



DECEMBER 2022

# The Connection

Monthly publication of the Trenholm Road United Methodist Church



8:45am - Traditional Worship  
9:45am - Sunday School  
11:00am - Traditional Worship



## PASTOR'S ARTICLE

**Are you ready for Christmas?**

*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"*

Mark 1:1-3, NRSV

Are you ready for Christmas? This early in December, most people would say, "No!" Have you spent some time getting ready for Christmas? Well now, that's a different story. We have decorated our church at Trenholm Road UMC and have already had our beautiful and moving Hanging of the Greens service. Many of us have decorated our homes (or at least begun the process) with Christmas trees, stockings, and lights galore. Maybe we have started to turn on Christmas music in our cars and homes or purchased Christmas presents in anticipation of the numerous gatherings. And yet, if we have done all these things, it is possible that we have still not done anything to get ready for Christmas.

Fortunately, the church year offers us an opportunity to get ready – a season called Advent. The church calendar begins with a four week time of preparation as we get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Advent derives from the Latin "ad-venire" which means "to come to." This season gives us opportunity to hear the voice of John the Baptist as he cries to "prepare the way of the Lord."

John does not ask for people to begin baking fruit cake or to make a wish list for Santa. He "[proclaims] a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." (Mark 1:4, NRSV) In order to prepare the way for Jesus, we do not need to focus on anything that has to do with decorations or appearances. Instead, we are reminded that to get ready for the coming of our Savior is to turn away from those parts of our lives that are not Christ-centered and to receive the forgiveness that only the grace of God in Jesus Christ provides.

During this Advent season, may we not only prepare our homes, but may we also prepare our hearts for the coming of our Prince of Peace. Only then will we be truly ready for Christmas.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor James

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

## UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

### SUNDAY @ TRENHOLM ROAD UMC

8:45am - Traditional Worship

9:45am - Sunday School

11:00am - Traditional Worship

TRUMC is the place for fellowship, discipleship, and great food on Wednesday nights. The nursery is available every Wednesday from 5:30pm - 7:30pm. Volunteer cashier needed! Contact the church for details.

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Dec. 5 - Stephen Ministry - 6pm - Hope Rm.

Dec. 5 - Church & Society - 6pm - Believers Rm.

Dec. 5 - TRUMC Book Club - 6:30pm - Parlor

Dec. 6 - Prayer Team - 11:00am - Believers

Dec. 6 - Trustee - 6pm - Conf. Rm.

Dec. 13 - SPRC - 6pm - Parlor

Dec. 20 - Finance - 6pm - Parlor



### Flower Signup

The 2023 flower chart is posted in the hallway. Reserve flowers for your special calendar date.

## Prayers of the Church:

Jan Fary, Dave Fary, Tiffany Helms,  
*TrumPreschool Director*

Sharon Lentz, David Kinard, Glenna Kinard, Robbie Bowers, Art Baker, Vernon Bowen, Carol Mosser, Carol Parrish, Jess Torres, Myra Torres, Debby Joyner, Angela English, Stella Wilkins, Celeste Cobb, Suzanne Wise, Shealy McCoy, Smith family, Melinda Gray, Leela Grace Oberein, Nancy Howarth,  
*grandmother of Nathan Cox*

## Holy Baptism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism was celebrated for Mary Margaret Alpert, daughter of Rebecca and Ryan, granddaughter of Jim and Julie Lybrand on Sunday, November 20.

## New Members

We welcomed Mary Grace and Scott Caughman into the fellowship of Trenholm Road UMC on Sunday, November 6.

**December Birthdays and Anniversaries** - Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all December celebrants.

## Attendance & Financial Report

Annual Budget, \$1,416,812

Month-to-Date Receipts, \$121,858

Month-to-Date Expenses, \$121,814

Difference, \$44

Year-to-Date Receipts, \$1,140,624

Year-to-Date Expenses, \$1,113,000

Difference, \$27,624

The deadline for 2022 Tithes and Gifts:

You can hand deliver to Catherine in the Business Office or drop in the safe by Friday, December 30 between 7:30 am - 3 pm

If you send via USPS, the envelope must be postmarked 12/31/22 or earlier.

If you have any questions please contact the Business Office. Thank you for your generous gifts!

**Don't forget to make your 2023 Stewardship pledge. Go online - [trenholmroad.org/stewardship](https://trenholmroad.org/stewardship) or fill out a card located in the narthex or west foyer.**

# Worship with us

A Service of Lessons and Carols - December 11

Music by the Palmetto Brass - December 18

Christmas Eve services: 1 pm, 3pm and 5pm

Christmas Day - 1 service @ 10am

New Year's Day - 8:45am & 11am



## HOLIDAY HOURS

In observance of Christmas, the church office will be closed on Monday, December 26 and December 27. The church office will be closed in observance of New Year's on January 2.

## DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### December 4

8:45 Pat Bolin, Lay Reader

11:00 Will Cranford, Acolyte

Julie Reynolds, Crucifer

Kay James, Lay Reader

### December 11

8:45 both needed

11:00 Acolyte needed

Ryan Hamner, Crucifer

### December 18

8:45 Terri Strauss, Lay Reader

11:00 Will Cranford, Acolyte

Julia Reynolds, Crucifer

Kelsey Reynolds, Lay Reader

### December 24

3:00 Tut Underwood, Lay Reader

5:00 Kelsey Reynolds, Lay Reader

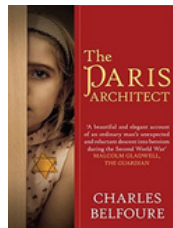
### December 25

10:00 am Nathan Cox, Lay reader

Acolyte and Crucifer needed

## Christmas Luncheon - UWF circles

On Sunday, December 4 the United Women in Faith circles will provide a covered dish Christmas luncheon after the 11:00 service. It is free to all women in the church. No signup is necessary.



## DECEMBER BOOK CLUB

The TRUMC Book club will meet Monday, December 5 and discuss Charles Belfoure "The Paris Architect". The group will meet at 6:30pm in the parlor. A zoom option is also available for participation.

For details - contact Margaret Haffner - [musselman123@hotmail.com](mailto:musselman123@hotmail.com)

**Children's Fall Service Project**

Our children had a service project night in November. We made Christmas wreaths, crosses, and cards which will be taken to local nursing homes and Meals on Wheels recipients in December. Thank you to all the adults who helped with this special event!



**Fall Festival Recap**

We celebrated our Fall Festival in October with Eastminster Presbyterian Church and we had a blast! The rain held off just long enough that everyone had the opportunity to win some sweet treats at the Cake Walk, visit all the Trunks and collect some yummy candy, play some fun field games (special thanks to Linda Collins and the youth for running this!) and of course, going down the slide and bouncy castles!



**Pumpkin Patch Recap**

Our annual Pumpkin Patch fundraiser was a great success! Thank you to each and every volunteer who helped unload, organize and work the Pumpkin Patch! We could not do it without you. We raised over \$48,000 with a profit of \$18,000 for our youth and children's ministries!

**MYF Christmas Party**  
 4 DECEMBER, 2022  
 Sunday | 5:30pm  
 Bring a gift for White Elephant Exchange  
 \$5.00 or less  
 We will have hot dogs, hamburgers and dessert!

**Gift MAKING**  
 You are invited to TRUMC Children's Ministry annual Gift Making Event!  
 DEC | 7 | 6:30-7:30  
 Contact Ashlea with questions or if you'd like to help!  
 Ashlea@trumc.org

**JOIN US FOR A BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS!**  
 December 14th  
 6:30-7:30 PM  
 Everyone is invited to a night of fellowship, fun, and celebration!  
 We will be celebrating Jesus by taking up donations of wipes, diapers, and laundry detergent, benefiting Family Promise of Columbia.



# Trenholm Road

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3401 Trenholm Road  
Columbia, SC 29204

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[www.TrenholmRoad.org](http://www.TrenholmRoad.org)

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## *Poinsettias*

for the Sanctuary

If you would like to make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one, complete the form below and return it to the church office via the offering plate. The cost is \$14 per plant. The money collected will be used to offset the cost of the sanctuary poinsettias. Make your check payable to TRUMC (separate from your contribution check). If you're placing your check in the offering plate, please use a pew envelope to keep the check and order form together. Also, if you're designating more than one person for a single poinsettia, please note on your order form. Orders need to be in the church office no later than Monday, December 12.

(Check and PRINT the name)

(Check and PRINT the name)

**\_\_ In Honor of**

\_\_\_\_\_

**\_\_ In Memory of**

\_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fill out form & return payment by mail to TRUMC**