Clarendon Happenings

Autumn Workday Needs Your Help

By popular demand we've scheduled our Autumn Workday for an afternoon after church. **Sunday, November 22**. We'll have donuts and coffee outside and provide rakes and shovels. Come to church dressed for a little dirty work! We'll have an easier workload this year, laying some mulch and raking a bit of leaves around the trees in our yard but the more who help, the faster we'll finish. Come enjoy the autumn weather together before traveling for Thanksgiving!

Christmas Trees Are Coming to Clarendon!

The tree team needs help on **Saturday, Nov. 21**, unloading Christmas trees from the trucks at Vale UMC so we can bring them home to Clarendon. Anyone who feels comfortable moving a tree alone or tag-teaming with a buddy is encouraged to join us for a morning of vigorous activity that gets the blood flowing! We need help in two ways:



1. Meet us at Vale UMC (11528 Vale Rd, Oakton, VA 22124) to unload, count and reload trees. This is the bulk of the work, so having many people here is most helpful.
2. Meet us at Clarendon UMC to unload our 240 trees and stack them in our parking lot. Having fresh folks at CUMC helps support the crew returning from Vale.

We will update with the exact timing as soon as we can. Please reach out to Emily Brown if you can help or have questions,

Join the Tree Lot Team!

The Christmas Tree Lot is one of our favorite Clarendon traditions, and it takes a lot of hands to make it happen. We need volunteers to **welcome customers, sell trees, carry and tie trees to cars, make wreaths, and help keep the lot running smoothly.** No experience necessary — we'll show you what to do! Bring your family, invite a friend, or sign up for a shift with someone from church. **Sign up to volunteer:** https://bit.ly/cumc-tree-lot

Buy Your Tree and Help a Neighbor

The Clarendon Christmas Tree Lot is back! This year, we'll have **280 beautiful Fraser firs** ready to bring a little Christmas cheer to homes across our community. **Every tree we sell helps our neighbors.** This year we are focusing our support on **PathForward**, serving people experiencing homelessness in Arlington.

Buy your tree: Trees can be ordered online today and picked up beginning Saturday, November 28. Handmade wreaths will also be available for purchase at the lot while supplies last. **clarendonumc.org/events/christmas-trees**

The Mitten Trees



There's a chill in the air and that means the Mitten Trees will be back soon. We hope you will help Clarendon's Women in Faith bring warmth and joy to kids at Carlin Springs Elementary School. Look for the trees and donation boxes at both main entrances to the Sanctuary on November 15-28. This is a shortened collection period from the past. The school's focus this year is on coats, either new or gently used (in good shape, and freshly laundered), ranging in sizes from kids' extra small (4-5) through adult large. The biggest needs are for kids' medium (10-12), and they occasionally need adult medium or large. New winter hats, gloves and mittens also are welcome. Last December we learned they have students who participate in swimming lessons, so a new need this year is swimwear and towels. Here is a link to their Amazon swimming wish list: https://a.co/09QbqYMx.
Your generous support makes a meaningful difference!

"The Will to Dream" six-week Advent focus with in-person and online classes!

The CUMC worship and ministry teams have chosen a comprehensive curriculum this year to guide our congregational focus from Advent through Epiphany. "The Will to Dream" contains integrated resources for use in worship; by children, youth, and adult small groups; and even a weekly devotional – all rooted in the theme of "prophetic imagination" to help us "see beyond what is" and "move toward what could be" as we "confront despair, embody justice, and claim hope as a radical act." Pastor Hop will preach on the curriculum's chosen scriptures and themes, and our worship services will feature coordinated music and liturgy. In addition, the Young Professionals, the Good News Class, the RMN Book Group, the Women's Monday Night group, and the Morning Glories as well as our children and youth will all simultaneously work through the curriculum's study materials, and Jennifer London will lead an additional online class for adults at 7 pm on Tuesdays beginning December 1. **We invite and encourage you to be part of our church-wide Advent journey by connecting with one of the existing groups or joining the Tuesday online class.**
Links to join any of the classes, including the Tuesday Advent group are available in the e-newsletter and in the Church Center app under More/Groups/Find a Group - Adults. You may email Jennifer@clarendonumc.org for more information.

Save the Date! for the 55th Annual Messiah Sing-along

Sunday, November 29, 2026, 7:00PM The audience is the choir and are joined by fabulous conductors, soloists and chamber orchestra. A delightful reception will cap off the evening.

Church office hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, 10AM - 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**