

# Cayce United Methodist Courier



DECEMBER 2025

## Cayce United Methodist Church

1600 12th Street, Cayce, SC

29033-3104

[www.cayceumc.com](http://www.cayceumc.com)

Phone: (803)794-3200

Fax (803)794-6191

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[www.facebook.com/cayceumc](http://www.facebook.com/cayceumc)

Instagram: [cayceumcchurch](https://www.instagram.com/cayceumcchurch)

### Worship Service

10:30 a.m.

### Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

### Staff

Rev. Tom Wall

Pastor

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

Mrs. Debbie McDonald

Pastoral Assistant

Mrs. Cynthia Hutchison

Office Administrator

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

Ms. Camille Jones

Director of Music Ministries

[caboose6426@gmail.com](mailto:caboose6426@gmail.com)

Ms. Kathryn Williams

Hand Bell Choir Director

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

Ashley Wise

Nursery Coordinator

Rev. Sam Harmon

Pastor Emeritus

## Pastor Reflections:

Here we are again entering into the season of Advent. There will be twenty-five days in Advent this year. And, as usual, there are twelve days in the Christmas season. Advent usually begins with John the Baptist and only hints of Jesus. John's message is "PREPARE the way of the Lord!" "Prepare" and along with the implied, "waiting" are the watch words. Other scripture texts are more direct about a time of waiting.

How we prepare and how we wait determines how we receive the Christ who is to come. Or do not receive Him because we have not prepared properly. Just after Labor Day the stores were putting up Christmas displays and the advertising for Christmas was beginning. The word was one about buying and getting people gifts. And Black Friday marks to true start of secular Christmas. For most people, 25 December, Christmas day, is the first and last day of Christmas. Most of us do Christmas all through Advent and ignore John the Baptist message of preparing and waiting. (Even the Christmas party for the United Methodist clergy in the Columbia District will be held just three days into Advent on 2 December. So much for practicing what you preach.)

When John was asked whether he might be the Messiah he tells them, "No!" The One who is coming is greater and while John baptizes with water, the Messiah will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. This seems like strange talk at Advent/Christmas. Whoever talks about fire and the Holy Spirit at this time of the year? (Evidently, John the Baptist does.)

You could say that fire burns away the excess and the underbrush of our lives that crowd out the life of the Spirit. And being baptized in God's Holy Spirit? Its not some stereotypical charismatic thing, says Walter Bruggeman. "I take it, we may be visited by a spirit of openness, generosity and energy, that 'the force' may come over us, carry us to do obedient things we have not yet done, kingdom things we did not think we had in us, neighbor things from which we cringe. The whole tenor of Advent is that God may act in us, through us, beyond us, more than we imagined, because newness is on its way among us. John is not the newness. He prepares us for the newness."

Of course, newness is coming in Jesus (baby and grown-up) by his kingdom Inbreaking message and life. We are invited to participate in very concrete ways by serving, feeding, accompanying and loving, seeking justice, healing and praying. The preparation that John is talking about does not involve shopping and parties and sending cards. The preparation and the waiting is not exhausting and tiring making us so glad when Christmas is over. Advent preparation and waiting is pondering, wondering, reorienting, creating room in our hearts and lives, straining our eyes to look into the darkness for light and to look into our neighbor's face for Christ. Advent is renewing and enlivening, preparing us for a lifetime of Christmas, receiving again and again the gift of Jesus Christ and the deep peace and profound abundance He brings... a peace and abundance far more satisfying than a gift card to our favorite store, a 5-star Christmas dinner or watching the children open presents.

Advent & Christian Blessings, Tom



## Angel Tree

God's Helping Hands "Angel Tree Ministry" will be focusing again this year on helping our neighbors. GHH has determined that helping to pay heating/electric bills is the most pressing need again this year. The GHH Angel tree is now displayed in the sanctuary. Our tree is decorated with envelopes for you to use to make your donations. ***Please make your check payable to "God's Helping Hands Project Share".*** These funds will be used in addition to the regular funds that GHH uses to assist people. **We will collect these through the end of the year.**



### CARD CONNECTION!

Please remember our Senior Saints with a card and a note! A big Thank You to those of you who have sent cards. Thanks for adding a note of cheer to someone's day. It makes their day to receive these cards and notes.

### *Prayer List*



**At Home Members:** Elisa Williams, Lavern Shull, Larry Mitchell, Cindy Davis, David Hill, BJ Williams, Harold & Gayle Byrd, Libby Clarkson, Sam & Anne Harmon, Tommy & Imogene Rivers, Mona Saylor.

**Members in Care Facilities:** Pat Flowers, Evelyn Coggins, Jackie Smith, Lila Lancaster

**Other Members and Friends who need our prayers:** Charles Beason (Lindy Garrick's nephew), June Touma (friend of Cindy Davis), Jackie McLendon (friend of Gerry & Jan Bonnette), Dixie Dugan (Susan Dugan's mother), Jeff Hutchison, Andy Gambrell (Janis Ouellette's dad), Bucky Hudson, JoAnne Culler (friend of Linda Edmonds), Kandi Pietrowitz Perry (daughter of Bill & Arleen Pietrowitz), Becca Clark, Patti Francis, Leila & Eddie Redleaf, Jeannie Saylor.

**Members in Military:** Ryan Vassey, Brett Brazell, Sarah Ouellette

**Names will remain on our Prayer List for one month.  
Please notify the church office at 803-794-3200 if your loved one's name  
should remain on our Prayer List for a longer period. Thank you.**

## CONTRIBUTIONS

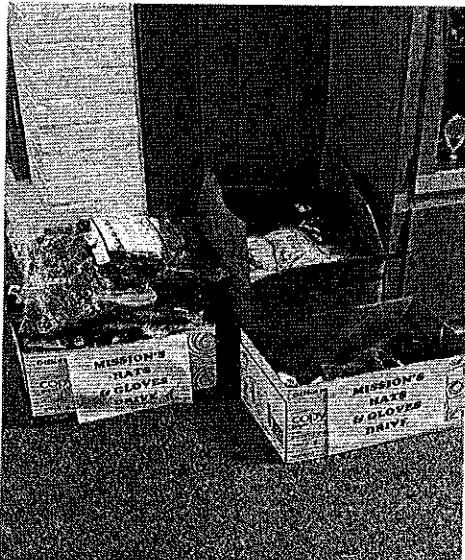
Week of 11/16/2025

Weekly Budget Needs	\$6,730.77
Received 11/16/2025	\$8,123.00
Surplus/Deficit	\$1,392.23
Year to Date Prorated Budget	\$309,615.42
Year to Date Budget Giving	\$248,827.10
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$(60,788.32)
Actual Received to Date	\$248,827.10
Actual Expenses to Date	\$259,129.26
Surplus/Deficit	\$(10,302.16)

Cayce UMC needs your help. We realize Christmas and Thanksgiving are coming and many of you will be out of town or busy with holiday preparations. Gifts can still be counted toward 2025 if received in the office by 12/31/25. Mailed contributions must be postmarked no later than 12/31/25. Online giving is always available.

## ONLINE GIVING

We are pleased to inform you that our church now offers a convenient QR code option. By simply scanning this code using your phone's camera, you will be directed to our church giving website.



## THANK YOU!

The Missions Work Area would like to thank everyone that donated hats and gloves during our Needs Drive for Cayce Elementary. They were very appreciative and are excited to meet their goal. Each child will go home for Christmas break with a pair of gloves and a hat. Again thanks for helping make this possible.

12/01 Scottie Newman  
 12/01 Addison Hudson  
 12/02 Preston Dufries  
 12/03 Steve Wichmann  
 12/03 Kathryn Williams  
 12/06 Cane Elrod  
 12/06 Sarah Ouellette  
 12/08 Tommy Rivers  
 12/08 Steve Drab  
 12/10 Ari LaRosa



12/13 Alice Stewart  
 12/13 Judy Pooser  
 12/14 JJ O'Dell  
 12/15 Reagan Ford  
 12/18 Jackie Smith  
 12/20 Catherine Wilson  
 12/23 Karen Stone  
 12/26 Diane Rollison  
 12/26 Susan Yobs  
 12/27 Gayle Byrd  
 12/28 Linda Edmonds  
 12/31 Ty Hudson



12/03 Lynn & Judy Hutchinson  
 12/15 Keith & Sabrina Williams

Dear Cayce UMC,  
 Thank you to Pastor Tom and Debbie for the many visits to me while I was in the hospital. Thanks to everyone for the cards and calls. Most of all, many thanks for the much needed prayers. I feel so blessed to be a member of such a loving and caring church

Thank you,  
 Patti Frances



## NEEDED FOR GOD'S HELPING HANDS DECEMBER

Canned Mixed Vegetables, Canned Potatoes, Canned Carrots, Canned Mixed Greens, Canned Peas, Cream of Chicken & Mushroom Soup, Hot Dog Chili, Juice, Jelly, Flour, Sugar, Crackers, Jello, Cooking Oil, Jello, Paper Towels

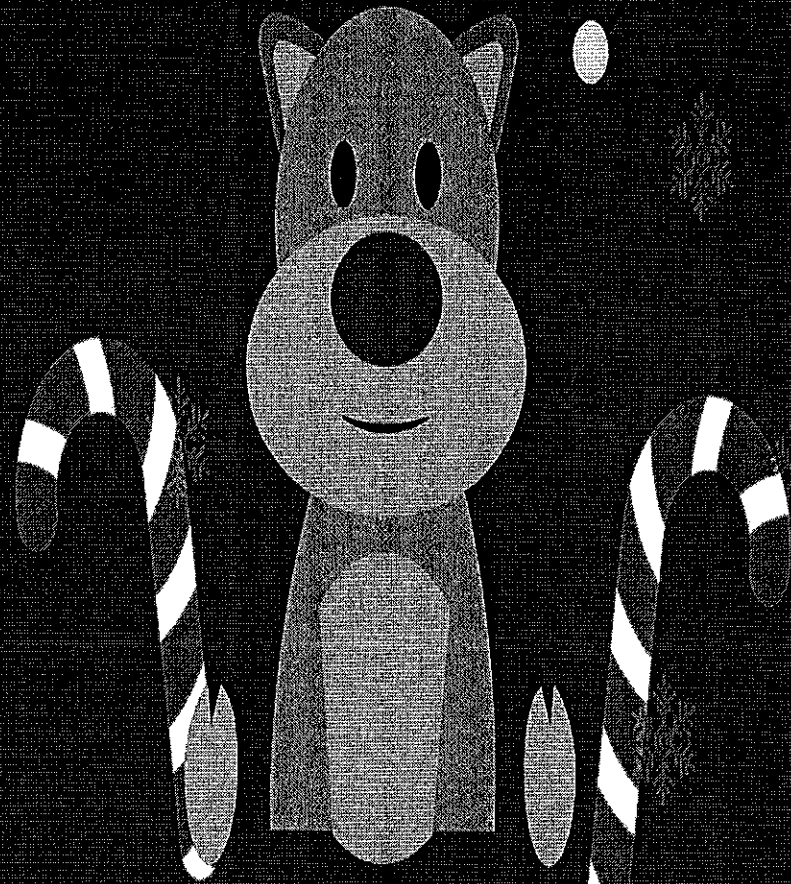
**Everyone is invited to join us for**

# **Christmas Caroling**



**Sunday, December 7th**

**3:00 - 5:00 pm**



**Cayce Kidz  
Christmas Party  
"Parents Night Out"**

**Friday, December 19th**

**6:00 pm - 8:00 am**



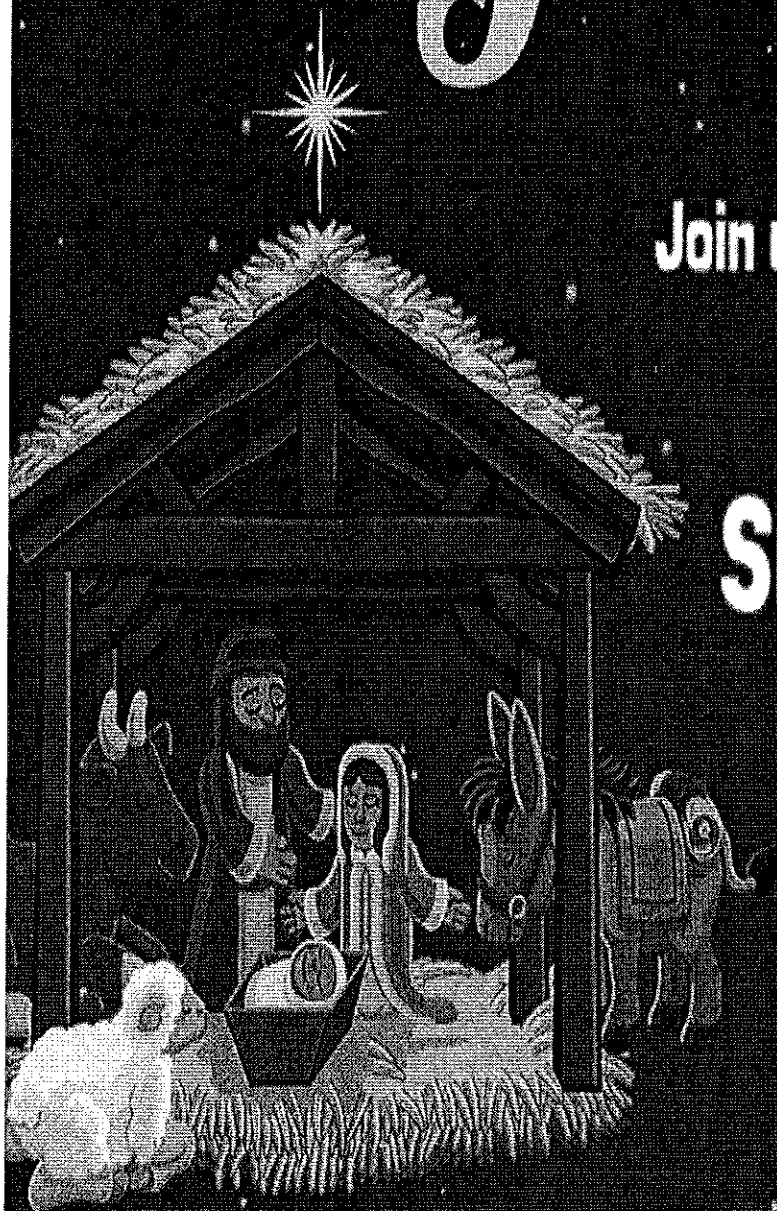
# Happy Birthday *Jesus!*

Join us for a party celebrating  
the birth of Jesus!

**Sunday, Dec. 21st**

**9:30 am**

**Chambers Hall**



### **USHERS**

**December 7**  
Judy Hutchinson  
Barney Lindley

**December 14**  
Diane Rollison  
Ben Taylor

**December 21**  
Debbie McDonald  
John Whitaker

**December 28**  
Allyson Tjaarda  
Gene Dawkins

### **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**

**December 7**

Adele Bonnette & Cynthia Hutchison  
Diane Rollison & Neal Asman



### **AV TECHS**

**December 7**  
Lisa Fisher

**December 14**  
Elliot Bridges  
Dylan Bridges

**December 21**  
Cynthia Hutchison

**December 28**  
Elliot Bridges  
Dylan Bridges

### **NURSERY HELPERS**

**December 7**  
Brandi Taylor

**December 14**  
Caroline Bridges

**December 21**  
Courtney Hudson

**December 28**  
Jane Wall

### **ACOLYTES**

**December 7**  
Evelyn Sellers

**December 14**  
Nate Cobb

**December 21**  
Lyza Sellers

**December 28**  
Brylee Gunter

### **TRUSTEES OF THE MONTH**

**December**

Allan Rish

**ALTAR FLOWERS**  
Altar flowers are available for Sundays in

**December 2025**  
**December 28 - one vase**



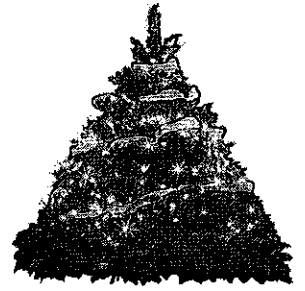
If you would like to donate flowers, you may enter your name on the Flower Calendar posted across from the church office, call us at 794-3200 or email us at [cayceumcfice@gmail.com](mailto:cayceumcfice@gmail.com).



## HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The church office will close Wednesday, December 24, 2025 for the holiday season and will re-open on Monday, January 5, 2026.

For Pastoral needs, you may contact  
Rev. Tom Wall at 803-556-1039



### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Communion & Candlelight

5:00 PM

### CHRISTMAS CANTATA

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

The Cayce United Methodist Adult Choir will celebrate the coming birth of Jesus on Sunday, December 21st, at the 10:30 am service with a beautiful cantata. The will be joined by the following guest musicians:

#### MUSICIANS

Julie Russell, VIOLIN 1

Audrey Harris, VIOLA

Jonathan Evans, BASS

Doug Graham, CLARINET

Scott Herring, PERCUSSION

Haley Calore, VIOLIN 2

Colleen Marcou, CELLO

Esther Clonts, FLUTE

Tammy Lorick, PIANO





# CHRISTMAS CANTATA

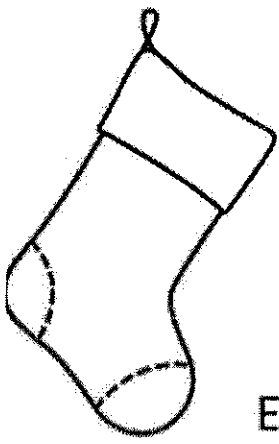
We hope that all of you will be in worship on that day to come celebrate and praise the Lord through the word and song of God by the people of God.

Thanks,  
Camille

# DECEMBER 2025

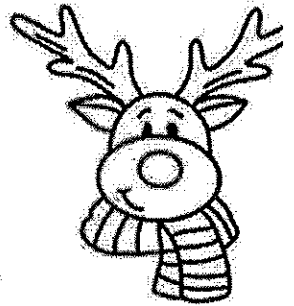
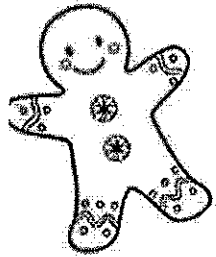
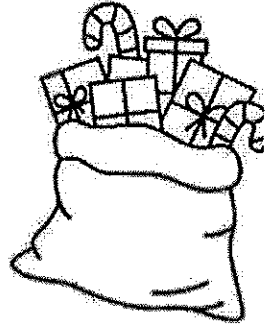
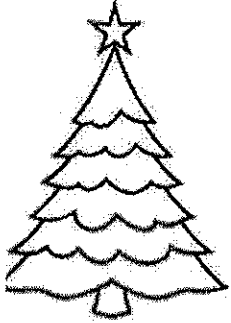
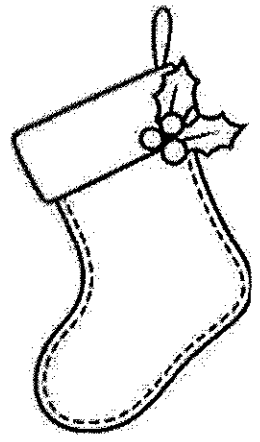
	<b>Mon</b> 1	<b>Tue</b> 2 12:00 pm Senior Adult luncheon  6:00 pm Finance	<b>Wed</b> 3 6:15 Handbells 7:00 Adult Choir	<b>Thu</b> 4	<b>Fri</b> 5 Church Office Closed 6:00 pm Room 32 Christmas Party at Jan & Gerry's	<b>Sat</b> 6
<b>7</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Worship 3-5:00 pm Cayce Kidz Christmas Caroling	<b>8</b> 6:00 pm SPRC	<b>9</b> 6:00 Trustees	<b>10</b> 6:15 Handbells 7:00 Adult Choir	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Church Office Closed 6-10:00 pm Cayce Kidz Christmas Party	<b>13</b> 5-7:30 pm Christmas Parade
<b>14</b> 9:30 Sunday School Happy Birthday Jesus Party Chambers Hall 10:30 am Worship CANTATA	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Church Office Closed 6 pm—8 am Cayce Kidz Christmas Lock - In	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:30 Sunday School Happy Birthday Jesus in Chambers Hall 10:30 am Worship CANTATA	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service  Church Office Closed	<b>25</b> <b>CHRISTMAS</b>  Church Office Closed	<b>26</b>  Church Office Closed	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	<b>29</b>  Church Office Closed	<b>30</b>  Church Office Closed	<b>31</b> <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>  Church Office Closed			

This calendar can also be found on our website @ [cayceumc.com](http://cayceumc.com)



# Merry Christmas

## Word Search



E L O P H T R O N D Q Z C S Y  
W R T S P R L L B A U R L U Q  
R E I N D E E R Z E T L A G M  
E H G U S L Y E V R E D U A I  
A S A N T A R J T B S F S R S  
T M I Q A O R C A R O L E P T  
H T R E E L E G K E S S D L L  
Y A I N B H M Z P G R E O U E  
L O E S L E I G H N P Q V M T  
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O M S T O C K I N G I F T S E  
J B E T H L E H E M F J Z Z Q

Wreath

Bethlehem

Jolly

Bells

Stocking

Santa

Clause

Mistletoe

Tinsel

Merry

Joy

Sleigh

Tree

Elves

Gingerbread

Reindeer

Sugarplum

North Pole

Gifts

Carol

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1600 TWELFTH STREET  
CAYCE, SC 29033  
PHONE (803) 794-3200 \*\* FAX (803) 794-6191  
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### **SUNDAY MORNING**

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship

Online at [CayceUMC.com](http://CayceUMC.com)

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.



[www.facebook.com/cayceumc](http://www.facebook.com/cayceumc)

[www.cayceumc.com](http://www.cayceumc.com)



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