

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



NEW MARKET UMC HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

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newmarketumc.com



PASTOR'S NOTE

Hello Darkness, I Have a Friend

It is time again to turn back time. Let the debate begin: why in the world can we not settle on one time for all the time? I am a full proponent of an extra hour of sleep. I am a full opponent of darkness at 5pm. The turning back of our clocks reminds us of many things. The beauty and color of the Fall days will gradually diminish as we head into the winter season. This is a stark reminder that our youth is fleeting and that eventually, (hopefully), we will enter the fall to winter season of our lives. The truth is, we cannot guarantee that we will reach our winter season. This should give us pause to take a deeper look at the way we structure our lives, the things that we apply our time to, what we value, and why. No matter how long the light in a day is, it continues to be a gift. In Ephesians 5:11-16, Paul gives us solid advice. **“Don’t waste your time on useless work, mere busywork, the barren pursuits of darkness. Expose these things for the sham they are. So, watch your step. Use your head. Make the most of every chance you get.”**

The Cher song, “If I Could Turn Back Time,” comes to mind as I am writing this. If I could turn back time, what would I change? The reality is that I cannot change anything of the past, but I believe it is a good barometer of how I can make better use of the future. Relationships and community, I believe, are the foundation of abundant living. As we head into Thanksgiving and rush headlong into Christmas, I want to remind myself to be intentionally mindful of my relationship with God, my family, my friends, and the church that I serve. Am I applying myself fully to this valuable community? And if not, how can I change from my nominal involvement to Christ-like involvement? How can I make this community (God, family, friends, and church) a priority in my life? I will strive to intentionally dedicate my time, gifts, service, and love to this community. I invite all of you to join me in this endeavor.

There is a tremendous amount of darkness in the world; be the light. We are moving into colder months; be warm. We are moving into a contentious election season; be the kindness, be the peace, and be the non-anxious presence of Christ with all you meet. Paul also gives us a command, not advice, in Ephesians 5:21: **“Out of respect for Christ, be courteously reverent to one another.”** The approaching season serves as a reminder of numerous things: the end of harvest season, the recognition of giving thanks, the lighting of firesides, the singing of carols, and the celebration of the light entering the world. Let’s give that light all the opportunity to shine in the darkness and bring hope to all we meet.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

November 3- Sermon Topic: Jeremiah-All Saints- **COMMUNION SUNDAY**

November 10- Sermon Topic: Ezekiel/Daniel

November 17- Sermon Topic: Hosea/Joel/Amos/Obadiah/Micah/Nahum

November 24- Sermon Topic:

Habakkuk/Zephaniah/Haggai/Zechariah/Malachi

December 3- Sermon Topic: Preparation- Jeremiah 33: 14-16, Luke 21: 25-38

December 8- Sermon Topic: Passion- Malachi 3: 1-4, Luke 3: 1-6

December 15- Children's Pageant: "Backwards Pageant"

December 22- Sermon Topic: Promise- Micah 5: 2-5a, Luke 1: 46-55

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

December 24- Sermon Topic: Last Month of the Year

- Isaiah 8: 20-22, 9: 1-7, Luke 2: 1-20

3pm- Children's Candlelight

6 and 8 PM- Traditional Candlelight

FAIRVIEW CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5 PM- Rev. Paul Leatherman

7 PM- Rev's John and Mary Chaney

9 PM- Rev.'s Mary and Joun Chaney

11 PM- Rev. Jeff Childs

December 29- Sermon Topic: Left Behind-

Colossians 3: 12-17, Luke 2: 12-17



Coming Up:

Capital Campaign Generosity Meeting:
November 7 | 10:00 AM | Pastor's office

World Thank Offering: November 9 | 10 AM |
Schoolhouse

Capital Campaign Generosity Meeting:
November 11 | 6:00 PM | Pastor's office

Circle of Friends & LIFT: November 17 | 12 PM |
Schoolhouse

Godspell the Musical with the Youth: Nov.
23 | 7 PM | Oakdale High School

Christmas in New Market | Dec. 7 | 1:00 PM |
Schoolhouse and Church grounds

Sunday School Christmas Pageant | Dec. 15
| 9:30 and 11:00 AM | Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Services: December 24 | 3
PM, 6 PM and 8 PM | Sanctuary

Every Month

Men's Breakfast: 8:00 AM | Burger King in
New Market (Dec 7)

Circle of Friends: 12:30 PM | Schoolhouse
(Dec 10)

Hope4Kids Packing: 6:00 PM |
Schoolhouse (November 12, December 10)

SPRC: 3:00 PM | Ed. Building
(November 12, December 10)

Stephen Ministry Supervisory Meeting:
7:00 PM | ED Building (November 12, Dec. 10)

LIFT: 12:00 PM | Schoolhouse (Dec 15)

Every Month cont.

Full Council: 7:00 PM |
Ed. Building (Nov 19, Dec 17)

Trustees: 6:00 PM |
Ed. Building (Nov 5, Dec 3)

Finance: 7:00 PM | Zoom
(Nov. 25, Dec 30)

Every Week:

Sunday School | 9:30AM | Ed.
Building and Schoolhouse

Scripture to Life Bible Study |
Tuesdays | 10 AM | Sanctuary
(No Meeting on December 24
or 31)

Bible Study | Wednesdays |
7 PM | Zoom (No meeting on
Nov 27 or December 25)

11 AM Choir Practice |
Thursdays | 6:45PM |
Sanctuary

Disciple Bible Study |
Saturdays | 10 AM | Ed. Building



A LITTLE MORE INFORMATION

FELLOWSHIP 2025

Activities for 2024 (Shrove Tuesday Dinner, spaghetti dinner, 5th Sunday potlucks, lasagna dinner, and refreshments for new member receptions) were well-received. Some committee members also assisted with the Medellin fundraiser that was chaired by John Powell. Due to inclement weather, the ice cream social scheduled as a concluding VBS activity did not occur.

A special thanks to the committee members (Charlene Bishop, Alice Crutchley, Jane Garner, Linda Kornreich, Melinda McCollum, Cindy Naugle, Linda New, Elaine Nicholls, Krista Romagnoli, Carole Zimmerman) and all the others who assisted with these activities – either by helping with prep/set up/clean up, donating bake table items, providing food for potlucks – and, of course, those of you who attended these activities.

The Fellowship Committee is looking forward to providing additional opportunities for fellowship and food in the coming year. We hope you will join us in 2025!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY 2024 ADVENT STUDY: “FAITHFUL: CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE EYES OF JOSEPH BY ADAM HAMILTON

FROM WED. NOV. 20 2024 TO WED. DEC. 18, 2024 | 7-8PM

(ADVENT STUDY IS STARTING EARLY, DUE TO HOLIDAY SCHEDULE)

FACILITATOR: PATTY ROBINSON

From his beginnings as a humble carpenter to his all-important role as the earthly father of Jesus Christ, Joseph's place in the nativity story is sometimes overlooked but contains valuable lessons for all of us. Absent from much of the biblical narrative, Joseph never spoke a word, but his courageous actions were crucial to the birth of Christ and God's salvation plan for humanity. As you read this book, you will understand how Joseph's story is much like our own. In life, we encounter circumstances that we would never have chosen for ourselves. At times it can be tempting just to walk away. Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we do not understand and faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides. Exchange your doubt for courage this Advent and Christmas season.

The church has ordered 10 books. The signup sheet will be in the back of the sanctuary beginning November 3rd. When you sign up, please take a book, note if you want to purchase a book - optional (\$12.00). The books are available for free. Please come join us.

[Faithful By Adam Hamilton Promo](#)

A LITTLE MORE INFORMATION

VAL (VISUALIZING ABUNDANT LIFE)

The VAL (Visualizing Abundant Life) Team has very exciting news to share with the congregation. The exterior rendering of the proposed new addition to the Education Building will be revealed between the 9:30 and 11:00 AM services on Sunday, November 24th. We invite you to structure your day so that you can either stay after the first service or come early to the later service. The presentation, led by the VAL team chair, Shawn Benjaminson, will start at 10:30 and conclude at 11:00.

The team has worked exceedingly hard for the last 4 years, exhausting every viable possibility that was available to us, and this is a result of their diligent work. There will be more tangible information shared in the future as the project moves forward. The team believes that the project is starting to pick up the pace and it is important to invite the congregation to begin visualizing the new ministry space and generate excitement on where God is leading NMUMC to expand the Kingdom of God in the New Market area.

VAL Team Vision Scripture John 10:10

Then Jesus said to them again,

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

As the Advent season quickly draws near, it is easy to feel anxiety about all the upcoming festive preparations, but Advent is a season for reflection as well as preparation. Let us stay grounded this season as we prepare with I Believe—The Society of St. Andrew's seasonal devotional booklet.

This year's theme is a reminder to us all as we prepare for the celebration of the coming of the Christ child that we reflect and know why we believe. Why, you ask? So, we can share our beliefs and faith stories with others. As we embark on this busy yet reflective season, may we be brimming with the faith, trust, and understanding that only God can provide.

Twenty-five daily devotions—all new for 2024—include the stories and experiences of people of faith, both pastors and laypersons, from all walks of life, sharing why they believe. As an annual fundraiser, these free Advent resources, used by hundreds of congregations of all denominations across the United States, provide a powerful opportunity for your congregation to feed their spiritual hunger and to support The Society of St. Andrew's feeding ministries, showing Jesus' concern for the least, the last, and the lost.

You can pick up your copy in the rear of the sanctuary. There will be no daily devotionals during the season of Advent.

A LITTLE MORE INFORMATION

WINTER WEATHER POLICY

All scheduled in-person activities, including church meetings, events, and office hours during the weekday, will automatically cancel if schools close for the day or have an early dismissal due to inclement weather.

During the weekend, all activity and service cancellations will be posted by 8 AM via the following venues. We will send out a church-wide email with information, or you can visit our church website (www.newmarketumc.com) and find the information at the top of the page.

If you are not connected to the internet, please inform our church office, and you will receive a call if there is a cancellation.

FRESH START SERVICE

Come join Pastor Scott Clawson and/or Pastor Patty Robinson at 8:15 AM every Sunday for our 30-minute service with acoustic guitar music, sketching prayers, and communion.

Fairview Chapel
6802 Boyers Mill Rd. New Market, MD
21774

CHRISTMAS IN NEW MARKET PARADE AND LIVE NATIVITY | DEC 7TH

1 PM: The parade is the same route as last year. We ask that Sunday School and preschool parents park in the Fosset lot at church (grass area across from main parking lot); signage will be provided. Parents should park by 12:00, and the wagons will promptly depart from the lot at 12:30 pm.

1:30-4:00 PM: Mrs. Clause Story Time, Craft Time, and Baked Goods Sale—Schoolhouse.

4-6 PM: Live Nativity | New Market Park—Everyone is invited to meet Pastor Scott at the church to costume up for the live nativity at 4:00 PM. You are invited to bring your furry friends to join in the nativity as well!

(Donations for the bake and white elephant sale should be brought to the Schoolhouse on Friday, December 6th, from 10 AM until the afternoon or Saturday, December 7th, from 9-11:30 AM in the Ed Building kitchen. Bag cookies (6 per bag) and brownies (3 per bag). Be sure to note if baked goods contain nuts or peanut butter.

JESSE TREE

We will be providing Jesse Tree gifts to local families again this Christmas. Tags describing the family's needs will be available on the tree the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Pick up a tag from the nearby Jesse Tree and return the listed item, unwrapped, with the tag attached, by December 8th.