



## Christmas week worship services

**December 18:** 4th Sunday of Advent

- Lighting of the Advent Candle during worship during both the 9:30 Praise Service and the 11:00 Traditional Service
- Kids Can Do—MVCAA is the disciple gift
- Halo Bible Study at 6 p.m.

**December 21:** Blue Christmas service at 7 p.m.

**December 24:** Christmas Eve

- 4 p.m. Praise Service
- 7 p.m. Traditional Service

**December 25:** Christmas Service

- 10 a.m. one combined service
- Lighting the Christ candle
- Communion

Services are also available on line through the church's Facebook page. Click here for the link: [UMCburg FB](#)



### Kids Can Do Alert: Dec. 18

Because Christmas Day is a Sunday and the service will be somewhat different, **Kids Can Do** will be **Sunday, December 18**. The money collected is for the **MVCAA**. Make sure to bring that loose change and extra bills as we teach the kids about giving to our ministries.

## Preparing for worship

### Scriptures for the coming week:

Monday, December 19	Isaiah 7:14
Tuesday, December 20	Matthew 1:18-25
Wednesday, December 21	Luke 2:1-7
Thursday, December 22	Luke 2:8-14
Friday, December 23	Luke 2:15-20

## Youth Group updates

**Next Generation Minister:** Kelly Weinberger, *Better Together*

**Children's Minister:** Vada Postlethwait

**Nursery Director:** Jill Pedersen

## Children's Church Lessons:



**SHINE**  
Bible Verse  
*Look! I bring you good news to you – wonderful, joyous news for all people.*  
\* Luke 2:10

**Christmas Morning \* Dec. 25th**  
Angles Visit the Shepherds  
Luke 2:8-20

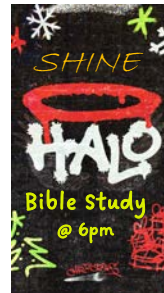
**WONDER**

**2nd Sunday of Advent  
Dec. 4th**  
An Angel Visits Mary  
Luke 1:26-38

**3rd Sunday of Advent  
Dec. 11th**  
An Angel Visits Joseph  
Matthew 7:24-27

**4th Sunday of Advent  
Dec. 18th**  
Jesus is Born  
Luke 2:1-7

## Sunday evening Youth Group:



### 1st Sunday – Nov. 27

Topic: God's timing is always right  
Activity: Hope ornament

### 2nd Sunday – Dec. 4

Topic: Jesus is always good news  
Activity: Angel ornament

### 3rd Sunday – Dec. 11

Topic: We can always share God's story  
Activity: Angel cookies

### 4th Sunday – Dec. 18

Topic: God is always ready to rescue  
Activity: Christmas cards

Join the youth and children for the final Sunday for the Halo Bible Study

## Giving focus for December

### Christmas offering envelopes available

Historically, the Christmas Eve offering was designated for a specific purpose apart from one's pledges or the monthly disciple gifts. This year the Finance Team decided that all Christmas offerings will go to the general fund. As each one knows, the cost of living continues to creep up and so have the costs of all supplies from cleaning fluids through postage. Envelopes are still available in the atrium and in the sanctuary if you would like to make a separate offering this Christmas.



## MVCAA spokes persons share thanks church for support through December

Even with the in-person visits from MVCAA staff members the past two Sundays, this week Rachel Adams emailed us again thanking us for choosing to support their programming.

In that newsletter, Adams, who spoke last Sunday, complimented the church on its new blessing box.



She said, "I love the little free pantry y'all put up by the parking lot! It's beautifully made, and I know is going to be such a blessing to others. We keep a supply of nonperishables in the office for free pantries, so I've made sure to add yours to our rotation!"

Additionally she shared a testimony about the giving nature of the church family. One member who attended Sunday and heard the story of the single mother, provided additional assistance for her. Rachel reported that she was so grateful. Remember to write in the memo line of your checks so it is properly recorded.

## Tammy Blaszczyk stepping in as church's new custodian



Let us introduce Tammy Blaszczyk who is our newest staff member. Tammy was hired as part-time custodian on December 2 after several months of volunteering in facilities as part of our Wednesday Work Crew.

Along with her facilities experience, Tammy has over 30 years of restaurant management experience.

Tammy and her husband, Pete, are newlyweds who will celebrate their first anniversary in April. Both are animal lovers who live in Knob Noster with their "fur children"; 7 dogs and 2 cats. Tammy also owns a farm in Dallas County, MO where she likes to get away to relax and garden in her spare time.

In addition to her part-time position, Tammy graciously continues to volunteer her service to the Church on the Wednesday Work Crew. She says that she is happy for the opportunity to work hard while finding fulfillment in service to the church.



**Holiday sparkles:** Festival of Lights at Powell Gardens on Saturday followed by the Christmas cantata on Sunday, dedicated to retired director of the Chancel Choir, Sherry Printz.



## Mills checks in direct from Jamaica

Friday, December 9, Steve Mills arrived back in Jamaica as part of the preparation for UMCburg's medical and construction team to resume a mission trip beginning March 6.

Imagine the surprise when emails and pictures started arriving in the inbox direct from Jamaica. How exciting that pictures can be shared in real time.

Make sure to join the United Methodist Men at 6 p.m. on Monday, December 19. Mills will bring a full update straight from Jamaica where the team worked to prepare the clinic to resume the medical services that have been suspended since the 2020 COVID pandemic.

Steve said they are actively recruiting volunteers for the construction and medical mission to Falmouth for March 4-11, 2023. Each person will be responsible for purchase of their own airline ticket and raising \$600 toward expenses in Jamaica.

Mark your calendar for a "cook-off" fundraising meal and dessert auction for missions that will be held Wednesday, January 11, in the FLC. Sign up in the atrium to donate a pot of chili, "ham & beans" or a dessert. Funds from the dinner will help with supplies and medicines needed to run the free clinic.

Questions? Email [steve@umcburg.org](mailto:steve@umcburg.org), or call Steve at 660-441-8309.

*These pictures were sent from Steve as he was greeted by old friends, looked over the clinic's needs. They even discovered that the medical needs included PT which they jumped right into doing.*