



THE GOOD WORD

Taylorsville United Methodist Church
4356 Ridge Road, Mount Airy, Maryland 21771
www.taylorsvilleumc.org

Rev. Sherri Comer-Cox, Pastor
Phone: (410) 875-4101 E-mail: taylorsvilleumc@comcast.net



“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.” Isaiah 7:14

Whenever Gary, Miss Elsie, and I travel back to North Carolina to visit family, one of the things we like to do is read church signs. Some are informative and advertise worship times or upcoming events. Some are humorous; “Our Church is Like Fudge, Sweet with a Few Nuts” or “God Shows No Favoritism, But Our Church Sign Guy Does...GO RAVENS!” One of my favorite funny church signs was at a church that was next door to a school where people were constantly speeding, “Jesus Sees Everything-but the Police Have Radar.” Others share encouraging words that are meant to make the reader ponder the message, “What Does God Want For Christmas? Look in the Mirror.”

Recently, I saw a church sign that made me ponder; **“Prepare for Christmas. Come to Church.”** Many of us get wrapped up in preparing for Christmas by decorating the house, shopping for that perfect gift, or anticipating company and travel. As someone who loves all the Christmas decorations, gift buying, and hospitality the season brings, I understand the pull of this kind of preparation. However, preparing for Christmas as a Christian means we are preparing our hearts for Jesus in order to receive and share the gifts of hope, peace, love, and joy. When we “come to church” we strengthen our relationships with one another, share ideas on how to reach our community in the name of Jesus, solve problems, and experience the grace and love of God through the sacrament of Holy Communion. In other words, when we “come to church” we learn how to “be the church.”

Preparing for Christmas means we wait, we prepare, we watch, we ponder, we reflect. We also come to church not only on Christmas Eve and Easter or communion Sunday. Not only on the days we have a job to do or something special is happening. We prepare for Christmas by regularly attending church throughout the year and participating in the life of our faith community. We prepare for Christmas by coming to church and being the church. So Taylorsville... here's your sign...

“Come to Church and Be the Church.”

Here at Taylorsville UMC we will be preparing for Christmas as we observe Advent by making Advent Wreaths, lighting the Advent Candles each Sunday in Advent, and hearing the Advent message of hope, peace, love, and joy. We will share the blessings we have received by taking envelopes from Tree of Hope for the missions we support. On Christmas Eve we will prepare for Christmas Day by lighting the Christ candle and singing “Silent Night, Holy Night” as we share the “Light” at the Candlelight Service. I pray each of you will be able to come to church and experience the **Hope, Peace, Love and Joy** of Christ as you prepare for Christmas-come to church, and be the church.

Blessings in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Sherri

grace notes

by Pastor Katy

Are you ready for Christmas? I hear this question often, and my response is almost always no. There is always so much to do, gifts to buy, people to visit, meals to plan and it never seems to lessen, so no I'm not ready for Christmas. This year, when asked that question, I didn't answer it the same way. That's because I didn't hear it the same way. It's not about the presents, it's not about meals, and it's not about the decorations.

I am ready for Christmas, I am ready for the **Hope** that comes with the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. I am ready for the **Peace** that fills my heart when I think about eternal life. I am ready for the **Love** that God has given in the form of a newborn child, and I am ready for the **Joy** that comes from knowing who I am and whose I am.

I have one question for you...Are YOU ready for Christmas?



**Blue Christmas ~ Saturday, December 15 ~
2:00 PM ~ Taylorsville UMC**

Christmas can be difficult for some people. So if you have suffered a loss of any kind, an illness or any other reason why you feel blue, please join us for a time of quiet reflection, prayer and a message of hope. All are welcome.

Questions contact: Pastor Katy 240-409-8002

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS—11am**USHERS/GREETERS**

December—TBD

January- TBD

READERS

December—Cindy Harris

January- TBD

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Lindsay Youn	17	Fran Gopalan
2	Kitty Penn	18	John Michael
2	Bethany Shankle		Schreiber
3	Jeff Taylor	19	Maria Novick
4	Sandy Mancha-Wright	30	Teresa Leyh
9	Chase Klevins	31	Grant Laney
11	Christina Leyh	31	Sharon Iden
12	Debra Taylor		
16	Sandi Mennerick		

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

29 Billy and Susan Shankle

January Newsletter**Deadline is:****December 13th, 2018****Inclement Weather Policy**

If Carroll County Schools are closed due to bad weather the church office will be closed also.



You can give to
Taylorsville
electronically.....

No need to bring a
checkbook every week.

If you would like to give your tithe or gifts
through on-line banking, please set-up your
automatic payment through your bank to:

PO Box 523**Mount Airy, MD 21771-0523**

*If you need more information,
please contact the church office.*



**Saturday,
December 1st**

Join the Men for Breakfast

Leaving the church at 8:30am
Going to Buttersburg Inn in
Union Bridge, MD

Prayer Page

Please Remember in Prayer:

Lifting Our Hearts In...

Praise

Sunshine

Pastor Katy—daughter
& grandson in church

Betty Carey—great
grandmother

Community

Sunday School

Attendance

Prayer

Miss Elsie—weather is
tough on her

Jeff & Deb Taylor's son
needs gallbladder
removed

Wood Chuckers—need
wood and help

Richard Bradley—
pneumonia

Fires in California

Linda Lochstampfor
sister, Marlene making
it through stomach
cancer & broken hip
well

TJ Bradley—cont.
prayers

Mary Wood-Sharon's
cousin—last days

Cindy Russell—friend of
Sandi Mennerick

Joe—cont. prayers

Folks in N. & S.

Carolina, Florida

First responders—
safety

Ministries at TUMC

John Quick—Jesus is
our Life Saver

Rev. Bud Kibbe

Lauren Logue

Steve Michael

Janice Hidey

Wanda Haddaway

Jane Dobson

Bob & Phyllis Herbig

John Hortie

Pastor Katy and Family

The Landerholm

Family (missionaries in
Unalaska)

Prayers for Service Persons

Sean Grimes (United States Navy)

Please keep Sean and wife, Corina in
your prayers as they leave mid-December
for Bahrain for 2 years



A Christmas Prayer

Lord,

You came upon

A Midnight Clear

to bring

Joy to the World

and draw us near.

It was a Holy Night,

when you came from above,

to fill our hearts with hope and love.

Thank you,

Sweet Jesus Boy,

for clothing us with

Comfort and Joy.

garmentsofsplendor.com

December 2018 Prayer Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Philippians 1:20-22 I desire to be bold for you Lord! In the year ahead I want your love, joy, peace and hope to be the message of my life. Every day I have breath, let me be a witness of your presence in this world. Our lives are most fruitful when they are lived to proclaim your glory!	31 Genesis 1:4-31 God, you created us to be good. On the final day of the year, I put the past behind me. I look forward, seeking to be about your good. Let this New Year be about new beginnings for my relationship with you and others. Remind me that, as your creation, all of us were made to mirror you.	(day 30 & 31 listed at top due to space)				1 Hebrews 6:13-20 God, today I cling to the reality that despite what life brings, your faithful promises and oath are true. You give me courage and renew my confidence. I am anchored by you alone. I am connected to you. Thank you for the safe passage that you give me through each day.
2 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 My God, what a wonderful assurance you give us that when we are weighed down with trouble, you shower us with comfort through Jesus Christ. I don't like suffering; I do all I can to avoid it. Help me reframe suffering, so that I am open to your comfort.	3 Matthew 1:18-25 Lord, as I approach Christmas this year, let me not forget the faith and obedience of Joseph. He was a man of deep integrity and his status mattered not when it came to you. Even when his feelings could have been otherwise, he did what you asked. Reveal to me where you are calling me to obedience.	4 1 Thessalonians 5:12-15 Lord, thank you for the many relationships I have in my life. Be my guide on how to live as my most authentic self in relationships. Strengthen the body of Christ in my church and all churches so that our lives, our homes, our tables are all invitations of grace.	5 Isaiah 9:2-7 Come thou expected Jesus. Bring your light into dark places again this season. Today I pray for all people who are walking in the darkness of depression and anxiety. Let your name be on their hearts, giving hope and presence that inspires healing. You are the Prince of Peace. Grant your peace today to all who suffer.	6 John 17:15-19 Jesus, what an awesome blessing knowing that you prayed for your disciples, and that you live and pray for each and every one of your followers today. I find comfort and strength in the truth that you are for us. Thank you, Jesus!	7 Ephesians 1:3-7 God, thank you for your grace. In your power you have made the choice to make us your own. May the reality of belonging to you be my strength. May your kindness to be a comfort to me. I hope that each day my life will be an act of praise and glory to you, the One who created me!	8 Isaiah 40:1-5 Lord, I know there are people who are really hurting. Let the cry, "Comfort, comfort my people" be the words that inspire relief for all. Fill in the valleys, and level the mountains and hills. Straighten the curves, and smooth out the rough places so that Jesus can come into every heart.
9 Matthew 6:25-34 Why do I lack the faith to trust that you are actively involved in the daily rhythms of my life? Your Word tells me you care for the smallest creatures; should I not believe you care for me? Instead of regretting yesterday, or anticipating tomorrow, help me be fully present in my life today, trusting you are fully present to me.	10 John 1:1-14 God, this passage from John reminds me of the intricacy of your work and how when I don't have a plan, you always have had one. Your plan is reconciliation and wholeness for your creation. Thank you God for the work of Advent. As you have prepared, let me prepare myself for a more meaningful time during this season.	11 Luke 18:1-8 Lord, forgive me when I am inconsistent in prayer. Prayer is such a valuable gift you have given us. I don't always honor this gift. I know you want me to come with my heart open to receive all that my relationship with you has to give. Right now, I quiet my mind and open my heart to you.	12 Isaiah 61:8-11 You are the living, loving, sovereign God! And through grace that comes in believing Jesus Christ, you have called me your own. In this moment, I lean into this reality, and not the challenges I have to face. I call on my identity as a child of the King and allow my heart to overflow with joy!	13 Matthew 14:22-33 Jesus, you modeled balance in your life. You were among the people, you were authentically engaged in their lives and in the community around you. You knew when it was time to step away and be with your Father God. Give me the discipline, in this busy time, to follow you and to step away and be with my Father God.	14 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 Lord, pride sure has the power to get in the way of who we are supposed to be. I am reminded today that grace puts all on an equal grounding. Therefore when I feel like judging someone, may your Holy Spirit humble me. Remind me all that I have is from you, so I may give you glory in all things.	15 Ecclesiastes 5:13-20 God, help me to be a responsible steward of all that you have given me in my life: my family, my friends, my resources, my finances, and my time. Help me make the most of all that you have given me so that I can be fully present in each blessed moment.
16 Luke 1:26-40; 2:1-20 Mary's song of joy is such a response of faith! She knew that bearing the Christ child would bring all kinds of challenges, and yet she rejoiced. Lord, in the midst of challenges, there is somewhere in my life right now that I need to rejoice. I need to see that you are in the midst of it all.	17 Luke 2:36-38 God, let me anticipate the right things in my life. As Anna waited and wondered for the coming of the Savior, I want to anticipate your presence in my life, Lord Jesus. This is a perfect time for me to renew a connection with you, as we celebrate the Christ child being born into our lives.	18 1 John 4:7-12 Lord, you are the creator of love. You have shown us your love in Jesus your son. He taught us how to love. Give me great opportunities this season to love others well, just as you have. Give me great notice of your love for me so that love can be complete.	19 Galatians 6:7-10 God, I want to contribute to the renewal of your creation in the world around me. Your grace has given me new life and I have opportunities every day to witness to your goodness. May my life be a walking billboard for you. May my actions be motivated by kindness.	20 Luke 22:39-46 Jesus, thank you for your obedience on the cross. I cannot even begin to imagine how difficult it was to be faithful to the incredible suffering it entailed. Your suffering reminds me I am not alone in my suffering. I want to trust God as much as you did in that moment.	21 Job 42:1-4 Lord, you are larger than life and your power is beyond my fathoming. Yet, you are my God and you know and love me. Help me keep a healthy perspective of awe, respect and glory in my intimate, loving relationship with you.	22 1 John 1:5-9 God, I know it is not enough to just give lip service to my faith. When your light rules our hearts, it should be a reality in our lives. The truth of authentic faith is a changed life. I know it is instantaneous and a process at the same time. Help me be attentive to the process in me.
23 Isaiah 49:8-16 God, thank you for never giving up on your children. You pursue us and seek connection with us for the sake of our restoration. You have done this throughout history and continue to do this today. Thank you, God! I am so grateful to you.	24 Matthew 5:14-16 Jesus, you called me to be a light in the world, which is possible when I live my life in you. May I die to the things that cause me to be self-centered and be renewed by a Christ-centered focus today. Into darkness you were born and into darkness I can be a light.	25 Matthew 5:43-48 Welcome to our world, Jesus. Thank you for coming down to walk among us. Through your birth, God has become flesh and bridged the divide that separated us. Let us come to you, see you, hear you, know you, worship you. Emmanuel, God With Us!	26 Psalm 16:7-11 Oh Lord, I bless you today! I am glad in my soul, and my body is at peace resting in you. You have paved the way of life for each and every one of us. You have given us the gift of eternal life with you forever. I praise you!	27 Psalm 107:1-8 God, today I praise you for your great love and for all the wonderful things you have done. I am especially thankful today for Jesus. We have just celebrated his birth and rejoice that He is your plan for salvation! Thank you for saving us.	28 Colossians 3:12-17 Lord, today as I ready myself to go out about my life, help me ready my heart as well. I am grateful to be your child. I want to live like I belong to you. Today I cultivate tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and forgiveness, so that peace will be the message of my day.	29 Jeremiah 29:10-14 God, these words from the book of Jeremiah are words about the future. Here, toward the end of the year, I am clinging to these words of promise for the Israelites as words for me. I thank you for the way you have been with me this year, and I have deep hope for the year ahead.

Join us for **Sunday Worship During Advent**

Praise Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 11:00 am

Advent Sermon Series: The Gift of the Advent Wreath



The First Gift...**HOPE**

Sunday, December 2

Advent Wreath Making between services

The Second Gift...**PEACE**

Sunday, December 9

The Third Gift...**LOVE**

Sunday, December 16

The Fourth Gift...**JOY**

Sunday, December 23

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

The Gift of **CHRIST**

Congregational Cantata

Monday, December 24

Family Friendly Service 5:00 pm

Traditional Service 7:00 pm

Some Simple Things to Pray For During Advent:

1. Pray for attentiveness to what truly matters, without being distracted by trivial things.
2. Pray for opportunities to learn something new regularly.
3. Pray for discernment of how God would like you to set your priorities and the ability to focus on them consistently to fulfill His purposes in your life.
4. Pray for the grace to be able to rest, become aware of God's presence, and enjoy it.
5. Pray for strong relationships with other people in the bond of loving community.
6. Pray for peace in all situations, no matter what the circumstances.
7. Pray for an enlivened imagination that helps you contribute to the world in creative ways.
8. Pray for freedom from all that burdens you - past mistakes, fears, destructive habits, hurts other people have inflicted, and more.
9. Pray for joy and a sense of humor.
10. Pray for confidence in God's love for you and trust in His power to work things out for the best in your life.
11. Pray for a clear mind and the ability to clearly communicate what you value to others.
12. Pray for purity so you can grow as a person and encounter God more fully.
13. Pray for openness to the Holy Spirit's guidance.
14. Pray for a genuine awareness of God's grace in your life and the humility to extend grace to others.
15. Pray for a passion to pursue justice.

~ Edited from Whitney Hople's "[Pray for Simplicity this Advent](#)"



Adult Sunday
School



Class at 9:45am

Our Love For God, the title of this quarter's studies, can be a rather humbling subject. While the Lord's love is "everlasting" (Jeremiah 31:3), ours is inconsistent and "never-lasting". Still, the command to love God is, as Jesus stated, "the first and greatest commandment" (Matthew 22:36-38). Lessons this quarter are drawn from both the Old and New Testament, since loving God is seen throughout Scripture as humanity's principle response to God. It is only fitting that this quarter begins by studying the passage where the original command to love God is found: Deuteronomy 6:4-5. The Israelites were preparing to enter the land promised to them by God when Moses spoke his farewell address that makes up the book of Deuteronomy. Joshua spoke his own farewell address to the Israelites who had entered the land and triumphed over the residents there. He challenged God's people to discard any gods that remained among them, and he made his own choice unmistakably clear: "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

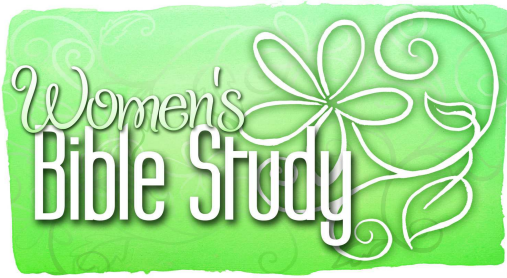
Lesson three is taken from the book of Psalms, the collection of songs that express God's love for us and our reciprocal love for him. Psalm 103 encourages us not to forget the Lord's abundant blessings.

Our love for God takes on a whole new meaning when we come to the New Testament. And why shouldn't it? Here we see, as did Simeon, the salvation brought about by the Lord's Messiah (Luke 2:26, 30). This is the focus of lesson 4, which falls on the Sunday before Christmas Day. Lesson five, the final study of the year, challenges us to love God in a manner befitting such a marvelous gift - by calling us to loving acts that demonstrate our love of Jesus.

We would love to have you join us as we study these lessons! We meet downstairs in the social room.



Each Monday, at 1:00pm in Pastor Sherri's office we meet and study the Bible. Join us and bring a friend.



Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study

The Thursday morning Bible study group continues to meet and the next study will be decided soon.

Join us as we explore the



Bible Studies



On Mondays at 11:00am Pastor Sherri leads a Bible Study at The Meadows Assisted Living facility. The ladies love devotion books.

If you have any devotion books, especially large print that you would like to donate to The Meadows, please bring them to the church.



**TO ALL LADIES OF THE
CHURCH!!**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
ANNUAL UNITED METHODIST
WOMEN CHRISTMAS
FELLOWSHIP**

**Tuesday December 11, 2018
7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall**

Come to prepare yourself in this Advent season with a taste of Christmas goodies, fellowship, inspirational thoughts and sharing.

Reserve your seat at the table by letting Dee Haines, Maria Novick, Candy McConchie or Jean Knill know that you will be there.

Blessings and Merry Christmas



December 2018

Taylorsville United Methodist Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:00 am Men's Breakfast
2 9:00 am Contemporary Service 9:50-10:50 am Advent Wreath Making 11:00 am Traditional Service	3 11:00 am Bible Study @ The Meadows 1:00 pm Bible Study	4 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	5	6 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm A Stitch And A Prayer		
9 Bring A Friend to Church 9:00 am Contemporary Service 9:50-10:50 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service	10 11:00 am Bible Study @ The Meadows 1:00 pm Bible Study	11 7:00 pm UMW Christmas Fellowship	12	13 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm A Stitch And A Prayer NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	14	15 2:00 pm Blue Christ- mas Service
16 9:00 am Contemporary Service 9:50-10:50 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service	17 11am Bible Study @ The Meadows 1:00 pm Bible Study	18	19	20 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm A Stitch And A Prayer	21	22
23 9:00 am Contemporary Service 9:50-10:050 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service	24 5:00 pm Family Friendly Service 7:00 pm Traditional Service Church Office Closed	25 Merry Christmas Church Office Closed	26 Church Office Closed	27 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm A Stitch And A Prayer Church Office Closed	28	29
30 9:00 am Contemporary Service 9:50-10:50 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service	31					Office Hours M, W, T 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Bazaar News

A big **THANK YOU!** goes out to all the many helping hands on the day of the bazaar and including those who helped months before and days after for cleanup. We should all be proud of the results of our hard work. Listed below is an "almost final listing" of each area.

Kitchen	\$ 4,551.00
Bake Table	955.50
Crafts	2,000.25
Re-Gifting	3,054.89
Fleas	138.57
Total	\$10,700.21

Thank you everyone for all your donations, precious time and hard work!

Blessings
Sue Leppert



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You TUMC!! This year we collected **34** shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse!! Each box will be a blessing to so many people as it makes its journey to it's final destination.



You are cordially invited to the home of Gary Cox, Elsie Cox and Pastor Sherri on Sunday, December 16th at 2:00 pm. Light refreshments and desserts will be served. Come and enjoy fellowship with fellow members during this season of joy. Directions will be provided soon.



Church family, I am so excited to announce the first meeting for a senior ministry. We haven't given it a name yet, so please be thinking about it for our meeting in January. The date has yet to be determined. We will keep you updated. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm! We invite all who consider themselves seniors to join us. If you have any questions, please contact Debra Taylor at georgia_deb53@yahoo.com or Kathy Cinnamon at cinnamondspice@gmail.com.



God Bless You from "Taylorsville UMC" is a continuing ministry through out this school year. We will continue to collect tissue boxes through out the school year. Thank you for all the boxes already given to this program.



We will be collecting
**Canned Fruit &
Beans (any variety)**
in December for



Please leave items in the back
of the Sanctuary

Please let Pastor Sherri or the office know if you would be interested in participating in the event below.



November 21, 2018

Rev. Sherri Comer-Cox
Taylorsville United Methodist Church
4356 Ridge Road
Mt. Airy MD 21771

Dear Rev. Sherri Comer-Cox:

Saint Joseph Catholic Community is celebrating our 150th Jubilee. The theme of our year of celebration is "Our Journey in Christ: Remember, Celebrate and Dream." We would like to celebrate our journey of faith with you, your congregation and all the churches in the area. Please join me and the SJCC community for *Prayer for Christian Unity* on Friday, January 25, 2019 with a reception to follow.

The evening of Christian song, scripture and prayer will start at 7:00 pm. Doctor William Brown, senior pastor of Wesley Freedom Methodist Church, will be our guest preacher. It is my hope to have music contributions from other churches and to invite ministers from other churches to lead prayer and petition. My hope is that by praying together during this world-wide ecumenical event and sharing fellowship with Christians from various communities we will be renewed in our journey of faith and committed to greater dialogue and unity. It is also my hope to invite ministers from local churches to come together for a luncheon later in the new year to both be together and to raise questions we might have for one another.

I would appreciate if you'd let me know of your interest in joining us on January 25th. Any or all of the following would be helpful: whether you hope to attend, whether you would care to be involved in the service in some way, if you have musicians who would care to participate and whether you would like some flyers to distribute to your congregation nearer the date of the service?

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Together in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Neville O'Donohue".

Reverend Neville O'Donohue, S.M.
Pastor, Saint Joseph Catholic Community

 **Taylorville
United Methodist Church**
Church Phone: 410-875-4101
Email: taylorvilleumc@comcast.net

Our Mission of Purpose

We of Taylorville UMC are a community of faith who believe in Jesus Christ and who value Bible study, prayer, mission and growing in discipleship. We will connect with our unchurched neighbors through small groups that present opportunities to share our faith and worship God together.

We're on the Web!
www.taylorvilleumc.org



To unsubscribe or to receive this through e-mail please call the church office at 410-875-4101 or e-mail taylorvilleumc@comcast.net

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4356 Ridge Road
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED