

Union United Methodist Church
 7582 Woodrow Street
 P.O. Box 705
 Irmo, SC 29063-0705

Visit us on the Web at www.unionirmo.org

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Union Connection

Union United Methodist Church Irmo, South Carolina



KNOW Christ, SHARE Faith, SHOW Grace

December 2020 Volume 35, Issue 10

Sunday Worship

Sanctuary
 9:00 am
 and
 11:00 am

Sunday School
 10:00 am
 Education Building,
 Family Ministry Center
 & Sanctuary
 Lower Level

Rev. Stephen P. Taylor,
 Senior Minister

Rev. Jeri Katherine W. Sipes,
 Associate Minister

WHAT'S INSIDE

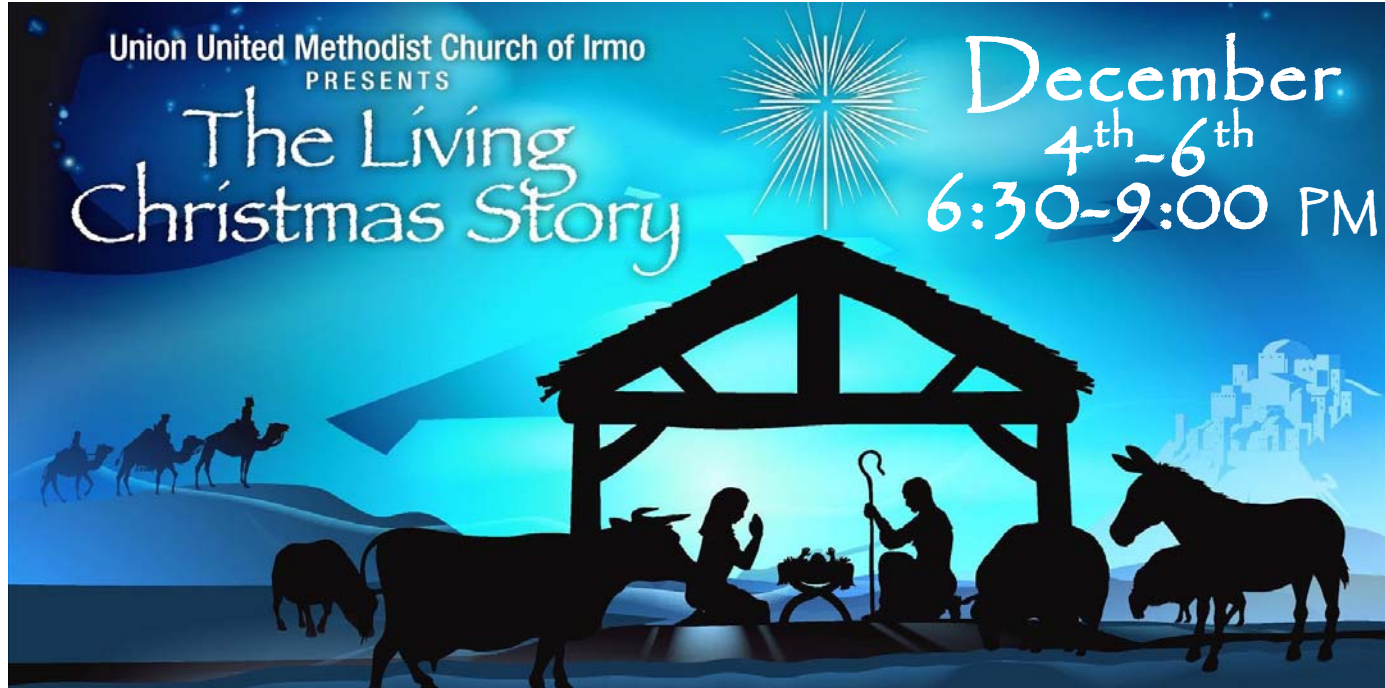
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Christmas Eve Worship Services

3:00 pm	Contemporary with Candlelight and Communion <i>Nursery available</i>
4:45 pm	Contemporary with Candlelight Live Streamed <i>Nursery available</i>
6:30 pm	Traditional with Candlelight Live Streamed <i>Nursery available</i>
8:15pm	Traditional with Candlelight and Communion <i>No nursery</i>

Beginning December 1, we ask Christmas Eve worshippers to make a reservation to be with us on December 24. Reservations can be made at www.UnionIrmo.org.



Union United Methodist Church of Irmo
 PRESENTS
The Living Christmas Story
 December 4th-6th
 6:30-9:00 PM

SHARE ^{the} SLIGHT

A week of engaging our community in celebrating Christ's birth

Lanterns & Devotion booklets will be available free of charge to all Union households on **NOVEMBER 29** in the Narthex and in the church office the following week. Purchase extra lanterns and devotions for \$5.00/kit to give to your neighbors, inviting them to participate in Share the Light week.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

ONE morning Worship @ 10:30am
(SS @ 9:30am)

ONE afternoon Worship
in Irmo Community Park @ 4:00pm

MONDAY & TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14 & 15

Community Caroling @ 6:30pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

Share the Light Night of Outreach
in the FMC Gym @ 6:30pm

Join us for an evening where we will reach out to our Union family, Local first responders and neighbors and Military around the world. Supplies and information will be provided to write personal Christmas greetings to our Irmo Police and Firefighters as well as everyday appreciation to our Military personnel. We will also be helping the Snack Pack Program get packed up for Christmas and into the New Year. Be sure to bring some muscle for moving snack packs! Wish your Church family a "Merry Christmas!" in the video booth that will be set up. Videos will be put together and shared during Christmas Eve services.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

Lantern Walk to the Manger @ 6:30pm
(rain date is Saturday, December 19)



We extend our sympathy to the following families at the loss of their loved ones:

IN MEMORIAM

Robert "Bob" Candler Smith
February 10, 1932 – November 10, 2020

SYMPATHY

Elizabeth M. Burgess
grandmother of Cori Jones

Frank Golatka,
father of Vicky Hadley

Ila Mae Coble,
grandmother of Kriss Kirkindoll



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

October 27, 2020—
November 17, 2020

MEMORIALS

Given in memory of Ophie Atkinson,
by Pam and Lewis Knudsen

Given in memory of Larry Baines,
husband of Reida Baines:
by Reva and Jim Miller

Given in memory of Brian Hatcher,
husband of Chappelle Hatcher:
by Greg Evans

Given in memory of Terry Mooney,
husband of Jo Mooney:
by Mandy and Charles Ayers,
Annie and Joe Mac Bates,
Llewellyn and Herb Hames, Kim Julin
and Doug Wedell, Ann and Robert May,
Barbara and Dalton Parker, Penny and
Rob Thompson, Anna Bess Tisdale,
Sheryl and Jerry Todd, and
Union Chancel Choir

Given in memory of Bob Smith
by Joan and Orris Bickley, Barbara and
Dalton Parker, Katy and Hugh Shannon,
Harriet and Ted Simpson, Connie and
Bob Warren, and Judy Weston

Given in memory of Elizabeth Burgess,
grandmother of Corrie Jones: by
Connie and Bob Warren

Given in memory of Frank Golatka,
father of Vicky Hadley:
by Connie and Bob Warren

Given in memory of Ila Mae Coble,
grandmother of Kriss Kirkindoll:
by Connie and Bob Warren

Our Ministry Team

Senior Minister
Rev. Stephen P. Taylor

Associate Minister
Rev. Jeri Katherine W. Sipes

Minister of Visitation
Rev. David Anderson

Retired Ministers
Rev. Tommy R. Bailey
Rev. Dick Holliday
Rev. Paul Van Dine

Administrative Assistant
Susan Vinson

Communications
Liz Edwards

**Coordinator of
Contemporary Worship**
Michelle Cochcroft

Director of Music Ministries
Don Kirkindoll

**Director of Youth and
Leisure Ministries**
Eleanor Cannon

Facilities Manager
Ned Calvert

Asst. Facilities Manager
Steve Ragin

Finance
Barbara Tanner

Kindergarten
Kathy Horne

**Director of Ministries to
Children & Families**
Suzy Broadus

Nursery Coordinator
Stacy Burggraf

Organist
Joey Rothfuss

Union United Methodist Church
7582 Woodrow St.
P.O. Box 705
Irmo, SC 29063-0705
Telephone: 803-781-3013
Fax: 803-781-3034

Web site: www.unionirmo.org

The *Union Connection* is a monthly publication of Union United Methodist Church. Articles should be submitted to Liz Edwards, Coordinator of Communications, by noon on the 15th of each month via Fax (781-3034), email liz@unionirmo.org or placed in the box outside the Communications Office (F 210).



Spread the Word

Just a reminder of the different opportunities available at Union to help you spread the word about upcoming events.

**Weekly Bulletin,
Sunday School Announcements
and Website News**

Deadline: Noon on Tuesday

Monthly Newsletter

Deadline: 15th of each month
Please email your information to

Liz Edwards at
liz@unionirmo.org



Your pastors want to give you care and be in prayer for you.

If you or someone in your family is in the hospital or having surgery, please call the church office (781-3013) and let us know.



BLESSING BOX

The Blessing Box is running low. Please stop by and drop off a few cans of non-perishable food. The box is located by the side parking lot near the FMC building.

FOLLOW US: @unionumcirmo



Instagram



Monday-Thursday
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Friday
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

CHURCH
OFFICE HOURS



The 2021 flower calendar for 9:00 am worship is now in the Narthex. Cost is \$42.50 per vase.

Blessing of the Animals



2020 CONTRIBUTIONS

All 2020 contributions need to be in the church office by

Thursday, December 31, 2020

in order to be shown on your 2020 giving statement as a 2020 contribution.





Union website: unionirmo.org

Staff emails:

- David Anderson david@unionirmo.org
- Suzy Broadus suzy@unionirmo.org
- Ned Calvert ned@unionirmo.org
- Eleanor Cannon Eleanor@unionirmo.org
- Michelle Cochcroft michelle@unionirmo.org
- Liz Edwards liz@unionirmo.org
- Don Kirkindoll don@unionirmo.org
- Jeri Katherine jerikatherine@unionirmo.org
- Barbara Tanner Barbara@unionirmo.org
- Stephen Taylor stephen@unionirmo.org
- Susan Vinson Susan@unionirmo.org
- Diane Hamilton diane@unionirmo.org
- Kathy Horne kathy@unionirmo.org

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SIGN-UP FOR UNION E-MAIL UPDATE

In an effort to keep you up to date with the happenings at Union, we have an email list. You can join by clicking on the "Union E-mail Update" button on the left side of the Home Page on the website. By joining, you will begin receiving weekly updates on Fridays of events and activities that are going on at Union and any reminders that pertain to Sunday.

We want you to know what's happening, so join us by going to the website at www.unionirmo.org.



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

YAMS (YOUNG ADULT METHODISTS, 20S-30S)

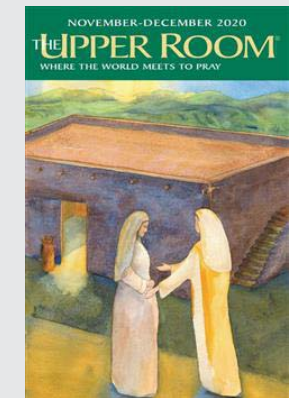
Our YAM event for December will be to attend the Worship Service at Irmo Park on **Sunday, December 13 @ 4 PM** then grab a bite to eat following (location TBD).

Reach out to Zoe Ayers

(803-920-0929 or zoeayers13@gmail.com) for more details!



Have you considered making a gift to the Union United Methodist Church Permanent Endowment Fund? A gift to the Endowment Fund ensures that Union will continue to have an impact on the lives in our community for generations to come. There are many ways to give to the Endowment Fund. If you are giving a memorial gift to Union, please consider designating that gift for the Endowment Fund. What better memorial than a gift that will continue to grow and support Union's facilities and outreach programs that would not be possible because of budget constraints! The gift you give will be used to generate income and gains, which are used for non-budgeted programs and improvements, but the principle gift will always remain in the fund. Stay tuned for more tips throughout this year on how you can leave a legacy gift to Union's Endowment Fund for generations to come.



UPPER ROOMS

Are available in the Church Office Reception Area for anyone who would like one.

Cost is \$1.00 for large print or small print





“Raise up a child in the way of the Lord...”
Proverbs 22:6a

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

Children will be invited to meet volunteers at the front side door of the Sanctuary to leave together and go to FMC room 227. Parents will pick up kids there following each service. Remember first Sundays are for communion with your families so we don’t have Children’s church. We are going through a series of lessons called, “Holy Moments: teaching our children about worship.” Volunteers are still needed too, if you are interested, let Suzy Broadus know. (suzy@unionirmo.org Safe Sanctuary screening is needed for volunteer.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our children’s Sunday school is back in action! Join us in the Education Building on the 2nd floor. All parents need to check in their children at the welcome table each week, this is how we are taking attendance. Be sure to wear your masks and get some hand sanitizer before going to your rooms. Can’t wait to see you!



“My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”

LUKE 1:47



Hurting or lonely and need a Stephen Minister’s care?

Please contact the Church Office at 781-3013 to be connected with a Stephen Minister.



PARENTS’ TIME OUT!

Saturday, December 12
3:00 pm

Children ages infant to 1st grade. \$10/child, includes individually wrapped snack

RSVP by the Wednesday December 9th to Stacy Burggraf at Stacy.burggraf@gmail.com

Space will be limited to 10 children.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If inclement weather should occur that causes conditions to be unsafe for the members to attend worship services or other church functions, information will be obtained from the Sheriff’s Dept., S.C. Highway Dept, and the Weather Station. Then a decision will be made. Cancellation information will be placed on the TV report, social Media and the church phone message at 781-3013. If the church line is busy when you call, please try again.



YOUTH OF UNION MINISTRIES 6TH-12TH GRADES

IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION INFO—STAY IN THE KNOW!

JOIN OUR TEXTING PLATFORM TO GET UP TO DATE TEXT MESSAGES ABOUT ALL THINGS YOUTH OF UNION!

Text: YouthofUnion
(all one word – NO spaces)
To: 84576


Open a new text message. In the “to” space, where you would enter a phone number, you enter 84576. In the space where you would write a message, you enter YouthOfUnion. Send message and await the automated response.

BE SURE TO CLICK THE LINK AND COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION!
[This is VERY important!](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040c44acab2ca31-20202021)

You may also keep up with us on Social Media and our very own website!
www.youthofunion.com

 Instagram:
YouthofUnion

 Facebook:
Youth of Union

 Twitter:
@YouthofUnion

CONTACT:
Eleanor Cannon
Director of Youth and Leisure Ministries
eleanor@unionirmo.org

UPCOMING EVENT

Youth of Union is back in FULL (masked) SWING!
Join us weekly on Sunday evenings for fellowship, ministry, food & fun!

The new schedule is as follows:
Middle School Students - 5-6pm
Dinner for ALL Youth - 6-6:30pm
High School Students - 6:30-7:30pm

Middle School Students should report to the Underground to sign in. High School Students should report to the FMC Gym to sign in. All students are required to wear a mask. We request that parents be extra diligent about checking on the health (and temperature) of their students prior to sending them to church activities. We are SO excited to finally be back together - let’s work together to keep it rolling! Friends are ALWAYS welcome and encouraged!

PARENT/VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED - we need parents (or anyone willing) to sign up to help prep/serve food for our Youth on Sunday evenings. Food is a crucial part of Youth Ministry, and we have an incredible core team that runs the kitchen, but they can’t make their magic without a little help! Please consider signing up for at least one Sunday this year! Here’s the link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040c44acab2ca31-20202021>



PARENT APP for Youth of Union Parents :
We are SO excited about this (FREE!) SUPER tool for staying connected with what is happening in Youth of Union and for being able to have discussions with your student about what they are learning and about their faith journey. To get it, go through the app store on your mobile device and download the Parent Cue App. You can search Union UMC Irmo to synch with current Youth of Union weekly lessons and daily devotions, and you can add all (any age) of your children to the app to get tips on building a family of faith.

Youth Monthly Sunday Breakfast
We will no longer have 1st Sunday breakfast, but will swap to LAST Sunday of the month during the Sunday School hour in the Underground. For the next couple of months, we will not cook pancakes, but will have packaged breakfast items. Hope to see y’all there!



OUR PURPOSE

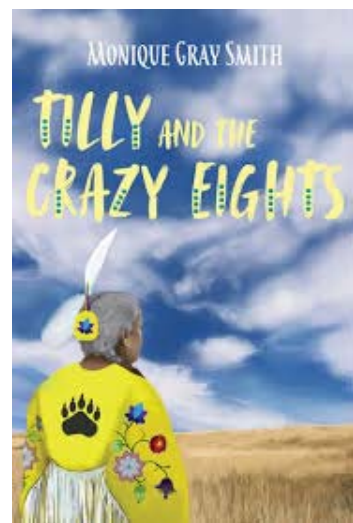
United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

THE VISION OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

On behalf of Union’s United Methodist Women, we want to welcome you. We look forward to working with you, with our many circles, project and Bible Studies. If you or someone you know is interested in joining, please call the church office or contact one of the following officers:

- President**
Becky Travis
mail@bobtravis.com
- Co-Vice Presidents**
Jane Davis
janesdavis@yahoo.com
Nancy Nelson-Embler
nancy.realtyagent@gmail.com
- Secretary**
Lee McMillan
lmcmillan@umcsc.org
- Communications**
Joy Downs
Joydowns6@gmail.com
- Treasurer**
Lisa Mansfield
lismans@me.com
- Social Action/Special Mission Recognition**
Gail Elfert
celfert@aol.com
- Education & Interpretation**
Judy Livingston
judyblivingston@gmail.com
- Secretary of Program Resources (Reading Program)**
Connie Warren
connieswarren33@gmail.com
- Spiritual Growth/Historian**
Gail Elfert
celfert@aol.com
- Membership, Nurture and Outreach**
Domi Kyle
domipk@sc.rr.com



UMW READING PROGRAM

TILLY AND THE CRAZY EIGHTS, by Monique Gray Smith

Category: Nurturing for Community

When Tilly receives an invitation to help drive eight elders on their ultimate bucket-list road trip, she impulsively says yes.. Before she knows it, Tilly has said good-bye to her family and is on an adventure that will transform her in ways she could not predict, just as it will for te elders who soon dub themselves “the Crazy Eights.” The trip proves to be powerful medicine as they laugh, heal, argue, and dream along the way as they head to the Gathering of Nations Pow Wow in Albuquerque.



Christmas Donations

Opportunities for Christmas “Special Donations” are available until **Wednesday, December 2**. These donations can be dedicated “in honor of” and/or “in memory of” and are \$20 each. The main recipient of these monies will be Sharing God’s Love, a Christian ministry that helps the community families in crisis. A small portion of the donated money will go to purchase red poinsettias for the UUMC Advent services. Thank you for your loving generosity as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Please complete the information below.

In honor of :

In memory of :

Given by: