

CHAPMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWS FROM THE PEWS

December, 2025

Pastor Connie's Corner

Merry Christmas

Jon and I are so blessed to be a part of CUMC and the Chapman community. We witness daily the ways in which you all add light and life to this community. Thank you for all you do to reveal Christ to the world.

This is the season to send cards and letters as reminders even to those we don't see often that they are remembered, celebrated, and loved. We hang lights, exchange gifts, visit family and friends, and indulge in fabulous treats. This is a very special time of year.

God began this tradition of spreading light and love by sending his own son to live among us. Jesus was born into our history to fulfil God's plan to draw all creation to God's self.

My prayer for you this holiday season is that among all the gifts, cards, lights, and treats you experience the renewed joy of God's amazing love and grace.

-Connie

**May the
God of
hope fill
you with
all joy
and
peace.**

**-Romans
15:13**





Thank You to...

- Janet M. for keeping our church beautifully decorated and especially for all the wonderful fall decorations that have graced our building.
- Linda for providing piano during worship.
- Everyone who helped supply and fill OCC boxes. 92 boxes were delivered on Nov. 23rd.
- Everyone who participated in Charge Conference.
- Jean for representation at the District Conference. (Ask her about the workshop she attended.)
- Everyone who helped decorate the sanctuary.
- Kaylene for gathering our attendance sheets in the sanctuary and Darlene for helping when needed.
- Everyone who supplied food and helped serve dinner for the packing/ decorating party.
- Kate for volunteering as VBS coordinator. Let her know how you will help.

DID YOU KNOW?

In May 2025 the United Methodist Council of Bishops along with the Connec-tional Table announced a new vision statement for the worldwide UMC. We already know that our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The following vision statement gives direction about how we do that.

“The United Methodist Church forms disciple of Jesus Christ, who empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.”

I recognize some similarity to our CUMC vision statement:

“Here at CUMC we are reaching out as we love, grow and serve through faith.”

Bernice Huff Circle Gives to N2N

The Bernice Huff Circle met on November 11th in Fellowship Hall to complete a purse project for Neighbor 2 Neighbor. Amanda Robinson, director, and Deb Wood, board president, told the ten members of the changes in the past year, including a new director and new location. N2N continues to be available for all women and has expanded their role to include families. Interests and needs have changed over time so their services have changed too. They have a mobile food outreach throughout the county each week and have been especially busy the past month. They also provide emergency services to families such as help with utilities and rent. Their purse project is wrapping up, and our congregation provided 25 purses, several small bags, and items to fill them. Refreshments were provided by Collette Erickson. The group then decided which organizations to donate our monthly contributions to The Morrison House, Church Women United, Helping Hands, Clover Cabinet, Neighbor 2 Neighbor, and 4:10 Irish Den were chosen to receive these funds.



Plans were made for the December meeting. It was decided to have a social event of fun and fellowship on **December 9th at 1:30** in fellowship hall! Everyone is invited to bring a snack and enjoy each other's company. This will be the last meeting until March 2026. We hope everyone will join us!

Here at CUMC, we are reaching out as we love, grow, and serve through faith

Outreach Report

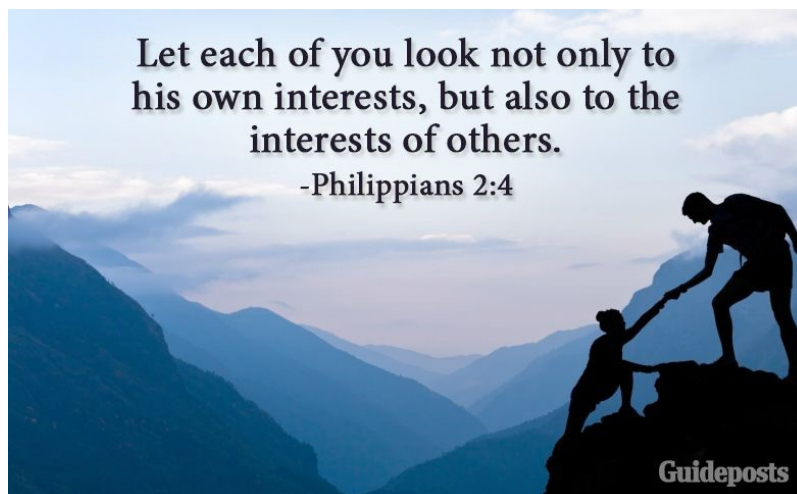
November Mission Gives to Clover Cabinet

The Mission of the Month for November was the Clover Cabinet in Chapman. This is an organization that supports the families of our community by making food available to those in need. Through the contributions of CUMC's congregation and the Missions committee we were able to make a donation in the amount of \$725 to this worthy cause.

Adopted Family Information

This Christmas we are adopting three families from the Chapman school district. There are 8 children within these families.

On November 30th the Christmas tree in the narthex was covered in red angels bearing gift requests. If you wish to help this mission, please pick an angel from the tree and gift a child with a Christmas wish. Bring the angel to one of the Missions Committee members at the table in the Narthex. They will write down the gift you wish to purchase and give you directions on what to do with the gift. We will also be collecting nonperishable food items to help out with a Christmas dinner for the families. There are also Christmas stockings each individual child. We hope to stuff these with all the goodies a Christmas stocking should have (candy, toys, ect.) **All donations need to be received by December 14th to allow the gifts to be given to the family before school releases for winter break.** Thank you for your support, love, and caring for these families.



OCC Gift Box Packing & Advent Decorating Takes Place November 23

Were you at the packing party on November 23rd? We had a wonderful time with lunch of sloppy joes and chips, provided by the kitchen committee, then went on to pack Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Later on that day, **ninety-two shoeboxes**, which included 7 donated by Girl Scout troop 20178, were delivered to the Operation Christmas Child drop-off point. A prayer was said over the boxes to bless the children receiving them, as well as blessing the family members that are brought to Jesus through this program. These boxes will bring joy to the children who receive them because of your generosity. Thank you to everyone who participated in this outreach and thank you to those who stayed and also helped decorate the church for Advent.



Attention All Musicians!

What: 32nd Annual Community Christmas Concert

When: Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Where: St. Michael's Catholic Church, 210 E 6th Street, Chapman

Why: Come share your musical talent with the Chapman community by performing one Advent or Christmas musical selection.

If you would like to be a part of this celebration, contact Marlo Zumbrunn at 785-223- 7212 or St. Michael's at 785-922-6509 by December 12th.

Prior to the concert the youth of St. Michael's will present their live nativity scene in the churchyard. After the concert, a social will be held. We look forward to sharing this evening with you. Please let us hear from you soon.



Prayer Partner Reveal Reception

If you were part of the 2025 prayer partner program, remember to join us on **Sunday, December 7th at 2:00pm** for our second annual prayer partner reveal and reception. This will be a time of fellowship and an opportunity to visit with those that have been praying for you through the year. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. **Can't make it? Please let Erin know so that a Zoom link can be emailed to you and you can join us virtually!**

Are you ready to get in on the fun? Sign up sheets are available for the 2026 prayer partner program. You can pick one up in the Narthex or have Erin email you one. Once completed, please return to the church office. Completed forms need to be turned in by Sunday, December 28th so assignments can be made by Sunday, January 11, 2026.

Annual Bake Sale and Soup Supper Success



Thank you to everyone who signed up to help serve, provide soups and deserts and who brought items for the annual soup supper and bake sale on November 5th. We had a great turnout and none of it would have been possible without all the work that goes on behind the scenes. Everyone is doing God's work and we are truly blessed.



Join us for an evening of games and fellowship!

When:

Sunday, January 11

Time: 5:00pm

Location: CUMC Fellowship Hall

Plan on bringing your favorite game and a snack to share! Drinks will be provided. Wear your favorite sports gear, play games, eat snacks and watch football on the big screen!



Were you unable to attend the annual church conference? Conference packets are available, please contact Erin if you would like a copy printed or emailed directly to you.

Schmidt Completes Marathon

Please join us in congratulating Blair Schmidt, daughter of Marc and Tracy Schmidt, who completed the Cross-roads Marathon in Salina on November 8th. She ran 26.2 miles in 5:35:05. Over 5000 people participated in 5k, 20k, half marathon and 564 in the full marathon. What a great accomplishment! Congratulations, Blair!



Blue Christmas Service

The Grinch is very popular this year. I wonder if it is because there are lots of people who are fed up with the bells and baubles. Sometimes the “joy” especially the manufactured joy of Christmas causes pain. It is sometimes hard to be surrounded by all the expectations of the season. Perhaps more of us are finding the “Christmas Spirit” hard to imagine in this year filled with communal dissonance and pain.

Blue Christmas Worship takes place on the long dark night of December 21. It is a time to gather and meditate on the promise of hope from our loving and gracious God. It is an opportunity to recognize the pain and sorrows we may feel. This service is for everyone in the community. Church affiliation doesn’t matter. Faith and belief don’t matter. All are welcome. Please invite people who may be struggling this holiday season to join us for a time of prayer and meditation in which all our emotions are acceptable

Dec. 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Ladies Bible Study Concludes

A ladies Bible study on the Book of Ruth concluded on November 13th. In the 7 week study, “Living In God’s Will: Guide to Decision Making,” they saw how, if they follow Ruth’s steps of not being anxious about matters, but turn to God’s word, good choices can come out of trusting a good God. Eleven ladies met each Thursday for the study. The group included some from the community as well as ladies from our church. Trudy Barker led the study with Rachel Owen assisting. Joyce & Chester Leach.

Youth News

Christmas Program and Chimes Choir to perform programs December 14

Please make sure to join us on Sunday, December 14th for a Sunday full of Christmas celebration. Once again our youth have been working hard on their Children's program and will perform during our regular 10:15am church service. We will also have the honor of hearing our Chimes Choir perform their Christmas hymns, which they too have been practicing in preparation. **After these performances and our church service, all are welcome for cookies and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall.**



As 2025 comes to an end, we want to celebrate our youth! If you'd like a shout out from your church family, please email chapmanmethodist@gmail.com with information to be included in an upcoming newsletter. We look forward to watching everyone learn and grow in 2026

Hultgren Baptized

Congratulations to Maggie Grace Hultgren on her baptism held Sunday, November 23rd at CUMC. Maggie was born April 10, 2025 and is the daughter of Chance and Reagan Hultgren and sister to Zoey. We look forward to watching Maggie grow up surrounded by the love and support that God and the CUMC family offers.



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METHODIST
CHURCH**

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Prayer Partner 12/7
Reveal Reception

B. Huff Circle 12/9

Children's Program 12/14
& Christmas

Chimes
Fellowship Coffee
after Church

Blue Christmas 12/21
Service—7pm

Christmas Eve 12/24
Service—6:30pm

DECEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

12/1 Kaylene Miller, Dakota
Becker

12/2 Joan Taylor, Jennifer
Weishaar

12/3 Katie Simmons

12/5 Jean Chamberlin

12/6 Harper Hildebrand

12/9 LesLee Taylor

12/10 Hunter Combes

12/11 Mike LeCount

12/14 Benjamin Edwards

12/19 John West, Gregg & Tonya
Coup

12/20 Braydon, Schmidt, Chase
Turner

12/26 Kristin Turner, Ryan
Turner, Lillian Poell, Claire
Poell

12/28 Skylar Chamberlain

12/29 Mike Marston

12/30 Conni Suther, Kevin
Suther, Gregg Coup



Worship Assistants

Liturgists

Dec 7: Trudy Barker
Dec 14: Lynn Kruse
Dec 21: Collette Erickson
Dec 28: Lynn Kruse

Ushers

Dec 7:
Dec 14:
Dec 21:
Dec 28:

Greeters

Dec 7: Ray & Lynn Kruse
Dec 14: John & Susan Harris
Dec 21: Joyce & Chester Leach,
Darlene Stillwagon
Dec 28: Ray & Lynn Kruse

Acolytes

Dec 7:
Dec 14:
Dec 21:
Dec 28:

Have some news that
should be featured
next month? Please e-
mail it to Erin at
chapmanmethodist@
gmail.com.