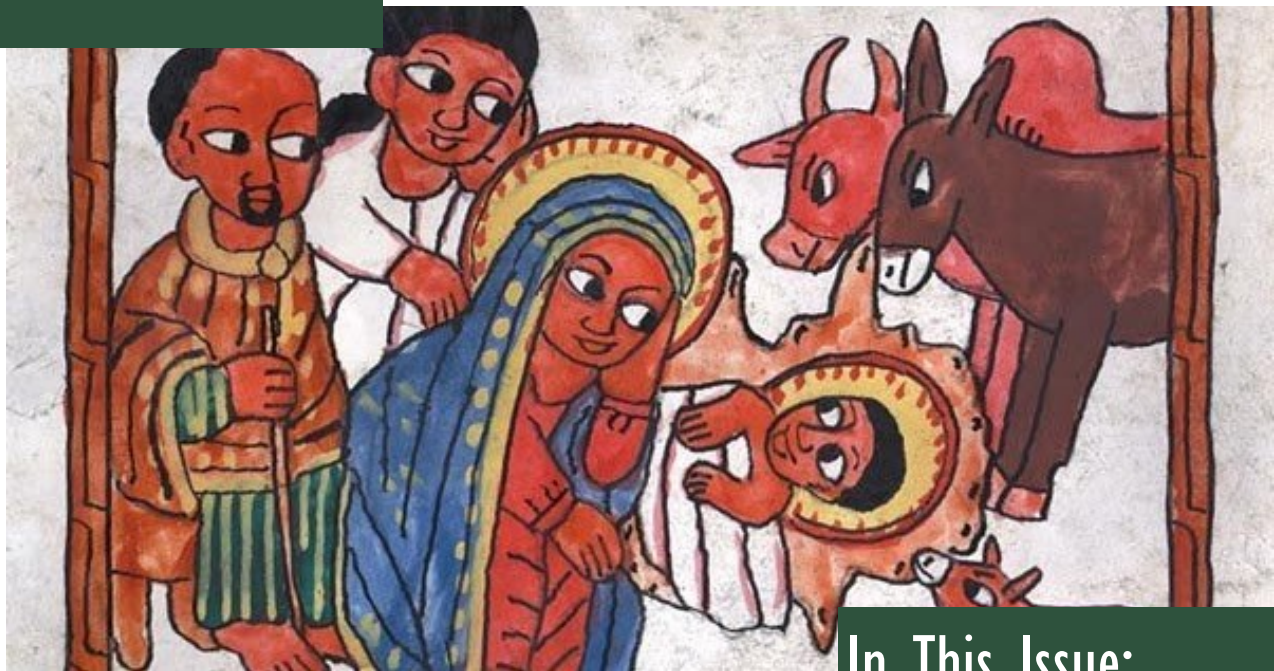


RENEW

Official Newsletter of Church of the Master



A Letter from Pastor Jay By Rev. Jay Anderson

As I write this letter we are about to celebrate Thanksgiving and are putting together the final touches on worship for the First Sunday in Advent, which will have passed as you read this. Life goes on, the wheels keep turning, change comes... these are among the words, the ideas, (the cliches?) that often come to mind as we approach the end of the year, whether that's the liturgical year or the calendar year.

We spent a lot of time this summer exploring what was going on in the life of the United Methodist Church around issues of the Bible and sexuality, and how that was playing out with disaffiliations in the denomination. To that end, I want to use this space this month to keep you up to date on what is going on within the denomination around these issues. This past week your clergy and Lay Members to Annual Conference met in a special called session of the West Ohio Annual Conference, in order to deal with issues of disaffiliation from the denomination by both clergy and congregations. Clergy seeking to disaffiliate were handled in a Clergy Session held prior to the broader Annual Conference session. I am not going to list here the names of those clergy who have chosen to leave the denomination, but rest assured that that number did not include any current or former Church of the Master clergy persons. Disaffiliation for clergy is a two-step process: first they must "retire" from the denomination. That allows them to keep accrued pension benefits as a retiree. Next...

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if they plan on moving to the Global Methodist Church, they must then “withdraw” their membership from the denomination, as United Methodist clergy cannot hold membership in two denominations at the same time. Those who are retiring are doing so as of December 31, 2022. Those who are moving to the GMC, or any other denomination for that matter, have “withdrawal” dates of January 1, 2023. Since the GMC has stated they will only accept transfers of clergy who have a church in which to serve, for those clergy who intend to leave but do not have a church to serve in the new denomination as of yet, a withdrawal date has not been set.

For congregations who have voted to disaffiliate, assuming they pay their outstanding apportionments and pension obligations for this year and last year, their disaffiliation date is also December 31, 2022. For a congregation to disaffiliate requires going through an extensive education and discernment process, followed by a 2/3 vote of the membership at a called church conference. So far this year, 80 churches (out of 960, approximately 8%) within the West Ohio Annual Conference have voted to leave the denomination. Four other churches held votes but failed to get the required 2/3 margin. In one case, the vote was actually 2/3 in favor of remaining in the UMC! Assuming those churches meet those financial obligations, they will leave the denomination at the end of the year. I have included a list of disaffiliating churches at the end of this article for your information.

For those churches and clergy who have chosen to leave our beloved UMC we wish them the best and send them off with our prayers. For those of us who remain, however, our work of sharing the love of Jesus Christ with and for all people grows ever more important. We have the opportunity, even the responsibility to, as the song suggests, “show we are Christians by our love.” How we love our neighbor is how we love our God. Let us go forward into the new year as a new version of the United Methodist Church, freed from the angst of decades of bitter debate, ready to love God and love our neighbors with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind.

May you have a wonderfully loving Advent and Christmas Season,

Pastor Jay

CAPITOL AREA NORTH

CALDWELL MEMORIAL
HUNTSVILLE
MARYSVILLE FIRST
MIDDLEBURG
PLAIN CITY
RAYMOND
RIVERSIDE COLUMBUS

CAPITOL AREA SOUTH

COMMERCIAL POINT
PLEASANT VIEW (NEWARK)
REYNOLDSBURG
SCIOTO CHAPEL

FOOTHILLS DISTRICT

ALBANY
BETHANY (RACINE)
CARMEL-SUTTON
EBENEZER (MUSKINGUM CO)
GALLIPOLIS CHRIST
KLINE MEMORIAL
MORNING STAR
PLEASANT HILL (HOCKING CO)
UNION (HOCKING CO)

MAUMEE WATERSHED DISTRICT

CHURCH OF THE CROSS
GIBSONBURG
LIBERTY CHAPEL
PERRYSBURG GRACE

MIAMI VALLEY DISTRICT

ARCANUM TRINITY
GERMANTOWN
GRAFTON
GREENVILLE EVANGELICAL
HOPE CENTERVILLE
MCKENDREE
MEDWAY
NEW HOPE (PREBLE CO)
PEMBERTON
PORT WILLIAM
ROSEWOOD
ROSSBURG
SIDNEY FIRST
SPRING VALLEY
STILLWATER
SUGAR VALLEY
TIPP CITY
UNION CITY EVANGELICAL
WEST ELKTON

OHIO RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT

AMELIA
ANDERSON HILLS
BETHANY
BUTLERVILLE
GOSHEN
MAINEVILLE
RICHLAND (CLINTON CO)
UNION CHAPEL
WESTBORO

NORTHWEST PLAINS DISTRICT

ANTWERP
BENTON RIDGE GOOD SHEPHERD
BETHANY (CELINA)
COLUMBUS GROVE SAINT JOHN'S
CRAWFORD
ELIDA IMMANUEL
GRANT
NORTH UNION
TRINITY EVANGELICAL
TRINITY VAN WERT
WALNUT GROVE (AUGLAIZE CO)
WALNUT GROVE (HARDIN CO)
WAPAKONETA FIRST
WEST INDEPENDENCE
WESTMINSTER

SHAWNEE VALLEY DISTRICT

BEAVER EMMANUEL
BETHEL (SCIOTO CO)
CHRIST JACKSON
EAST MONROE
EMMANUEL LUCASVILLE
GOOD HOPE
HILLSBORO
LEESBURG
MAPLE GROVE
MCCOLM CHAPEL
MT NEBO
SONNERS CHAPEL
WESLEY JACKSON COUNTY

Children's Ministry Newsletter

December 2022



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, Dec 4th: Family Worship at 11AM

All children remain in the Sanctuary to share in the traditional liturgy and hymns, and to receive Communion. (Nursery care is available.)

Sunday, Dec 11th: Advent Handbell Concert at 2:30

This concert is the next in our Sylvia Vance Concert Series, and will include our Children's Chimes performing with the "grown-up" Handbell Choir - If your child is a Chime ringer, please plan to attend!

Thursday, Dec 15th: Christmas Eve Run-through at 7pm

All 1st-6th graders with special jobs (readers/actors, etc.) during the 5pm Family Christmas Eve service will need to practice immediately following M&Ms on 12/15.

No M&Ms 12/22, 12/29, or 1/5: Enjoy your break!

Saturday, December 24th: Christmas Eve, Family Worship at 5pm!

We are planning for our traditional Family Christmas Eve service, led by our children and including Chime Choir, Cherub & Junior Choir, and telling the nativity story! More details coming but plan that children may need to arrive sometime between 4-4:30 to warm-up with ensembles or get into costume.

Holiday Nursery Schedule:

During the Christmas Eve services at both 5pm and 7pm, Christmas Day worship at 10AM and New Year's Day worship at 10AM, our Nursery will be "Open Unstaffed." This means that the nursery room is open and available for your use if an adult from your family needs to retire with an infant or child for some or all of the service, but there will be no Church Staff with whom to leave your child. Contact Cindy directly with questions children@chmaster.org

2023 VBS/Daycamp will be June 20-23, (yes, Tues-Fri only) with VBS Sunday on June 25th! Please save the dates now, so that your family can participate.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

M&M's Meal Help!

We need Adult/youth volunteers each week for set-up and clean-up of dinner. Sign up here for dates December - March: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F4AADA72AABFF2-mms2>

WINTER Acolytes Needed!

We need 2nd-6th graders to fulfill this special role during the 11:00 service. Sign up for as many Sundays as you wish: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F4AADA72AABFF2-acolytes6>

VBS/Daycamp Task Force!

Do you feel strongly about the importance of our Vacation Bible School ministry outreach? Do you have fond memories of your own time as a child at Day Camp? Come lend your gifts to our Task Force, and be part of the planning and decision-making process; contact Cindy to be added to the team!

Join “Church of the Master Children’s Ministry” Facebook group!

This is a private group for parents of kids involved in our children’s ministry. We can share stories and pictures, and Miss Cindy will sometimes share ideas to help your children engage with God’s love outside of worship! www.facebook.com/groups/chmasterchildren/

ONGOING EVENTS:

Music & the Master (M&M’s)

M&Ms is a time for children and their families to grow in God’s love, emphasizing MUSIC as an act of service and of praise! Each Thursday evening, we offer activities for young people from birth through high-school, making it convenient for your whole family to participate in meaningful faith and fellowship!



M&Ms Weekly Schedule:

	0-2	3-K	G1-3	G4-6	G7-12	Parents
5:00			Chimes (6th*) Rm 20		Youth Handbells	
5:30	Cherub Choir (with parents) Fellowship Hall		Faith & Mission Rm 17	Faith & Mission U2 Rm	<i>Assist w/Cherubs, Faith & Mission or Dinner Prep</i>	Cherub Choir or Dinner Prep
6:00	Dinner in Fellowship Hall					
6:30	Nursery	Faith & Mission Rm 8	Junior Choir (6th*) Rm 15		6th Gr + Youth Activities	<i>(Dinner Clean-up)</i> Bible Study Fellowship Hall

Dewdrops, Rainbows and U2 on Sunday Mornings!

Our Sunday morning children’s church programs are offered during 11AM Worship, at which we also offer Nursery care. About 10 minutes into the service, children are invited forward to participate with the Children’s Message, then afterward, preschool through 6th graders may transition to their classrooms (see below). Or, families may choose to have children remain in Worship – children’s sounds, energy, and emotions are welcome as part of God’s joyful noise!



Class	Ages/Grades	Bible Literacy Content
Dewdrops	3 years* - Kindergarten	Children are introduced to the Bible, by being read to from a “storybook Bible” format, following the 3-year lectionary cycle.
Rainbows	Grades 1-3	Children deepen their Biblical understanding by repeating the 3-year lectionary, this time reading a “storybook Bible” for themselves, and occasionally a CEB translation bible with teacher guidance.
U2	Grades 4-6	Children begin to explore a more mature understanding of the 3-year lectionary content, by regularly engaging with a CEB translation bible, and with additional historical and social context.

*3-year-olds attending Dewdrops must be potty-trained, as we do not have appropriate facilities to address diapering needs in this classroom.

Music Notes

A heart-felt Thank You to everyone who made our first Evensong service a success. We could not have accomplished all we did without working together and the support of our congregation. We look forward to next years' service. A reminder that our next concert is our own Handbell Choirs and Ensemble. We look forward to hearing from Kim and our Ringers on December 11 at 2:30PM.

A new year means new opportunities to make music. The doors of our music ministry are always open. There is always room for more musicians, singers and ringers in our music ministry. Also, our concert series will take the winter months off and return in March. We will be announcing the Spring season shortly after the first of the year.

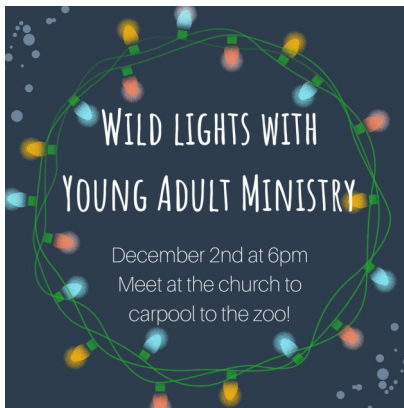
Blessings to all this Holiday Season,

Christopher



Love Offering for Pastors and Staff

During the month of December, we will be collecting an offering to show our appreciation for the ministries of our pastors and staff. Gifts may be provided during the Offering or on the Donate page of our website. Please be sure to include the designation of "Love Offering" on your payment and envelope.



Young Adult Ministry

Are you between the ages of post high school through 30 years of age? Are you looking for something new to get involved in? Come check out the young adult ministry! This new group is meeting once a month for fellowship and service projects. Our next gathering will be going to Wild Lights December 2nd. We will meet at 6 pm at the church to carpool. Join us and get to know the young adults involved at Church of the Master and the local community! If you have any questions please reach out to Taylor Hardy, tjhardy9807@gmail.com, or Bailey Ault, baault98@gmail.com.



Called to Love

Join us on Monday, December 12th at 7pm in the Sanctuary, when we'll be continuing our goal of moving from Ally-ship to Activism, by conducting a guided "Hospitality Audit" of our church. How welcoming are we *REALLY*? We hope you can be part of the conversation! Please find the notes and details of our October meeting on our website: <https://chmaster.org/called-to-love>

Generous In Every Way By: Greg Shaw

You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous in every way. Such generosity produces thanksgiving to God through us. Your ministry of this service to God's people isn't only fully meeting their needs but it is also multiplying in many expressions of thanksgiving to God.

-2 Corinthians 9:11-12 CEB



As we wrap up our 2023 Stewardship Campaign, I want to thank each of you for your generosity and continued support of the ministry and mission of Church of the Master. As we enter the homestretch of 2022, we set our eyes on planning for 2023. Your gifts enable Church of the Master to continue to serve our congregation and community in the many ways we shared with you in our Narrative Budget. We had a good turn out on Consecration Sunday. Although the weather was brisk, we enjoyed some hot beverages, courtesy of the Sunny Sips beverage trailer to celebrate your commitment and generosity.

Over the next few weeks, we will develop our spending plan for 2023. Please remember that our plans for ministry and mission are driven by our estimated financial gifts. So, if you have not returned your estimate of giving card, please prayerfully consider what you are led to give and return your cards soon. Keep in mind this is an estimate, and you can modify your giving should your circumstances change during 2023. If you have misplaced the card, please contact the church office. If it is more convenient, you may choose to directly contact Financial Secretary Bill Ruff at 614.882.2153 or finance@chmaster.org.

Wishing you Peace and Blessings this Advent and Christmas Season, and looking forward to seeing what God has in store for us in the New Year through your support of Church of the Master.

Greg Shaw,
Stewardship Chair

Caring Prayer Friends By: Rev. Jim Wagner

Intercessory prayer (praying for others) is love on its knees. When we really care about each other, we will pray for each other. A recently launched prayer ministry at Church of the Master is called: CARING PRAYER FRIENDS. These are compassionate, loving church members who set aside time to be intentional about lifting up in prayer the names of those who are brought to our attention by way of our Pastors' prayer requests and the pew prayer cards.



You can pray in the comfort of your home and at the time that is most convenient for you. How often? That is up to you. Some of us pause to pray as soon as we receive the prayer requests via the internet. Others save the email messages until later or have a note book nearby to record the name, date, and brief details. Then set aside an unhurried time daily, every few days, or at least once each week for caring prayer needs. You will not have to come to a meeting, nor will you be asked to make a report. Simply be a caring friend and pray.

Take a few moments to ponder these scriptures.

Jesus said, "Pray always and do not lose heart." -Luke 18:1

Cast all your cares on God because God cares about you. -1 Peter 5:7

Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. -Philippians 4:6

To respond to this open invitation and to receive more information, contact Rev. Jim Wagner at 614-208-0055 or wagnerjk34@gmail.com.

Advent Worship Services

Join us for our Advent & Christmas Worship Series: "Reflecting the Sacred"

The Christmas season is a time when the juxtaposition of the sacred and secular feels sometimes blatantly opposed, and sometimes quite blurred. The word "sacred" points to something dedicated as "holy" and "set apart". This year, you are invited to a spiritual journey of seeing ALL things pregnant with the Holy. What could our lived experience of the Advent and Christmas season be like if we lived it imagining that everything is reflecting the sacred?

1st Sunday in Advent

11/27/22 9 am & 11 am* Sacred Time (Hope)

2nd Sunday in Advent

12/04/22 9 am & 11 am* Sacred People (Love)

3rd Sunday in Advent

12/11/22 9 am & 11 am* Sacred Space (Joy)

4th Sunday in Advent

12/18/22 9 am & 11 am* Sacred Knowing (Peace)

Blue Christmas Service

12/21/22 7 pm Sacred Reflection

Christmas Eve Service

12/24/22 Sacred Being

5 pm Family Worship, led by the children

7 pm Traditional Lessons and Carols

Christmas Day Service

12/25/22 10 am Surprisingly Sacred

Sunday after Christmas (New Year's Day)

01/01/23 10 am Sacred Doing

*Nursery will be open and staffed for worship for 11 am worship.

Advent Events

Young Adult Ministry

12/02/22 Friday at 6pm **Wild Lights**

Meet at the church at 6pm to travel together and experience the joy of the Columbus Zoo lights!



Progressive Christmas Concert

12/09/22 Friday at 7pm Benefitting Habitat for Humanity

Experience 3 concerts in one night by traveling to 3 different churches:

Church of the Master

Church of the Messiah

First Presbyterian Church

Tickets can be purchased between worship services or online at westervillehabitatpartnership.org/events

Advent Handbell Concert

12/11/22 Sunday at 2:30pm

This is presented as part of the Sylvia Vance Memorial Concert series.



Order Poinsettias Today!



Poinsettias add to the beauty of the celebration of our Lord's birth. The flowers will adorn our Sanctuary during the Advent Season. You can also honor or memorialize someone by purchasing one or more of these 6.5" plants for \$10 each.

Please complete this order form and place it, along with your payment, in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office by December 7, 2022.

Name _____

Phone # _____ Email Address _____

I would like to purchase _____ (quantity) poinsettias.

Payment Total: \$ _____ Cash _____ Check _____

(Please print neatly.)

in Memory of _____

In Memory of _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

In Honor of _____

In Honor of _____

Please designate _____ (quantity) of mine for visitation.

Poinsettias that are not designated for visitation can be taken home after the Christmas worship service.

Questions? Contact Susan Hammond, Office Administrator, at 614-882-2153.



From the Missions and Outreach Committee:

We, as a congregation, have an opportunity for Outreach during the next couple of weeks. An older gentleman in our congregation will be moving into his own home soon and has a need for basics such as linens, towels, dishes, glasses, cleaning supplies, etc. If you would like to reach out and help, please visit our table in the back of the Narthex next to the Heifer Display. We will have a list of supplies you can choose from to help him. We will be collecting the donated items on December the 11th and 18th. Thank you for your help!

Heifer International Giving

The Missions and Outreach Committee will be having a giving table on December 4th and 11th for Heifer International in the Gathering Space. People around the world have been affected by the Covid virus and wars, which means that more people need the help that Heifer brings. We will have honor cards available at the table if you want to give in honor or memory of someone you care about. What better way to say, "You matter to me," than to give someone a gift that changes the life of a struggling family! If you have not been attending church in person, you may send your donations to Church of the Master with Heifer International in the designation line. The Missions and Outreach Committee thanks you for your gifts to the Heifer fundraiser. We hope we can raise \$5,000 so that our church can be granted an ark award.



Mitten and Sock Tree



The Missions and Outreach Committee will be sponsoring a Mitten and Sock Tree for families in need in our community. The tree will be in the Gathering Space during Advent. You can hang your donations on the tree and we will deliver them to those in need. Thanks so much for your outreach to these needy families.

Westerville Habitat Partnership: Soup for Shelter and Progressive Christmas Concert

December 9, 2022



Soup for Shelter 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Otterbein Campus Center. Your ticket includes a hand-crafted bowl made by Columbus Academy students, a bowl of soup (served in a disposable bowl), bread, cookie, and beverage. Profits from this event are used to provide materials for the annual Walls Build in August.



Progressive Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. This walking event stops for concerts at each of the three Uptown Westerville churches-Church of the Master, Church of the Messiah, and First Presbyterian Church-all within about a block of each other. Ticket holders attend a short concert in each of the three churches and are led to the next by costumed guides with lanterns. It's a great way to get into the holiday spirit, see beautifully decorated historic churches, and hear great music provided by the choirs and musicians of our five member churches.

Those needing assistance for mobility issues will have van transport between churches provided by the Church of the Messiah. The van will be available there after the first concert (at 7:30) so participants need to start their concert tour at Messiah.

Tickets can be purchased at Church of the Master starting November 6th between services at 10:00 or 11:00 or online at <https://www.westervillehabitatpartnership.org/events>

Price for Soup for Shelter tickets is: \$15

Price for the Progressive Christmas Concert is: \$10 for those 17 or older, children free or \$12 online (processing fee included)

Eat Barbeque & Support Westerville Habitat Partnership— Giving Back Never Tasted So Good!

On December 15, 2022 at City Barbeque Westerville, we'll get 20% of the proceeds from every order we bring in! Bring this flyer with you.

CITY BARBEQUE WESTERVILLE
600 South State St.



**EAT AT CITY BARBEQUE ON OUR DESIGNATED FUNDRAISER DAY
AND WE'LL GET 20% OF THE PROCEEDS!**

Ordering in person? Just show this post!

Ordering in the City BBQ app? Use coupon code **FundA** at checkout.

Ordering online at citybbq.com? Use coupon code **FundA** at checkout.

Ordering over the phone? Mention "coupon code **FundA**" at checkout.

CASHIER: FUNDRAISER A

See full terms and conditions at citybbq.com/fundraising



December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 5 pm M&Ms 5 pm Youth Handbells	2 6 pm Young Adults Meet at Church to Carpool to the Zoo for Wildlights	3
4 9 am Worship 10 am Seekers Sunday School 11am Worship+ Livestream & Nursery	5 1-3:30 pm Stephen Ministry Training 7pm Youth Group	6 9 am Tai Chi Class 10 am Staff Meeting	7 6pm Exultation Ringers 7pm Choir Rehearsal	8 5 pm M&Ms 5 pm Youth Handbells	9 7 pm Progressive Christmas Concert to Benefit Westerville Habitat Partnership	10
11 9 am Worship 10 am Seekers Sunday School 11 am Worship + Livestream, Nursery, Raindrops, Dewdrops, & U2 2:30 Concert Series: Advent Handbell Concert	12 1-3:30 pm Stephen Ministry Training 7 pm Called to Love 7 pm Youth Group	13 9 am Tai Chi Class 10 am Staff Meeting	14 6 pm Exultation Ringers 7pm Choir Rehearsal	15 5 pm M&M	16	17
18 9 am Worship 10 am Seekers Sunday School 11 am Worship +Livestream, Nursery, Raindrops, Dewdrops, & U2	19 1-3:30 pm Stephen Ministry Training 7 pm Youth Group	20 9 am Tai Chi Class 10 am Staff Meeting	21 6pm Exultation Ringers 7 pm Blue Christmas Service 8 pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 5 pm Family Worship Service 7 pm Traditional Lessons and Carols
25 CHRISTMAS 10:00 am Worship + Livestream	26 STAFF HOLIDAY– Church Office Closed	27 9:00 am Tai Chi Class 10:00 am Staff Meeting	28	29	30	31



**LOVE GOD.
GROW IN CHRIST.
LIVE TO SERVE.**

Find us on Facebook at
“Church of the Master United Methodist”

Church office Hours
Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

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