

**Advent-and Christmas Celebrations
Chatfield UMC**



**Choose to Wait—Choose a Better Way
Choose to Be Courageous—Choose to Trust**

Sundays in December 9:30 AM

1st

**Children's Christmas Program Practice
Worship With Holy Communion**

15th

**Children's Christmas Program
Caroling to our Senior Adults after Worship**

Christmas Eve Services

**Family Service 4:30 PM Birthday Party for Jesus
Candlelight Service 7:30 PM**

December 2019

Choose to Wait—Choose a Better Way—Choose to Be Courageous—Choose to Trust

It is Advent! Time to start marking the days off until Christmas. Waiting for the Christ Child to be born among us anew. As Christians we mark this time as a time to **Choose to Wait**.

We try to slow everything down a bit and focus on the coming of Christ in our midst.

It is hard, but it is worth it. We **Choose a Better Way** so that we can be better people. People focused on the love of Christ. Sometimes this takes courage because so much of the world is focused on the glitter of the holiday but we **Choose to Be Courageous**. We take time to come to church, to tell the story in a different way. Because when it is all said and done, we can realize that this season calls us to something bigger and broader and higher and wider than all the glitter and festivities can fulfill. This season reminds us to **Choose to Trust**. Trust that this impossible story of a child born in a stable 2000 years ago can have anything to do with the rest of the year.

Here are some ideas for activities that you and your family could do this Advent season to remind yourselves that this waiting has a bigger purpose than what we normally sense. We are waiting and watching and working toward the coming of the Christ among us again.

What kind of story do your decorations tell? What do they tell others about what your family believes about Christmas? What are some ways you can change or add to your decorations to tell the story of God's vision for peace and your own hopes and prayers?

How can you make celebrations for family or friends who may find Christmas difficult? How can you be a friend for them at this time? How will the celebrations you are part of help to make Christmas better for others?

In the midst of a busy season, see if you can reclaim even one small part of Christmas. Sing a hymn or song each evening or light a candle together before a meal. You might play some beautiful Christmas music in the car when you are out and about preparing for Christmas.

Talk about how love has been part of the decisions you make as a family. When have you chosen love over common sense or love over other people's opinions? What symbols of love do you have around your home?

The little children of the church receive an Advent Calendar to help them mark off the days until Christmas. Maybe you would like to do that in your own home. These can be purchased at card shops and on line.

Choose to Wait—Choose a Better Way—Choose to Be Courageous—Choose to Trust

Hope and Peace, Pastor Debra

Stories for this Advent and Christmas

December 1– Choose to Wait

Isaiah 2:1–5 & Matthew 24:36-44 *“No one knows that day and that hour—not the angels of heaven, nor even the Only Begotten—only Abba God.”*

Something to think about: Isaiah wrote what God’s world of love would look like – and even gave us instructions on how to get there. Peace does not magically happen, it is brought to life when people live with faithfulness. God doesn’t take away the weapons of destruction – God expects us to turn them into instruments of creation. God wants us to live in a way that brings hope to others. Imagine what a world without violence or war would look like. Now imagine what you can do to help create that. What everyday items in your household could be turned around and used to represent hope? For example, if your family fights over who has control of the TV remote control, you might tie a ribbon around it to remind you of your family’s commitment to being people of love.

Prayer: *God of Hope, thank you for sending Jesus. Help us to be hopeful people as we share with others. Amen.*

December 8, 2019 – Choose a Better Way

Isaiah 11:1–10 *There will be no harm, no destruction anywhere in my holy mountain; for as water fills the sea, so the land will be filled with knowledge of Yahweh.*

Something to think about: The cow and bear, the lion and ox, living alongside each other in peace does not seem very likely, does it? Isaiah seems relentless though, in his belief that this kind of world is possible when people live with righteousness and faith. We might all wish and hope for the peace Isaiah promises, but the real challenge is not just to believe it will happen, but to live in a way that will bring this world to life. What is a symbol of peace in your household? Put it in a prominent place this week to remind you of the daily need to live for peace.

Prayer: *God of Peace, thank you for sending Jesus. Help us live lives of peace with others. Amen.*

December 15, 2019 – Choose to Be Courageous

Luke 1:47–55 *“Mary said: “My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, my Savior.”*

Something to think about: Like all mothers, Mary had high hopes for her baby. She wanted to tell others about this special child, and so she sang a song. She sang that this child would bring loving kindness to the world. Mary’s baby would give good things to those in need and would turn the world upside down with God’s love. Mary was filled with joy because she would give birth to this special child of God. What things bring joy to your household? Choose something that reminds you of joy. Place these somewhere close to your front door so that as you leave and enter your house, you are reminded of the joy that God gives.

Prayer: *God of joy, thank you for sending Jesus. Help us discover your joy and share it with others. Amen.*

December 22, 2019 – Choose to Trust

Matthew 1:18–25 *“All this happened to fulfill what God has said through the prophet: “The young woman will be with child and give birth, and the child will be named Immanuel” —a name that means “God is with us.”*

Something to think about: On this last Sunday of the Advent season, we hear about love in all shapes, love that makes tough choices, love that trusts and believes, love that risks, love that lives. We know, through this story, that Jesus’ willingness to step out courageously didn’t come from nowhere. It was inherited from his parents. What legacy of love do you want to be passed down through your family?

Prayer: *God of love, thank you for sending Jesus. Help us remember your love and share it with others. Amen.*

December 29, 2019 – Choose Praise

Psalm 148 Praise God, all you angels; praise God, all you hosts! Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!

Something to think about: The wind whistles and the trees shake their branches in the air. Humans sing, dogs wag their tails. Each element of nature applauds, in its own way. The Sacred Energy that created Earth keeps it going. During the Season of Christmas, there is much to celebrate. Let us sing joy to and with the whole world.

Prayer *Let the whole wide world give thanks to God!*

Advent Opportunities

Children's Christmas Program—December 15

Recently, on a popular quiz show, it was revealed that being in a nativity play was an indicator of childhood success. Whether that is true or not, the memories of being the sheep, star, Mary or even the camel can be some of our most poignant of memories. Relive that sense of joy and wonder on December 15 during worship as we give our children a chance to be successful in:

“WOW”—A Nativity Play for Kids by Gwynne Watkins with wonderful Christmas Carols sung by our children.

Caroling Around Town—December 15

Join with the church family on December 15th after worship to carol to our seniors both in the Care Center and around town. We will have special treats for the coffee hour and then travel to the Care Center. This event takes about 1 hour. A good hour to bring cheer to our senior adults and remind us of the joy a small thing can be.

Scanning for Dollars

Have you noticed the funny little graphic in the newsletter and bulletins? The one that looks like this:

If you have a smart phone, you can scan that little graphic and be directed to a page on our website where you can give a gift using your credit or debit card. It is one of the new ways of giving that has been set up for our church. You can give directly on the website or to the church Facebook page. We are not, yet, planning on having a giving kiosk in the narthex or a person standing outside the doors of worship with a payment device for swiping.



But we are trying to find all the ways we can to capture the good-hearted people who want to give to the ministry of this church but no longer carry checkbooks or remember to bring their offerings on Sunday morning.

If you don't have a smart phone, you can simply visit chatfieldumc.org/donations to donate as well!

Giving Opportunities

Roaster Insert Pans

Do you have a rectangle shaped roaster pan or roaster pan insert that is not being used? You may donate them to the church for use during Western Days and other food events.

Medical Equipment

The Medical Equipment Loan closet is used constantly. Please bring your gently used equipment to the church. Others will be grateful.

Noisy Offering

Pocket change is collected on the first Sunday of every month by the children. This collection supports missions.

Greeting Cards

Are available in the fellowship hall. Each box sells for \$5.00. The sale of these cards supports future mission trips.

Lions Club to Host Senior Citizen Christmas Dinner

Members of the Chatfield Lions Club invite all senior citizens and former residents of the Chosen Valley School district, 70 years of age or older, and their spouses, to attend the Annual Senior Citizen Christmas Dinner. The dinner will be held at **12:00 Noon on Saturday, December 14th**, at the Chosen Valley Elementary School in Chatfield. The menu includes turkey, dressing, potatoes, vegetables, cranberries, and dessert.

There is no charge for this dinner and no RSVP is necessary. If any person is in need of a ride to the dinner, contact the Root River State Bank at 876-4120 prior to December 14th. Lions Club President Bill McMahon encourages all local senior citizens to attend this holiday event, which is being provided as a “thank you” to our senior citizens for their past support of, and contributions to, our community.

Books and Beverages 2019-2020

Meeting @ JAC's 7:00 PM on Wednesdays

December 4th

The Garden of Lost and Found Harriet Evans

Nightingale House was the Horner family's beloved home - a gem of design created to inspire happiness - and it was here Ned painted The Garden of Lost and Found, capturing his children on a perfect day, playing in the rambling Eden he and Liddy made for them.

One magical moment. Before it all came tumbling down...

January 29th

Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography Harold Ivan Smith

Eleanor Roosevelt is remembered as a formidable first lady and tireless social activist. Often overlooked, however, is her deep and inclusive spirituality.

LENT BEGINS February 26 with Ash Wednesday. Books and Beverages resumes after Lent

April 22nd

Threading My Prayer Rug by Sabeeha Rehman

Beginning with a sweetly funny, moving account of her arranged marriage, the author undercuts stereotypes and offers the refreshing view of an American life through Muslim eyes.

May 20th

Save Me the Plums by Ruth Reichl

Complete with recipes, Save Me the Plums is a personal journey of a woman coming to terms with being in charge and making a mark, following a passion and holding on to her dreams—even when she ends up in a place she never expected to be.

Free Of Financial Debt And Living Into The Abundance Of Grace.



We did it! We paid off the mortgage! We are officially debt free as a congregation. Now we can keep what we have beautiful and open for all the ministry that we do out of these buildings.

The church building is 'just' a building; yet it is also the place where people come to receive grace and love through food, medical equipment, words of encouragement, hugs, warm quilts, and God's message of hope.

Come to worship on January 5 to celebrate a new year of ministry free of financial debt and living into the abundance of grace.

Working with God in the World and Community

Steve Strickler
Food Shelf Coordinator
chatfieldfoodshelf@gmail.com

Denise Pagel
Weekend Backpack & Library
Lunch Coordinator: denpag@q.com

Families received turkeys, cans of pumpkin, squash, and lots of staples prior to Thanksgiving this year. Literally, over a ton of food. It is good to know that families will have the opportunity for a full meal during the holidays.

We have also received some amazing donations of food from the youth and children of our community. Seeing our children caring for our children is one of the tender parts of running a food ministry.

Food Donation List

Cereal
Pasta and sauce
Pancake Mix
Hamburger Helper
TunaHelper
Canned soup
Canned meat
Canned fruit
Canned vegetables
Peanut Butter
Canned tuna

Food Shelf Open
Tuesdays 6-7:30 pm
Fridays 9-10:30am

Donations can be brought to Chatfield United Methodist Church,
124 Winona Street SE, 8am-8pm

CHATFIELD COMMUNITY FOOD SHELF **MISSION STATEMENT**

Chatfield Community Food Shelf exists to provide food supplies in a manner that preserves the dignity and respect of families and individuals who are residents of Chatfield and the Chatfield rural community. Chatfield Community Food Shelf serves individuals and families regardless of their race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, sexual orientation, physical appearance, disability status, age, pregnancy or any group membership.



Noon Meals Available to senior adults through Meals on Wheels. Call 507-864-8228 to be enrolled.

Chatfield UMC is a Meals on Wheels Volunteer Driver location. If you would like to drive for MOWs contact Kathy Kamnetz: 763-355-4619

The food shelf served 32 households in October and distributed 2315 pounds of food.

Making connections:

You may reach Pastor Debra Collum in a number of ways:

- Call the Church-867-3529 (Please leave a message if no one is in)
- Call her cell phone-(507) 923.1097.
(Again, you can leave a message if no one answers.)
- E-mail her at: chatifiedpastor@gmail.com

Mailing Address is:

Chatfield United Methodist Church
124 Winona St. SE Chatfield, MN 55923

Web Site: www.chatfieldumc.org

The Pastor is always available for home visitations and counseling whenever requested, as well as hospital visits when notified. Please keep her informed of your needs as she is here to respond. She does try to take Fridays off during the week.

Tyler Grundman, the administrative assistant and IT guru would like to know if you change your address or phone or any other additions or changes for the church records: call, email, or leave a note in the office with the new information. Phone numbers & **EMAILS** are helpful!

Contact Tyler in the church office: 867-3529 or webmaster@chatfieldumc.org
He is usually in the office on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm

General Conference 2020

Some have asked about the General Conference happening in Minneapolis in May of 2020. You will be hearing in the news and on line the potential for a church split and other words that are confusing and concerning. As with the last General Conference in 2019, we will proceed as the UMC in Chatfield, doing what we have been called to do with the confidence that God who has begun a good work in and through us will carry it on to perfection in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:6)

Bishop Ough urges us to this task, also. Here are his words of call to mission from his latest letter to our Conference.

“In June, at the Minnesota Annual Conference Session we adopted an aspirational vision that articulated a Methodism “rooted in Jesus, grounded in Wesleyan theology, inclusive of all persons, and engaged in the work of justice and reconciliation.”

I believe that Jesus’ three key missional imperatives we have been lifting up as our vision for every local congregation—grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and heal a broken world—are most fully expressed as an inclusive church. I urge you to live into the vision we adopted as we continue to embrace our mission of making disciples of Jesus who are equipped and sent to make the kingdom visible and available to all God’s people. Above all else, Jesus’ ministry was to extend abundant life to all of God’s beloved children. Jesus’ ministry was for all and to all. God, in Christ, is constantly drawing the circle wider, constantly expanding the table of grace.

There is still much uncertainty about what will happen next May when General Conference meets. We don’t yet know whether The United Methodist Church might provide space for the different ways we do ministry in our various contexts, or whether we will be part of a new expression of Methodism to be birthed. But we as the Minnesota Annual Conference have clarified our values, and I, as your bishop, am committed to those values and vow to lead us down whatever path blesses and enables us to be the church God is calling us to be.”

December Birthdays

1	Brenda Hanson
4	Amy Grover
6	Sandy Wright
8	Kathy Hanson
12	Amy Zincke
14	Edward Amundson Roy Lange Donald Simpson
15	Christopher Dornack Dwayne Kamnetz Dolly Zincke
16	Aleksie Erickson Candice Hare
21	Carol Adams
23	Michelle Folken
24	Zayden Wright
25	Lee Kester
26	Alexandra Hanson
28	Bill Seamens
29	Jacob Gillespie Holly Martinka Angela Reinke
31	Roger Wotz



Slice of Life: An Experience for Senior and Care Givers

Care givers and their loved ones, along with any senior adult members of the Chatfield community are invited to Slice of Life (Seniors and Loved Ones, Interactive, Chatfield, Experiences). A program that will explore something in Chatfield that can stimulate communication, imagination, story creating, and artistic expression.

Slice of Life is supported by a grant from the Round Up program of People's Coop. There is no fee for the participants.

Anyone who would like to attend these sessions is welcome. If you have questions you may call the Chatfield UMC at 507-867-3529 or email Pastor Debra Collum at chatfieldpastor@gmail.com

Slice of Life Schedule for 2019-2020

Tuesday January 7	Experience the Coffee	Cabin Coffee
Tuesday February 4	Ring Out the Winter Blues	Chatfield Lutheran Church
Thursday March 5	Colors as Emotions	Chatfield Center for the Arts
Tuesday April 7	Europe without a Passport	St. Mary's Catholic Church
Tuesday May 5	TBA	



Chatfield United Methodist Women

Faith+Hope+Love in Action

Over 75 Years

Christian Social Involvement / "Sunshine": Marlene Hisey

Nominating Committee: Doris Narveson 867-4462 Juanita Haare

UMW Officers for 2019

Co-President: Pam Nelson 867-3086

Co-President: Denise Pagel 273-3188

Secretary: Donna Amundson 867-3788

Treasurer: Kathy Lange 867-3590

867-3457

202-0000

CHATFIELD UNITED METHODIST WOMEN CHRISTMAS TEA & BAZAAR

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

TUESDAY -- DECEMBER 3 Luncheon \$8

UMW Meeting

December

No General Meeting

Parish Health

Questions? Ask Beverly Simpson simpbev@gmail.com 507-867-0064

The Gathering Place for Seniors

Chatfield United Methodist Church, 124 Winona St. SE, Chatfield, MN 55923

Medical Equipment Loan Closet

Walkers, Crutches, Canes, Wheelchairs, Bath Benches, Toilet Risers & Surrounds, Lift Chair, Bed Rails available for loan. Free for as long as you need the equipment.

8 A.M.-8 P.M., M - F. Call Beverly Simpson @ 507-867-0064 to ask about availability of equipment.

Senior Support Group

Second Friday of each month 9 A.M - 10 A.M.

1102 Liberty Street N.W.

at Chosen Valley Independent Living Dining Room

(Participants discuss issues related to growing older, healthy living, and caregiving)

Please join us for coffee and conversation!

Beverly Simpson, Facilitator

Age Well At Home - Fillmore County

Active Aging Programs - Questions? Call Tina Kerns @ 251-0520 tkerns@ccsomm.org

SAIL

Strengthen your bones, improve your balance, and have more energy.

This FREE activity program to prevent osteoporosis is led by Active Aging Programs Volunteers

9 A.M. Mondays & Wednesdays

St. Mary's Catholic Church Fellowship Hall, 405 Twiford St. SW Co-

Leaders: Mary Bailey & Beverly Simpson

CUMC Soup Supper & Silent Auction
benefiting Eagle's Cancer Telethon
Sat. Jan. 11, 2020 4:30 pm-7:00 pm
(1 Week Earlier Than Telethon This Year!)

WORSHIP SERVICE HELPERS

2019 COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

January	Trustees Committee
February	SPRC Committee
March	Worship Committee
April	Missions Committee
May	Health Cabinet & Memorial Committee
June	No Coffee Fellowship
July	No Coffee Fellowship
August	No Coffee Fellowship
September	Trustees Committee
October	SPRC Committee
November	Worship Committee
December	Missions Committee

WORSHIP READERS

December 1	Amy Grover
December 8	Teresa Narveson
December 15	Holly Martinka
December 22	Sheila Erickson
December 29	

ALTAR GUILD

Thank you to the Altar Guild for so faithfully dressing the altar, your time is appreciated!

USHER LIST

January	Gary & Denise Pagel, John Amundson, Kyra Throckmorton
February	Lee & Staria Kester, Kent Gillespie, Sydney Ellis
March	Mike & Bev Simpson, Scott Ferguson, Peyton Ellis
April	Roy & Kathy Lange, Ellie Collett
May	Dwaine & Kathy Kamnetz, Olivia Hare
June	Bill Collett, Juanita Haare, Madison Collett
July	Roy Erickson, Kent Gillespie
August	Pam & Rod Nelson, Tom Ferrier
September	Myron & Sandy Maker, Aliesha Hanson
October	John & Holly Martinka
November	John & Ruth Wendt, Kyra Throckmorton
December	Tyler & Mary Beth Nelson, Olivia Hare

December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am Worship	2 9am SAIL	3 8am Quilts & Craft 11am Christmas Tea & Bazaar 6pm Food Shelf Open	4 9am SAIL 12pm Ministerial 7pm Books & Beverages	5	6 9am Food Shelf Open	7
8 9:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School	9 9am SAIL	10 8am Quilts & Craft 6pm Food Shelf Open	11 9am SAIL 1:30pm Care Center Communion	12	13 9am Food Shelf Open 9am Sr. Support Group	14
15 9:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School	16 9am SAIL	17 8am Quilts & Craft 6pm Food Shelf Open	18 9am SAIL	19	20 9am Food Shelf Open	21 11am Chris Amy Reserve CUMC Basement
22 9:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School	23 9am SAIL	24 Christmas Eve 4:30pm Family Service	25 Christmas Day	26	27 9am Food Shelf Open	28
29 9:30am Worship Altar Guild Team 3	30 9am SAIL Meals on Wheels Begins	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day			



124 Winona St SE
Chatfield, MN 55923

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Org.
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Chatfield, MN
Permit #6

**Chatfield
United Methodist
Church**

124 Winona St SE
Chatfield, MN 55923

Church Phone:

(507) 867-3529

Secretary E-Mail:

webmaster@chatfieldumc.org

Children E-Mail:

lange.jennifer@mayo.edu

Pastor's E-Mail:

chatfieldpastor@gmail.com

www.chatfieldumc.org

Sundays in December 9:30 AM

**1st Children's Christmas Program
Practice**

Worship With Holy Communion

**15th Children's Christmas Program
Caroling to our Senior Adults after
Worship**

Christmas Eve Services

Family Service

4:30 PM Birthday Party for Jesus

7:30 PM Candlelight Service

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**9:30 am
Worship**

**9:30 am
Sunday School**

**10:30 am
Coffee Fellowship**

**Gluten Free Communion on the
first Sunday open to all**

Chatfield United Methodist Church

**We are a community of faith open to everyone.
We seek to live as disciples of Christ and share God's
love in word and deed.**