

December 2025

THE GOOD WORD

Taylorsville United Methodist Church
4356 Ridge Road, Mount Airy, Maryland 21771

www.taylorsvilleumc.org

Joshua Gillen, Pastor

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Where has the year gone? It seems like we blinked and it's already December. It doesn't help that some of my neighbors started hanging lights and yard ornaments the day after Halloween. The early approach of Christmas festivities seems to come sooner every year. Never mind that we are in the season of Advent. Most people don't really think about Advent. They want to get to the feeling that Christmas gives us quickly. But Advent is a season of waiting and anticipation. The build-up to Christmas is gradual as we journey with the scriptures' anticipation of God's action, arriving at an unexpected place. A small, unlikely family and the birth of a child with so much promise and hope. A gift that is still a promise of what God will do, realized in the life of one Child.

We are often in such a hurry to get to the main event that we forget that good things really do come to those who are patient. What do we seek in the birth of the Christ child? Not toys and trinkets, not tinsel and lights, but the promises of God for peace and goodwill to all God's friends on earth below. May you grow this year to anticipate the life of Christ as a Gift that reveals itself all year long, as long as you keep opening yourself to the Grace of God. Bless you all and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

There are a few opportunities to gather this season outside our regular worship and events.

Taylorsville choir will be performing its cantata service on December 21st, and we hope to take it and share it with Zion this year as well. May the ministry of music bless both our churches this year. Another opportunity to invite others is the Christmas Open House on Sunday, December 14th from 1:00-3:00PM.

The Hub has two events happening soon at **St. Paul UMC, 200 Main St, New Windsor.**

December 7th, 3:00PM Hub Choir performance

Members of the local hub churches have been rehearsing a Christmas cantata. Come out to hear some beautiful Christmas music in a worshipful space. Please support the work of so many talented people, some from our churches.

December 14th, 3:00PM Blue Christmas

A blue Christmas service is a service for anyone who experiences seasonal depression or grief after the loss of a loved one. The holidays can be challenging for anyone, but when we experience loss, it can be particularly challenging. Please consider attending if you feel those same challenges, or if not, would like to help with a reading or be a supportive presence. Let Pastor Josh know if you would like to assist.

Pastor Josh



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Jeff Taylor	19 Luca Brodbeck
4 Sandy Macha-Wright	19 Maria Novick
9 Asher Sheahan	27 Logan Smith Wagner
11 Christina Leyh	30 Teresa Leyh
12 Debra Taylor	31 Sharon Iden
16 Sandi Mennerick	

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed in the Newsletter, please let the office know.

MT. AIRY NET



December Needs:

**Cereal, Pancake Mix,
Syrup, Soups, Canned
Vegetables, Soap, Shampoo**

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS/GREETERS

December - Earl & Sandy Wright

READER

December - Steve Iden

Let Office know if you can help

**January
2026**

**Deadline is:
December
23rd**



**Men's Breakfast ~ All Men
Are Welcome**



**Saturday, December 6 - 9AM
Bob Evans
206 Malcolm Dr., Westminster, MD**

United Women of Faith



Thursday, December 11, 6:00PM

All Women are Invited to Attend ~ RSVP to Dee

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- John's friend, Sam has terminal brain tumor
 - Family of Missy Smoot who passed away
 - Prayers for Jen & family, her mother passed away
 - Audrey's surgery at Nemours Hospital, FL on December 9th
 - Debra Gillen - weak from treatments
 - Sue Leppert's Uncle Dale, is recovering from infection, needs continued prayers
 - Sue's friend, Bobby received some relief from neck pain
 - Pray for our democracy, government and leaders
 - Pray for those without jobs
 - Helen Shepherd needs prayers - having blood work for issues
 - Cindy Watts needs prayer-health issues
 - People with colds, flu and Covid
 - Bob Gillen - skin cancer treatments, Dr. appts.
 - Vivian's friend, Barb Conaway has cancer
 - Cindy's Harris' friend, Phil Anderson-liver cancer
 - Pray we keep God as our focus in all we do
 - Pray for our military
 - Pray for country, leadership, democracy
 - Chris has improved pain & functioning
 - Persons that suffer with seasonal depression
 - Joe Martin-needs prayers
 - COVID, pray for people who have it & suffer
 - Pray for the homeless near and far
 - Those grieving the loss of loved ones
 - Taylorsville UMC & the United Meth. Church
 - Pray for our World, Peace, Enemies
 - For those in assisted living facilities, and employees.
- Our member in assisted living is Betty Carey-Lorien, Taneytown

**Joys**

- Advent
- Christmas activities
- Chris's cousin returned from overseas to extend her enlistment in Navy

Prayers for Service Persons

Austin Flagler (Coast Guard)
Sean Grimes (U S Navy-Tampa)

Thank you for your service!!

We want to keep our prayer list as up to date as possible. Please let the office know if there is a prayer request that we have missed or one we need to take off the list. Thank you for your help with this.

Scripture Readings and Sermon Titles**December****December 7, 2025****Second Sunday of Advent, Communion**

Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon Title: "Arrival: Bold Pronouncements"

December 14, 2025**Third Sunday of Advent**

James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon Title: "Arrival: Patience"

December 21, 2025**Fourth Sunday of Advent, Cantata**

Isaiah 7:10-16, Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon Title: "Arrival: Ask for a Sign"

December 24, 2025**Christmas Eve, Candles**

Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-20

Sermon Title: "What Have We Waited For?"

December 28, 2025**First Sunday After Christmas**

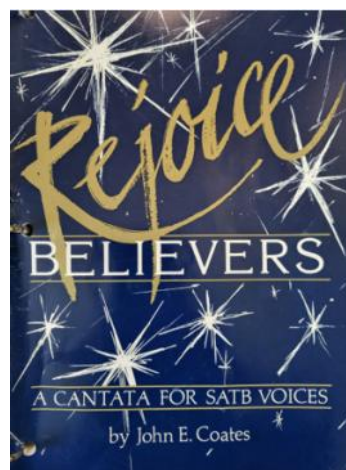
Psalms 148, Matthew 2:13-23

Sermon Title: "Grace Vs Cruelty"

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday, December 21, 2025

9:45a.m. – Cantata



Wednesday, December 24, 2025 ~ 7:30p.m.

Candlelight Service

BAZAAR 2025 from Sue

A “**BIG**” Thank You goes out to everyone who pitched in to make our bazaar this year a great success. The current balance made to date is **\$12,230.88!!!**

We saw neighbors, members, friends, relatives and some repeat faces from years past.

Thanks to all!



Mission Team

Again this year the Christmas tree will be on the back table. Take an envelope to make a donation to support Missions near and far.



Christmas Happenings from Gail

Decorating The Church: Please help me to decorate the church. I will be decorating the 3 Christmas trees on December 2nd, around 9:00am.

Flowers: This year, I'm inviting everyone to bring flowers to decorate the altar. I can work with any plant, not just poinsettias. Please bring them by **December 13th** and place them in the kitchen.

Happy Birthday Jesus: **December 28th**, we will celebrate Jesus's Birthday after the service. Please bring 6-12 of your favorite cookies to share. Drinks will be provided.



Advent Poem

O Lord,
let Advent begin again
in us, not merely in commercials;
for that first Christmas was not
simply for children,
but for the wise and the strong.
It was crowded around that cradle,
with kings kneeling.

Speak to us
who seek an adult seat this year.
Help us to realize,
as we fill stockings,
Christmas is mainly
for the old folks —
bent backs and tired eyes
need relief and light
a little more.

No wonder it was grown-ups
who were the first to notice such a star.

~ written by David A. Redding, in *If I Could Pray Again* (1965).

Adult Sunday School Class in Basement Fellowship Hall ~ 8:45 a.m. Contact: Dee

The lessons for December invite us to meditate on the fundamental beliefs of the Christian faith. This study will show us that God has revealed his grace and mercy. As a result, God's people are called to live by his standard – a standard that is often countercultural.

We begin as we study the Trinitarian God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – whom we know through Scripture's revelation. Scripture recounts how God's people can know him and live faithfully through faith in Christ Jesus.

Through various word images, Scripture conveys characteristics of God and reveals aspects of our relationship with him – he is our caring Heavenly Father, the Shepherd who seeks lost sheep, and our advocate or comforter.

We meet at 8:45 on Sunday mornings. We invite you to join us.



Fill the Truck for Mt. Airy Net on Giving Tuesday

Donate nonperishable food and personal care items which will be given to Mt. Airy Net. Help us fill the truck which will be parked at the church on **Tuesday, December 2.**

7:00AM TO 5:30PM

Taylorsville UM Church-Parking Lot



Collecting non-perishable items such as:

Tea Bags, Coffee, Cereals, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Soups, Rice, Pasta, Macaroni, Canned: Meats, Fruits & Vegetables, Beans, Shampoo, Toothbrush & Toothpaste, Deodorant, Conditioner, Body Wash, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Wipes

Wreaths Across America Service

At Taylorsville on December 13th at Noon

**All are invited to this service to honor the Veterans
buried in Taylorsville Cemetery.**



Christmas Open House



at

Taylorsville United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 14, 2025

1:00 ~ 3:00 pm

Join us for a Christmas spirit filled afternoon!

★ Christmas crafts for kids ★ Christmas carols ★ Snacks

★ Visit with Santa (feel free to take a family photo)

**Kids of ALL ages (adults & children) are welcome to
join us for Fellowship, Food & Fun**





DECEMBER 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1		2 7:00AM-5:30PM Fill the Truck 6:00PM - Advent Bible Study	3 6:30PM Choir	4	5 6:00-7:30PM Kids Baking Class	6 9:00AM Men's Breakfast
7 Communion 2nd Sunday Advent 8:45AM Sun. School 9:45AM Worship- Facebook live/website	8	9 6:00PM - Advent Bible Study	10 6:30PM Choir	11 6:00PM UWIF Christmas Party	12	13
14 Mission Sunday 3rd Sunday Advent 8:45AM Sun. School 9:45AM Worship- Facebook live/website 1-3PM Open House 3PM-Blue Christmas	15	16 6:00PM - Advent Bible Study	17 6:30PM Choir	18	19	20
21 TUMC Cantata 4th Sunday Advent 8:45AM Sun. School 9:45AM Worship- Facebook live/website	22	23 6:00PM - Advent Bible Study ? Newsletter Deadline	24 7:30PM Christmas Eve Service	25 	26	27
28 Happy Birthday Jesus! 8:45AM Sun. School 9:45AM Worship- Facebook live/website Cookies after service	29	30	31		Hub Activities: Dec. 5-5 to 7PM- Linganore UMC- Pancake Supper	Dec. 7-Hub Choir 3PM-St. Paul UMC, 200 Main St, New Windsor



**Taylorsville
United Methodist Church**

Church Phone: 410-875-4101
Email: taylorsvilleumcmd@gmail.com

Our Mission of Purpose

**We seek to faithfully display God's
love through our actions toward
everyone in our community.**

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



**HOPE TO SEE YOU IN
CHURCH THIS MONTH**

To unsubscribe or to receive this through e-mail please call the church office at 410-875-4101 or e-mail taylorsvilleumcmd@gmail.com

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