

Camp Chapel United Methodist Church

Carol L. Pazdersky Pastor

Gary Lushbaugh Music Director

Courtnee S. Cirri Church Administrator

P.O. Box 15 White Marsh, MD 21162

Office: (410) 256-5561

Email

office@campchapel.org

Acorn Submissions acorn@campchapel.org

Website www.campchapel.org





Christmas Events

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30:

- Last Day to Order Poinsettias details on page 9
- Christmas Card Exchange box is now available details on page 3

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7:

- Last Day for Contributions to Gifts of Love details on page 4
- Last Day for Contributions to Christmas Food Baskets details on page 3

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13:

Gingerbread House Event – details on page 10

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14:

Christmas Concert – details on page 10

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20:

Live Nativity Drive-Through – details on page 10

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21:

Last day to contribute to the Staff Holiday Bonus – details on page 2

CHRISTMAS EVE, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24:

- Family Service 4:00 pm
- Candlelight Service music begins 8:30 pm
- Candlelight Service 9:00 pm

PASTOR CAROL ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT



After careful deliberation and prayer, Pastor Carol has decided that it is time for her to retire. She made her decision known to the congregation in a simple statement during worship services on Sunday, November 16. The effective date of her retirement is July 1, 2026.

Pastor transitions are a part of the life of any congregation, but they are rarely easy. There is, however, a well-developed process involving a collaborative effort between our pastor, our bishop, her cabinet, the district superintendent, the staff-parish relations committee (SPRC), and others, along with many available resources to assist Pastor Carol as she commences her new life and to assist Camp Chapel in finding and welcoming her successor.

STAFF HOLIDAY BONUS

With thoughts of the holidays approaching, and thankfulness on our minds, please consider making a donation to the 2025 Staff Holiday Bonus. We certainly appreciate everything that Music Director Gary and Church Administrator Courtnee do for our congregation throughout the year, so please consider making a donation as a way to say THANK YOU. Checks may be made out to Camp Chapel United Methodist Church with "2025 Staff Holiday Bonus" in the memo line. Donations will be accepted through Sunday, December 21.

Thanks! Lisa Dziuk SPRC Chair

CAMP CHAPEL GARDENING UPDATE

Although the gardens are resting, our mighty garden group is full of ideas and strategies for the gardens on our campus! Please keep us in your prayers as we consider the next moves for the seating area we hope to establish in the spring of 2026 which will be adjacent to

the ramp entrance.

Stay tuned for more information as we plan our next steps.

Rita Talley Garden Coordinator



HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

Camp Chapel will again collaborate with Perry Hall United Methodist Church's Community Food Pantry to provide holiday baskets for families in need. The goal of this two-decade tradition is to provide a Christmas holiday dinner for at least 50 families! Each dinner basket will include one each of the following items (you do NOT need to provide all the items):

Boxed mashed potatoes Canned peas or carrots Boxed stuffing mix

Canned gravy Canned sweet potatoes Boxed brownie or cake mix

Boxed muffin mix Canned green beans with icing

Canned jellied cranberry sauce Canned corn

Each basket will contain a \$15 Walmart gift card for the family to purchase their choice of meat.

We recognize that prices are higher, and budgets might be tighter, so any donations made are truly appreciated. Boxes for food collection will be at the front of the sanctuary and chapel. You may choose to make a monetary donation instead. Your donation in any amount can be made by Bill Pay or submitted in the offering plate. Whichever way you choose, please mark your donation "Holiday Baskets." The deadline for food collection for Christmas baskets is **Sunday, December 16**. If you would like to help with the basket distribution, please contact Mike Ryan at 410-303-0517.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Mike and Pat Ryan

CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE OPENS



Christmas 2025 is approaching and it is time to think about sending cards to our church friends. Once again, a Christmas card box will be available at the front entrances of the main church and the chapel for those who would like to send Christmas cards to other members of Camp Chapel. Simply write the name on the envelope and place the card in the box. The cards will be sorted, alphabetized and bundled. The bundles will be placed next to the box for the recipients to pick up. You may send cards beginning Sunday, November 30. The last day to send cards will be Christmas Eve.

We ask that you donate the money you would have spent on postage to Camp Chapel's mission projects. Envelopes marked "Mission Projects" will be by the box for your check (made payable to Camp Chapel) or for a cash donation. Please place the donation envelope in the card box.

REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR CARDS!

Sue Garrison



GIFTS OF LOVE

It's that time of year to think about giving to others. Our church will again sponsor Camp Chapel's "Gifts of Love" campaign. With your generous help, the Circle of Sisters will work on this ministry to provide Christmas gifts for needy local children. We will be working with several schools in our community as well as the Community Assistance Network (CAN) to bring Christmas blessings to identified families



The "wish tags" will be posted on the church bulletin boards by November 23rd. If you would like to purchase a gift or two, just

choose a tag, buy the gift and return it UNWRAPPED to the church by Sunday, December 7. Please attach the original "wish tag" to any gifts you return. This will ensure that each child will receive the proper gift. Also, return a gift receipt if possible.

Some tags will be asking for gift cards. Any amount is acceptable. Please put the amount on the card. This will help the committee or local school counselors provide additional gifts as needed.

Bins will be in the church hall for gifts. Contact Karen Knauer at 410-440-2293 (cell) or knauerpower3@gmail.com if you have any questions. Thank you for your interest and generosity in supporting this important ministry!

Karen Knauer

COMMEMORATING PERRY HALL'S 250TH

On a crisp yet beautiful Monday afternoon, November 3, the Perry Hall Improvement Project hosted a meaningful gathering at Gough Park to celebrate the burial of the Perry Hall 250th Birthday Capsule. The event brought together local and state representatives, community leaders, schools, and organizations in a shared moment of reflection and pride.

Camp Chapel was honored to be represented officially by:

- Frank Long, Creation Care Chair
- Angela Gaskin, Church Council Chair

• Pastor Carol Pazdersky, Pastor

• Doris Tarleton, Church Historian

Along with our official representatives, several members of the congregation were also present.

Frank Long spoke on behalf of Camp Chapel, highlighting the church's deep historical roots and its vital role in the growth and development of Perry Hall. He also shared insights into Camp Chapel's ongoing mission and outreach efforts, underscoring the church's commitment to community care.

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at the ceremony



Camp Chapel was honored to be represented Frank Long took part in the ceremonial burial of the time capsule

County Councilman David Marks joined in recognizing Camp Chapel's unique legacy and its enduring presence in Perry Hall's story. Frank later took part in the ceremonial shoveling of soil to mark the capsule's burial, a symbolic gesture linking past, present, and future.

If you're in the area, stop by Gough Park to see the site where this special moment in Perry Hall's history was sealed for generations to come.

Angela Gaskin

HONORING OUR VETERANS

On Sunday, November 9, Camp Chapel devoted part of each worship service to honoring our members who served our country. Living veterans were recognized and deceased veterans were remembered. Each veteran present received an American flag and for those not present, a flag was presented to a family member or close friend. The Chancel Choir performed "A Tribute to the Armed Forces" at the 9:30 and 11:00 services. Following the 11:00 service, members of the congregation placed American flags on the graves of veterans who are buried in our cemetery. Camp Chapel is the final resting place of at least 38 veterans, men and women who served their country in time of war or in time of peace.

Veterans remembered at the 8:30 service: Larry Daubert (USA), Charles Deshong (USAF), and Bruce Sewell Sr. (USA).

Veteran honored at the 9:30 service: Leif Nielsen (USN).

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Veterans honored at the 11:00 service: Gary Brown (USAF), Robert Callahan (USA), Barry Foster (USMC), Vivian Akehurst Gaz (USA), John Gray (USA), John Gregory (USAF), Marvin Gyr (National Guard), Wayne Herbert (USN), Craig Kline (USA), George Krause (USMC), Edward Mathus (USN), Roger Price (USN), William Smith (USN), Donald Sterlock (USAF), and Ronald Wernsdorfer (National Guard),

Veterans remembered at the 11:00 service: Carville Akehurst (USA), David Akehurst (USN), William Edward Akehurst (USA), William Borgerding (USN), Louis Bowers (USMC), Dr. Robert Burt (USAF), Joseph Glorioso (USA), C. Douglas Hackman (USAF), Calvin Edward Keeney, Robert Knight (USN), Gatha McDaniel ("Rosie the Riveter"), Bill Reed (USA), Richard Rogers (USAF), Richard Ruth (National Guard), J. Frank Tarleton (USA), Robert White (USMC), and Frank Wiseman (USN).

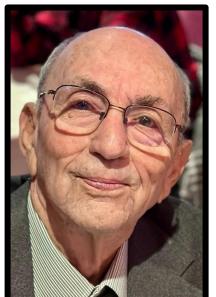


Veterans honored at the 11:00 service



Friends and families of veterans remembered at the 11:00 service

DEPARTED



Larry C. Daubert March 27, 1938 – November 7, 2025

On November 7, 2025, Larry C. Daubert was called home to be with his Savior. Larry was the beloved husband of Mary Ann Daubert (nee Vittek); devoted father of Jeana Dunnigan (Dominick), Tricia Roberts (Tom), and Darin Daubert; loving Pop Pop of Andrew (Morgan) Dunnigan, Emily Dunnigan, Brandon Dunnigan, and Alyssa Dunnigan, Tommy Roberts, Allie Roberts, and Julie Roberts; dear brother of Natalie Houser and Pat Hitchcock.

Larry was a great example of love, doting over his wife of 52 years, cherishing every moment with his kids and grandkids, and loving the Lord with all his heart, soul, and mind. He grew up on a farm and spent his entire career working for the U.S. Department of

Agriculture, after earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Marietta College and serving in the Army. Larry had a keen sense of humor and always had a dad joke to share.



Arleen M. Parcover November 9, 1951 - November 10, 2025

On November 10, 2025, Arleen M. Parcover passed away. Arleen is pre-deceased by her parents William and Edna Reed and her sister Patricia Wean. Arleen is survived by numerous cousins and loving friends.

Arleen grew up on Joppa Road in Perry Hall. She worked as a secretary at a law firm and truly enjoyed her long career there. Her hobbies included going to yard sales and thrift shops, counted cross-stitch projects, and collecting. Over the years she assembled extensive collections of Boyd's Bears and china.

She was a lifelong member of our congregation, being confirmed in the faith when she was twelve years old on Palm Sunday. As a teenager, she volunteered at Camp Chapel with vacation Bible



School and at church dinners, and she continued to help with church dinners as an adult. Arleen was an active and faithful member of the Camp Chapel Chancel and Bell Choirs.



Snow and Ice Policy

In the event of inclement winter weather (snow or ice), we may have to close the church. During the week, any time Baltimore County schools close for winter weather, all activities at the church are cancelled. Saturday events are cancelled if a snow emergency is in effect. Sunday worship will be cancelled to protect our members' safety if our parking lot and walks cannot be safely cleared. The decision about cancellation of worship is made the evening before based on information we have at that time. Safety is always a priority. Announcements of closure will be posted on our website and on the church office answering machine.



Devotion for Home and at Camp Chapel Gatherings

Preparation suggestions: breathe in, breathe out, 3 times, each time a bit deeper and slower.

<u>Reflection</u> Last month we were talking about light. The light God gave us 'In the Beginning'. But sometimes we just feel overwhelmed or rushed or lack trust in what we are doing. At these times, we may feel we are wandering around in the dark.

Spiritual Steps: Put the world aside and reflect on these questions:

- How do you envision God's light being available to you?
- How do you seek God's light in your times of joy? In your dark times? Do you seek the same ways?
- How can you offer God's light, if you are struggling?

In serving others, we become brighter, the world becomes brighter. What ways can you help Camp Chapel offer light to our community?





SAVE THESE DATES!



Trustees (Zoom)	January 6	Trustees (Zoom)
Band of Brothers	January 7	Band of Brothers
Finance Committee (Zoom)	January 13	Finance Committee (Zoom)
Circle of Sisters	January 14	Circle of Sisters
Band of Brothers	January 21	Band of Brothers
Church Council (Zoom)	January 28	Church Council (Zoom)
	Finance Committee (Zoom) Circle of Sisters Band of Brothers	Band of Brothers Finance Committee (Zoom) Circle of Sisters January 13 January 14 Band of Brothers January 21

Coming Events

Red Poinsettias for Christmas Eve





Poinsettias will decorate the altar on Christmas Eve. Take home your flowers after the service. Submit your dedication and place your order online at https://campchapel.org/christmas-poinsettias/ or scan the QR code ▶



THE LAST DAY TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30.



J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth)

Wednesday, December 3, 11 am in Fellowship Hall

Join us and enjoy an afternoon of lunch, games, and fellowship with other Camp Chapel members. Bring a sandwich and a drink for lunch (dessert will be provided). Feel free to bring your favorite board game, cards, or dominos. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month.



All Are Welcome!



Camp Chapel Film Seminar Presents:

Saturday, December 6, 6 pm Via Zoom



Convicts Joseph, Albert, and Jules escape from Devil's Island with Albert's pet viper Adolphe and made their way to the town of Cayenne. They take a liking to the Ducotels, who manage a store, the only one in town that gives merchandise on credit, and it is losing money. The convicts decide to help out, but the owner of the store arrives from Paris with the intention of sacking the Ducotels and taking over operations.

We're No Angels (1955), directed by Michael Curtiz and starring Humphrey Bogart, Peter Ustinov, and Aldo Rey, with Joan Bennett, Leo G. Carroll, and Basil Rathbone, has a running time of 106 minutes.

Check the flyer: https://campchapel.org/event/film-

seminar-were-no-angels-2/

Or scan the QR code ▶



You must be 18 years or older. Zoom invitation will be sent via email



Coming Events Continued

Gingerbread House Event



Saturday, December 13 9 am to 2 pm



Cost: \$20 for one house, \$18 per house for two or more houses

We will have light refreshments with elf punch, photo spots for some nice Christmas photos, plus holiday music to get you into the Christmas spirit.



SIGN UP ON OUR WEBSITE OR SCAN THE QR CODE ► https://campchapel.org/event/gingerbread-house-fundraiser/





Christmas Concert

featuring tenor RYAN WILSON Sunday, December 14, 4 pm







The Deadline for Submitting Articles for the January *Acorn* Is <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>December 17</u>





Saturday December 20 6 pm To 8 pm (Rain or Shine)

We are so excited about this event! Please mark your calendar and don't forget to invite your family and friends!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



Bits and Pieces

The Lord's Prayer: "...Hallowed Be Thy Name"

I have long contended that most Christians don't say the Lord's Prayer properly. We tend to say it in short bursts, like we're on the ground trying to teach it to a friend on a fast-moving merry-go-round. Our Father (she's gone around), who art in heaven (gone 'round again), hallowed be thy name (next rotation). Thy kingdom come (around again). Thy will be done (and 'round) on earth (and 'round) as it is in heaven (and 'round)... you get the idea. For me, saying the Lord's Prayer like that destroys all its grace, poetry, and, most importantly, its meaning. It becomes not a prayer, but more a long incantation.

From time to time, I'd like to break down the prayer that Jesus taught us – pull it apart and see what layers of meaning we can discern.

We say this prayer pretty much just as it appears in the New Testament Gospel of Matthew, the King James Version (KJV), with a few minor adjustments. A more succinct version can be found in the Gospel of Luke.

We have already covered "Our father, who art in heaven,..." This time, let's look at the next bit, the last four words of the first sentence of the prayer: "...hallowed be thy name."

We say prayers for a number of reasons. We probably pray most often to petition, asking God to add something good to our lives or the lives of others, or to remove something bad. Sometimes, we glorify God in our prayers, or we pray to beg forgiveness, or we offer praise and worship to God. Often, our prayers address several of these purposes, like this one does.

"Hallowed be thy name" is about praising and glorifying. "Hallowed" is an archaic word not used much now, but we know it from the phrase "hallowed ground," a book and a movie title: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*," and one ancient-sounding celebration, Halloween.

Hallow is a verb that came from Germanic origins to the Anglo-Saxon language as *halgian* and is related to our words "holy" and "health." It was once also used as a noun that meant a saint, or a holy person (hence, Halloween = All Hallows Eve = The night before All Saints Day). The verb hallow means to make holy, to sanctify, to honor as sacred. So, in modern English, when we pray, "Hallowed be thy name," we're saying "God, your name is holy," or "your name is sanctified," or "We honor your sacred name." Why did Jesus feel that it was important for us to tell God this?

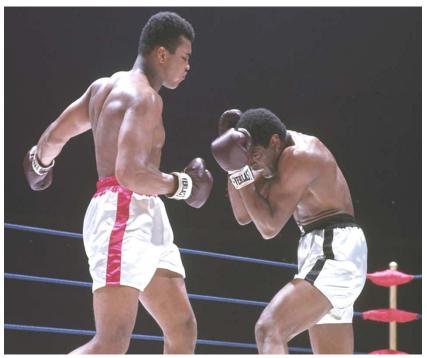
A name is very important to us. Our name is a major part of our identity. When we are asked who we are, the first item of information we provide is our name pretty much every time. The Geneva Convention specifies that captured military personnel are required to tell their captors nothing but name, rank, and serial number. Name comes first. If you're involved in a fender-bender on the road, the other driver will want your name and your insurance information. The insurance information is more important, but the name is still almost always asked for first.

We use the word "name" metaphorically, as in "I don't want to tarnish your good name," or "He hopes to make a name for himself in the theater."

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Muhammad Ali (left) vs. Ernie Terrell

Generally, we are protective of our names, some of us more than others. Those of us who have an unusual name (not one of my problems) will correct others if they mispronounce it. During the memorial service for our late friend, Arleen Parcover, one of the oft-repeated memories folks had of her was that she did not at all like it when people misspelled her name. Not long after Cassius Clay began his professional boxing career, he converted to Islam and changed his name to Muhammad Ali. One of his rivals, Ernie Terrell, refused to call him by his Muslim name, leading to a heated confrontation between the two fighters during an

interview before their bout. Terrell persisted, and during the fight, a furious Muhammad Ali pummeled his opponent for fifteen painful rounds, and with each punch he landed, he screamed, "What's my name?" into Terrell's bruised face.

And on the other side, children (and some childish adults) will often attempt to show disrespect and try to get a reaction by deliberately mispronouncing someone else's name, using a name they think will be seen as an insult or by otherwise making fun of someone's name, like Skinny Minnie ("she ain't skinny – she's tall, that's all") or Piggy or Pocahontas, or Sleepy Joe.

The Bible tells us that God sometimes gave a person a new name to mark an important change in God's relationship with that person, so Abram became Abraham and Sarai became Sarah when God entered into a covenant with them. The name changes signified that Abraham and Sarah would, through their descendants, establish a lineage that would, in physical terms make them the father and mother of a great nation of people. In spiritual terms, they would become the progenitors of three of the world's major religions.

Today, in a culture like ours where names are chosen mostly because of how they sound, what names mean isn't given much thought, but in ancient cultures, and even many other than ours today, the meaning of a name given to a person was and is extremely important. In the New Testament, Simon became Peter when he confessed that he believed Jesus to be Christ, the Son of God. Simon is a Hebrew name that means hearer or listener. It is very probable that Simon's parents, most likely devout Jews, would have chosen this name as a sign that their son would listen to the Word of God, which would become most appropriate when Simon became an apostle of Jesus. Peter is actually the Greek word Petros, which means Rock. Most scholars believe that Jesus would have called him Rock using the Aramaic name Cephas. Regardless

of the word Jesus used, Simon was transformed from One Who Listens to a man called Rock, who became a solid foundation as a leader of the nascent Christian church.

There are other name changes in the Bible – Naomi (Pleasant) asked her friends and family to call her Mara (Bitter) after she lost her husband and son. Saul (Prayed for), a persecutor of early Christians, became Paul (Small/Humble) a father of the church and the writer of many of the Epistles, after he was struck down, blinded, and converted to Christianity. There are more, but I think you see what I mean.

So, it is God's name that we affirm we will keep holy. If that sounds familiar, it may be because it's the second commandment (it's second the way I was taught), "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." (Genesis 20:7)

Here's an interesting twist: technically, the name of God isn't "God." When God spoke to Moses, God commanded him to lead the people out of Egypt. Moses said that if he came to the people claiming to have been sent by God, the first question they would ask would be,

"What's God's name?" God answered, "Tell them, I AM THAT I AM sent you." That name is the English translation of the Hebrew word we pronounce YAWEH or JEHOVA. In Hebrew, the name of God is traditionally written using four Hebrew letters: yod, he, vav, and he (YHWH). These four letters are known as the Tetragrammaton, or Tetragram for short. Christians are the only people among the religions descended from Abraham who pronounce that name.



(read right to left)

Given that the name of God is truly of such great magnitude to us in so many ways, and inasmuch as God's name is intimately bound into the essence of God, we need to ask ourselves, are we hallowing it as we should? Muslims and Jews might claim that they hallow God's name, just because they neither speak nor write God's name, ever. It could also be said that Christians are guilty of violating the second commandment and failing to hallow God's name because most of us have no problem writing or saying YAWEH and JEHOVA.

I disagree with both of those statements. In my opinion, whether we say YAWEH or JEHOVA or God or the Almighty or Jesus or Christ or Allah or Elohim or any of the other words we use to refer to our supreme being, they all belong to God and they all are God's names. To hallow any of them means that they should be spoken only when the situation is appropriate, and always in a reverent and respectful manner. The name of God, whatever word we use, should never be uttered as an expletive or part of an expletive. Phrases like "I swear to God..." or "As God is my witness..." are oaths, and an oath should never be taken frivolously.

I must confess that although I have believed what I wrote in the previous paragraph my whole life, I have not always lived it. One of the side effects of writing these monthly essays is that I am frequently forced to examine closely how I live my life, and I often discover that I seriously need to try to be a better person. I have not always been a hallower.

Our father in heaven, let us all honor your sacred name.

Bill Smith



Birthdays

December Birthdays		January Birthdays	
Lisa Houck	December 10	Barbara Thompson	January 3
Karen Knauer	December 12	John Olcott	January 4
Ruth Diggs	December 13	Abigail Craven	January 6
Dan Pazdersky	December 13	Debra Kalendek	January 8
Tammy Stipek	December 13	Winston Bain	January 13
Jerry Welsh	December 14	Anita Obinger	January 15
Susan Colburn	December 16	Hannah Warren	January 15
Wayne Herbert	December 19	Elizabeth Day	January 21
Heather Gyr	December 21	Alan Amador	January 22
Ryan Beveridge	December 22	Ryan Gaskin	January 25
Robin Craven	December 26	Joyce Williams-Joiner	January 25
Gary Brown	December 27	Angela Gaskin	January 26
		Elly Delkoon	January 28
		Kellie Smith	January 28
		Jackie Brawn	January 30
		David Dziuk	January 31
		David Whitson	January 31



The Acorn would love to celebrate every single birthday of every member of our congregation. Each month, we list the birthdays for this month and the next. If your birthday does not appear, please send an email to acorn@campchapel.org with your name and the month and day you were born. WE DO NOT NEED TO KNOW THE YEAR! Your age can be your secret!

Lectionary Readings

December

December 7: 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 (UMH 795)

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

December 14: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10

Luke 1:46b-55 (UMH 199)

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

December 21: 4th Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (UMH 801)

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

December 24: Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96 (UMH 815)

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-20

December 28: 1st Sunday after Christmas

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm 98 (UMH 818)

Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12)

John 1:1-14

January

January 4: Epiphany Sunday

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm 147:12-20 (UMH 859)

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:(1-9), 10-18

January 11: Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-10

Psalm 29 (UMH 761)

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

January 18: 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalm 40:1-11 (UMH 774)

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

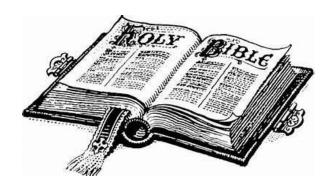
January 25: 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm 27:1, 10-18 (UMH 758)

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23



The Holy Bible Is the Word of God



What's Happening in December?

Among other observances, December is Universal Human Rights Month, Worldwide Food Service Safety Month, National Cat Lovers' Month, Bingo Month, Art and Architecture Month

Read a New Book Month, and Egg Nog Month. Other celebrations include:

