



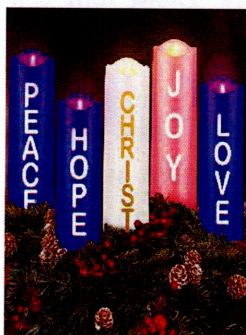
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## Advent: He Came; We Go

Dear Friends,

As we reach the close of Advent, I invite you to reflect on its true meaning and the journey we have shared. Advent, a season of anticipation and preparation, calls us to ready our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' birth. Over these past weeks, each candle—hope, peace, joy, and now love—has marked our movement toward Christmas, reminding us of God's promises and presence.



The Love candle, which we light today, invites us to embrace love as an active choice. Advent isn't just about receiving love; it's a challenge to share it, starting with those nearest to us. Who in your life needs to see the light of Christ's love this Christmas?

The story of the shepherds on Christmas night captures this spirit best. First to hear the good news, they didn't keep it to themselves—they went and shared it. Their example sets the rhythm for us: He came; we go. The pattern of Advent is not just about welcoming Christ, but being sent to share hope, peace, joy, and love.

As we prepare for Christmas, let's begin with those closest—family, neighbors, coworkers—and remember that God's love is meant for everyone, near and far. Some of us are called to go to distant places; all of us can support, pray, and reach out.

This Advent has prepared us to celebrate, but also to act. Let the story of "He came; we go" become our rhythm as a church. May your homes, conversations, and actions reflect Christ's love this season. Go in hope, go in peace, go in joy, and above all, go in love.

Merry Christmas!

**He came; we go. He came; we go.**

—With love and blessings,  
Pastor Kerry Foote

## **Pastor Visit**

If you would like a visit from our pastor, please do not hesitate to call either Susan Capelouto (Administrative Assistant) or Rev. Kerry Foote so that a visit can be arranged.



We don't know if you have heard...but we are now going live with our Sunday morning service on Facebook. If you cannot make the service in person, you can join our Facebook family. Give us a like and follow us on Facebook to get up to date information about upcoming events and you can access live sermons on Sunday or access our archive.

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Chaires-Methodist-Church-61561720372576/>



## Advent Sermon Series

This Advent, we are bringing the powerful storytelling of **The Chosen** to our church with a four-week advent sermon series titled: **The Chosen Holy Night**.

At the start of the New Testament, Israel is enduring a 400-year silence from God, experiencing hopelessness, shame, sadness, and isolation. Suddenly, the silence is broken by angels speaking and singing of the coming of a Rescuer in the birth of a child. This child will bring a great turning toward **hope, peace, joy, and love**.



Be sure to mark you calendars for our yearly candlelight service that will be held in the historic sanctuary on **December 24 @ 7:00 p.m.** This will be a reflective time to celebrate the reason for the season along with plenty of Christmas music to be sung together.

There will also be a Christmas Eve party held at the parsonage on the same day from **5:00 to 6:00 p.m.** The pastor and Tiffany will have a chocolate fountain and plenty of sweet goodies to go around. Pastor Kerry will also be providing candied pork belly. Come for food, fellowship, and fun.

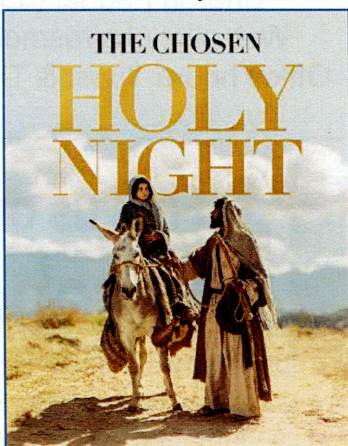
**Christmas  
Eve  
@  
the  
Parsonage**



## Movies Under the Oaks: Holy Night

Our Advent sermon series is titled "The Chosen: Holy Night." This advent sermon series will have various clips from The Chosen Christmas special titled "Holy Night." What better way to end our advent series than watching that movie in it's entirety outside on our 14 ft. inflatable screen under the oaks.

Join us on **December 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:00 p.m.** we will have food, refreshments, and fire pits to keep warm. All you have to bring is a chair or blanket.



## Delivering Cookies to Our First Responders

### **Christmas Day Volunteer Opportunity**

On Christmas Day, we invite volunteers to join together in showing appreciation to those first responders who will be working during the holiday. Volunteers will gather at the church at 10:00 a.m. before heading out into the community. The goal is to deliver homemade baked goods along with Christmas cards expressing gratitude for their service and dedication, especially on a day when many are enjoying time with loved ones.



### **How to Participate**

**Baking and Packaging:** Anyone interested in contributing baked treats is encouraged to bring their goodies to the church on **December 24th at 3:00 p.m.** At this time, the baked goods will be packaged and prepared for delivery.



**Early Delivery Option:** Volunteers who plan to both bake and deliver may take their packages with them on December 24th, allowing them to make deliveries at their convenience on December 25th, without needing to return to the church on Christmas Day.

**Delivery Only Option:** Those who wish to help deliver but are unable to bake can meet at the church on **December 25th at 10:00 a.m.** Together, the group will divide the baked goods and set out to distribute them to area first responders.

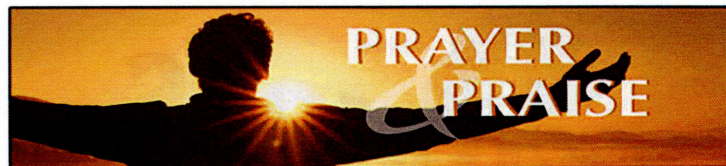
This project is a wonderful opportunity to give back and make a difference for those who serve our community, especially during the holiday season.

### December Birthdays

Donna Corson 2  
Terry Hatcher 8  
Edie Hubbard 12  
Margaret Boyette 15  
Peggy Surles 21

### December Anniversary

Michael & Mary Alice Linzy 3  
  
Russell & Amy Clark 6



## **Members**

Kerry Foote / The Spence Family / Casy Friel / Franklin Chaires / Russel Clark / Amy Clark

## **Friends and Family**

Glenda Anderson (Renee Grubb) / Shirley Ann (Mary Alice) / Bob Jarvis (Mary Alice) / Michael Linzy (Mary Alice) / Pat Powers (Mary Alice) / Henry Lowery (Tony Minichiello) / Glenda Anderson (Renee Grubb) / William and Shannon (Francis Chaires) / John Darly and family (Diane Matthews)

## Hospitality Team Meeting 2026

**Date:** January 7, 2026

**Time:** 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

**Place:** Chaires Multi-purpose building

This will be the first Hospitality Team meeting and a time of brainstorming and setting up practices and policies to ensure that the Hospitality Team will see success for 2026.



The Hospitality Team ensures a **warm, inclusive welcome** for everyone at church, serving as the "first impressions" team. Key duties include greeting guests, providing directions, coordinating hospitality at events, following up with visitors, keeping common areas welcoming, supporting members in times of need, and managing supplies. Their work turns newcomers into engaged members and strengthens our church community.

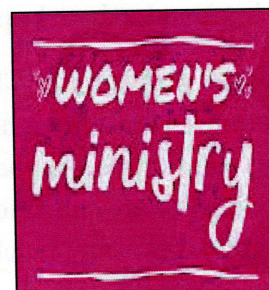
## Women's Ministry

**Date:** January 10, 2026

**Time:** 10:00 – 12:00 p.m.

**Place:** Multi-Purpose Building

**Activity:** Stay tuned for more information regarding the meeting.



## Church Council Town Hall Meeting

Our next Church Council meeting will be on **January 25, 2026, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** This will be a



12/21/25

town hall type meeting in which we will be reporting and celebrating all that has been accomplished in 2026 along with planning and praying for all that will happen in 2026. The whole church is invited: Member and Non-Members alike. *Lunch will be provided.*