

Bethany United Church of Christ

Embracing the Community

2952 Bethany Church Rd, Claremont NC 28610

www.BethanyUccClaremont.org and follow us on [facebook](#)

Email: bethanyuccclaremont@gmail.com 828-464-5194



Bethany is a community of justice and peace serving the needs of people on their spiritual journey.

NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.

Every Sunday Morning

**Adult Discussion 9:30am
Worship in Person 10:30am**

Email: bethanyuccclaremont@gmail.com for information

Fall

Advent

Christmas

*What could be better than a month of Sundays? How about TWO months of Sundays!
Here is the worship calendar for November and December.*

November 7:

Celebration of Holy Communion and All Saints Day; this time of worship is both beautiful and meaningful. We will make space for everyone's involvement.

November 14:

The State of the Union Address; several committee chairs will share the amazing details of what God has done in our midst in the past year. This is NOT a business meeting, but an encouraging and uplifting message from and for our congregation. Don't miss it!

November 21:

This day in worship is filled with significance. It is Thanksgiving Sunday. It is also the final Sunday of the liturgical year, so that means we celebrate the Reign of Christ. Several local ministries have also asked us to pray for them on this day, so prayer will be a part of the bounty we celebrate.

November 28:

This is the first Sunday of Advent and a celebration of Holy Communion as we begin a new year in the Christian calendar. This year's Advent theme invites us to recall not just the biblical stories we expect and hold dear, but also the children's Christmas stories that have animated our pasts. In the midst of all that we know is wrong in our world today, allow the sanctuary to be a place of warm memories and ceaseless good news this season. Let Imogene Herdman's encounter with the Christmas story set the stage for your own. This Sunday opens the door with *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*.

December 5:

It's a Charlie Brown Christmas! An out of control children's play, an uncooperative dog, and the worst little tree on the lot: DOES ANYBODY KNOW WHAT CHRISTMAS IS ALL ABOUT?! No matter the reader, in my head I hear the voice of little Linus Van Pelt answer that question.

December 12:

You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch! How do you stop Christmas from coming? What do you want to shut out and why? As always, Dr. Seuss answers the hardest questions in the simplest way. You're also invited to remain in the sanctuary after worship for the annual business meeting.

December 19:

Not a creature was stirring...get ready for 'Twas! When a grown-up encounters childhood wonder, what's the best response?

December 24:

You're invited to Christmas Eve by candle light. Luminaries in the parking lot will guide you to the door of the sanctuary where we'll tell the story of shepherds and angels, a young couple in a stable, and the birth of a baby boy. We'll light a candle for every voice in the story until the story becomes our own. You're encouraged to bring friends, family, and houseguests to worship. *Worship begins at 6:00 p.m.* The beauty of this night will stay with you.

December 26:

Did you know that this is the First Day of Christmas? The Twelve Days of Christmas begin on December 26 and end on January 6, at the celebration of Epiphany. Magi start their journey and so do we.



Preparing the Sanctuary

The Worship and Chancel Committees will be preparing our sanctuary for worship to celebrate Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas. On Saturday, November 20, at 1:00, we will prepare our harvest altar for our Thanksgiving service on the 21st. On Saturday, November 27, paraments and the Advent wreath will be readied for the first Sunday of Advent on November 28. On the afternoon of November 28, we will meet at 3:00 to complete our Christmas sanctuary preparations. Poinsettias will be ordered and placed in the sanctuary on December 12. All are invited to join in fellowship as we prepare our sanctuary together for this special time of the year.



Poinsettia Order Form

Poinsettias will be ordered from ABC Florist to prepare our sanctuary for The Advent-Christmas season. **White Poinsettias** with five to seven blooms in six-inch pots with covering will cost **\$10.00 each**. If you would like to order a poinsettia, give your name, who it is in Memory or in Honor of and number of poinsettias along with a check to "Bethany United Church of Christ" by **Sunday, November 28**, for church placement on **December 12**.

Advent Mission Project



Soon you will receive information about a Food Advent Calendar. During December we invite you to add one food item daily as you fill a box to donate to ECCCM. A list will be provided. Stay tuned for details!



Annual Business Meeting



Our annual business meeting will be Sunday, December 12, immediately following worship. We will vote on the proposed budget for 2022 and for those nominated to serve in congregational positions. Before the end of November, you will receive copies of the budget and the nominations in the mail for your review and consideration. Ask questions and offer input. We are better and wiser when everyone offers insight.



November

10 Norma Boggs
27 Kathy Naish

December

15 Hunter Ervin
20 Malcolm Campbell
23 Katie Krump
27 Becky Cline
30 Louise Harris