



Stephens City United Methodist Church

Welcoming ~ Jesus-Centered ~ Mission-Oriented

THE MESSENGER DECEMBER 26, 2025

This Week's Worship

First Sunday after Christmas
"Lessons and Carols"

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

December 28 , 2025
10:00 AM Worship
Bulletin

[CLICK TO OPEN](#)



WORSHIP

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

The Adult Sunday School will continue an Advent Study, *A Child is Born*, on December 14th and 21st with the stories of Samuel and Jesus. No class on December 28th. On January 4th and 11th, the topics will be the last two chapters in the *Parables - Putting Jesus's Stories in Their Place*. Class meets at 8:45 AM in Room 200. All are welcome.

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. [The prayer group will take a break until Wednesday, January 7, 2026.](#)

Pastor Bertina will be on vacation Friday, December 26th and returning Sunday January 4th.



Food Pantry

The Ministry of the Food Pantry 2025:

3122 Households served ~ 10,361 Individuals.

Thank you, Cookie and Staff and the many volunteers who have a heart for mission.

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

Stephens City UMC Book/Movie Club

2nd Saturday of the month 10:00am to 12:00pm Stephens City UMC, 529 Main St., Stephens City (parking and entrance in back of Church)

- January 10th—A Tree Grows in Brooklyn—Betty Smith
- February 14th—Mitford Series (1st book) At Home in Mitford (movie)—Jan Caron
- March 14th—Room —Emma Donoghue
- April 25th—Courageous—Alex Kendrick, Randy Alcom & Stephen Kendrick
- May 9th—Angela's Ashes—Frank McCourt

[Click for Entire 2026 Reading Schedule](#)

For more information please contact Kathie at kathieczerwinski@gmail.com

In support of WATTS (Winchester Area Temporary Transitional Shelter), the **SCUMC cookbook is ready to order!** A sample cookbook and order forms will be in the gathering space. Last date to order is December 28th with delivery in mid-January. The price is \$15.00. Please make checks payable to Stephens City UMC with *WATTS Cookbook* in the memo line. For additional information, please contact Dee Morrison, Wattscookbook@outlook.com.

[Link for the Cookbook Order Form](#)





Secret Sister Program

Welcome to the Secret Sister Program! All women who attend Stephens City United Methodist Church are invited to take part in this ministry of caring and sharing with your sisters in Christ.

The Secret Sister Program helps build community, encourage prayer, and provide support. The program is anonymous; each woman is paired with another to pray for and encourage during the year.

Thoughtful Giving: Exchange small, inexpensive, or handmade gifts, notes, or cards—focusing on thoughtfulness and prayer rather than expense. Gifts should be modest in price, something special from your personal treasures, re-gifted, or discovered at a thrift store or sale. This ministry is meant to foster faith, friendship, and connection—not to be a burden.

If you would like to participate, please complete the short questionnaire with favorite colors, treats and preferences to help your “sister” select meaningful items.

UWF Secret Sister Questionnaire

Each participant will be assigned a “Secret Sister” to encourage and pray for throughout the year—keep her identity a secret until the end! The program concludes at the UWF Christmas Gathering, where Secret Sisters reveal their identities and celebrate together.

Let’s share in faith, kindness, and joy as we lift one another up through this special ministry!

Please return forms to Kathie Czerwinski in person or by email
Kathieczerwinski@gmail.com

Deadline to be matched with a Secret Sister is **December 30th**.

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



UPCOMING MEETINGS and ACTIVITIES

THIS WEEK			NEXT WEEK		
Dec 28th	10:00am	Worship Service (Sanctuary)	Jan 4th	8:45am	Sunday School (Rm 200)
	6:00pm	Quilting Group (Rm 102)		10:00am	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
				6:00pm	Quilting Group (Rm 102)
Dec 29th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)	Jan 5th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)
				7:00pm	Trustees Meeting (via Zoom)
Dec 30th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)	Jan 6th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)
				11:00am	Food Pantry Distribution
Dec 31st		New Year's Eve	Jan 7th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)
	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)		6:30pm	Prayer Group Meeting (via Zoom)
				7:00pm	Prasie Band Rehearsal
Jan 1st		Happy 2026!	Jan 8th	8:00am	Seniors First SAAA (Fellowship Hall)
		<i>(Church Office is Closed)</i>		7:00pm	Apple Valley Ringers (Sanctuary)
Jan 2nd			Jan 9th	10:00am	Caring Outreach Ministgry (Rm 102)
Jan 3rd			Jan 10th	10:00am	Movie & Book Club (Rm 101)

Click this LINK to read the Minutes from the December 16th Adminstrative Council Meeting

[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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