

# THE COMMUNICATOR

## December 21, 2025



**Sunday, December 21, 2025  
9:00 a.m. Traditional Experience**

**Prelude – Mary Did You Know - Dr. Kim  
Welcome/Announcements**

**Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates – UMH 213 vs. 1-3**

**Greeting – Alice Chester**

**Advent Reading – Stacy Braun, Julie Farthing, Brooke Summers**

**Isaiah 7:13-15 – Kim Schieber**

**Children's Program**

**How Great Our Joy – Victory Ringers**

**Matthew 1: 18-25 – Kim Schieber**

**Christmas Vacation – A New Kind of Love - Pastor Marie Smith**

**Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer**

**Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming – UMH 216 vs. 1**

**Offering**

**Offertory: Advent Echo Carol – Mixed Vocal Ensemble**

**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow – UMH 95**

**While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks – UMH 236 vs.1,2,6**

**Benediction**

**Postlude – Away In A Manger - Dr. Kim**

**Sunday, December 21, 2025  
10:30 am Contemporary Service**

**Welcome - Levi Graf**

**Advent Candle Lighting**

**Angels We Have Heard On High  
Holy Forever  
Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

**Announcements & Offering  
Hope For The Lost**

**Isaiah 7: 13-15  
Matthew 1: 18-25**

**Christmas Vacation – A New Kind of Love – Pastor Marie Smith**

**Lighting of Candles**

**God With Us**

**Benediction**

**White Rose on the altar is in memory of Tom Cooke.**

**Prayer List for Dec. 18, 2025**

<b>Doug Sweazy</b>	<b>Brandon Fessler</b>
<b>Neal Wolfe</b>	<b>Ashley McGuire</b>
<b>Marci Pheister</b>	<b>Diane Maxon</b>
<b>Pete Cherrington</b>	<b>Kelly Barthelmas</b>
<b>Melissa Matz</b>	
<b>Jo Shappard</b>	

**Baldwin Family – Passing of John Baldwin  
Kellough Family – Everett Kellough  
Gardner Family – Passing of their mother  
Cooke Family – Passing of Tom Cooke**

## **Movies that Shape Us**

### **Christmas Vacation - A New Kind of Love**

**Rev. Marie Smith**

**December 21, 2025**

Please use these sermon notes as a jumping off point for your own spiritual journey. We know everyone is on their own pathway. We hope you will find this useful. Please see Pastor Marie if you have questions or if you want to take the next step in your faith journey.

Isaiah 7:13-15

Matthew 1:18-25

Clark imagines the perfect family Christmas.

“What’s Love got to do with it? It’s a secondhand emotion.”

Love is an action, description, and thing; it defies the English language.

Real love is not fickle.

We know Joseph was a religious man, who understood the tension between the spirit of the law and the letter of the law.

Joseph chose to believe in something he couldn’t see, he couldn’t feel, and something he had perhaps imagined.

God always shows up when God is needed.

One spark of love at a time.

#### **Challenge:**

1. Who will you go out of your way to love this week?
2. What opportunities is God giving you to share Jesus’ love with others?
3. Who will you invite to church? Share the invite from Facebook, Instagram or YouTube.

**St. Joseph Church is sponsoring their annual free Christmas Dinner. Last day to order is Friday, Dec. 19. Phone: 740.477.2549. It is carry-out or delivery only.**

**Please be sure to turn in your 2026 pledge cards before year-end.**



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Christmas Angel program this year. Through your generosity of giving your time to interview and deliver, being a gift angel and buying presents or care basket supplies, we were able to help 15 families and 48 children throughout the county with Christmas. I have heard stories from Angels when delivering gifts of how appreciative the families were to receive this gift at Christmas.

Here's just a couple:

One family's father hugged the angel with tears in his eyes and said he didn't know what they were going to do if it hadn't been for the generosity of our church.

Another angel shared this text message: "Thank you so much! My kids are going to be so happy to have a Christmas. Me and my husband are so appreciative and thankful."



#### [Christmas Eve Service](#)

[There will be one service on Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m. Cookies and punch will be served in The Welcome Center. Please be sure to share your invitation with someone and ask them to attend our service. Those invitations are in the bulletin and available at various information stations in the church. Come celebrate the birth of our Savior during this very special service.](#)



## *Christmas Poinsettias 2025*



**Given By:**

**In Memory of:**

Steve & Leona Barney.....Steve C. & Yolanda Barney, Saul, Emogene & Carl Saunders  
Jim & Anne Bingman.....Our Parents  
Carol Ann Bowling & Sheri Theis.....Lawrence & Mary Johnson, Helen & Frank Bowling  
Peter & Sheran Cherrington.....Our Loved Ones Remembered Everyday  
Leslie & Logan Dodd.....Angeline Spires & Margaret Taylor  
Diane, Jennifer & David Cooke.....Tom Cooke, Roy & Dorothy Shubert  
Mary Elsea.....Asa Elsea & Our Parents  
Jeff, Julie, Taylor & Luke Farthing.....Nancy Farthing, Pete Sobataka  
Judy Hatfield.....Jeffrey Hatfield  
Larry Holcomb.....Elijah & Nancy Holcombe, my third great grandparents  
Susan McGuire.....Jack & Juanita McGuire  
Patty Manson.....Farrell Manson, Mary & Woodie Dumm  
Linda & Clyde Preast.....All Our Family & Loved Ones  
Betsy & Bruce Richards.....Ralph & Rosemary Ankrom, Jesse & Relis Hildenbrand, John & Emma  
Ankrom, Bill & Grace Richards, Bruce & Carolyn Stevenson, Elmon & Mabel Richards  
Rex Riddle.....William & Marie Riddle, Carol Davis, Phyllis Vance, Mike Vance, Patricia Riddle,  
Grandma, Great Grandma  
Joan Savage.....Charles A. Savage, Clark & Ethel McFarland  
Schieber Family.....Jack & Juanita McGuire, Charles & Jean Schieber  
Bonnie Skaggs.....Ron Skaggs  
Dave & Becky Stevens.....Our Parents  
Sweazy Family.....Atcherson & Helen Bercaw, Clark & Virginia Sweazy  
Bob & Connie Tootle .....Richard & Marjorie Bowers, Dick & Ruth Tootle  
Tom & Barbara Tootle & Family.....Dick & Ruth Tootle, Floyd & Evelyn Wellington,  
Jack & Shirley Wellington  
Gwen Wolford & Kay McClellan.....H. Boyd & Phyllis Holsapple  
Jerry & Betty Wolford.....Parents & Sister  
Wolford Family.....Roliff & Etha Mae Wolford



**Given By:**

**In Honor of:**

Jeff, Julie, Taylor & Luke Farthing.....Jerry & Sue Leist, John Farthing, Maggie Sobataka  
Rodger & Patty Southward.....Grandchildren: Cierra & Garret Shaner, Chyler & Irelynd Welch  
Dave & Becky Stevens.....David Jr., Andrew, Jaime, Patrick, Max, Evie  
Mike Wolford & Karla Palmer.....Our Families