

Travelers Rest United Methodist Church
19 S. Main St.
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Pew and Pulpit December 2023

Travelers Rest United Methodist Church
Travelers Rest, South Carolina
“The Church on the Trail, walking with Christ, serving God, and changing lives”

Advent Activities



Tuesday, November 28 – Advent Bible Study “Experiencing Christmas

10 AM The Woodlands
6:30 PM Parlor of the Family Life Center

Sunday, December 3 – The First Sunday of Advent: Hanging of the Greens Service

10 AM – ONE Service
4 PM – Churchwide Caroling Event – Meet in upper TRUMC parking Lot

Tuesday, December 5 – Advent Bible Study “Experiencing Christmas

10 AM at the Woodlands
6:30 PM in the parlor of the Family Life Center

Sunday, December 10 – The Second Sunday of Advent

10 AM – ONE Service

Tuesday, December 12 – Advent Bible Study “Experiencing Christmas

10 AM at the Woodlands
6:30 PM in the parlor of the Family Life Center

Sunday, December 17 – The Third Sunday of Advent: Musical Service

10 AM – ONE Service

Tuesday, December 19 – Churchwide Cookie Couriers Event

3 PM – meet at the church belltower entrance to deliver to Main Street TR businesses.
Check sign-up genius to participate, and bring homemade cookies .

Thursday, December 21 – Longest Night Service

6 PM – Blue Christmas service is held during the Advent season on the longest night of the year to support those grieving the loss of loved ones during the holiday season.

Sunday, December 24 – The Fourth Sunday of Advent

10 AM - ONE Service
3 PM - Christmas Eve Candle Light Communion Service
5 PM - Christmas Eve Candle Light Communion Service

Sunday, December 31 - Carol Sing Service

10 AM - ONE Service

Sunday Participation

Date	On-Line	In-Person	Sunday School
11-05	33	233	89
11-12	32	205	76
11-19	TBD	226	87
11-26			

Financial information as of 11-16-2023

One Fund MTD \$31,187

THANK YOU!

**Building Project Fund
as of October 2023**
\$1,361,038

E-giving available at trmethodist.net
(click on the E-giving icon)

Text-to-Give: text the amount you wish to give to (833) 948-2135, wait for response to guide you through the process.

TRUSTEE for DECEMBER

David Arnold

Contacts

Pastor: Rev. Brian Gilmer
brian@trmethodist.net

Pastor of Discipleship: Rev. Christine Matthews
christine@trmethodist.net

Finance/Office Manager: Jan Paxton
jan@trmethodist.net

Music Director: Jann Howell
pbear1952@gmail.com

Pianist: Jann Howell

Psalm 100 Band Director: Bryan Catron

TRUMPETS: Kathleen McCombe

Head Nursery Worker: Nicole Cruell
Asst. Nursery Worker: Jessica Miebach

Live Stream Specialist: Chris Hulme
Hulme.christopher@gmail.com

Communications Director: Casey Torrance
casey@trmethodist.net

Pew and Pulpit Editor: Sandy Bailey
sbailey4750@gmail.com

Prayer Requests: prayer@trmethodist.net

Youth Director: Ashley Gutschow
Ashley@trmethodist.net

Sexton: Clyde Carr

Office Hours
Monday—Thursday 9:00 AM—1:-00 PM
Phone: 864-834-9862 Fax: 864-610-9473
Website: trmethodist.net

Sermon Podcast: trmethodist.net/media.html

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: TRMethodist

Welcome to our New Members

Ashley and Shane Turner

Ken and Marily Matthews

Georgia Harrison



Change in Contact and Duties

Beginning in January, the editing of the Pew and Pulpit will be transferred to our new Communications Director, Casey Torrance.

All articles and announcements will now be sent to Casey at:

casey@trmethodist.net

Prayer Concerns

Homebound

George Adamson

Fred Dyal

Bobbie Floyd

Martha Foster

Mary Greene

Dee Hughes

Frances Lockaby

Patrick O'Dell

Reggy O'Dell

TRUMC

Myra Robitalle

Friends

Loretta Sigenow

Pray for Peace

The Ukraine

Israel

Gaza

Names are routinely taken off after a month. If you would like a name left on longer, please contact the office.



UMYF

Grades 6-12

On **December 3rd**, youth will participate in the church wide Christmas caroling church wide.

We will meet by the TRUMC office at 4PM and travel to various homebound community and church members to sing Christmas carols.

Pick up will be at The Woodlands at Furman (1500 Trailhead Ct, Greenville, SC 29617) at 6PM



On **December 17th**, we will have an Advent Party at my house (Ashley & Matt Gutschow and Huddy Poirier.)

We live at 1625 Highway 414 Travelers Rest, SC 29690

We will carpool from TRUMC at 4:30PM, eat pizza and wings, play pool, darts and corn hole among other games. Pick up will be at TRUMC at 7PM.



Grace and Peace,

Ashley Gutschow, Youth Director

Ashley@trmethodist.net

864-764-2051

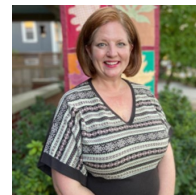


Discipleship

Connecting with God

Connecting with Others

Serving All



Growth Groups do not meet during Advent, but will return in January 2024.

Sunday School

Due to a combined 10 AM worship service during the month of December, we will not have children and youth Sunday School this month.

Most of our Adult Sunday School classes will also not be meeting for this month except for

The New Beginnings Sunday School Class (led by the Weatherlys and the Hansens). This class will meet at 9 AM on December 3rd and December 10th. This class will also have a Christmas party lunch after worship service on December 17th in the parlor for class members. They will not meet on December 24th or December 31st. The New Beginnings Class meets in room FH 11 (the old fellowship hall) and is for men, women, singles, and couples.

Other adult classes are having special events for the holidays in lieu of their regular class time:

The Young Adult Class will be putting together and delivering Holiday Food boxes to Clubhouse Families on Sunday, December 10th after worship service is over (approximately 11:15 AM-12:15 PM).

The Trail Class will have a Christmas Brunch on Sunday, December 10th from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM in the parlor of the Family Life Center at TRUMC.

The Coffee with Jesus adult class will have a Christmas luncheon at Silver Bay Seafood restaurant on Whitehorse Road in Berea on Sunday, December 17th after worship service at approximately 11:30 AM.

A Woman's Way adult class will also be having their annual Christmas party at Gail Riddick's home on Wednesday, December 20th at 2:00 PM.

Discipleship

Other Small Groups

Healthy Minds of Christ Support Team encourages confidential, trusted sharing, using scripture and prayer, to promote healthy community and resilience during our journey together through mental health recovery. Meets Sunday, December 10th (2nd Sunday of every month), at 11:15 in the parlor. Contact Mickey Hess: (484) 459-1455 or lmhess712@gmail.com

Prayer Team meets on December 20th (the 3rd Wednesday of every month) at 11 AM in the parlor to pray for the needs of our church, community, and world. To submit a prayer request or find out more information about the Prayer team, contact Pat Hansen or Donna Koegler through prayer@trmethodist.net.

Share and Care Chronic Pain Support Group offers help to those with chronic illness and/or pain in a safe, confidential, faith-based environment. Meets Tuesday, December 19th (3rd Tuesday of every month) at 10:00 AM in the parlor of the Family Life Center. Contact Karen McCarty: (864) 593-3507 or karengsc@att.net

Stephen Ministry provides a caring, non-judgmental and confidential one-to-one relationship between a trained church member and a person experiencing a difficult time or transition in his or her life. The Stephen Ministers meet on Sunday, December 10th, from 2:30-5:30 PM in FH 11 and ED 105 in the lower level of the Education Building. For more information, contact Patti Crenshaw at (864) 380-8421 or patticrenshaw1@gmail.com.

TR Fellows meets monthly. Open to retired men in the congregation, it was formed to promote easy fellowship among men at this stage of their lives. The monthly meeting format includes free-ranging discussion of topics of general interest, the sharing of personal histories, and the viewing of TED Talks. TR Fellows meets on Thursday, December 14th (2nd Thursday of the month) at 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall (FH11) for December. Contact Charlie Crenshaw (864) 380-9075 or charliecrenshaw3@gmail.com.

Woodlands Bible Study, aka 'Miriam's Rascals', meets each Tuesday, 10:00 AM, at the Woodlands at Furman in Brian and Mary's apartment #1208. This month the Woodlands group will be studying *Experiencing Christmas; Christ in the Sights and Sounds of Advent* by Matt Rawle. This is our TRUMC Advent study for 2023. Contact Linda Anderson: (864) 230-4197 or lcanders3131@me.net

The Longest Night

The holidays are not always merry and bright for everyone.

Know that you are not alone, if you feel this way.

Join us December 21st at 6 PM,



on the longest, darkest
night of the year, as
we acknowledge the
pain or sorrow we
carry
but also speak of the
hope tomorrow
brings.
Come looking for hope
or be a shoulder of
support for someone
else.

This service is sponsored by the Stephen Ministry of TRUMC.





Notes from Jann

Music Moments

Silent Night is one of my favorite Christmas carols. It was composed in 1818 in the small town of Salzburg.

Joseph Mohr, a young Catholic priest, came to Oberndorf bei Salzburg (about 11 miles north of Salzburg) in 1817 in the aftermath of the Napoleonic wars. The melody was composed by Franz Xaver Gruber, an organist in the nearby town of Arnsdorf. Mohr wanted the song for the Christmas Eve mass but flooding had destroyed the organ. So the 1st rendition of this carol was on a guitar.

Karl Mauracher, an organ builder who serviced the organ at that church loved the song and took it with him. He shared it with two traveling folk singers. The carol spread everywhere. The first US performance was in NYC in 1839.

A manuscript was discovered in 1995 in Mohr's handwriting, dated 1820. It states that Mohr wrote the words in 1816 and the music was composed by Gruber in 1818. Prior to this, people assumed a famous composer had written the melody! Today the lyrics and melody are in the public domain.

One line of the poem was translated - Round yon Virgin mother and child, Holy infant so tender and mild but one translator: Round yon godly tender pair Holy infant with curly hair - which is actually closer to the original poem.

It has been translated in about 300 languages.



Discipleship

Church-wide Advent Sessions

Our TRUMC Advent Study for this year is *Experiencing Christmas; Christ in the Sights and Sounds of Advent* by Matt Rawle.

We will have two opportunities to participate in this Advent study both on Tuesdays

At the Woodlands at 10 AM led by Linda Anderson hosted by Brian and Mary in apartment #1208.

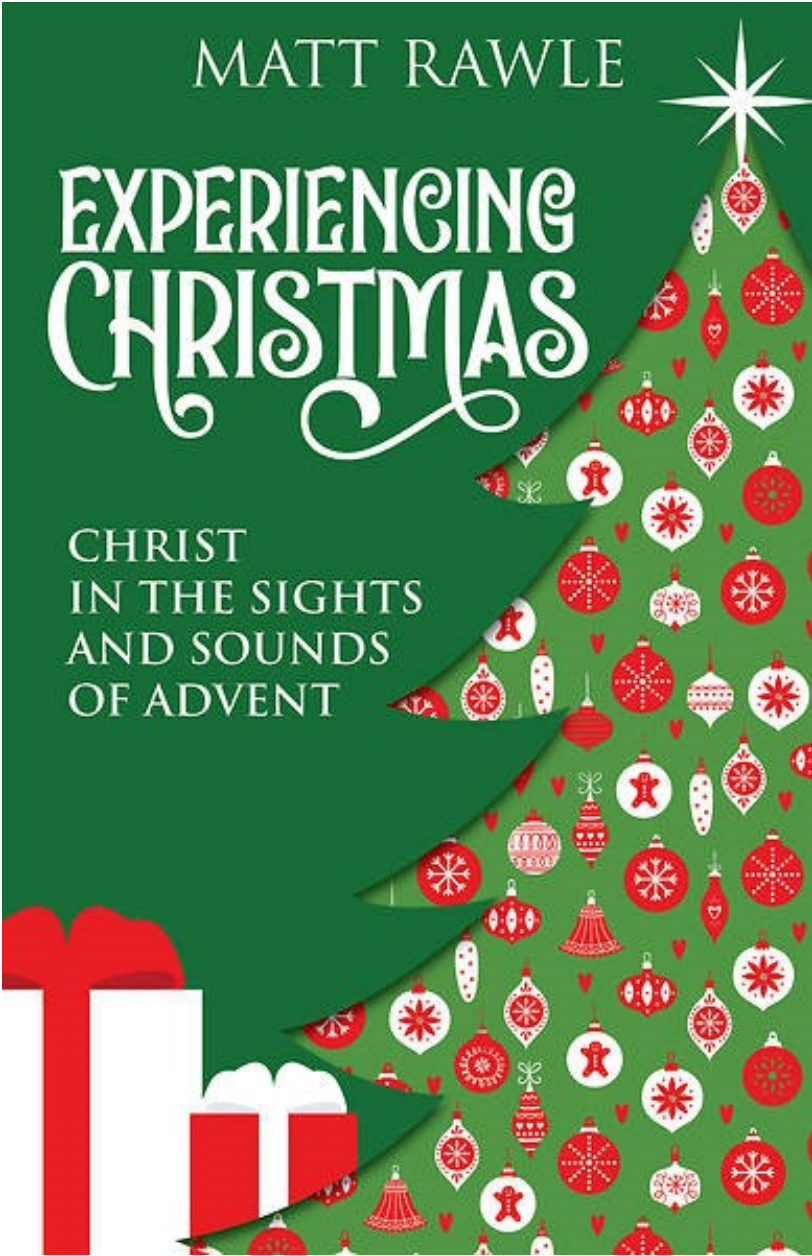
At the TRUMC Parlor of the Family Life Center at 6:30 PM led by Pastor Christine and Pastor Brian.

We will meet on November 28th, December 5th, and December 12th.
The Woodlands group only will have a 4th meeting on December 19th.

In *Experiencing Christmas*, author Matt Rawle invites us to encounter God in the sights, sounds, tastes, and feelings we associate with Christmas.



Advent Study Tuesdays



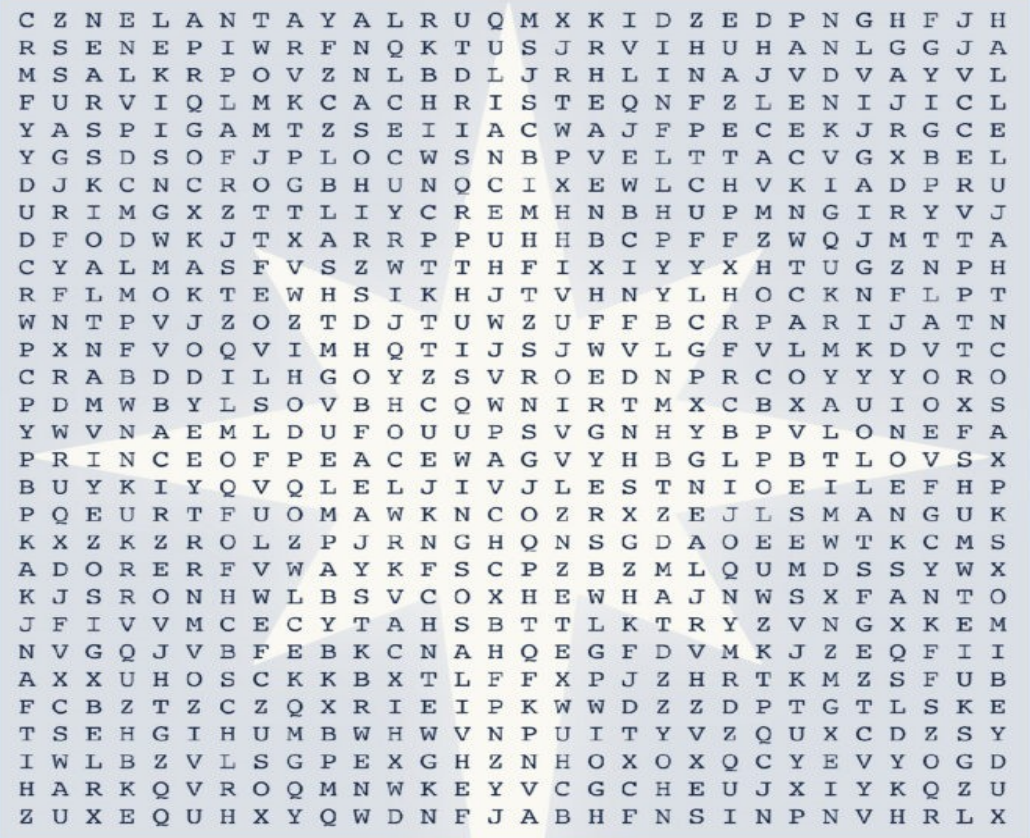
Beginning Tuesday,
November 28th

10:00 AM at the
Woodlands

6:30 PM Parlor of the
Family Life Center at
TRUMC



Extra Page Fun



Spirit	Adore	Heaven	Travel	Hark
Stall	Christ	Highest	Holy	Mercy
Glory	Lord	Virgin	Wings	Righteousness
Hallelujah	King	Birth	Prince of Peace	Delight
Bethlehem	Savior	Cattle	Still	Hosanna

TRUMPETS

As we celebrate the coming birth of the Christ child this month, one of the joys is singing familiar Christmas carols which speak to us of the birth. Help young singers to learn a carol or two as they help with making Christmas cookies, decorate the Christmas tree, and wrap Christmas presents. Enjoy the Christmas music which fills the air with anticipation as you write Christmas cards! Revel in the words which, although written long ago, speak to us today of a world yearning for the peace of the Prince of Peace born in Bethlehem. All of us can join our voices together to praise God for the gift of the holy Child as we worship at TRUMC.

During this month, TRUMPETS will perform "O Little Town of Bethlehem" on Dec. 3rd for the Hanging of the Greens and perform "Do You Hear What I Hear?" on Dec. 17 for Music Sunday. TRUMPETS will rehearse on Dec. 3 and 10 at 5:00 PM in the Chapel.

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the heavens looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.



For further information, please contact:

Kathleen McCombe

585-413-8920

trumctrumpets@gmail.com

Website: <https://trumctrumpets.com>

Discipleship



Sunday, December 3rd at 4:00 PM.

Meet by the office entrance of the TRUMC parking lot.

We will divide into groups and walk or travel to homebound members of TRUMC to sing Christmas carols.

We will meet up around 5:30-5:45 PM at The Woodlands at Furman to sing Christmas Carols there as well.

Discipleship

Cookie Couriers

Tuesday, December 19th at 3:00 PM.

We will meet at the church at the bell tower entrance at 3:00 PM and split up in groups to deliver cookies to employees in businesses up and down Main Street TR.

Please go to our website at trmethodist.net on the Online Sign Ups tab to make homemade cookies and/or to help deliver them on the 19th.

We need 3-4 cookies in each Ziplock/sandwich bag to hand to each employee.

Contact: Bill and Karen Courtwright courtbc@charter.net for more information or questions.



Serving Others

MISSIONS CIRCLE

**Join us for our
Christmas Celebration !**

Wednesday, December 6th

9:30—11:30 AM

in the Parlor



You are welcome even if you haven't been able to come to one of our sewing/working sessions!

If you would like to bring a treat to share, do it! But you don't have to !!

Just come and fellowship with us.

Hope to see you!

Susan Snipes and Edie Sampson

Gathering Together

FOREVER 55 (Senior Adult Group)

Once you reach this milestone, you are a permanent member of this group!

Thanks to everyone who donated a new toy for the Dream Center Santa Shop when you joined us at Flat Rock Cinema.



Join us **Friday, December 15th in the Parlor**

at **12:00 PM \$12/each**
Christmas Celebration lunch:

Catered by **Pizza House**

Menu: Lasagna, Salad and Dressings, Bread Sticks
Desserts: Provided by all of us

You need to:

Bring a **Favorite Dessert** (homemade or not) to share
and a **Wrapped White Elephant Gift** for Game Prizes

*Reservations **ARE** required and **Limited to 64** .*

If you send me an email that you would like to attend, I **will** send a response.
If you **do not** receive a response from me, please **resend!**

*If attending is a financial hardship, Forever 55 can cover your expenses so that **no one** is excluded.*

Contact Information for reservations: Sandy Bailey sbailey4750@gmail.com 864-421-4709

Celebrations

Birthdays


2	Toni Cato	16	Tracy Reynolds
	John Fillhart		Scarlett Hawkins
3	Sophia Mitchell	18	Greg Stewart
4	Carolyn Glynn		Paul Mills
	Don Underwood	20	Richard Speedling
5	Marv Whitcomb	21	Amy Reese
	Karl Rohrbaugh, Jr.	26	Linda Hollis
	Emma Hayes McAda	27	Louise Huff
6	Dawn Rice Jones		Max Garrison
8	Samantha Garrison		Roger Carpenter
	Forrest Rohrbaugh	28	Alishia Bowen
10	Cliff Jones		Sarah Hickman
	Anna McElveen	29	Alyssa Della Valle
11	Nina Guza		Ariel Della Valle
13	Josh Richardson	30	Ellis Roberts
15	Sam McElveen		Lucia Snipes
	Marty White		
	Bob Anderson		
	Bob Palmer		

Anniversaries

1	Janet and Roddy Rogers
3	Marsha and Terry Henson
5	Nancy and Raymond Duncan Debi Schusler and John Martin
12	Elaine and Ron Nolan
15	Amanda and Nicki Davis
16	Jenni and Dave McAda
18	Patti and Charlie Crenshaw
19	Beth and Tim Watts Jan and Curt Fimmamore
24	Maggie and Brett Snipes

LET'S PARTY!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
					1	2		
3 The First Sunday of Advent: Hanging of the Greens Service 9AM New Beginnings— FH11 10AM ONE Service— Sanctuary 4PM Church-wide and UMYF Caroling— by the Office	4 6:30PM AA— Parlor	5 10AM Miriam’s Rascals—Advent Study— Woodlands 6:30PM Advent Bible Study— Parlor	6 9:30AM Mission Circle— Christmas Celebration— Parlor 7PM Choir Practice— Sanctuary	7 6:30PM AA— Parlor	8	9		
10 The Second Sunday of Advent 9AM New Beginnings— FH11 9AM Trail Class Brunch— Parlor 10AM ONE Service— Sanctuary 11:15AM Young Adult Class Delivery 11:15AM Healthy Minds— Parlor 2:30PM Stephen Ministers— FH11 and ED105	11 6:30PM AA— Parlor	12 10AM Miriam’s Rascals—Advent Study— Woodlands 6:30PM Advent Bible Study— Parlor	13	14 10AM Swamp Rabbit Quilt Guild Christmas— Parlor 10:30AM TR Fellows— FH11	15 12PM Forever 55 Christmas Lunch— Parlor	16 <i>Bring Backpack Ministry Food Items</i>		
17 The Third Sunday of Advent: Musical Service 10AM ONE Service— Sanctuary 11 AM New Beginnings Lunch— Parlor 11:30AM Coffee with Jesus— Silver Bay Seafood	18 6:30PM AA— Parlor	19 10AM Miriam’s Rascals—Advent Study— Woodlands 10AM Share and Care— Parlor 3PM Cookie Delivery— Bell Tower	20 11AM Prayer Team— Parlor 2PM A Woman’s Way Class— Gail Riddick’s House <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i>	21 6PM Longest Night Service— Sanctuary 6:30PM AA— Parlor	22	23		
24 The Fourth Sunday of Advent 10AM ONE Service— Sanctuary 3PM and 5PM Christmas Eve Services— Sanctuary	25 CHRISTMAS DAY  OFFICE CLOSED	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27	28	29	30		
31 Carol Sing Service 10AM ONE Service— Sanctuary			Location Key: Sanctuary Open 9AM-1PM Mon.-Thurs.	Bell Tower is between the Sanctuary and Education Building Coffee Nook (CN) is located on the 2nd floor of the Education Building	Conference Room is on the 2nd floor of the Education Building Education Building (ED) Family Life Center (FLC)	Fellowship Hall (FH10/11) is in the basement of the Education Building GG = Growth Group	Miriam’s Rascals is at the Woodlands, Room 1208 (Furman Univ.) Parlor and Gym are in the Family Life Center	Picnic Shelter (PS) Is located behind the Family Life Center Community Tap (CT) 321-B S. Main St., Travelers Rest, SC

