

Announcements and an Encouraging Word for December 20, 2023

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve Services:

9:30am Regular Worship Service Beginning with a special children's message

(Child care will be available for the remainder of the morning service)

7:30pm Christmas Eve Service begins with "Music and Meditation" followed by the Candlelight and Communion Service

(please observe silence when entering the Sanctuary area as the music will be playing)

Zoom will continue to run throughout the evening services. Once you join you will automatically be muted.

Thank you to all that contributed to our Christmas Memorial by donating or purchasing a poinsettia. The list is included as an attachment to this email. If you ordered a poinsettia, it can be picked up after our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service or the following Sunday.

From the Outreach Committee – "The Outreach Committee thanks the congregation and our friends for the continued support throughout the year. Our many projects would not have been successful without the support of this church family. We especially thank the Faith/Hope group for their outreach to friends who may not be able to come and worship on Sundays. We wish all a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year."

Giving Envelopes are available in the Narthex. A heads up, some of your giving numbers have changes as we needed less envelopes this year due to people using our e-giving option.

The Faith Hope Circle will meet January 11, 2024 at 12:30pm in the Church Hall. All women of the church and community are cordially invited. Future meetings will resume on the first Thursday of the month. We hope to see you January 11th as we welcome in the New Year!!

Are you following the church on social media? If not, you should! Our Facebook account is <https://www.facebook.com/mtcarmelumconnection/> And our Instagram account is <https://www.instagram.com/mcumc21122/>

If you have prayer requests, even if you plan to share them at Sunday worship, you may forward them ahead of time to Jen at the church office and she will compile a list to be used on Sunday morning. The church email is mtcarmel21122@gmail.com and our phone number is 410-255-8887. **Prayer Cards are also available in the Narthex on Sunday morning.** If you have a prayer or concern, we encourage you to fill out a card and it will be collected and read that morning.

We want to remind you that we are still using Zoom for our Sunday Services. Zoom allows you to join us from wherever you may be!! (Join us in your pj's with a morning cup of coffee) As most of you who Zoom our worship services know, I greet Zoom attendees as they sign on, take Zoom attendance, and assign names to phone numbers as phone callers sign on. I open the Zoom meeting at 9 a.m. to give people time to sign on. I encourage you to sign on early to avoid the crush of people signing on at the last minute. The earlier you sign on the easier it is for me to attend to the greeting

responsibilities. It also gives us a chance to chat and share prayer requests. **If you should have any problems logging in, please alert Jennifer in the office.**

The Announcements and Bulletin for Sunday's service are included as attachments to this encouraging word. Please feel free to print them out and either bring them with you to the service or to use them as your guide as you Zoom the service.