

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Sunday Worship will be in-person 11:00 AM unless COVID-19 hospitalization rates in Washington County are high, then via Zoom (notice sent out Friday)
- Sunday, December 3 First Sunday of Advent
- Sunday, December 3 Decorating Sanctuary and Christmas Tree after Service
- Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve Service Sherwood UMC 5:00 PM
- Monday, December 25 Christmas Day

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<a href="#">Holiday Bazaar</a>	2
<a href="#">Bishop's Sermon</a>	2
<a href="#">Willowbrook Food Pantry</a>	3
<a href="#">Birthdays &amp; Anniversaries</a>	3
<a href="#">Blood Drive</a>	4
<a href="#">Calendar</a>	5
<a href="#">Events</a>	6
<a href="#">Contacts</a>	



## An Advent Poem By Mary Oliver

Dear Lord, I have swept and I have washed but  
still nothing is as shining as it should be  
for you. Under the sink, for example, is an  
uproar of mice – it is the season of their  
many children. What shall I do? And under the eaves  
and through the walls the squirrels  
have gnawed their ragged entrances – but it's the season  
when they need shelter, so what shall I do? And  
the raccoon limps into the kitchen and opens the cupboard  
while the dog snores, the cat holds the pillow;  
what shall I do? Beautiful is the new snow falling  
in the yard and the fox who is staring boldly  
up the path, to the door. And I still believe you will  
come, Lord; you will, when I speak to the fox,  
the sparrow, the lost dog, the shivering sea-goose, know  
that I am really speaking to you whenever I say,  
as I do all morning and afternoon: Come in, Come in.

Submission by Reverend Aric Clark

Kelly Freuler reached out to local places within our community to see what our congregation could do to help those less fortunate for Christmas.: "Possible with God came through with 15 families- all kids.

Anyone interested can email her. The need is great and I know this congregation will come through! Thanks!

Kelly Freuler

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



## Holiday Bazaar

Sunday in church I gave Cherry a check for \$1000 for Willowbrook food pantry. I have mailed another check to Marcia Chambers of Hope's Haven, a faith based dog rescue, for \$1000. The balance of our proceeds will be spent on paper supplies for the church and funding advertising for our next event.

One great note is Marcia has accepted my invite to speak to our church about her operation next spring on one of the Sundays Aric will be off. He is going to give me his dates and Marcia and I will firm it up after the first of the year.

Submitted by Carol McComis



## Christmas Sermon

Tonight I want to tell you the story of an empty stocking.

Once upon a midnight clear, there was a child's cry. A blazing star hung over a stable and wise men came with birthday gifts.

We haven't forgotten that night down the centuries; we celebrate it with stars on Christmas trees, the sound of bells and with gifts.

But especially with gifts.

You give me a book; I give you a tie. Aunt Martha has always wanted an orange squeezer, and Uncle Henry could do with a new pipe. We forget nobody, adult or child.

All the stockings are filled -- all that is, except one.

And we have even forgotten to hang it up.

The stocking for the child born in a manger. It's His birthday we are celebrating. Don't ever let us forget that.

Let us ask ourselves what He would wish for most, and then let each put in his share.

Loving kindness, warm hearts and the stretched out hand of tolerance.

All the shining gifts that make peace on earth.

The Bishops Wife (1947)

# Willowbrook Food Pantry

The Mountain Home Bazaar committee presented a donation of \$1000.00 (!) to the Willowbrook pantry. **THANK YOU**, (inadequate phrase) for working the whole year preparing the arts and crafts, many hands to set-up a beautiful room and then sharing all the profit with Willowbrook Pantry and Hope's Haven, a faith based dog rescue.

My colleagues were overjoyed with the donation and the families are grateful. A Christmas gift!

Thanksgiving Boxes: 78 Boxes and an additional 11 turkeys given 11/19 – 23/2023.

We served 193 families with 908 people In October.

October 2022, we served 151 families with 681 people.

Submitted by Cherry Trotter



## December Birthdays & Anniversaries



*Unclouded may your birthday be, and round you day by day.  
May God enfold His wings of love and bless you on your way.*

Date	Name
6	Carol McComis
12	Stacia Clark
15	Ben Hartley
16	Jonica Smeltzer

If you wish to send a cards or more, please, use the Mountain Home UMC Church Directory for the addresses. If you need a directory contact Diane Peters.



**Blood Drive**  
**United Methodist Church**

Fellowship Hall  
 22280 SW Washington Street  
 Sherwood, OR 97140

**Thursday, December 28, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)  
 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: SherwoodUMC  
 to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting  
[RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health  
 history questions on the day of your appointment.



**Make a Legendary Impact! Come give Dec. 18 thru Jan. 5 for NEW long-sleeved Red Cross Tee, ltd qty!**



**Schedule your blood donation appointment today!**

1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

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**MOUNTAIN HOME**  
**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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# December 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
* Sunday Worship will be in-person at the church 11:00 AM unless COVID-19 hospitalization in Washington County	are high then via Zoom 10:00 AM (notice sent out Friday)				1	2
 <b>3</b> *Worship 11:00 AM 	4	5	6	7	8	9
 <b>10</b> *Worship 11:00 AM <small>FIRST SUNDAY OF</small> <i>Advent</i>	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>17</b> *Worship 11:00 AM	18	19	20	21	22	23
<b>24</b> Worship 11:00 AM <b>Christmas Eve Service Sherwood UMC</b> 5:00 PM	<b>25</b> Christmas 	26	27	29	30	31



# Contact Info

Church's location and mailing address:

23905 SW Wunderli Canyon Drive

Sherwood, OR 97140

Church phone number: (503)628-2064

Email address: [mthomeumc@gmail.com](mailto:mthomeumc@gmail.com)

Websites: <http://mthomeumc.org>

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/Mtn.Home.Church)

[Mtn.Home.Church](https://www.facebook.com/Mtn.Home.Church)

YouTube: [Mountain Home United Methodist](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

[Church - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



Reverend Aric Clark contact information

Phone: (503)810-2395

E-mail: [aricclark22@gmail.com](mailto:aricclark22@gmail.com)

Office hours by appointment

Check out the updated website:



Pastor Parish Relations Committer Chair: Alice Hendricks

Worship/Outreach Chair: Diane Peters

Finance Chair – Brian McKennett

Trustees Chair: Larry Johnson

Lay Leader: Cherry Trotter

Newsletter Editor: Tom Ettelson [t.ettelson@comcast.net](mailto:t.ettelson@comcast.net)

## Event Calendar

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Send prayer requests to Cheryl for inclusion in our weekly dispatch:

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

Mountain Home UMC YouTube Channel [Mountain Home United Methodist Church - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

where past Sunday Worship Services can be found.

Downloaded free clipart in this newsletter from

<http://clipart-library.com/mailbox-cliparts.html>

[Free High Quality Cliparts - Cliparts Zone](http://clipart-library.com/mailbox-cliparts.html)

From the editor,

Merriest of Christmas to you and yours. May the hope of Christ's birth be in your heart and Christ's sacrifice guide you in the coming year with family, friends, and acquaintances. Blessings be on to you.

Tom Ettelson

