

Clarendon Happenings



54th Annual Messiah Sing - Next Sunday

All are welcome to participate in this year's Messiah Sing on Sunday, November 30, at 7:00PM. This year, we are showcasing four fabulous conductors: Shannon Arnold, Pat Vaughn, David Mann and **our own CJ Redden-Liotta!** They will each lead a section of the work with professional soloists, chamber orchestra, and YOU, the chorus! A

delightful reception will cap off the evening. You can bring your own score or borrow one of the ones we provide. Don't want to sing? Then just come, sit, and soak in glorious Scripture set to music. Can't attend but want to support? Use the QR code or Church Center giving app and choose "Messiah - Concerts at Clarendon" from the drop-down menu. The sing-along will also be live-streamed, so share our YouTube page with friends and family. We look forward to seeing you there!

Join us for the Annual Dinner and Cookie Exchange

You are invited to join CUMC Women and Friends at the 2025 Women's Christmas Cookie Exchange on Saturday, December 6 between 6:00PM and 8:30PM in Corry Hall. We will enjoy a soup and salad dinner, some Carol singing, a seasonal meditation, a chance to sign cards and pack cookies for our homebound members, and lots and lots of cookies to take home!



Please RSVP at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054EABA72DA13-60468733-womens> so we know how many people to expect. Please plan to contribute soup, salad or an appetizer if you can.

New this year: We are inviting people to decorate one of the 8 foot, rectangular dining tables. So, if you want to share some of your Christmas decor, please sign up ASAP to decorate a table.

Decorating should be done on Sat, Dec 6 between 9AM and 2PM.

If you want to help with the event in some way or have questions or ideas, contact Mary Dodson or Laura Bishop Thank you!!



The Mitten Trees: Helping Others Stay Warm

Brrr, can you feel the chill in the air? The Mitten Trees are back, supplemented by boxes for collecting Coats, Scarves, Hats, and Socks. We hope you will help Clarendon's Women in Faith bring warmth and joy to kids at an Arlington elementary school. The items collected will be given to children who need them during the cold winter months. Look for the trees and boxes at both main entrances to the sanctuary November 16 through January 4.

NOTE: We would like to receive the majority of the donations by December 7 so delivery can be made before the weather turns bitterly cold. This year the school will accept gently used, as well as, new items. Used clothing must be in good shape and freshly laundered, please. Due to the Government furloughs and other recent circumstances affecting families, there is more need than ever; please give as generously as you can.

Advent Contemplation

All are invited to join Jennifer London for guided meditation and reflection on selected nativity narratives using Lectio Divina and imaginative prayer. (No prior experience with either of these approaches to praying with scripture is necessary!) This will be a chance to be quiet, be still, and open your heart to deeper connection with Jesus, God's incarnate gift to us, God with us. Sundays at 4 pm in the library (11/30, 12/7, 12/14, and 12/21).



Bring Home a Christmas Tree and Help Your Neighbors!

Order your fresh Fraser Fir from Clarendon UMC and make a difference this Christmas! Trees arrive from North Carolina and will be ready for **pickup starting Nov. 29 at 12PM**. Proceeds support Path Forward and Undue Medical Debt, helping neighbors in need.



Order online: clarendonumc.org/events/christmas-trees or use

the QR code. We'll also have handmade wreaths for sale on the lot!

Tree lot volunteers needed + update on tree delivery

The trees are arriving on **Saturday, Nov. 29**, later than expected, but we can save our first day on the tree lot with a few extra volunteers to help us pick up the trees from Vale UMC (our tree partners).

Here's what we need:

1. Extra hands to help **at Vale UMC in Oakton** as we sort our trees from theirs and load them onto our U-Hauls to bring back to Clarendon. This will happen from 7AM until we are done. It's no more than two hours of volunteering. Drive yourself or arrange a carpool.
2. Extra hands **at CUMC** to help us unload the trees onto our lot. We would expect this to be from about 10-11AM. When two people carry a tree, they are very manageable!

Please sign up with the QR code to let us know you're coming on the 29th or to help during the sale!

Together, we'll shepherd these trees to happy customers and Live our Love as we serve our neighbors in need.



Church office hours: Mon - Thurs, 9AM - 2PM 703-527-8574 or office@ClarendonUMC.org

Items for the Friday email/Clarendon Happenings are due by Noon on Wednesday.

Please submit all calendar and room requests to Fran Underwood at the office email.



Facebook - @ClarendonUMC



Instagram - @ClarendonUMCVA



Church Center app



www.clarendonumc.org



Youtube - Clarendon UMC

AmplifyMedia.com - Church code: **WSRTFZ**