African school year starts in January, so there's still time to commit! Sign up at bumc.net/southafrica.

Share Your Musical Gifts!

The new year is a great time to commit to new activities! Join one of our Worship & Arts ensembles to meet new people, make music, and praise the Lord. Visit bumc.net/music to learn more.

- January 3 **CHANCEL CHOIR** Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.
- January 7 **YOUTH CHOIRS** Rehearsals at 5 p.m. (6th – 8th) & 7 p.m. (9th – 12th)
- January 9 **JOYSOUND ORCHESTRA** Rehearsal at 6:45 p.m.
- January 10 **CHILDREN'S CHOIRS** Rehearsals at 6:15 p.m. (PreK4 – 5th grade)
RHYTHM & BELLS at 5 p.m. (2nd – 5th grade)
- Ongoing **WORSHIP BAND** contact Ashton Gibbs at agibbs@bumc.net
BUMC RINGERS contact Dr. Gregg Bunn at gbunn@bumc.net
YOUTH ORCHESTRA contact Patsy Wade at pwade@bumc.net
FOR HIS GLORY LITURGICAL DANCE (1st – 5th grade)
contact keeleykirk@gmail.com

Worth
THE
Wait

CHRISTMAS EVE

TRADITIONAL SERVICE | 4, 6, 8 & 11 P.M.
DECEMBER 24, 2023

PRELUDE MUSIC

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

PROCESSION OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather on this blessed day to celebrate the newborn Light.
People: With family and friends we worship and adore the Christ-child.
Leader: With Mary we will ponder these things in our hearts.
People: With Joseph we will give thanks to the Lord for God’s steadfast love.
Leader: Lift up your hearts in thanksgiving for Christ has been born!
People: We gather to worship Him and welcome His peaceful kingdom.
Leader: His name will be blessed among all the earth;
People: His reign shall have no end! Come, our wait is finished! Let us worship the newborn King!

***PROCESSIONAL CAROL 234** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem. Come and behold Him, born the King of angels; O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal, lo, he shuns not the Virgin’s womb; Son of the Father, begotten, not created; O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest; O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory given. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God whose light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never smother it.
We believe that on a night like this, in Bethlehem, there was born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
We believe in the Word who has become incarnate, our very flesh and blood, yet full of grace and truth.
We believe in the blessed appearing of the salvation of our God, that is for the joy of all people.
We believe in His name as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace; of the increase of His rule and of His unique peace, there will be no end.
The zeal of the God of hosts will do this. This we surely believe. Amen.

***RESPONSE HYMN 238** “Angels We Have Heard on High” GLORIA
Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

A WORD OF WELCOME AND PASSING THE PEACE

ACT OF PRAISE

PASTORAL PRAYER

***CAROL 219** “What Child Is This” GREENSLEEVES
What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

*A READING OF THE GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20 (KJV)

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION “A Child Worth Waiting For”

OFFERING

The Christmas offering will benefit the missions and outreach of Brentwood United Methodist Church around the world.

OFFERTORY “O Holy Night”

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Pastor: ...And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise Your name and join in singing their unending hymn.

“Sanctus”
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: ...As a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Pastor: ...All honor and glory is Yours, Almighty God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

You are invited to spend some time in quiet reflection. Communion is open to all people of all ages and denominations. Communion is by intinction; that is, dip the wafer in the chalice and partake. If you need gluten free Communion elements, please go to the station between the baptism font and the pulpit.

THE SHARING OF THE LIGHT

CAROL 239 “Silent Night, Holy Night” STILLE NACHT
Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight; Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia! Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love’s pure light; Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace. Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend Thy light; With the angels let us sing. Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.

*BENEDICTION

Dr. Davis Chappell

Please extinguish your candles following the benediction and place the candle in the basket located at each exit. Taking your worship bulletin with you will help ensure that the Sanctuary will be prepared for the next worship service.

POSTLUDE

**Please stand, if able*

The chancel flowers are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Tommy Howard given by his wife, Marion.

SERVICE LEADERS:

OrganistDr. Gregg Bunn (4 p.m. Sanctuary, 6 p.m., 8 p.m., 11 p.m.)
.....Paul Ferington (4 p.m. Chapel)
PianistDr. Gregg Bunn (4 p.m. Sanctuary, 6 p.m.)
.....Patsy Wade (4 p.m. Chapel, 8 p.m., 11 p.m.)
Hymn LeadersRyan Jones (4 p.m. Sanctuary, 6 p.m.)
.....James Wells (8 p.m., 11 p.m.)
Child Soloists.....Fisher & Evarleigh Kelly (4 p.m. Sanctuary)
.....Katelyn & Rachel Ricotta (4 p.m. Chapel)
.....Matilda Binkley (6 p.m.)
.....Nadia Morrell (8 p.m.)
Youth Soloist.....Clarissa Morrell (11 p.m.)
“O Holy Night” SoloistsMichael Valentine (4 p.m. Chapel)
.....David Keck (4 p.m. Sanctuary)
.....Meryll Elkins (6 p.m.)
.....Catherine Tamayo (8 p.m.)
.....Caroline Meyer (11 p.m.)
Featured Musicians.....Charles & Regina Walker (4 p.m. Chapel)
Music Ensemble.....BUMC Youth Choir & Alumni (8 p.m., 11 p.m.)
AcolytesSam Tackett & Cooper Guerrero (4 p.m. Sanctuary)
.....Kinley & Declan Meeker (6 p.m.)
.....Edie Claire Baxter & Mack Terrell (8 p.m.)
.....Nadia Morrell (11 p.m.)
Acolyte DirectorBeth Teegarden (4 p.m. Sanctuary, 6 p.m., 8 p.m.)
.....Jo Drumright (11 p.m.)
Preaching PastorDr. Davis Chappell (4 p.m. Sanctuary, 6 p.m., 8 p.m.)
.....Rev. Casey Orr (4 p.m. Chapel, 11 p.m.)
Liturgist.....Rev. Jonathan Andersen (4 p.m. Sanctuary)
.....Dr. Jim Hughes (4 p.m. Chapel)
.....Rev. Ani Missirian-Wilson (6 p.m.)
.....Rev. Adam Jones (8 p.m., 11 p.m.)