



Worship
With Us

United Presbyterian Church

525 East Front Street • Plainfield, NJ 07060
908-756-2666 • <http://www.upcplainfield.org/>

Where God is exalted, Everyone matters, and You belong!

Worship Services: Sunday 11:00 am & Thursdays 7:30

December 2024 Newsletter

Pastor's Messages

Allegra Hoots, MDIV

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you in the mighty and holy name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our blessed Redeemer. As always, I trust God that this message finds you in good health and high spirits, rejoicing in the joy of the Lord and experiencing the peace of Christ that surpasses all human understanding. I also pray that we continually grow in God's grace and knowledge.

The familiar lyrics of a favorite hymn, "Our God is an awesome God. He reigns from heaven above with power and love," is a fitting way to begin the liturgical year. This is partly true because the beautiful words effectively connect the hopeful message of God's sovereignty celebrated on Christ the King Sunday, which marks the conclusion of the liturgical calendar, with the joyous themes of Advent and Christmas, which signal the calendar's beginning.

It is characteristic of God, who often works through the most unlikely individuals and extraordinary circumstances, to guide those before us to bookend the Christian (liturgical) calendar with hope by emphasizing God's sovereignty. Perhaps the calendar's order is another example of God's omniscience. He knows people need hope and reassurance of God's constant sovereign presence.

As we journey through Advent and Christmas, the themes of —Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love—become deeply meaningful. These themes are a source of inspiration and a reminder of God's active presence and concern for creation. Advent and Christmas are the most joyous times of the Christian calendar, filled with anticipation and the call for intentional reflection, culminating in the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ – the fulfillment of God's promise to send a Savior to ransom fallen humanity from the power and consequence of sin, and to make it possible for everyone to be reconciled to God, their creator through the birth of the baby Jesus, the suffering death, resurrection, and ascension of the God-man Jesus Christ.

Advent and Christmas lead us through a spiritual journey that rekindles our faith and reinforces our belief that trouble does not always last and that the sun will shine again because God is alive, actively involved in our lives, and deeply concerned about His creation. This season is a powerful reminder that we are not alone; we are enveloped in the love and grace of the only true, wise, ever-present, and sovereign God, the light of the world Who lights the path ahead with unwavering hope.

On a related note, the UPC Advent study will start Wednesday, December 4, at 7:30 p.m. You are invited to participate in a unique and thought-provoking look at Advent through Tom Fuerst's "Underdogs and Outsiders: A Bible Study on the Untold Stories of Advent," the text for our study.

Godspeed and Merry Christmas!

Pastor Allegra



***For unto us, a child is
born, a son is given,
and the government
will be on his shoulders. And he will be
called Wonderful
Counselor, Mighty
God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.
There will be no end
because of the greatness
of his government
and peace. He will
reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and up-
holding it with justice
and righteousness
from that time on and
forever. The zeal of the
Lord Almighty will accomplish this. – Isaiah***

9:6-7

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE IN-PERSON & ONLINE

Church Office: Tele: 908-756-2666

Sunday Worship Service

Pastor Allegra Hoots



11:00am

In the Sanctuary & Via YouTube

(<https://bit.ly/3jyylpg>)

Contemporary Worship Service

Thursdays @ 7:30pm—Via YouTube*

<https://bit.ly/3J7whly>

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## Daily Devotional

Mondays to Fridays @ 6:00am to 6:15am—Via Zoom

(<https://bit.ly/40BeoBK>)

## Sunday School Children & Adults

Children: 1st & 3rd Sundays at 10am; 2nd Sunday at 11am

Middle School & High School: ] Rooms are on the

Elementary School: ] Administration level

**Confirmation Class:** (September to December) Confirmation class is preparation during which youths participate in church activities and reflect on questions of faith and life. This is an opportunity to examine our beliefs and explore how faith might be a good life-long partner.



Adults meet each Sunday at 10am

Adults: Lind Room

Theme: **'Claiming Identity: Struggle & Faith, How Identity is Formed, and Identity in Christ'**

- Call the Church Office for more info -
- Let us know if you need transportation -

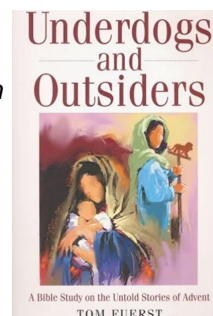
## Advent Study

Starts Wednesday, Dec. 4th at 7:30 pm  
via YouTube (<https://bit.ly/40BeoBK>):

**"Underdogs and Outsiders"**

Author: Tom Fuerst

A Bible Study on the Untold Stories of Advent.



## Upcoming Events

See calendars for more activities and events

### December

| Date    | Time    | Event                                |
|---------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 4       | 7:30pm  | Advent Studies (Dec 4 to 24)         |
| TBD     | TBD     | Administration Committee Meeting     |
| 22      | 11:am   | Christmas Service                    |
| 24      | 7:00pm  | Christmas (Eve) Service              |
| 31      | 11:00pm | New Year's Eve (Watch night) Service |
| Sundays | 7:30pm  | Book Club                            |

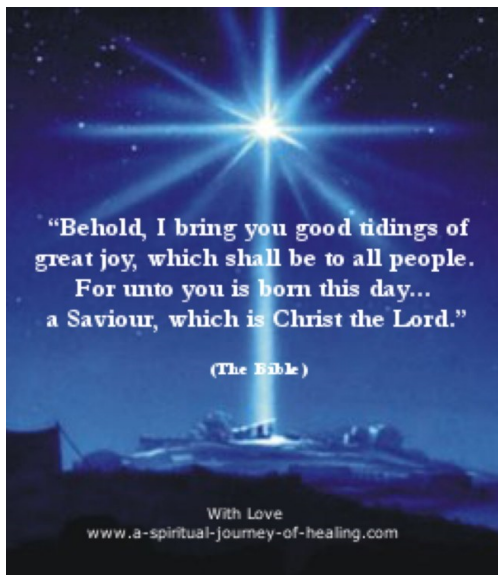
### January

| Date    | Time    | Event                            |
|---------|---------|----------------------------------|
| 1       |         | New Year's Day                   |
| 6       |         | Epiphany                         |
| 12      |         | Baptism of Jesus                 |
| 11      | 10:00am | Administration Committee Meeting |
| 15      | 7:30pm  | Session Meeting                  |
| 20      |         | Martin Luther King Jr. Day       |
| Sundays | 7:30pm  | Book Club                        |

### FOR VIRTUAL EVENTS:

TO CONNECT BY COMPUTER OR TELEPHONE, GO TO THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION:

<http://www.upcplainfield.org/>



## merry Christmas

Every year, around the world, people celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day, 25 December. It's a day – and season – filled with Christmas carols, tree decorating, gift-giving and parties. And, among all the celebrations, you may be wondering: what is the real meaning of Christmas? Or, why do we have these Christmas traditions? What do they have to do with Jesus?

Our lives, country and world are far from perfect. There are always challenges and struggles we face both personally and collectively. The good news of Christmas is that even when the world or our circumstances change – the message of Christmas is timeless. Because Christmas is about the birth of God's Son – Jesus. It is about how he came to give us love, hope and joy. That message doesn't change from year to year. When there is so much bad

news and devastation in the world, this is good news worth celebrating!

### The Christmas story in the Bible

Around Christmas time, angels feature prominently. They adorn treetops and Christmas cards, and have starring roles in Christmas carols and plays. That's because angels were God's messengers to share the good news of Jesus' birth to Mary, Joseph and the shepherds.

In a display of the importance of women, the angel Gabriel first appeared to a young woman called Mary. He told her that she was chosen to be the mother of Jesus - that is, she would give birth to the Son of God.

God also assures us that he is always working to bring good out of all that happens in our lives. Life is full of stress, anxiety, worries and struggles but God says he will never leave us or waver from his love for us. And while his love is for everyone, God waits for us to ask him to help us in our troubles.

### The meaning of Christmas is good news for all people

Immanuel, which means "God with us" (Matthew chapter 1: verse 23, NIV Bible), is another name for Jesus. His birth and life is a message of good news for us because it means we are never alone. It doesn't matter how hard or hopeless our situation may appear to be, God is there for us. We don't have to journey through our challenges and struggles alone. He understands them. He walks them alongside us.

### Why do we celebrate Christmas?

Celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ is more than a Christian holiday or Christian festival. It is more than an occasion to decorate our houses.

It is an opportunity to pause and give thanks for the love, hope and joy found in Jesus – our Savior and friend. As we exchange gifts with loved ones, it is out of remembrance of the gift God gave us in Jesus. The gift that we are loved, are never alone and can have hope for the future.

*May you sense the peace the Savior of the world  
brought to earth one Christmas morning long ago.  
Merry Christmas and God bless you!*

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/christmas/stories/what-is-the-true-meaning-of-christmas/>







### Special Worship Services & Study

Christmas Eve                      Sunday, December 24                      7:00 pm - 8:00pm

Christmas Service                      Sunday, December 22                      11:00am - 12:30pm

New Year's Eve Serv. December 31                      11:00pm - 12:30am  
(Watch Night Service)

Advent Study                      Starts Wednesday, December 4 at 7:30pm  
Book: *"Underdogs and Outsiders"*  
A Bible Study on the Untold Stories of Advent  
Author: Tom Fuerst



# CAROLING

**JOIN US ON DECEMBER 15TH**

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CHURCH SERVICE  
AS WE GO CAROLING TO OUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED - NO MEMBERSHIP NECESSARY  
NO COSTS NECESSARY

**BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS—JOIN US!!!!**

Do you know someone or a group in the area that would benefit  
from Caroling:

Text or call 732-742-8762 or email [upcnews525@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com)

NOTE: This event is based on weather conditions



## December 31st, 2024

10pm to 12:30am



United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield will usher in the New Year, 2025, with what is sometimes called a Watch-Night service. These services typically include fellowship activities, singing, prayer, and a message or devotional thought. Usually, this New Year's Eve service climaxes at midnight with a time of prayer. The idea is to "pray in" the New Year.

Let's celebrate together—join us!

### How Unfair!

Jesus said, "*Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.*"

Matthew 5:44 (NIV)

I can't believe how much trouble that woman is causing", I complained to my husband. "She tries to get her finger in everything and is such a gossip, stirring up trouble wherever she goes."

My husband listened carefully to what I was saying and generally agreed with me. But he asked me to consider something. He pointed out that Jesus loved her as just much as he loved me. *How on fear!* I thought. *I was behaving well, and she wasn't.*

I prefer my husband to be supportive by always taking my side. I don't like it when he's reasonable and makes sense, requiring me to course- correct! He did give me a little help, though, by suggesting that I pray for eyes to see that woman as God does. Slowly, I began to open up to the idea. God began to show me that she was created in the divine image, just as I was. That alone is worthy of my respect.

Jesus challenges us to love those who are difficult to love. It's easy to love those who agree with us. But God has called us to a higher standard. While we were still sinners, God loved us anyway. I remain a work in progress. With God by my side through prayer, I am learning that all persons are worthy of my respect.

#### Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for loving us. Help us to see everyone as worthy of love and respect. Amen.

Upper Room: Prayers to Start your Day by Carol McCracken

### Have you considered a bequest to United Presbyterian Church?

**Over 60% of U.S. adults have no estate planning documents in place.**

It has been reported that every week about \$100 million is left by people who die without a will.

Your greatest gift is often your legacy gift. People who have been blessed by the United Presbyterian Church have left legacy gifts through their estate. A bequest is one of the easiest gifts to make. As you create or update your will, trust, retirement plan or life insurance, you can specify that a gift goes to United Presbyterian Church.



***Your generosity will make a difference in the lives of many individuals.***

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/04/11/67percent-of-americans-have-no-estate-plan-heres-how-to-get-started-on-one.html>

## THANKSGIVING DINNER 2024

**PASTOR ALLEGRA HOOTS and the OUTREACH COMMITTEE** Hosted its annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, November 23rd. It was a time filled with fellowship, gratitude and fun. We know that there are many who wanted to be there but could not, we understand. Thanks to everyone who assisted with this event. It's the little things that count. Thank you!





## Director Donna Garzinsky and the UPC Bell Choir

After a long hiatus, UPC welcomes back its bell choir. It seems that its members were patiently waiting for this choir as there was no hesitation in signing up. They played beautifully! We will hear them again at our Christmas eve service on December 24th.



Above, Ms. Garzinsky directs the choir during the Sunday service on November 25th.

Below, she introduced members of the Drum Ensemble to the sounds of African drums and rhythm. They are learning 5 different rhythms which will be performed during the Christmas Eve Service on December 24th.

### Upcoming rehearsal dates

|             |                                        |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|
| December 15 | Following worship service              |
| December 22 | Following worship service              |
| December 24 | 6pm (before the Christmas Eve Service) |





On Sunday, November 24th some of UPC's college students shared their gratitude with the congregation and contributors for scholarships that were awarded from the Crawford Walton Fund and for their snack bags which is provided by the Board of Deacons. The snacks serves as a reminder to our students at exam time, that the UPC family is with them.



### **Crawford/Walton Memorial Fund**

The Board of Deacons of the United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield is accepting donations for the Crawford/Walton Memorial Fund for higher Education.

This fund is dedicated to scholarships for any member pursuing an undergraduate degree or working in an undergraduate program which will lead to a specific degree. It may also be used by anyone pursuing a seminary degree.

Donations are accepted and welcomed to this fund at any time and may be accomplished in the following ways:

1. Sending a check, made out to the United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield, to Treasurer, 525 East Front Street, Plainfield, New Jersey 07060 with "Crawford/Walton Memorial Fund" written in the memo section of the check.

~ OR ~

2. Contributions can be made through the "Give Now" button located at the UPC website at [www.upcplainfield.org](http://www.upcplainfield.org) Enter your contribution to the "General Fund Regular Offering". In the notes section indicate "Crawford/Walton Memorial Fund".

**Invest in our children's future**



Mr. George and Ms. Ginni Hansen welcomed their 6th grandchild:

### *Nellie Jane Hansen*

on Nov. 12, 2024 at 5:46 p.m. Nellie Jane's parents, Michael & Brielle Hansen welcomed their beautiful angel who weighed 6lbs 12oz and measured 21 in in length. She joins siblings Connor & Quinn.



*"The most precious jewels  
you'll ever have around  
your neck are the arms of  
your children."*

—Unknown



### *A Prayer for your Child to Trust the Lord*

Father, Your Word says You count blessed those whose confidence is in You (Jeremiah 17:7). I pray You would enable my children to trust You more and more each day. Prove Yourself to them so they may be convinced beyond a doubt that Your ways are good and right, then help them walk in right standing with You so they may thrive in all they do (Proverbs 11:28). In Jesus' name, Amen.

Kaylene Yoder



Baby

### *Micah Davis*

Greeted his parents Marika (Mickey) Gray and Samuel Davis on October 30th at 3:08am. Micah was 6lbs at birth. He joins big brother Eli Gray.

*"This is what the Lord,  
the God of your father  
David, says: 'I have heard  
your prayer and seen your  
tears; I will heal you.'"*



- 2 Kings 20:5

**NOTE:**

Remember our  
brothers and  
sisters listed  
below. Call or  
visit if you are  
able to.

Emory Dawson  
Helen Foerster  
Amy Grier  
Laura Hady  
O'Harold Hoots  
Frank Klikus  
Liz Mangan  
Winnie Neal  
Errol Neil

Bobett Neil  
Sheila Neil  
Yvonne Neil  
Marianna Perry  
Pat Perry  
Brenda Rodgers  
Gail Stokes  
Izaiyah Stokes

Send your Prayer requests to the Church Office  
You will be placed on our prayer list



**December**

10 Macy Robinson  
13 Javin Scott  
16 Yetunde Falowo  
18 Avril Lecky  
24 Pat Perry  
26 Crystal Awobue  
Jessica Bofah  
27 Gabrielle Greene  
28 Virginia (Ginni) Hansen  
29 Jennifer Youngsam

**January**

6 Bola Falowo  
15 Izaiyah Stokes  
17 Christopher Lecky  
19 Jessica Dawson  
Stanley Awobue  
20 Janice Bofah  
21 Madison Darius

**Flower Ministry**

With your donation of \$25 or more to the Flower Fund, the Deacons will provide a beautiful floral arrangement for the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. After worship, the arrangement will also brighten the day of a member or friend of UPC who is unable to join us for worship.

Flowers may be made in honor or memory of a loved one. Honoree names will be listed in the church bulletin.

*You may complete the form below or add your information to the flower chart in the Narthex.*

*Blessings,  
Zorina Bowers*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your generous support of  
*Board of Deacons*



## tithes & offering

Worship the Lord in Giving



### THIS IS STEWARDSHIP!

*Our gift, no matter how small, goes a very long way to support the church and the community.*

To bless the Church with your tithes and offering you may:

1. Drop it off at the church office
2. Mail your check (not cash) to the church
3. Log in to <https://bit.ly/3oyj1J6> or
4. Go to the UPC website homepage and click on the "Give Now" button

~ Thank you ~

### 2024 UPC's Liturgists

A liturgist assists the pastor in leading worship. They may lead congregational participation such as the Call to Worship and the Opening Prayer. Their role is outlined by the Pastor.

|           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| January   | George Hansen      |
| February  | Bola Falowo        |
| March     | Al Tate            |
| April     | Jean Scott         |
| May       | Pat Dawson         |
| June      | Avril Lecky        |
| July      | Daniel Bofah       |
| August    | JoAnn Edwards      |
| September | Marcia Marsh Hinds |
| October   | Sue Terry          |
| November  | Liz Mangan         |
| December  | Yetunde Falowo     |

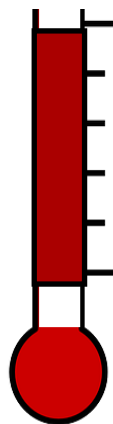
## United Presbyterian Church BUILDING FUND

As of 12/1/2024 the total collected is \$14,128.82



The UPC administration committee wants to be certain all UPC members and friends are aware of the establishment of the Building Fund at UPC to which contributions can be made to help defray the cost of the maintenance of the facility which ensures the health and safety of the occupants of our facility.

14,128



This building fund originated in 2021. Our facility was built in 1952 and, despite our faithful maintenance efforts, the facility is showing the signs of 71 years of wear and tear. The performance of our investment accounts, collection of rental fees and the faithful and generous giving our members and friends have provided the funds for our maintenance.

Our maintenance costs, however, are mounting to a point where we need to continue our appeal to the generosity of our church community and friends. Whether a UPC member or a friend of United, we ask that you prayerfully consider contributing to the Building Fund, where 100% of your contribution will be dedicated to defraying the cost of accomplishing United's goal of ensuring a healthy and safe facility.

Contributions to the Building Fund are welcome anytime and may be accomplished in the following ways:

1. Sending a check, made out to the United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield, to Treasurer, 525 East Front Street, Plainfield, New Jersey 07060 with "Building Fund" written in the memo section of the check.

OR

2. Contributions can be made through the "Give Now" button located at the UPC website at [www.upcplainfield.org](http://www.upcplainfield.org). Enter your contribution to the "General Fund Regular Offering". In the notes section indicate "Building Fund".

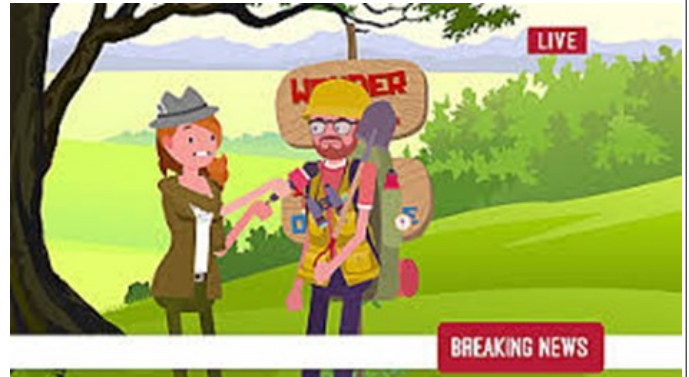
Administration Committee

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

Parents, please read this to your younger child(ren)

### Are You Ready for Christmas?

**Theme:** Preparing for Christ's coming  
**Object:** An Advent calendar or regular calendar  
**Scripture:** Luke 3:1-6



Look at that! (Show the calendar.) There are only [number of days] until Christmas! Are you ready? That's a question we hear quite often these days, isn't it? What do people mean when they ask if you're ready for Christmas? (Pause for responses.)

They might wonder what you need to do to be ready. So what do you need to do to be ready for Christmas? (Pause.) But what I wonder is, are you ready for Christ?

In our Bible lesson today, we hear the voice of John the Baptist crying out to the people, "Prepare the way for the Lord. Fill in the valleys and level off all the mountains. Make the crooked roads straight and the rough places smooth."

Do you think John the Baptist really wanted the people to work on the roads? (Pause.) What John really wanted was for the people to get ready for the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. He was telling people to get their hearts right and return to God.

No matter how good people may think they are, there are always some crooked ways and rough places in their lives. There are things such as dishonesty, selfishness, pride, jealousy, and many more. John wanted the people to make those crooked ways straight in preparation for Jesus' coming.

During the Christmas season, we, too, can prepare by looking at our hearts and smoothing out rough places like dishonesty and selfishness. And the good news is, God will help us. Let's ask Him to do that right now.

Dear Father,  
we want to be ready for You. Make our  
crooked ways straight and our rough  
places smooth. In Jesus' name,  
amen.



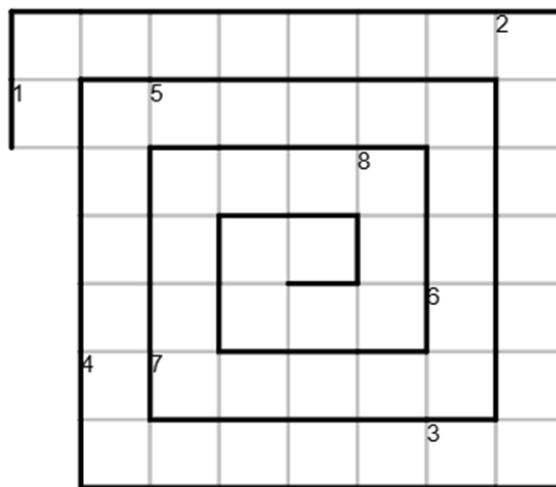
# Prepare the Way

As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Luke 3:4 (NIV)



The activity is based on Luke 3:1-6

Look at the numbered sentences, decide which is the right word and write it on the spiral puzzle. A new word starts in each box with a number.



1. Having no bends or curves.
2. To make things or oneself ready.
3. Having a surface free from roughness
4. What we use to speak.
5. To grant a pardon for sin.
6. Having an irregular, course, or shaggy surface
7. To turn away from one's sins.
8. Having bends, curves, or angles.

STRAIGHT  
FORGIVE

ROUGH  
VOICE

CROOKED  
PREPARE

REPENT  
SMOOTH



## Jesus Knocking Coloring Page





## PRE KWANZAA MARKET PLACE

Saturday, December 14, 2024  
12PM - 6PM

Plainfield Performing Arts Center  
724 Park Ave, Plainfield, NJ

Parking available across the street in Municipal Lot #7



**One Stop shopping  
for all your holiday gift giving needs!**

Custom and cultural clothing, handcrafted jewelry,  
original designer t-shirts, candles, books, arts and more!

## 24th ANNUAL KWANZAA CELEBRATION

A CELEBRATION OF FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND CULTURE!  
AFRICAN STORYTELLING, TRADITIONAL CANDLE CEREMONY, SPOKEN WORD, DANCE, AND CULTURAL FOOD!  
MAKE AND TAKE ACTIVITY 5 PM - 5:45 PM.  
KWANZAA PROGRAM STARTS PROMPTLY AT 6 PM

### FRIDAY - 5PM DECEMBER 27, 2024

**PLAINFIELD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**  
724 PARK AVE, PLAINFIELD, NJ

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT 908-753-3097**  
REGISTER AT  
<http://register.communitypass.net/plainfield>

Historic Plainfield NJ  
**Christmas House Tour 2024**

Advance Tickets \$35 / \$40 Same Day  
[www.savethequeencity.org](http://www.savethequeencity.org)  
Sunday Dec 15th 10am-4pm

## Holiday LIGHTS Celebration

**A FREE CITYWIDE EVENT!**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024  
6PM  
PLAINFIELD CITY HALL**  
515 WATCHUNG AVE, PLAINFIELD, NJ

CAROLING, MUSICAL PERFORMANCES & HOT CHOCOLATE  
SANTA ARRIVES AT 6:45PM

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT 908 - 753 - 3097**

### 2024 Christmas House Tours

Join us for a journey back in time as we tour some of Plainfield, NJ's beautiful historic homes, all adorned in their holiday best. This tour was designed to lead you through 5 unique historic districts within the city of Plainfield. 100% of proceeds from this family friendly event will benefit Save The Queen City, a 501(c)3 focused on historic preservation in Plainfield.

Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024—10:00AM - 4:00pm. Last ticket at 1:30pm

\$35 pre-sale, per person. \$40 same-day, per person. Tickets can be purchased at <https://bit.ly/STQC2024>

Visit our website here: [www.savethequeencity.org](http://www.savethequeencity.org)

Map of the tour will be provided at the starting point of the tour at Swains Art Gallery 703 Watchung Ave, Plainfield NJ.

Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Homes are not handicap accessible.





Courtesy of Star Fish Food Pantry and Plainfield Action Services – 908-753-3519



## PLAINFIELD COALITION OF EMERGENCY FOOD PROVIDERS

### SOUP KITCHENS/ PREPARED FOOD

**St. Mary Church** – 516 West Sixth Street: Sundays 3:00 to 4:00 PM

**Grace's Kitchen** – 600 Cleveland Ave: Last 5 days of the month 11:30 to 1:00 PM

**Salvation Army** 615 Watchung Avenue: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 12:00-1:00 PM

**The Lord's Kitchen** 515 West 4th Street: Wednesday & Thursday 4:00 PM-6:00 PM

**Muslim Community Soup Kitchen** 321 Grant Avenue: Saturday 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

**Mt. Olive Baptist Church** 216 Liberty Street: 3rd Saturday 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

**Crescent Ave Presbyterian Church** 716 Watchung Avenue: Tuesday at 11:30 AM

### FOOD PANTRIES

(non-perishable food- may include meat, bread & fresh vegetables)

**Covenant United Methodist Church** 631 East Front Street: Monday 3:00 - 5:00 PM

**The Salvation Army** 615 Watchung Avenue: Tuesday thru Thursday 9:30- 11:30AM

**SHEELD/Shiloh Food Pantry** 515 West 4th Street: 3rd & 4th Saturday 9:00AM - 12:00PM

**New Covenant Church** 225 East 7th Street: 1st & 3rd Saturday 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM

& Farmers Market 1st Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Joanne Hollis Gardens** Community Center - 543 W. Third St:

3rd Thursday (10:00 - 4:00 PM) (lunch break 12 PM to 1 PM)

**Church of the Living God** 434 E. 4th Street: 3rd Saturday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**Community Church of God** 417 West 6th Street: 3rd Saturday 8:30 - 10:30 AM

**El Centro Hispano Americano** 525 East Front Street: Tuesday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Bianca Flowers, Inc.** 145 Park Avenue: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3rd & 4th Tuesday 10:00 AM - 12 Noon

**Greater Refuge Church of Christ** 600 Grant Avenue: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 2:00 – 4:00 PM

**Plainfield YMCA Food Security Project** Lot 7 near Scott Drugs:

Second and Fourth Thursday - 10:00 AM -12:00 PM

**Crescent Ave Presbyterian Church** - Bag lunches every weekday, except Tuesdays  
from 10am - 10:30am

### Meals on Wheels

If you are in need of a home delivered meal and reside in Union County, you  
may be eligible if you meet the following criteria:

- 60 years or older -
- Unable to shop for yourself
- Unable to prepare a meal for yourself

Please call Meals on Wheels at 908-486-5100. You must provide your name,  
address, phone number and date of birth in order to process your request.



### Important:

**Deadline for the monthly newsletter is the 20th of each month.** Leave your news in the Church Office or email it to [upcnews525@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com). Have information that you would like to share? A poem? A prayer request? A new child/grandchild? Send it!



#### Church Administrators

##### Pastor Allegra Hoots

Treasurer: Ms. Wanda Breitenbach

Operations Coordinator: Mr. Davaughn Hoots

Custodian: Mr. Charles Rivers

##### Pastor's Office Hours

By Appointment

Please call the Church Office for an Appointment or to contact the Pastor

Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-12pm

#### Newsletter

##### Editors

Avril Lecky  
Bola Falowo  
George Hansen  
Hugh Lecky

##### Contributors

Pastor Allegra Hoots  
Marika (Mickey) Gray  
Ginni Hansen  
Davaughn Hoots  
Sue Terry

#### BOARD OF ELDERS & DEACONS

##### Elders

Alaric Tate (Clerk)  
Emory Dawson  
Bola Falowo  
Tania Hemans  
Avril Lecky  
Marcia Marsh-Hinds

##### Board of Deacons

Virginia Hansen - Moderator  
Daniel Bofah  
Zorina Bowers  
Yetunde Falowo  
Thelma Fleming  
Michael Robinson  
Osquit Vanderstoop  
Helen Foerster (Emeritus)

To contact the deacons for assistance  
Call the church office at 908-756-2666

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Email: [upcchurch@aol.com](mailto:upcchurch@aol.com)  
Stewardship: [upcplainfield525@gmail.com](mailto:upcplainfield525@gmail.com)  
Newsletter: [upcnews525@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com)  
Church website: <http://upcplainfield.org>  
Telephone No.: (908) 756-2666



# United Presbyterian Church

525 East Front Street • Plainfield, NJ 07060 • 908-756-2666 • <http://upcplainfield.org>

## December 2024

| SUNDAY                                                                                          | MONDAY                           | TUESDAY                                                                 | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | THURSDAY                                                        | FRIDAY                           | SATURDAY                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1<br>11am Worship Service<br>In-person / Livestream<br>Communion Service<br>7:30pm Book Club    | 2<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  | 3<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion                                         | 4<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>7:30pm Advent Study                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 5<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>7:30pm Contemporary Worship  | 6<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  | 7<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion |
| 8<br>11am Worship Service<br>In-person / Livestream<br>YOUTH SUNDAY<br>7:30pm Book Club         | 9<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  | 10<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion                                        | 11<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>7:30pm Advent Study                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 12<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>7:30pm Contemporary Worship | 13<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 14<br>TBD - Administration Mtg  |
| 15<br>11am Worship Service<br>In-person / Livestream<br>7:30pm Book Club                        | 16<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 17<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion                                        | 18<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>7:30pm Advent Study                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 19<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>7:30pm Contemporary Worship | 20<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 21                              |
| 22<br>11am CHRISTMAS SERVICE<br>In-person / Livestream<br>DEDICATION SUNDAY<br>7:30pm Book Club | 23<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 24<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>7pm CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE           | 25<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>CHRISTMAS DAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 26<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>7:30pm Contemporary Worship | 27<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 28                              |
| 29<br>11am Worship Service<br>In-person / Livestream<br>7:30pm Book Club                        | 30<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 31<br>6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br>11pm-12:30am NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE | <div>           Computer Logon Info —<br/>           Sunday Worship: <a href="https://bit.ly/3jyy1pg">https://bit.ly/3jyy1pg</a><br/>           Daily Devotion: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a><br/>           Contemporary Serv: <a href="https://bit.ly/3j7whly">https://bit.ly/3j7whly</a><br/>           Advent Studies: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a><br/>           Book Club: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a> </div> |                                                                 |                                  |                                 |



### NOTE:

CALENDAR EVENTS MAY CHANGE BASED ON THE STATES POLICY ON GROUP MEETING. THE CALENDAR REFLECTS REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE. **CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.**

Communion & Deacon Sunday — 1st Sunday Monthly  
 Youth Sunday — 2nd Sunday monthly  
 Dedication Sunday — 4th Sunday Monthly

**Committee Meetings** (unless stated otherwise):  
 2nd Saturday @ 10:00am: Administration Meeting  
 3rd Wednesday @ 7:30pm: Session Meeting

*If you would like to be a member on any committee or help with any project, call the Church Office at 908-756-2666.*



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## January 2025

| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | MONDAY                                                              | TUESDAY                    | WEDNESDAY                                                   | THURSDAY                                                             | FRIDAY                     | SATURDAY                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Computer Logon Info —<br>Sunday Worship: <a href="https://bit.ly/3jyylpg">https://bit.ly/3jyylpg</a><br>Daily Devotion: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a><br>Contemporary Serv: <a href="https://bit.ly/3J7whly">https://bit.ly/3J7whly</a><br>Advent Studies: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a><br>Book Club: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a> |                                                                     |                            | 1                                                           | 2                                                                    | 3                          | 4                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                     |                            | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br><br><b>NEW YEARS DAY</b>      | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br><br><b>7:30pm Contemporary Worship</b> | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion |                                  |
| 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 6                                                                   | 7                          | 8                                                           | 9                                                                    | 10                         | 11                               |
| <b>11am Worship Service</b><br><b>In-person / Livestream</b><br><br>Communion Service<br><br><b>7:30pm Book Club</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br><br><b>EPIPHANY</b>                   | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion                                  | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br><br><b>7:30pm Contemporary Worship</b> | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | <b>10am Admin Committee Mtg.</b> |
| 12                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 13                                                                  | 14                         | 15                                                          | 16                                                                   | 17                         | 18                               |
| <b>11am Worship Service</b><br><b>In-person / Livestream</b><br><br><b>Youth Sunday</b><br><b>7:30pm Book Club</b><br><br><b>BAPTISM OF JESUS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion                                          | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br><br><b>7:30pm Session Mtg</b> | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br><br><b>7:30pm Contemporary Worship</b> | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion |                                  |
| 19                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 20                                                                  | 21                         | 22                                                          | 23                                                                   | 24                         | 25                               |
| <b>11am Worship Service</b><br><b>In-person / Livestream</b><br><br>Dedication Sunday<br><b>7:30pm Book Club</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br><br><b>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY</b> | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion                                  | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion                                           | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion |                                  |
| 26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 27                                                                  | 28                         | 29                                                          | 30                                                                   | 31                         |                                  |
| <b>11am Worship Service</b><br><b>In-person / Livestream</b><br><br>Dedication Sunday<br><b>7:30pm Book Club</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion                                          | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion                                  | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion<br><br><b>7:30pm Contemporary Worship</b> | 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion |                                  |

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Church**  
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Plainfield, NJ 07060

*Where God is exalted, Everyone matters, and You belong!*