



## THE CONNECTION

### CONTINUING THE CELEBRATION!

Wow!

I was thinking...just the other day that at the end of this month or long about Christmas Day...we will have been together as church family and pastor, six months already! Wow!

It doesn't seem like that long to me! I hope it doesn't seem that long to you, either!

After spending a few weeks enduring the "growing pains" that accompany new relationships...like "getting used to" how we each "do worship" ...honoring former traditions while simultaneously discovering some new rituals...we settled down and shared some enjoyable celebrations together...

Celebrations like...

...honoring our teachers and blessing our students as they began a new school year...

...recognizing and examining our need to be good stewards in all with which God has blessed us...

....remembering and paying tribute to the glorious saints of our church history as well as those special saints in our own personal lives...

...praising and thanking God our Creator for all the abundance we have been blessed to receive...

Wow...I guess that is a lot of celebration over the past six months!

And we're not even close to being finished yet!

Here is what is upcoming for our First UMC family of faith...a celebration...to which all of you, of course, are invited...

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord...so they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in a manger..."

The Shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told." Luke 2:11, 16, 20 NIV

"After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Jordan, during the time of King Herod,

Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked..."where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him...When they saw the star, they were overjoyed...on coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him...Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matt. 2: 1-2, 10-11

Both the shepherds and the magi believed...and worshiped.

What is seen here through both examples is...an eagerness to worship.

Throughout the season of Advent...every year...we hear people talk, incessantly, about how Christmas has been ruined by crass commercialism or political correctness or all the materialism and buying frenzy associated with it. We might even find ourselves saying how much we dread the whole holiday!

And while it's true that we can't do much about what Christmas has become in our culture, we can look at it through a different set of lenses. That is to say, we can use the "secularism of Christmas", as motivation to worship our Lord. We can emulate the eagerness of the shepherds to be in His presence. We can follow the example of the Magi, who set their hearts to find Him and wouldn't be satisfied with anything less. We can use this season of Advent to thank Jesus for coming...to praise Him for being born on this earth so that He could grow up and die for our sins, opening the door to heaven for us...and giving us a reason and a purpose for living.

Jesus wants us to search for Him. Jesus wants us to celebrate Him. Jesus wants us to worship Him.

We will be doing just that...and more...every Sunday of Advent...up to and including Christmas Eve.

Please join us!

*Pastor Kim*

### Our Staff

**Rev. L. Kim Eanes, Lead Pastor**  
(cherawpastor@gmail.com)

**Angie Smith, Ministry Assistant**  
(fumcangiesmith@gmail.com)

**Sara Sanderson, Congregational Care Director**  
(saralsanderson1@gmail.com)

**Mimi Coffey, Director of Child Development Ministry**  
(fccdm@yahoo.com)

**Mary Lynn Watkins, Interim Director of Music**

### COMING UP

\*Soup and Survivors, Saturday, December 8, 12:00pm, Fellowship Hall

\*UMM Breakfast, Sunday, December 9, 8:30am, Fellowship Hall

\*Palmetto Ridge Ministry, Sunday, December 9, 9:30am, Palmetto Ridge

\*Blood Drive, Monday, December 10, 2-7pm, Fellowship Hall

\*January Newsletter Deadline, Friday, December 14

\*Life Line Screening, Monday, December 17, Fellowship Hall

\*Shepherd's Child, Friday, December 21, Fellowship Hall

## In Memory or Honor of

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### **IN MEMORY OF ETHEL ANN STREATER**

*M&M Keith Smith, M&M Shelton Rumph, William Moore, Jr., Gerald & Ellen Boyles, M&M Jack VanDeman, James Bennett, Sandra Redfearn, Ed & Lorena Kelly, Betty Thrailkill and Children, M&M Herbert Watts, M&M John Moore, FUMC Fred & Lorraine Harris Sunday School Class, Brenda Rayfield, M&M Harold Lomas, M&M Jeff Johnson, Beth & Joe Witherspoon, Sara & Charles Stowe, Jessica Flynn, Lola & Jimmy Altman*

### **IN MEMORY OF FURMAN WARDLAW**

*M&M Harold Lomas*

### **IN MEMORY OF PAM CHAPMAN**

*M&M Harold Lomas*

### **IN MEMORY OF CLYDE GOODWIN**

*M&M Harold Lomas, M&M Steven Humphries, M&M Jeff Johnson*

### **IN MEMORY OF MICKY WORKMAN**

*M&M Jeff Johnson*

### **IN HONOR OF HENRIETTA KOLLITZ**

*M&M Jeff Johnson*

## From the First Church Child Development Ministry

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The Child Development Ministry has a busy month ahead of us. We are looking forward to a fun month! On December 5<sup>th</sup>, the three and four year old classes will attend a play at the Theater on the Green. They will see Porkchop Productions, "Holly's Christmas." Weather permitting, we will walk from the church to the theater. Adults get in free, so come join us!

On Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, all

the children will be allowed to come to school dressed in pajamas! They will watch The Polar Express and enjoy hot chocolate and popcorn.

Also on December 20<sup>th</sup>, the three and four year old classes will have a Christmas program in the sanctuary at 6:00 pm. They will sing Christmas carols and recite scripture. We would love for you to come. Your heart will be blessed!

The CDM will be closed December 21<sup>st</sup> - January 1<sup>st</sup>. We will reopen on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We hope you will enjoy this most wonderful time of the year, celebrating our Savior's birth with your families.

In His Service,

*Mimi*

## Walkie Talkies...Winter Wonderland

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Although we have had to "bundle up" over the past several weeks as we gather in the darkness of the morning, our Walkie Talkie groups are still "plodding along" every Tuesday and Thursday morning!

Our Tuesday group meets at the Cheraw State Park, right across from the golf course at the House on the Hill. Our two selected routes are either the "park road" out to the trailhead or the "back

nine" golf cart path. We meet at 7:30am and walk for about an hour.

Our Thursday group meets at Arrowhead Park off of State Road in Cheraw. This route offers a flatter trek, and the monotony of "round and round the circle" is overcome by wonderful discussion and laughter among our participants. Plus...the emerging sun shining on the tall

pinetrees provides a beautiful (and warm) backdrop! We meet in the parking lot by the Memorial Stone at 7:30am.



# T.G.I.F. Study Replaces Monday Morning Theologian

Beginning Friday, December 7, a new Advent Study will replace the Fall study offered on Monday mornings. This study, offered every Friday at 10:30am, will be called...T.G.I.F. Study! Throughout the season of Advent, our T.G.I.F. study will offer a session entitled...Awaiting the Already...An Advent Journey Through the Gospels. Please join us every Friday morning

as we examine which parts of the Christmas story come from what Gospel. Hopefully, as we share in discussion, we will also uncover Advent's tension between the past and the future, and how that affects our lives as contemporary Advent travelers. No need to register...just bring your favorite Bible and join Pastor Kim in the Parlor for this 4 week study.



## Serving in December

### Hostess

Marsha Butler

### Head Usher

Robert Calhoun

### Acolyte and Cross Bearer

Sophia Prevatte (A) Ella Prevatte (CB)

### Greeters

December 2 Penny Quick

December 9 Mimi Coffey

December 16 M&M Roger Fisher

December 23 M&M John Sanderson

December 30 M&M Mack Atkinson

### Lobby Door Greeters

December 2 Eric Dusa

December 9 Sammy Quick, Jerry Tucker

December 16 John Sanderson, Harold Lomas

December 23 Roger Wolfe, Keith Stubbs

December 30 Lyle Coffy, Thomas Samuel

### Nursery

December 2 Caroline Quick and Allison Becker

December 9 Caroline Quick and Lesley Jean Watson

December 16 Caroline Quick and Nancy Wagon

December 23 Caroline Quick and Christy Ruffner

December 30 Caroline Quick and Erika Kollitz

### Lay Readers

December 2 Shannon Johnson

December 9 Greer Bennett

December 16 Joey Mills

December 23 Alayna Carabo

December 30 Rhett Butler

### Flowers

December 2 Gini Eddins

December 9—23 Red Poinsettias

December 30 White Poinsettias

### Deposit Team

December 2 John Moore

Alternates: Thomas Samuel, Micki Lockey, Todd Becker

December 9 Roger Wolfe

Alternates: Jim Crawford, Sammy Quick

December 16 Jeff Johnson

Alternates: Betty Hurst, David McLean, Walter Crosby

December 23 Robert Calhoun

Alternate: Doug Marsh

December 30 Rhett Butler

Alternate: Shelton Rumph, Jerry Tucker

### McArn Items

December 2 Mac and Cheese

December 9 Spaghetti noodles & sauce

December 16 Soups

December 23 Crackers

December 30 Breakfast foods

## Women's Bible Study—Every Thursday Afternoon

The Bible is full of surprises! At every turn from the beginning of the Old Testament right through the end of the New, we find God working in unexpected places and through unlikely people.

The Gospel of Matthew names five of these...unlikely people...all women...who played a pivotal role in God's purposes...and who by the way, were all part of the family tree of Jesus! Tamar, a widow; Rahab,

a prostitute; Ruth, a foreigner; an adulteress who was married to Uriah; and, of course, Mary, a young virgin are all key players in the unfolding of hope in anticipation of the Messiah.

If you are a Christian woman who would like to learn more about these extraordinary underdogs and outsiders, please join us every Thursday afternoon at 2pm in the Parlor.

Contact Pastor Kim if you'd like further details



## A Note from The Congregational Care Director

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We learn a lot in Acts how life was among the first believers. A few things we learn is that they would go to the temple and learn from the apostles, and as Acts 2:43-47 teaches, they would gather in the temple and give to those in need. The believers did this with generous hearts. God then blessed them adding to their group as others were baptized in the name of Jesus.

When I picture this ancient group, I picture them looking a lot like us, but with different clothes, and no electric heat to keep them warm. I picture this gathering of early believers with big smiles on their faces and grateful hearts full of love and generosity, giving to others in need. How grateful we are for what the Lord has given us, and it is so exciting to be able to

share it with families who struggle. When hearts are right with God, the heart does not have to wonder if something is right or wrong...God is love, and the love that is felt on this day, and many other days here at First Church, comes straight from our Lord and Savior.

***Matthew 6:21, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."***

The Shepherds Child Program will be held on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. (Time will be announced very soon) Presents for the children are due on December 18<sup>th</sup>. There are lots of ways to help with this event...if you are not able to shop for a child but would like to help in another way just let me know. For a child's name and/or more information, please contact me at 843-910-7987, or 843-537-

7002.

### **Upcoming events:**

**Congregation Care Team will meet on Tuesday Dec. 11 at 1:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall to make greenery projects with Cheryl Postlewait.

**Exercise with Betsy Vaughn** will meet on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am and then will take the next few weeks off due to the holidays.

**"Dueling Christmas Pianos"** will be held at 6:30pm on December 16<sup>th</sup> with Shane Robertson, David Thompson, Pat Hurt, and Laura Keller. Please sign up with Angie or Sara by December 12<sup>th</sup>. This event will be held at Grassy Pond Baptist Church, Gaffney S.C. (minimum of 6 people needed to attend).

Merry Christmas!

Sara,  
843-910-7987

## FUMC BBQ For Sale

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The FUMC United Methodist Men have BBQ to sell. You may need some for the holidays.

Please contact Angie in the church office if you would like to purchase. Cost is \$8.00 per

pound.

## UMW Rada Products

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The UMW have a new shipment of RADA Products. See JoAnne Morgan if you are

interested in purchasing any of these new items.



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

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**We're on the Web!**  
[www.cherawfirstumc.org](http://www.cherawfirstumc.org)

**JANUARY**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Friday, December 14, 2018

## Have You Been Wondering???

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We all know that Advent is...the season of waiting...waiting for the Messiah King! It is my privilege to announce that something else for which we have been waiting is also coming with the start of the Advent season!

Wednesdays at the First...dinner and study...is back!

Every Wednesday, beginning at 5:30pm, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for our evening meal. Ms. Janette Sowell, from Chesterfield, (highly recommended by Ellison Outen) will be our cook, and a full

meal will be provided each week, at the cost of \$6.00 per person. Please register every week by Tuesday at noon, either using the card provided in the Sunday bulletin or by calling the church office.

Following the meal, we will participate in an Advent study entitled...the Wonder of Christmas. The Wonder of Christmas is an insightful study that explains the uniqueness of the Christmas event through four specific elements...a star, a name, a manger, and a promise.

Through an examination of these four elements vital to the Christmas story, we will discover that the true wonder of Christmas is found in the love of Christ made real in our hearts when we share that love with others.

Each session of this four week study will include questions for discussion, Scripture lessons for examination, interactive projects, and of course, prayer!

Please talk to Pastor Kim for more details.

## Endowment Fund Update

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The Endowment Fund committee would like to thank the FUMC Child Development Center for their recent contribution to the Endowment Fund.

Have you considered leaving the church in your will/bequests? The Endowment can grow through your special giving.

Current Amount in the Endowment Fund:  
\$164,173.85

## A Note of Thanks

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Thanks so much!! To everyone who has visited Mrs. Ruth Funderburk...her family extends a huge thank you! We are appreciative of every visit and especially of the enormous effort made in February and March 2017. Without support

from her FUMC family last year, Sis' suffering would have been unbearable! What Ms. Sis needs most now is a hand to hold and a prayer of peace and comfort. Thanks again for all of your caring!

-Ruth's Family

## Birthdays and Anniversaries in December

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### BIRTHDAYS

December 7 Jacob Rohde  
December 12 Michelle Rohde  
December 14 Lynn Tweed,  
Pam Humphries  
December 16 Ellison Outen, Harold Lomas  
December 18 James Tweed  
December 19 Jane Rumph, Billy Wicker,  
Kaleb Keefe  
December 20 Tom Rollings  
December 21 Renie Seels  
December 22 William Keith Smith, III

(Tripp)

December 23 Allan Chapman, Sam Eubanks  
December 25 Robin Bersinger, David  
Rohde, Alyana Carabo  
December 29 Marcia Butler  
December 30 Jacquelyn Bette  
Tomberlin

### ANNIVERSARIES

December 23 M&M Pete Baker,  
M&M John Moore





# Peace Has Come 2018 Christmas Cantata

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Looking for peace this Christmas?

Well, Peace came to the Earth over 2000 years ago in the form of a baby, Jesus Christ. Yes, Peace is here - just not recognized by many.

So many search for Peace in alcohol, sex, pornography, gluttony, drugs, dirty stories and movies, video games "shop therapy", etc. All this gives us is "temporary peace." "Peace" through these means only

brings more unrest and turmoil —

The Peace I'm talking about is True Peace. Everlasting Peace. Peace which comes to us by having a relationship which Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

"**Peace Has Come**" to the world is our 2018 Christmas Cantata which will be presented during our morning worship service on December 16.

Mary McDonald, the composer and arranger for this music has

truly brought a refreshing angle for us to ponder anew this Christmas—as we celebrate the birthday of the King of Kings' Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

My prayer for you is that you may know in your heart true Peace this Christmas by giving your life to Jesus.

Merry Christmas and Peace to all —  
*Mary Lynn*

## What Accounts are for Memorials?

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If you give memorials to FUMC you can designate that they go to a number of different areas of the church. Listed below are areas in which your memorials can be received:

Contingency Fund  
Endowment Fund  
Memorial Fund  
Music Fund

Red Bird  
Salkehatchie Summer Service  
Bus Fund  
Youth Ministries  
Childrens Ministries  
Contemporary Service Fund  
Building Upkeep Fund  
Parsonage Upkeep Fund  
Wednesday at the First (WATF)  
Relay for Life

Grounds Upkeep Fund  
Pastor's Discretionary Fund  
Scholarships (Streete, Norton, Harris, Burr, Hook, Eutsler, Brasington, and Laney)

We thank you for considering these ministries as options for your additional financial gifts.

*Memorials can be designated to go to a number of different areas.*

## Good Neighbor

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The Men's Class at FUMC is offering a helping hand. Do you need any help to change a light bulb, clean the gutters, rake the yard, wash the car, or go to the store? Whatever your need, give us a chance to be a good neighbor to you. We're not professionals and

will not bill you for services, but we are handy at doing many things. Our intent is not to take any work away from our local businesses and service professionals, but to simply offer a helping hand.  
This service is available to all

FUMC members, and anyone you know who is in need of help. You may contact Roger Wolfe at

*...help change a light bulb, clean the gutters, rake the yard,.....*

## Pastor's Discretionary Fund

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Contributions are needed for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Please share your surplus with those who have precious little on which to live. (Write a check to FUMC and designate it or part of it for "Pastor's Discretionary Fund.")



*Giving to those less fortunate*



# Tailgate for Team Jesus





# Fall Festival for the Children

Being a Christian  
is like being a Pumpkin

God picks you from the patch  
and brings you in. (John 15:16)

Then washes all the dirt off of you.  
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

He opens you up and scoops  
out all the yucky stuff. He  
removes the seeds of doubt,  
hate, greed, etc.  
(Romans 6:6)

Then He carves you a new  
smiling face. (Psalm 71:23)

And He puts His light inside you  
to shine for all the world to see.  
(Matthew 5:16)





Fall Festival for the Children and Operation Christmas Child



# December Calendar

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## **Sunday, December 2, 2018**

Sunday School, 10:00am  
Worship, 11:00am  
Advent Breakfast Supper, 5:00pm, Fellowship Hall  
Youth, 5:00pm, Youth Hut/Fellowship Hall

## **Monday, December 3, 2018**

Plarn Meeting, 5:00pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom  
Cub Scouts, 6:00pm  
Fellowship Hall in use

## **Tuesday, December 4, 2018**

CDM Handbells, 9:45am, Choir Room  
CDM Chapel, 10:00am, Choir Room  
Walkie Talkies Park, 7:30am, State Park  
Adult Exercise with Besty Vaughn, 11:00am, Fellowship Hall  
*Sunday, December 9 Bulletin Deadline, 2:00pm*  
Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall  
Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut  
Choir Practice, 6:00pm, Choir Room

## **Wednesday, December 5, 2018**

WATF Meal, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall  
WATF Bible Study, 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall  
*Angie to leave at 10:30am, vacation time*

## **Thursday, December 6, 2018**

Walkie Talkies Town, 7:30am, Arrowhead Park  
Women's Study, 2:00pm, Parlor

## **Friday, December 7, 2018**

T.G.I.F. Study, 10:30am, Parlor  
Kinsey Mulloy/Fred & Lorraine Harris Sunday School Class Christmas Party, Fellowship Hall

## **Saturday, December 8, 2018**

Soup and Survivors, 12:00pm, Fellowship Hall

## **Sunday, December 9, 2018**

UMM Breakfast, 8:30am, Fellowship Hall  
Palmetto Ridge Ministry, 9:30am  
Sunday School, 10:00am  
Worship, 11:00am  
UMW Christmas Party, 3:00pm, Fellowship Hall  
Dress Rehearsal for Cantata with Children, 5:00pm, Choir Room  
Youth, 5:00pm, Youth Hut/Fellowship Hall  
Fireflies Children's Ministry Skating Party, 5:00pm

## **Monday, December 10, 2018**

Blood Drive, 2-7pm, Fellowship Hall  
Plarn Meeting, 5:00pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom  
Cub Scouts, 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

## **Tuesday, December 11, 2018**

CDM Handbells, 9:45am, Choir Room  
CDM Chapel, 10:00am, Choir Room  
Walkie Talkies Park, 7:30am, State Park  
Greenery Event, 1:00pm, Fellowship Hall  
*Sunday, December 16 Bulletin Deadline, 2:00pm*  
Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut  
Choir Practice, 6:00pm, Choir Room

## **Wednesday, December 12, 2018**

WATF Meal, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall  
WATF Bible Study, 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall

## **Thursday, December 13, 2018**

Walkie Talkies Town, 7:30am, Arrowhead Park  
Women's Study, 2:00pm, Parlor  
*Angie vacation day*

## **Friday, December 14, 2018**

T.G.I.F. Study, 10:30am, Parlor  
*January Newsletter Deadline*  
Methodist Men's Class Christmas Party, Fellowship Hall

## **Saturday, December 15, 2018**

Final Dress Rehearsal with all, 9:00am, Choir Room

## **Sunday, December 16, 2018**

Sunday School, 10:00am  
Worship (Cantata), 11:00am  
Youth, 5:00pm, Youth Hut/Fellowship Hall  
Fireflies Children's Ministry Christmas Party, 5:00pm, Kid's Nook

## **Monday, December 17, 2018**

Life Line Screening  
*December 23 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00noon*  
Plarn Meeting, 5:00pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom  
Cub Scouts, 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall

## **Tuesday, December 18, 2018**

CDM Handbells, 9:45am, Choir Room  
CDM Chapel, 10:00am, Choir Room  
Walkie Talkies Park, 7:30am, State Park  
*December 24 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00pm*  
Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall  
Boy Scouts, 6:00pm, Scout Hut

## **Wednesday, December 19, 2018**

*December 30 Bulletin Deadline, 12:00pm*  
WATF Meal, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall  
WATF Bible Study, 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall  
Choir Practice, 7:30pm, Choir Room

## **Thursday, December 20, 2018**

Walkie Talkies Town, 7:30am, Arrowhead Park  
Women's Study, 2:00pm, Parlor  
CDM Christmas Program, 6:00pm, Sanctuary  
*Angie half day vacation*

## **Friday, December 21, 2018**

T.G.I.F. Study, 10:30am, Parlor  
Shepherd's Child, Fellowship Hall  
*CDM Closed for Holidays*

## **Sunday, December 23, 2018**

Sunday School, 10:00am  
Worship, 11:00am  
Youth, 5:00pm, Youth Hut/Fellowship Hall  
Fireflies Children's Ministry, 5:00pm, Kid's Nook

## **Monday, December 24, 2018**

*Office Closed for Christmas Holiday*  
*CDM Closed for Holidays*

## **Tuesday, December 25, 2018**

*Office Closed for Christmas Holiday*  
*CDM Closed for Holidays*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!**

## **Wednesday, December 26, 2018**

*Office Closed for Christmas Holiday*  
*CDM Closed for Holidays*

## **Thursday, December 27, 2018**

Walkie Talkies Town, 7:30am, Arrowhead Park  
Women's Study, 2:00pm, Parlor  
*CDM Closed for Holidays*

## **Friday, December 28, 2018**

T.G.I.F. Study, 10:30am, Parlor  
*CDM Closed for Holidays*

## **Sunday, December 30, 2018**

Sunday School, 10:00am  
Worship, 11:00am  
Youth, 5:00pm, Youth Hut/Fellowship Hall  
Fireflies Children's Ministry, 5:00pm, Kid's Nook  
**Monday, December 31, 2018**  
Plarn Meeting, 5:00pm, Kinsey Mulloy Classroom  
Cub Scouts, 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall  
*Angie half day vacation*  
*Pastor Kim vacation*  
*Closed for Holidays*