

## Christmas Eve Services

### Noon

#### Candlelight Communion Service-Alpine Center

This service is for those who don't like driving at night or who have plans for later in the day on Christmas Eve. Traditional carols will be sung and there will be special music by the Our Master's Chancel Choir.

**Nursery for preschool age and under.**

### 4:00 p.m.

#### Family Service—Alpine Center

This child-friendly family service will speak to all ages as we celebrate the birth of Jesus through word and song in a children's Christmas pageant. All children are invited to participate as either sheep, angels or shepherds. Special music will be presented by the Joyful Noise and Praise Kids Children's Choirs. Rehearsal for the Christmas pageant is Wednesday, Dec. 20, 5:00-6:00 pm.

**Nursery for preschool age and under.**

### 7:00 p.m.

#### Candlelight Communion Service-Alpine Center

All are welcome to join us in the traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service. Traditional carols will be sung and there will be special music.

**Nursery for preschool age and under.**

### 10:30 p.m.

#### Alpine Center

#### Special Music and

#### Candlelight Communion Service

All are welcome to join us in the traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service. The Alpine Sanctuary Choir and others will share their musical gifts as we celebrate the birth of Christ.



**The church buildings and office will be closed December 25—January 1**

The office will **reopen on Tuesday, January 2**, at 8:30 a.m. In an emergency, call the church number, 815-399-5910. You will be directed to an emergency contact. A staff member will be checking messages during the week. A pastor will be available in an emergency.

### Special Note:

**The church office will be OPEN on Friday, Dec 29, from 9:00 am—noon, to accept contributions to the church to be credited to 2017.**



### Our Pastors

**Rev. Jane Eesley, Senior Pastor**  
jeesley@christumc.cc

**Rev. Scott Himel, Associate Pastor**  
shimel@christumc.cc

**Rev. Deanna Mede, Associate Pastor**  
dmede@christumc.cc

[www.christumc.cc](http://www.christumc.cc)



**One Church: Two Centers for  
Worship and Ministry**

#### Alpine Center

4509 Highcrest Rd.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815-399-5910

#### Our Master's Center

5973 Darlene Dr.  
Rockford, IL 61109  
815-399-5910

 **CHRIST**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Gather • Grow • Go

# *Christmas Events at Christ United Methodist Church*

## **Advent Craft Night**

**Wednesday, December 6, 5:30-7:30 pm**  
**Dinner at 5:30 in Alpine Fellowship Hall**

Begin your preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth at our annual Advent Craft Night. Lots of free crafts, a coloring station and fun! Bring your family, invite your friends, stop in for a short time or spend time creating small treasures. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm, with the Advent crafts immediately following in Great Hall. Please RSVP for the dinner to Joy Hayag at 815-399-5910 or jhayag@christumc.cc.

## **Christmas Cookie Walk**

**Saturday, December 9**  
**10:00 am—1:00 pm**

**Alpine Center Dining Room**

**Numbers will be given out starting at 9:30**

All proceeds go to missions. Stop in on Dec. 9, listen to Christmas music, have a glass of punch, and buy a box of homemade Christmas cookies. Cost is \$15 per box.



## **Our Master's Christmas Cantata**

**"Emmanuel, Celebrating Heaven's Child"**

**Sunday, December 10, at the 9:30 service**  
**in the Our Master's Sanctuary**

Heaven's Child: the miraculous reality of a conception by the Holy Spirit, a birth to the young Virgin, Mary, and a flesh and blood existence of God, our Emmanuel. We will sing glory to the newborn King! With 15 singers, a soloist, two narrators, accompanist and director, the Chancel Choir will lead the congregation in a worship celebration of Jesus, Heaven's Child.

## **Christmas Angel Project** **Gift Wrapping**

**Monday, December 11, 4:30 pm**  
**Tuesday, December 12, 9:00 am**  
**Alpine Fellowship Hall**

Our Christmas Angel Project will have collected gifts from our congregation for those seniors and children in our community who otherwise wouldn't receive any Christmas gifts. Come and help us wrap. This is a wonderful opportunity to socialize with fellow church members, share the holiday spirit, and make a positive impact on our community!

## **Senior Fellowship Christmas Party**

**Friday, December 15, at noon**  
**Alpine Center Dining Room**

Come and join this group for seniors for a wonderful homemade lunch and fellowship with your friends. After lunch, we'll have a Christmas party with music by Risë' Barker, Sherrill Muller, and Rev. Scott Himel. There will be a chance to sing some Christmas carols, too. You won't want to miss this joyous event. Please call the church office at 815-399-5910 to make your reservation **by December 11.**

## **Alpine Christmas Cantata**

**"The Greatest Gift of All" Sunday, December 17**  
**at the 9:30 and 11:00 services, Alpine Sanctuary**

The gift that was given to us all was delivered to a stable in Bethlehem. This year, our cantata celebrates the music that has been created to honor the Holy Child from people far and near. Like the Wise Men, these songs and melodies have traveled from afar to be with us: songs from Germany, France, the Caribbean and Central Europe, all in the celebration of our shared gift. Come and celebrate with the Praise Kids, Joyful Noise Choir, Hands of Christ Puppet Ministry, Praise Team, Wesley Ringers, and Sanctuary Choir. Bring a friend and share the gift with them.

## **Blue Christmas**

**Monday, December 18, at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Alpine Center Sanctuary**

This service will be for anyone who is depressed, lonely or grieving any kind of loss in life: divorce, loss of job, or any other type of loss, as well as the loss of a loved one. Rev. Deanna Mede will give the message. Plan to be here for this comforting service of remembrance and hope.

## **Sunday Morning Worship on** **December 24**

**9:30 service at Alpine**  
**and**  
**at Our Master's Centers**  
**No Sunday School**

## **Christmas Eve Services** **at Alpine Center only:**

**Noon, 4:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 10:30 p.m.**

## **Sunday Morning Worship on** **December 31**

**Normal service times:**  
**Alpine Center: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00**  
**Our Master's Center: 9:30**

