

# SERVE

## Advent Giving Tree

Live generously this Christmas season by fulfilling a need from the Advent Giving Tree. The tree will be up in the Fellowship Hall beginning **Sunday, November 27**. By taking a card from the tree you can make a child's Christmas brighter through our Backpack Buddies ministry, get a present for a child living on Wilkens Ave., help Heaven's Kitchen provide warm food for the Brooklyn Community and much more. This is a great opportunity for families to participate in missions together. Contact Rev. Carissa for more information. [csurber@severnaparkumc.org](mailto:csurber@severnaparkumc.org)

## Sanctuary Volunteers

We are in need of a few extra hands to ready the Sanctuary for the Christmas season. If you enjoy decorating, join us on **Saturday, December 3** beginning at 9am to fill our church with Christmas cheer. Contact Martha Hollidge to get involved. [mhollidge@verizon.net](mailto:mhollidge@verizon.net)

## Heaven's Kitchen

On **Saturday, December 24**, volunteers and guests will gather for a special Christmas meal at Heaven's Kitchen (our meal ministry in Brooklyn, MD). We need all the help we can get to make this meal hospitable, grace-filled, and tasty. If you would like to volunteer contact Kathryn. [kathn104@aol.com](mailto:kathn104@aol.com)

[severnaparkumc.org/advent](http://severnaparkumc.org/advent)  
[spumc@severnaparkumc.org](mailto:spumc@severnaparkumc.org)

731 Benfield Rd.  
Severna Park, MD 21146

# CHRISTMAS EVE

Worship: 3, 5, 7, 9, & 11pm  
Christmas Day Service: Sunday, December 25 10am

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

*We offer five different worship services on Christmas Eve for people of all ages. Children are welcome at every service, though families will find that our 3 and 5pm services are especially geared towards kids.*

### 3pm: Family Service (Toddler & Preschool Children)

- Carols, stories, and informal pageant
- Carols & glow stick candlelighting
- Relaxed and participatory

### 5pm: Family Service (Elementary School Children)

- Christmas pageant featuring our 2nd graders
- Carols & glow stick candlelighting
- Brief Christmas message

*Birthday Cake for Jesus and Sunday School Art Show immediately following both of our family services in Fellowship Hall*

### 7pm: Contemporary Christmas Service

- A mix of traditional & contemporary Christmas music
- Carols & candlelighting
- Christmas message by Rev. Ron

*Nursery care is available for 5 and 7pm service*

### 9pm: Traditional Christmas Service

- Music by a brass quintet, bells, & Christmas choir
- Carols & candlelighting
- Christmas message by Rev. Ron

### 11pm: Traditional Christmas Service

- Music by a brass quintet, bells, & Christmas choir
- Holy Communion & candlelighting
- Christmas Message by Rev. Carissa

### December 25: Christmas Morning

Join us for relaxed worship on Christmas Day at 10am as we linger in the Christmas celebration. Come sing some more carols and wear your PJs or new sweater. Kids, bring your favorite gift!

# JUST BE

**ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2017  
AT SEVERNA PARK UMC**



# SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Worship: 8, 9:30, & 11am  
Theme: Just Be

The month of December can be pretty crazy and stressful with all of things we try to get done and squeeze in. In worship through Advent, we are offering an alternative to the frenetic pace of the season. You are invited to be in worship each Sunday for some breathing space, a time to focus on the things that really matter, to stop *doing* and **JUST BE**.

**November 27:** Just Be Still  
Psalm 46

**December 4:** Just Be Patient  
Isaiah 40:1-11, 28-31, Matthew 3:1-12

**December 11:** Just Be Open  
Luke 1:26-38

**December 18:** Just Be Together  
Luke 1:39-56  
*featuring Christmas music from around the world*

**December 24:** Just Be Amazed  
Luke 2:1-20  
Worship at 3, 5, 7, 9, & 11pm

**December 25:** Just Be Playful  
Worship at 10am

# EVENTS

## Sisterhood Christmas Tea

Women from around the church will gather on **Sunday, November 27** from **1:30-3:30pm** for the annual Christmas Tea. Just a few tickets left! Get yours in Fellowship Hall on Sunday.

## Carols, Cookies, & Crafts

Carols, Cookies, and Crafts is a gathering for families on **Sunday, December 4** from **4-6pm**. Join us as we sing carols, decorate cookies & gingerbread houses, and make Chrismon-inspired ornaments. Bring hors d'oeuvres or cookies to share.

## Women of the Bible

On **Monday, December 5**, at **7pm** in the sanctuary, Anita Gutschick will perform a dramatic one-woman presentation of ancient voices. This event is open to the public, not just women, so bring your whole family.

## Christmas Cookie Make & Take

Mom's Connect will be holding a holiday Make & Take of sweet treats on **Friday, December 9** from **5:30-8:30pm**. The cost is \$20. Space is limited. We will be donating one set of everything we make to Living Well on Wilkens which provides a safe haven for women in need in Southwest Baltimore. RSVP to Michelle McVey at [myshelldancer@gmail.com](mailto:myshelldancer@gmail.com)

## Blue Christmas Worship

At **4pm** on **Sunday, December 18** we will host a special "Blue Christmas" worship service designed especially for those for whom the holidays are not quite as cheery. Let's join together as a church family and support each other during this season.

## UMYF Christmas Party

United Methodist Youth Fellowship will have their annual Christmas party with games, contests, cookie decorating, and good food on **December 18** at **7pm**.

# STUDY

## "The Wonder of Christmas"

Christmas is wonderful. It's not just because of caroling or parties, however. The wonder of Christmas comes from what Christmas tells us: God loves us and has come among us!

The "Wonder of Christmas" is a 4-week study that will be offered on Wednesdays from **6:30-7:30pm** and we'll have classes for both children and adults. Children preschool through 5th grade will have an opportunity to discover how the star, the name, the manger and the promise all point to God's love. They'll meet in Room 114. Meanwhile, Rev. Carissa will lead a parallel study for young adults and parents in the Parlor. Nursery care will be provided. Join us as we discover the Wonder of Christmas! **November 30, December 7, 14, & 21.**

## "Awaiting the Already"

On **Sundays** at **9:30am** during Advent, the Saints and Sinners class will provide a study of the Christmas story as presented in each of the four gospels titled "Awaiting the Already." Though each of the gospel accounts differ, each leads us on the Advent journey of preparation, and will provide a fresh encounter of the birth of Christ. **November 27, December 4, 11, & 18.**

## Advent Devotional

In the spirit of **Just Being** during the Advent season, an Advent Devotional is being provided for your own personal preparation. This year's offering features personal reflections from church members and staff, starting on **December 1**, and will be available at the Welcome Desk starting **November 27**. Take a copy to use daily at home, or download the devotional from our website. [severnaparkumc.org/advent](http://severnaparkumc.org/advent)