



Stephens City United Methodist Church

Welcoming ~ Jesus-Centered ~ Mission-Oriented

THE MESSENGER

NOVEMBER 21, 2025

This Week's Worship

Christ the King / Reign of Christ Sunday

"The Condition of the Heart"

[Mark 12:41-44.](#)

[Please sign-up to read scripture](#)



November 23, 2025
10:00 AM Worship
Bulletin

[CLICK TO OPEN](#)

WORSHIP

[Click to see the
Worship Road ahead](#)

The Adult Sunday School class meets week at 8:45 – 9:45 in Room 200. The current study, taught by Christy Wintrobe, is on Jesus's parables, using a book by Josh Scott, Parables – Putting Jesus's Stories in Their Place. November 23, Joe Staggs will also present lessons from The History and Archaeology of the Bible. Starting November 30, the Advent study is A Child is Born by Amy- Jill Levine.

The **SCUMC Online Prayer Group** meets the [FIRST](#) and [THIRD](#) Wednesdays of the month via Zoom for a time of intercessory prayer. Click the links to join.



Jesus' Birthday Party ~ for children in 1st through 5th grade and their parents. We will provide pizza and popcorn, watch a Christmas themed movie, and read the Christmas story together. And, of course, there will be birthday cake. Click this link to register by Wednesday December 3rd for food planning purposes.

Operation Christmas Child is underway!

We support Samaritan's Purse each year by packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Shoeboxes will be available on Sunday with a quick turnaround this year. **They will need to be returned this Sunday, November 23rd.**

Please make them FULL, FUN, and PERSONALIZED.

1. Do you need ideas of what to Include? [Click the Link](#)
2. Do you want to help but not shop? You can make a financial donation to the church, earmark it for Operation Christmas Child, and we will shop for you!
3. Join us for a Packing Party next Sunday (Nov. 23rd)! Help us pack boxes after church. Bring any items you have to include, or just yourself!

This is an incredible way to share God's love to children all across the world. Thank you for participating!




JOIN US TO PACK SHOEBOX GIFTS

Sunday 11/23/25
After Church Service

Stephens City UMC
Fellowship Hall




Family Promise ~Winchester Area provides critical support to local families experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity, offering case management, rental support, and financial counseling. The organization has served more than 250 local families—preventing nearly 40 evictions and helping 70 families secure permanent housing.

You are warmly invited to attend the 2nd Annual Tacky Sweater Party on December 13, 2025, from 5:00–7:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided, and activities for the whole family, including ornament making, a hot cocoa station, a trivia contest, a silent auction, and of course, our Tacky Sweater Contest. Be sure to bring your dancing shoes, too, because Jump Alley will be providing music throughout the evening. The party is being generously hosted by Braddock Street UMC at 115 Wolfe Street, Winchester, VA 22601. For Tickets, [CLICK here.](#)

Food Pantry

This past week, The Food Pantry served **74 families**, comprised of **227 individuals**. Thank you!

Contact Cookie Shank, Food Pantry Manager, at 540-313-5673 or email: foodpantry.scumc@outlook.com, for more information and how you can help.

Current Food Pantry needs:

Cereal	Peanut or Almond Butter
Canned Tuna or Chicken	Canned Soups, Stews, Chili
Canned Fruit	Canned Veggies
Canned or Dried Beans	Boxed Mac and Cheese
Pasta and Rice	Spaghetti Sauce

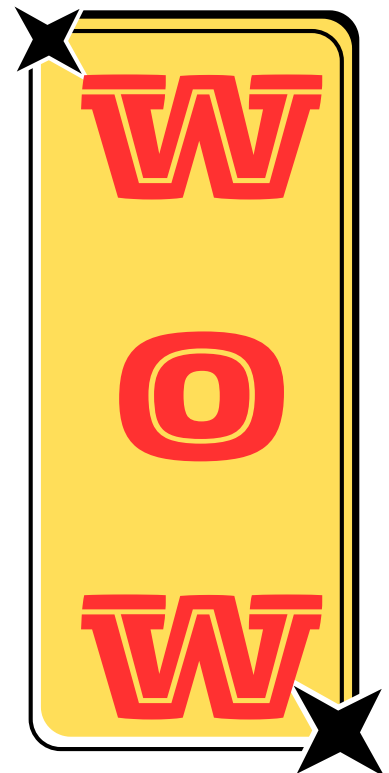
FY25 Partner Impact Summary

Stephens City United Methodist Church – Stephens City, VA

Meeting the Need in FY25	
9,939 Individuals Served (Duplicated)	2,984 Households Served (Duplicated)
2,994 Individuals Served (Unique)	850 Households Served (Unique)

Nourishing Communities in FY25	
86,218 lbs. of Produce	Valued at \$163,814
12,711 lbs. of Purchased Food	Valued at \$5,878
16,794 lbs. of Donated Food	Valued at \$31,909
147,049 lbs. of TEFAP/CSFP Foods	Valued at \$279,394
2,168 lbs. of Retail Donations	Valued at \$4,119
2,378 lbs. of Cultural Inclusive Foods	Valued at \$3,176

Building Capacity in FY25	
267,207 lbs. of Food	Valued at \$488,443
Your Organization's Shared Costs	\$4,408
Partner Impact and Innovation Grant Awards Received from BRAFB	\$6,680



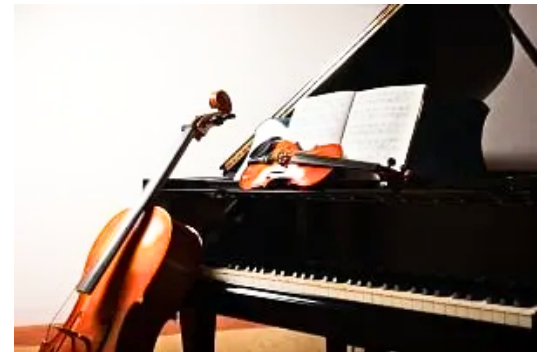


Attention Ladies. Mark Your Calendars: United Women in Faith (UWF) Christmas Gathering will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 10 am in the Gathering Area. All Food Pantry Volunteers are also invited to attend. We will have a special speaker, wonderful music, mission awards, memorial gifts and of course refreshments. This event is guaranteed to get you into the Christmas Spirit. Also Secret Sisters will be revealed. Hope you can attend. Any questions please contact Debbie Jones, (540-409-8260) UWF President.

A big thank you from United Women of Faith for your generous donations on All Saints Sunday's Candle Burning Ceremony. \$500 was raised and will be sent to SRD UWF for mission projects. Thank you all so much.

At 10 am, Sunday, Dec. 14, enjoy the ADVENT and CHRISTMAS Prelude and Worship with music by the Congregation, Chancel Choir, Soloists, Stephens City Ringers, String Quartet from Shenandoah University and Piano Duets.

Financial contributions in Honor and/or In Memory of loved ones are greatly appreciated!



Take a moment to see what is happening with WATTS (Winchester Area Temporary Transitional Shelter). [Click here for their newsletter ~ WATTSup.](#)





Join us this winter for our Inside Out Winter Camp! We'll play camp games, sing camp songs, and have all the camp fun you can imagine; just Inside Out! Along with all of this fun, we'll learn about how we can take our Christian values and feelings and express them to people around us. We'll exemplify this through mission work and showing God's love to others. Check-in begins at 6:30 PM on Friday January 16th and pickup is at 1:30 PM on Sunday January 18th.

[Registration](#)

Transform the world through radical generosity. Join the *GivingTuesday* movement and reimagine a world built upon shared humanity and generosity.

[CLICK to read more](#)

**GIVING
TUESDAY**

Christmas Poinsettias



Time to order your Christmas Poinsettia(s). The poinsettias are from Weber's Nursery and are 7" with foil lining. Each poinsettia costs \$20. Orders will be taken through Sunday, December 7th.

Poinsettia Color (Circle One): Red or White

Name of Giver: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

of poinsettias _____ x \$20.00 = Total: _____

UPCOMING MEETINGS and ACTIVITIES

THIS WEEK			NEXT WEEK		
Nov 23rd	8:45am	Sunday School (Rm 200)	Nov 30th		1st Sunday of Advent (HOPE)
	10:00am	Worship Service (Sanctuary)		8:45am	Sunday School (Rm 200)
	6:00pm	Quilting Group (Rm 102)		10:00am	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
				6:00pm	Quilting Group (Rm 102)
Nov 24th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)	Dec 1st	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00pm	Fiber Ministry (Rm 102)		7:00pm	Trustees Meeting (via Zoom)
Nov 25th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)	Dec 2nd	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)
	11:00am	Food Pantry Distribution		11:00am	Food Pantry Distribution
	6:00pm	Lions Club (Fellowship Hall)			
Nov 26th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)	Dec 3rd	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00pm	Praise Band Rehearsal		6:30pm	Prayer Group Meeting (via Zoom)
				7:00pm	Praise Band Rehearsal
Nov 27th		Happy Thanksgiving	Dec 4th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)
		Church Office is Closed		7:00pm	Apple Valley Ringers (Sanctuary)
Nov 28th		Church Office is Closed	Dec 5th	6:30pm	Jesus' Birthday Party (Fellowship Hall)
Nov 29th			Dec 6th	10:00am	UWF Christmas Gathering (Fellowship)

UMC General Conference news:

Four Amendments have been ratified. Read more by clicking [this link](#).

[Click to View Shenandoah River District UMC Events](#)

[**CLICK TO VIEW THE CHURCH CALENDAR**](#)

Stephens City United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 428, 5291 Main Street, Stephens City, Virginia 22655

CHURCH OFFICE: Mon-Fri: 8:30 am – 1:00 pm

540-869-2348 office@stephenscityumc.org

Pastor: Rev. Bertina J. H. Westley ~ bertinawestley@vaumc.org

Daycare Office: 540-866-2132 scumcdaycare@gmail.com

Preschool Office: 540-869-1368 stephenscitypreschool@gmail.com

Food Pantry: 540-313-5673 foodpantry.scumva@outlook.com



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