



# *Community* **CONNECTION**

DECEMBER 2025

Loosely translated, the word “advent” means “arrival” or “coming.” Of course, all of you know that this is referring to the birth or “coming” of Jesus. While we all love Easter, the story **BEGINS** at Advent. Creation was yearning for a new start — a re-creation of how it originally was in the Garden. This yearning was to be fulfilled in the coming of Jesus.

Christmas is a time of preparation and celebration. Like creation, so many of us — whether we are Christian or not — yearn for a new beginning. It’s not a desire to start life over, but it is a desire to have wrongs righted in our lives and strength to live out our Christian life despite challenges. This season is a season of promises fulfilled and a new reality beginning.

As you and yours plan for Christmas celebrations, gifts, and hugs for our loved ones, how does the truth of God’s promise in Christ affect you. Are your celebrations guided by the truth of the coming of Christ and what that means for the world . . . including your world?

This month let’s all celebrate! In our celebration let us not forget that our celebrations are not for anything that we have done — but what God has done for us in the birth of the King of Kings!

**- Pastor Steve**

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# CONNECTED IN *Community* WORSHIP

## A TIME FOR WONDER 2025 Advent Series

### ADVENT 2025—A TIME FOR WONDER

This advent, we journey through the story of Jesus' birth in the Gospel of Luke, exploring the unfolding moments of hope, preparation and revelation that lead to the wonder of Christ's coming. Each week's sermon will be enriched by themes from the *Christianity Today* Advent devotional, helping us see the season with renewed expectation as we follow Zechariah, Elizabeth, Mary, Joseph, the angels and the shepherds toward the manger. Our journey will culminate in a special **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 4:00pm**, where we gather to celebrate the birth of our Savior and behold the Light who came into the world

-Pastor Scooter

In December we Begin the Advent series, which extends through Christmas Eve:

#### Sunday, December 7th | 10a CST

"Paving the Way for God's Perfect Plan"  
Luke 1:5-17

#### Sunday, December 14th | 10a CST

"Zechariah's Furnace of Transformation"  
Luke 1:18-25

#### Sunday, December 21st | 10a CST

"Away In a Manger"  
Luke 2:1-7

#### Wednesday, December 24th | 4p CST

"Glory In The Eyes of Shepherds"  
Luke 2:8-20

#### Sunday, December 28th | 10a CST

"Becoming All Things New"  
2 Peter 1:3-11

Invite someone to church and let's all grow together in the Lord. Let's keep our spiritual momentum up as we move forward into the New Year!

### GIVING AS WORSHIP

See *Financial Focus*  
article on page 9.



P.O. Box 1723  
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CONNECTED IN  
*Community*  
CONNECT

### Points of Contact in Our Faith Family

At Community Church, we are all about connecting. There are several opportunities for you to connect with your church family, here's a few to consider:

- Our **Prayer Time** is held each Sunday at 8:30am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Our **Refreshment Table** is loaded with goodies and coffee every Sunday, and folks gather at 9:35am.
- **The family that worships together stays together**, and each Sunday is another opportunity to worship as a family of faith, **starting at 10am**.
- Our **Membership Seminars** offered throughout the year give you an overview of our church.
- Our **Fellowship Meals** are a great time to meet and fellowship with others.
- Our **Community Church Women, Learning through Loss** grief support group, and the **Pathways Men's Ministry** are great options to connect as well.
- **Serving together** is a great way to connect, see **page 5** for opportunities to connect in serving.

#### SAVE THE DATE

- December 14th Fellowship Luncheon
- December 18th Christmas Program
- December 24th Christmas Eve Service

#### CELEBRATE STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

- \* Jan Rundquist 12/5/06 (19 yrs)
- \* Mark Krueger 12/1/23 (3 yrs)



CONNECTED IN  
*Community*  
GROW

## Advent 2025

*A Time for Wonder*

In this Advent devotional from Christianity Today, we move through the cycle of morning, afternoon, and evening, each with its own tone and specific reality to press into. As we move through the weeks of Advent, this devotional guides us along a journey through times of renewal, trial, revelation, and ultimately to a time of wonder at the great gift that we have at Christmas: Christ's incarnation on Earth, his taking on flesh for the sake of love and our salvation. Dive in, find the time to witness the days of Advent through the eyes of wonder, and join as we worship together.

Visit [DEVO.SRBCC.COM](https://devo.srbcc.com) and sign-up to be a part of this with us today.







CONNECTED IN  
*Community*  
SERVE

We want to thank those who serve our community as part of our church board. These faithful members take care of the business needs of our church, and although much of their work is behind the scenes, their service ensures our Church and its mission are supported and sustained.

**(Several members will be reaching their term limits per the bylaws, so we will need some new members to fill those positions as we move into an exciting new season in the life of Community Church.)** Please prayerfully consider standing in the gap to fill this need. Contact Pastor Steve for more in-

### **SPECIAL THANKS TO FAITHFUL VOLUNTEERS WHO SERVE US:**

- Church Board
- Church Finance Team
- Worship & Media Ministry Team
- Ushers & Hospitality Team
- The Local (Community Church Youth Ministry)
- Community Light Family Ministry Team
- Preschool Prayer Pals Ministry
- Special Events (Fall Festival, VBS, etc.)
- Ukulele Ministry
- Prayer Team
- Congregational Care Ministry
- VANgels Ministry
- Community Church Women's Ministry (CCW)
- Pathways Men's Ministry
- Small Group Leaders (Bible Studies, Discipleship)
- Learning through Loss Grief Support Ministry
- Fellowship Lunches Team Members

**Please prayerfully consider areas above where you might be willing to serve at Community Church.**



# CONNECTED IN *Community* REACH

## LOCALLY

- Preschool & Family Ministry (pp.7-8)
- Ukulele Ministries (p.10)
- Caring & Sharing of South Walton
- Point Washington Medical Clinic
- El Shaddai Hispanic Ministry
- Be Generous Ministry
- 331 Food Bank (Annual PBJ Drive)



### Community Ukes Memory Care Outreaches

Dec 4<sup>th</sup> – The Blake  
at 10:30am  
Dec 11<sup>th</sup> – The Barclay  
at 10:45am



### Community Ukesters

Outreach Somerby  
Memory Care  
Sun. December 14<sup>th</sup>  
at 1:30p

## GLOBALLY

- Wycliffe Bible Translators
- Samaritan's Purse / OCC
- Mission Aviation Fellowship
- Toys for Tots
- Porch de Salomon (Guatemala)

## SINGLE LADIES' TEA

*In faith we're rooted,  
In fellowship we bloom*

**Friday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> | 10:30am  
in the Fellowship Hall**



## Community Church Christmas Eve Service December 24<sup>th</sup> | 4pm



## Christmas Potluck Lunch

**Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>  
11a | Fellowship Hall**

*Please bring a dish to share*

## Learning through Loss

Grief Support Group  
will meet at 1pm on

**Tuesday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Tuesday, Dec 9<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, Dec 16<sup>th</sup>**

**in the Chapel**



# DECEMBER 2025

# Community CALENDAR

## MONTHLY REMINDERS:

- Dec 14th Fellowship Luncheon
- Dec 18th Preschool Christmas Program
- Dec 24th Christmas Eve Service

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b> 10a Staff Mtg 3:20p Ukesters (ups)	<b>2</b> 1p LTL (Chapel) 6p El Shaddai (FH)	<b>3</b> 10a Bible Study (Brookdale) 11:45a Bible Study (Upstairs) 3p WT Practice (Sanct.)	<b>4</b> 10:30a Ukes Outreach at The Blake	<b>5</b> Office Closed 10:30a Ladies Tea (FH)	<b>6</b> 6p Freeport Christmas Tree Lighting
<b>7 Communion</b> 8:30a Prayer (FH) 8:45a Bible Study 10a Worship & KC 11a CCW Mtg (FH) Membership Seminar (Ups) 4:30p El Shaddai 6p The Local (ups.)	<b>8</b> 10a Staff Mtg 3:20p Ukesters (ups)	<b>9</b> 1p LTL (Chapel) 6p El Shaddai (FH)	<b>10</b> 10a Bible Study (Brookdale) 11:45a Bible Study (Upstairs) 3p WT Practice (Sanct.) (Sanct)	<b>11</b> 10:45 a Ukes Outreach at Watercrest 12p Men's Small Group (Maple St Biscuit)	<b>12</b> Office Closed	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 8:30a Prayer (FH) 8:45a Bible Study 10a Worship & KC 11:15a Fellowship Luncheon (FH) 1:15p Ukes at Somerby 6p The Local (ups.)	<b>15</b> 10a Staff Mtg 3:30p Ukesters Christmas Party (Ups)	<b>16</b> 1p LTL (Chapel) 6p El Shaddai (FH)	<b>17</b> 10a Bible Study (Brookdale) 11:45a Bible Study (Upstairs) 3p WT Practice (Sanct.)	<b>18</b> 11:30a Preschool Christmas Program 12:30p Preschool Christmas Party (FH)	<b>19</b> Office Closed 5:30—7:30p Parents Night Out	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8:30a Prayer (FH) 8:45a Bible Study 10a Worship & KC 4:30p El Shaddai	<b>22</b> 10a Staff Mtg 1:15p Finance Mtg (FH) 2p Board mtg (FH) 3:20p Ukesters (ups)	<b>23</b> 6p El Shaddai (FH)	<b>24</b> Office Closed 4p Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> MERRY CHRISTMAS	<b>26</b> Office Closed	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30a Prayer (FH) 10a Worship & KC 4:30p El Shaddai	<b>29</b> Office Closed	<b>30</b> 6p El Shaddai (FH)	<b>31</b>			



*Jesus Said "Let the little children come to me..." - Matthew 19:14*

**Please be sure to join us  
on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am  
for our children's  
Christmas Program and  
Fellowship afterwards**

### 10 Things Every Parent Should Know About Play

- 1. Children learn through their play.** Don't underestimate the value of play. Children learn and develop:
  - cognitive skills – like math and problem solving in a pretend grocery store
  - physical abilities – like balancing blocks and running on the playground
  - new vocabulary – like the words they need to play with toy dinosaurs
  - social skills – like playing together in a pretend car wash
  - literacy skills – like creating a menu for a pretend restaurant
- 2. Play is healthy.** Play helps children grow strong and healthy. It also counteracts obesity issues facing many children today.
- 3. Play reduces stress.** Play helps your children grow emotionally. It is joyful and provides an outlet for anxiety and stress.
- 4. Play is more than meets the eye.** Play is simple and complex. There are many types of play: symbolic, sociodramatic, functional, and games with rules—to name just a few. Researchers study play's many aspects: how children learn through play, how outdoor play impacts children's health, the effects of screen time on play, to the need for recess in the school day.
- 5. Make time for play.** As parents, you are the biggest supporters of your children's learning. You can make sure they have as much time to play as possible during the day to promote cognitive, language, physical, social, and emotional development.
- 6. Play and learning go hand-in-hand.** They are not separate activities. They are intertwined. Think about them as a science lecture with a lab. Play is the child's lab.
- 7. Play outside.** Remember your own outdoor experiences of building forts, playing on the beach, sledding in the winter, or playing with other children in the neighborhood. Make sure your children create outdoor memories too.
- 8. There's a lot to learn about play.** There's a lot written on children and play. You can find tons of ideas on the internet.
- 9. Trust your own playful instincts.** Remember as a child how play just came naturally? Give your children time for play and see all that they are capable of when given the opportunity.
- 10. Play is a child's context for learning.** Children practice and reinforce their learning in multiple areas during play. It gives them a place and a time for learning that cannot be achieved through completing a worksheet. For example, in playing restaurant, children write and draw menus, set prices, take orders, and make out checks. Play provides rich learning opportunities and leads to children's success and self-esteem.

## Teacher Spotlight



**Ms. Cindy McBrayer**

Ms. Cindy grew up vacationing at these beautiful beaches and was able to relocate here with her family in 2005. She has been married to her husband Ronnie for 23 years. Together, they have three adult sons- Blayze, Bryce and Braden.

Cindy is passionate about art on all levels, and considers herself a "creative environmentalist" by using recycled objects in all of her art creations. She enjoys traveling, music and spending time with her precious pup "Moe" at home. Cindy joined Community Church Preschool 5 years ago and is a true staple here. Before that, Cindy worked in the Walton County School District.

*Merry*  
**CHRISTMAS!**

## Upcoming Events

- Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>– Prayer Pal Chapel
- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> – Special Guest Reader
- Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> – Wear your Christmas Pajamas
- Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>– Parents Buzz Activity
- Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>– Wear your Christmas Hat
- Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>– Christmas Program & Fellowship
- Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>– Jan 4<sup>th</sup>– Closed for Christmas Break
- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>– Merry Christmas!



# FAMILY MINISTRIES

December 2025

## EVENTS THIS MONTH

### The Local: Christmas Party

**December 14<sup>th</sup> 6-7:30pm**

It's the most wonderful time of the year—so let's celebrate together! Join us for our annual Student Ministry Christmas Party filled with Christmas games, festive snacks, and a hilarious White Elephant gift exchange.

Wear your favorite Christmas sweater (ugly or awesome) and get ready for a night of laughter, friends, and fun as we celebrate the birth of Jesus and wrap up the year together!

### Parents' Night Out

**December 19<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7:30pm**

Need a night to finish up your Christmas shopping—or maybe enjoy a festive date night? We've got you covered! Drop the kids off for a fun evening while you get some time to yourself this holiday season.

Cost: \$10/child  
Ages: 3YO-5th Grade

## CONTACT

Reach out to Alex with any questions, or if you are interested in being involved in any of our upcoming events.

Email: [families@rbcc.com](mailto:families@rbcc.com)  
Text: 850-610-8012

## KIDS' CONNECTION

All Over the Map

The Christmas story takes us to a series of significant locations. We'll explore the significance of these places and see what they teach us about who Jesus is and what He is like.

"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ." 2 Corinthians 1:20a

## THE LOCAL

Join us as we seek to help teens live out their faith! We are currently reading through the Gospels, seeing Jesus' life and ministry play out, and how we should model our lives off of His perfect one.



# Financial FOCUS

October Contributions @ 10/31/25 **\$23,168**

October Expenses @ 10/31/25: **\$67,525**

There will be a lot of celebrating over the next month. Families and friends will gather to eat food, exchange gifts, and just love on one another. This is a special time of the year for all of us.

The clock is ticking towards the end of the year! As we sprint towards this end are you (we) mindful of remembering Community Church in our end of the year gift-giving? Perhaps you are a pledger and have kept up with your pledge—might you be able to make a special gift this year? Perhaps you never give, but you feel led to help support the ministries of YOUR church.

Please consider including our church in your year-end gift-giving. The money you invest in Community Church is never lost—it is for the Kingdom of God!

— Pastor Steve



## UKULELE MINISTRY

COMMUNITY  
UKESTERS



The **Community Ukes** includes all ages, but is mostly made up of adults, from beginning to advanced players. Students are expected to practice weekly and perform monthly for our outreaches. We have four events scheduled for December : The 6th at the Freeport Christmas tree lighting, the 11th at Barclay, the 7th at The Blake and the 18th for the preschool Christmas Program. Info at [uke.srbcc.com](http://uke.srbcc.com).

The **Community Ukesters** are primarily made up of elementary-aged children. Students are taught how to play the ukulele and are expected to practice weekly and perform monthly. Ukesters will perform at the Somerby December 14th at 1:30. Ukesters Christmas party will be December 15th at 3:30.



**Class sizes are limited and open on a first come, first served basis at the beginning of the school year and/or new calendar year.**

*Anyone interested in becoming a part of the group, contact Pastor Scooter at 850-267-2599 or email him at [assocpastor@srbcc.com](mailto:assocpastor@srbcc.com) to check availability or get on the waiting list, as space is limited.*









*At Community Church, we desire to build a healthy community of maturing Jesus followers across every age and stage of life.*



## CONNECTED IN *Community* PODCAST



Listen on  
**Apple Podcasts**

[srbcc.com/podcast](http://srbcc.com/podcast)



Listen on  
**Podbean**



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