

# The Community Voice – November 2024

## North County Cooperative Parish

**MISSION STATEMENT:** *We make disciples who make disciples.*

**VISION STATEMENT:** *Through grace we welcome all, grow together, and make a difference with love.*

### Community Worship Schedule

#### SATURDAY

4:00PM at LHUMC (Conversational)

#### SUNDAY

8:45AM at Harwood Park UMC

9:00AM at FUMC

9:00AM at LHUMC (Hybrid)

10:00 at Brooklyn Community UMC

11:00AM at Messiah UMC

11:00AM at LHUMC (Traditional)

### Parish Churches

Linthicum Heights UMC  
200 School Lane  
Linthicum, MD 21090

Ferndale UMC  
117 Ferndale Road  
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

Harwood Park UMC  
6635 Highland Avenue  
Elkridge, MD 21075

Messiah UMC  
7401 E. Furnace Branch Road  
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Brooklyn Community UMC  
110 Townsend Avenue  
Brooklyn Park, MD 21225

### Parish Pastors

Senior Pastor  
Michael Bynum  
240-344-4532

[pastormichael@lhumc.org](mailto:pastormichael@lhumc.org)

Pastor Cynthia Belt  
Harwood UMC  
443-336-7637

[revcbelt@gmail.com](mailto:revcbelt@gmail.com)

Associate Pastor  
Kimberly Jenkins  
443-618-6835

[pastorkimberly@lhumc.org](mailto:pastorkimberly@lhumc.org)

Associate Pastor  
Pastor James Gordon  
443-871-9330

[pastorgordon@lhumc.org](mailto:pastorgordon@lhumc.org)



### Parish Office

410-859-0990  
[Office@lhumc.org](mailto:Office@lhumc.org)



# All Parish Worship

# Joy.

A Musical Celebration  
of the Season

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN US

Sunday December 15

10:00 am at

Linthicum Heights UMC

Mark your calendars and invite your friends, family and neighbors for this musical service featuring traditional and contemporary seasonal favorites

## Blue Christmas Worship

Saturday  
December 21  
7:00pm

Linthicum Heights UMC  
200 School Lane  
Linthicum, MD. 21090

## Blue Christmas Service Invitation

**When:** Saturday, December 21,  
2024, at 7:00 PM

**Where:** Linthicum Heights UMC

As the holiday season unfolds, many are filled with excitement and celebration—but for some, this time

can also bring feelings of loss, loneliness, or longing. Whether you're grieving the loss of a loved one, facing challenges in your life, or simply seeking a quiet space amid the hustle and bustle, you are invited to join us for a Blue Christmas Service. This unique gathering, open to the entire North County Cooperative Parish and our surrounding communities, offers a time of reflection, hope, and healing. Together, we will hold space for the complexities of the season with music, scripture, prayer, and a liturgy of hope that shines even in the darkest moments.

Come as you are, bring your burdens, and find comfort in the presence of God and the support of a loving community. All are welcome. For more information, don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office ([office@lhumc.org](mailto:office@lhumc.org) or 410-859-0990).

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it." –  
John 1:5

## *North County Cooperative Parish Christmas Eve Worship*

Harwood Park	9:00am
Brooklyn Community	12:00pm
Messiah	4:00pm
Ferndale	7:00pm
Linthicum Heights	10:00pm

**Sunday  
December 29  
All Parish Worship  
10:00am  
LHMC**

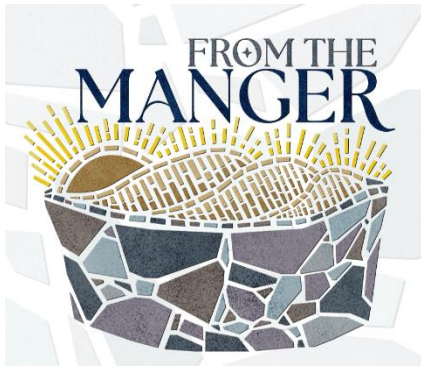
## **A Star-Word Celebration:**

An Epiphany Tradition Join us on the first Sunday of the New Year at each of the North County Cooperative Parish churches for a Star-Word Celebration, a meaningful way to begin the year with intention and reflection. Inspired by the journey of the Magi following the Christ star, this celebration invites us to open our hearts to God's guidance in the year ahead. At the celebration, each person will receive a unique Star-Word—a word to inspire prayer, reflection, and action

throughout the year.



For those who received a Star-Word for the year 2024, we'd love to hear your stories of how your Star-Word showed up in your life this past year! Whether it brought new insights, comfort, or challenges, your reflections can inspire and encourage others. Your feedback is valuable, and with Your permission, some stories may be shared during our Star-Word celebration on Epiphany to highlight how God is working through and among us. You can share your story by emailing it to the office ([office@lhmc.org](mailto:office@lhmc.org)) or filling out a card available at the Christmas Cantata, which can be returned to your church offering plate through the end of December. Cards can also be submitted anonymously if you prefer. If you didn't receive a Star-Word last year, don't worry! Our Epiphany celebration is the perfect opportunity to start fresh and receive a word to guide your 2025. Join us and discover how God might speak to you through this simple yet profound practice as we center ourselves in Christ's light for the journey ahead.



## Intergenerational Advent Reflection – Mondays 5pm-7pm

Hunger is a universal human experience, drawing attention to our most basic needs for food and nourishment and our more complex needs—peace, liberation, and meaning in this life. So, it's no wonder that the story of Jesus—the one who came to feed the hungry—begins, ends, and centers around food.

From the Manger gathers around the birth story in Luke 2, embracing the playful symbolism of a newborn Jesus being laid down to sleep in a feeding

trough in a town called “House of Bread.” Our time together will invite you to reflect on the life-sustaining hope, peace, joy, and love Jesus brings and notice how the baby born in a bread town continues to feed a hungry world today. Our time together will include shared experiences, prayers, reflections, songs, and a meal. This is an intergenerational gathering for participants from upper elementary school through adult.

We will meet on four Monday evenings, beginning on December 2nd, from 5-7pm at LHMC in the Unity Room. Sign up required; contact Mary Beth Wynne, MBWynne@LHMC.org, or the parish office.



# FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

FOR  
**NCEON & FERNDALE PANTRY**

Thank you, Linthicum Heights, for collecting over 48 bags of food for the Ferndale and NCEON Pantries!

### Supporting NCEON and Ferndale's Food Pantry

NCEON needs our help to provide food and financial aid to those in need. This program runs three days a week with the help of volunteers and no paid staff. To donate, make checks payable to our church, write "NCEON" in the memo, and place them in the designated boxes in the Narthex. The missions committee will forward all contributions to NCEON.

Ferndale's food pantry helps families twice a month. To support this, make checks payable to Ferndale United Methodist Church with "Food Pantry" in the memo and give them to the church office.

Food donations can also be dropped off at any church in the parish.


*Volunteers are not paid, not because they are worthless but because they are*

*Winter Relief Thank You!*

LHUMC coord: Claire Fiedler and Wayne Sanders;  
St Philip Neri coord: Virginia Grimm and Bobbie Whitney

St Francis of Assisi begins his prayer:  
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace...

We served 10-17 guests each day. Over 120 volunteers were involved from meal, hosts, laundry, set-up and clean-up, donations & prayers



## Winter Relief 2024 Thank You

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. (2 Corinthians 9:11)

WINTER RELIEF THANK YOU'S from your Coordinators from St. Philip-Neri Roman Catholic Church and Linthicum Heights United Methodist Church--Donna Scott, Virginia Grimm and Bobbie Whitney from SPN and Wayne Sanders and Claire Fiedler from LHUMC- --We had an amazing week with the

guests in Winter Relief last week. We served 10-18 guests each day. Those who were present were so grateful for love received and love shared. Because of the generosity of both churches, we were able to provide breakfast, bag lunches, dinner and snacks--each meal was provided by a different individual or group and we ate well! We provided a warm and safe place for our guests to stay, watching football together, table games, conversations. We had the On the Move Ministry visit and provide coats and shoes and needed clothing. We had hygiene kits for each guest; 2 Barbers provided haircuts, Bingo with prizes for all; volunteers to wash linens, showers at Ferndale UMC and so much more.

Over 120 volunteers from the churches and the community were present over the week, plus many more who provided monetary donations, and desserts and "behind the scenes" prayer support. A special thank you to Dianne Mackert who coordinated the beverages morning and evening--plus served as our "in house" nurse! Thank you all for helping us create a successful, blessed week of serving those in need but also receiving so much more from them.

And thank you from all our guests who were so grateful for the greatest and smallest things!

What a great team working together...we thank you all for your participation!

"By giving of ourselves to others, we truly live" (Ethel Percy Audrus)



Brooklyn Community UMC



coats, hoodies, scarves,

**550** hats, and gloves

were provided to those in need.



Your generosity has not only warmed bodies but also hearts. Every donation, prayer, and effort made a difference, reminding us all of the power of love in action. ❤️

## The NCCP Missions Team

Do you want to connect with others in our parish to make a difference in our local communities and around the world? Then come to a Missions Team meeting and help us develop ways to use our time, talents, and resources to make the greatest impact.



HIS HANDS HIS FEET

The NCCP Missions Team meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm

## Thank you from Emily Perry

Another successful CROP Hunger Walk concluded in September. A big thank you to those that made donations, walked and of course all the prayers. We had 8 walkers and surpassed our goal raising a total of \$2,321. Thank you all for your continued support of this wonderful ministry. For more information about joining and participating with the missions team contact Emily Perry or Jim Luca

## Operation Christmas Child



I would like to take this opportunity to say a big **“THANK YOU”** to all who helped to make Operation Christmas Child a huge success this year. Through your contributions of money, time, and goods we were able to make a huge impact. With all churches in the Parrish participating: Ferndale 8, Messiah 18, Brooklyn Community 7, Harwood Park 20, and Linthicum 783, that brings the grand total for the North County Cooperative Parrish to 836. That means 836 children will have a Gospel opportunity and be introduced to the love of Jesus. Each shoebox has a multiplication factor x 7 with outreach to family, friends and the community. That means we reach 5852 people with the love of Jesus Our Lord and Savior. The Anne Arundel County

Operation Christmas Child drop off locations, of which we are an active participant, collected a total of 13,128 shoeboxes. Churches grow through these actions and children SMILE. YOU MAKE THIS HAPPEN. Thank you on behalf of the NCCP and the Anne Arundel County Operation Christmas Child team. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

If you would like to take the next step. Consider volunteering at the local processing center. We have scheduled dates for 11/27 from 6-10pm, 12/5 from 10a-2p and 12/13 from 6-10p. If you are interested in any of these dates please click on the following link or copy and past to your browser and sign up..

**For Wednesday 11/27 6-10 pm use this link**

<https://www.occvolunteersignup.com/VolunteerSignUp/IndexGroup?rg=68129b172ac74581bf8dbf027fed045cfor>

**Thursday 12/5 10a-2p use the following link**

<https://www.occvolunteersignup.com/VolunteerSignUp/IndexGroup?rg=509a75d057f94acea40ea460380b6c74>

**Friday 12/13 6-10p use**

<https://www.occvolunteersignup.com/VolunteerSignUp/IndexGroup?rg=bfb8952c91404539a01c03daeb77074a>



I hope you will consider joining us at one of these times. Thank you again for supporting this project, making children smile and giving the gift of love, support and the ability to know and love Jesus. You are AMAZING.

Pat Renes, the Missions Team and, Operation Christmas Child.



## Come Lend a Helping Hand

### **Serving 200 Meals a Month**

Your generosity makes a difference! Through your financial aid and volunteering, we continue to serve the homeless in our community and Baltimore City. We are always in need of more volunteers,

particularly to help by preparing one or two casseroles. Don't worry—we provide tins and lids! Additionally, financial contributions are crucial as they help us purchase essentials like rolls, butter, and other meal ingredients. If you'd like to help on the 2nd Friday of the month, please contact Cindy Butz or reach out to the parish office. Together, we can make a meaningful impact.

*Ephesians 2:10 says: "We are God's handiwork, created in Jesus Christ to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"*



**Ferndale UMC is sponsoring 4 local families for Christmas. There will be angel tags on the tree in the back of their sanctuary on **November 24th**. If you take a tag, please make sure you let Becky Hood know the code written on the tag for tracking purposes!**

**Return the unwrapped gifts no later than **December 15th**. We also need wrapping paper and tape.**

**If you have any questions, please contact Becky Hood or the Parish Office**

## **Ferndale Angel Tree**

You can email Becky at [Tbmljhood@verizon.net](mailto:Tbmljhood@verizon.net) or the parish office information about what is still needed.

## **Messiah Angel Tree**

Messiah is sponsoring a family for Christmas this year. An angel tree is located at the church. Please contact Connie Runion or Sharon Hankins to either select an ornament or contribute funds for the family by December 22.



# Social Saturdays at Ferndale UMC!

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays every month 9:00-11:00am

Crafts & Games, Refreshments, Sonshine Closet and Pantry is open



Through the Sonshine Closet and Pantry at Ferndale we follow Jesus' command to feed the hungry and clothe those in need. You can participate in this ministry by donating food or clean, gently used, or new clothing and shoes. Donation baskets are in the rear of the Sanctuary for you to drop your donations on your way into worship. The Sonshine closet and pantry are open on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. To volunteer contact Amy Dye or Jennifer Miller.





## Messiah Pre-K Christmas

Messiah's Pre-K is celebrating Christmas on December 19-20, and we need volunteers to help make the day a success.

If you are willing to volunteer on Thursday or Friday morning between 9am and 11:30am, we would love your extra hands with the little ones and their families. If you're a wrapper, we are wrapping gifts for the children ahead of time. To volunteer, please contact Pastor Kimberly.



## Messiah's Jesus Jubilee

On 12/8 at 11:00 am, Messiah is hosting a Jesus Jubilee! While parents worship, children will hear part of the Christmas story and do a craft that includes their photo. After worship, there will be a children's program with the dance ministry and Messiah's pre-K, as well as a visit by Joseph, Mary and Jesus. We'll also have light refreshments and cookie decorating! Please sign-up by the link below, so we

know who is coming and have your child's photo for their craft.

<https://forms.gle/MahWmf1ab4FcPvpz7>

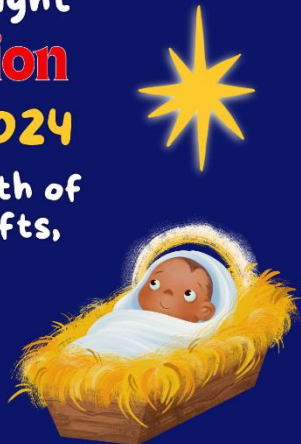
Sign-up concludes on Wednesday, December 4!

## First Friday Family Fun Night Christmas Celebration 5-7pm, December 6, 2024

Families will celebrate the birth of Jesus with dinner, music, crafts, and the Nativity story.

Linthicum Heights United Methodist Church

Let us know you are coming.  
RSVP to [MBWynne@LHUMC.org](mailto:MBWynne@LHUMC.org)



## First Friday Family Fun Night!

Children and their favorite grown-ups are invited to join us for on the first Friday of each month for First Friday Family Fun Night. We do this in partnership with St. John Lutheran Church and rotate between their location and LHUMC. RSVP is required: [MBWynne@LHUMC.org](mailto:MBWynne@LHUMC.org)



**Let's Dance**

Children of all ages are invited to join our new dance ministry.

Rehearsals are Saturdays, 1:30pm at Messiah UMC.

Contact Erika Goodfellow or the parish office for more information

## Check out the Dance Ministry



There will be Sunday School on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month at Messiah.



**R.A.M.P. 456**

**Relationship - Attitude - Ministry - Purpose**

### R.A.M.P. 456 4:00-5:30

Through fun and faith building experiences R.A.M.P. 456 guides preteens in fourth through sixth grade as they navigate **R**elationships, **A**ttitude, **M**inistry, and **P**urpose. For more information and to register your child reach out to Mary Beth Wynne: [MBWynne@LHUMC.org](mailto:MBWynne@LHUMC.org). **Please join us on Sunday December 1 at**



## Youth Group December Schedule

Sunday December 1st: Regular Meeting 6-8pm  
 Sunday December 8th: Regular Meeting 6-8pm  
 Sunday December 15th: Regular Meeting 6-8pm  
 Sunday December 22nd - NO Meeting  
 Friday December 27th: Christmas Lock-In  
 Sunday December 29th -NO Meeting

## Christmas Celebration Lock-in

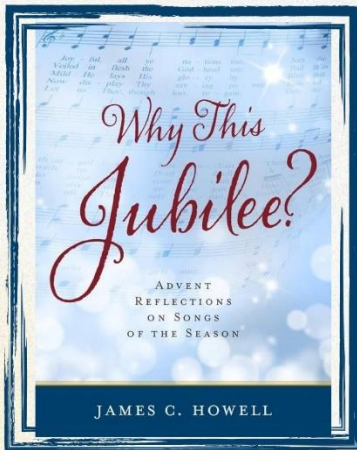
YOUTH IN 7TH-12TH GRADES ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN AND CELEBRATION

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27TH, 7PM-8AM**

Registration and Permission Slip Required  
 Contact Dan Hiltz  
 DHiltzy@gmail.com

Scavenger hunt, Games, Snacks, Gift Exchange, Worship, Breakfast, Christmas Movie

# ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



Advent study November 10: “Why This Jubilee? Advent Reflections on Songs of the Season” by James C. Howell, each Sunday following early worship service, 10-11am, Rm 111. Study is a reflection on familiar songs (religious and some secular) of the Christmas season.

ALL invited to join with us. See Claire Fiedler with questions.

## Linthicum Heights UMC

Adult Sunday School Class begins Advent study November 10: Why This Jubilee? Advent Reflections on Songs of the Season by James C. Howell, each Sunday following early worship service, 10-11am, Rm 111.

Study is a reflection on familiar songs (religious and some secular) of the

Christmas season.

ALL invited to join with us. See Claire Fiedler with questions.

**We have a range of groups that gather regularly—come and check them out! Whether you're looking for fellowship, growth, or simply a place to connect, we have something for everyone.**

Do you have a group that meets or interested in starting one? Please contact the church office.

## Ways to Give in December

Donation	Date	Church	Contact
<b>Social Saturday</b>			
Small gifts from children to parents	12/13	Ferndale	Amy Dye
Toys for children (\$30-\$35)	12/13	Ferndale	Amy Dye
Gift Wrapping Supplies	12/13	Ferndale	Amy Dye
Christmas Cookies	12/13	Ferndale	Amy Dye
<b>Ferndale Angel Tree</b>			
Angel Tree Gift/Money	12/15	Ferndale	Becky Hood
Wrapping Supplies (Paper, Tape, Ribbon)	12/15	Ferndale	Becky Hood
<b>Messiah Angel Tree</b>			
Angel Tree Gift/Money	12/22	Messiah	Connie Runion
<b>Food Donations</b>			
Ferndale Pantry NCEON	Ongoing	Ferndale	Jennifer Miller

## Ways to Serve in December

<b>Social Saturday</b>	<b>12/14</b>	<b>Ferndale</b>	<b>Amy Dye</b>
Wrappers	8:30a-11:30am		
Greeters	8:30a-11:30am		
Help Children Select Gifts	8:30a-11:30am		
Help Parents Select Gifts	8:30a-11:30am		
Children's Crafts	8:30a-11:30am		
Food Table	8:30a-11:30am		
Santa's Helper	8:30a-11:30am		
<b>Messiah Pre-K</b>	<b>12/19-20</b>	<b>Messiah</b>	<b>Pastor Kimberly</b>
Wrap Gifts			
Volunteer for Christmas Party	9a – 11:30am		

### Many Ways to Give This Season

As we embrace this season of giving, there are so *many* ways to contribute financially and make a meaningful impact:

**Online Giving**

**Mail Your Gift**

**In-Person Giving**

Drop your gift during Sunday services or visit the church office during the week.



Your generosity enables us to share the love of Christ, meet needs in our community, and spread hope around the world. However you choose to give, know that it makes a difference.

## OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday: 9:00-3:30  
Wednesday: 9:00-1:30  
Friday: 9:00-3:30

Email is checked often  
[OFFICE@LHUMC.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@LHUMC.ORG)

*Sunday morning slides and announcement videos are completed on Tuesdays. The deadline for submissions is Fridays; 9 days prior to the Sunday you would like your announcement included.*

*The deadline for newsletter articles is the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.*

*Please send submissions to the parish office.*