

## ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES

DECEMBER 1, SATURDAY

**Decorating and Holiday Stroll . 4:00-9:00 p.m. SAN Wesley Hall**

Kick off your holiday by decorating spaces around the church and then offering hospitality to Austinites of all ages heading to and coming from the Holiday Stroll. We begin with decorating the Sanctuary, Murchison Chapel, Family Life Center, and outdoor spaces. Afterward, volunteers share a meal and then welcome event attendees with music on the front steps, hot chocolate and cookies, and a welcome family-friendly pit stop. Sign up for our decorating team and/or hospitality team at [fumcaustin.org/stroll](http://fumcaustin.org/stroll).

DECEMBER 2, SUNDAY

**Christmas Caroling with Children's Choir . 12:45 p.m.**

All voices—young and old—are invited to spread Christmas cheer through song! Join our Children's Choir in singing Christmas carols and visiting with residents at the Brookdale Senior Living Facility, 4401 Spicewood Springs Road. We will practice right before we go to visit with residents. This is a great opportunity for families. Song sheets provided. Dress holiday festive! For more information, contact Roxie Garza at [roxie@fumcaustin.org](mailto:roxie@fumcaustin.org).

DECEMBER 2, 9, 16, AND 23, SUNDAYS

**Advent Sunday School Study . 10:00 a.m. SAN Wesley Hall**

Pastor Cathy Stone leads a four-week Advent study of *Home for Christmas: Tales of Hope & Second Chances* which brings inspiring stories of hope and second chances into the Advent season. Author and pastor Justin Coleman matches real life stories of struggle and triumph to the Advent themes of hope, love, joy, and peace to show how the light of Christmas shines brightly even in hard times. Throughout the study, Coleman captures the stories of formerly incarcerated men and women as they find work and opportunity through Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, California. These men and women share memories and experiences in light of the hope and new life they have experienced at Homeboy. Join us to explore ways to be on the lookout for hope and second chances this Advent season. Register at [fumcaustin.org/adventstudy](http://fumcaustin.org/adventstudy).

DECEMBER 8, SATURDAY

**Kids' Day Out . 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. EDU Room 102**

While parents enjoy a morning out, children play, eat pizza, make holiday crafts, decorate gingerbread houses, and watch a movie with our trained childcare staff. We accept infants through fourth graders on a first-come basis. Cost is \$25 for the first child and \$8 for siblings. Make reservations at [fumcaustin.org/kids-day-out](http://fumcaustin.org/kids-day-out) no later than December 5.

DECEMBER 16, SUNDAY

**Children's Choir Presentation . 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary**

Through dramatic role playing and traditional Christmas carols, we will celebrate the birth of our Savior.

**Engage Christmas Party . 4:30-7:00 p.m. Family Life Center**

All youth are invited to come and celebrate together for our last Engage of the year. There will be food, games, music, and a white elephant exchange. Bring a gift that costs \$10 or less.

DECEMBER 20, THURSDAY

**Blue Christmas Service . 7:00 p.m. EDU Murchison Chapel**

How come I don't feel it? In the midst of the wonder and expectation of Advent, many of us might feel out of step with the joy and excitement of Christmas. Some of us have lost loved ones or face the "happy" holidays feeling blue with grief or depression. Senior Pastor Taylor Fuerst leads this special worship service on the longest night to acknowledge our grief and longing for hope.

## ADVENT SERMON SERIES



We all know the main characters—Jesus, Mary, Joseph, a donkey—but what about the lesser-known characters of the Christmas story? You know, the ones standing outside the stable—who are they and how does their journey of waiting, struggling, and proclaiming speak to us as we, too, await the birth of hope in a dark time? Join us in worship this Advent as we sidle up with the supporting cast and watch what God is about to do.

**December 2**

Caesar Augustus

▪

**December 9**

Zechariah

▪

**December 16**

The Angels

▪

**December 23**

The Innkeeper

Guest Preacher:

Reverend John McMullen

▪

**December 24**

The Shepherds

▪

**December 30**

Simeon

DECEMBER 24, MONDAY



**Noon Worship Service**  
12:00 p.m.

**EDU Murchison Chapel**

For those who are ready to celebrate the birth of Christ early in the day, this traditional service features carols, scripture reading, and Holy Communion. This service is for those who do not want to drive at night and for those whose plans make it impossible to participate in our later services.

**Family Worship Service**  
4:00 p.m.  
**Sanctuary**

Experience the traditions of Christmas carols, the Nativity story, Holy Communion, and a candlelit Silent Night in this 45-minute worship service designed especially for families with young children. Toward the end of the service, children are invited to enjoy a special treat in Wesley Hall while parents experience time for quiet reflection in the Sanctuary. *Childcare provided.*

**Candlelight Worship Services**  
6:00, 8:00, and 11:00 p.m.  
**Sanctuary**

These traditional services feature carols, choral offerings, scripture, Holy Communion, and candle lighting to celebrate Christ's birth. *Childcare provided at the 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. services only.*

## "FEED MY PEOPLE" CHRISTMAS EVE BREAKFAST

DECEMBER 2, 9, AND 16, SUNDAYS

### Sock Collection



We are collecting new, white, adult-sized tube socks to give to our homeless neighbors at our annual Christmas Eve Breakfast.

As you are out and about shopping, consider picking up a bag or two of socks. You may place donations in the collection bins located in the foyers of the Chapel,

Sanctuary, and Family Life Center on December 2, 9, and 16. You may also bring your donations to the church office Monday-Wednesday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. or Thursday from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 16 AND 23, SUNDAYS

### Cookie Collection



Cookie bakers are needed to provide guests at the Christmas Eve Breakfast with a treat. Our goal is 300 zipped bags with six cookies each!

Make your chocolate chip (NO NUTS) cookies and package six per bag in zipped plastic baggies. We will take a dozen or six dozen! Happy baking!

Bring cookies to the church on Sundays, December 16 and 23. For more information, contact Pastor Cathy Stone at [cathy@fumcaustin.org](mailto:cathy@fumcaustin.org) or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).



DECEMBER 24, MONDAY

### "Feed My People" Christmas Eve Breakfast

6:30 a.m. FLC Great Hall

Breakfast will be held from 6:30-8:30 a.m. Our guests enjoy coffee and Christmas music beginning at 6:30 a.m., breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m. Many in our congregation have made this volunteer opportunity a significant part of their Christmas season. Spaces fill fast, so sign up now at [fumcaustin.org/christmasevebreakfast](http://fumcaustin.org/christmasevebreakfast).

### "Feed My People" Christmas Eve Service

8:00 a.m. FLC Garrison Chapel

All are welcome to gather for an early morning Christmas Eve Service immediately following the Breakfast. This casual service is a great way to celebrate Christ's birth through hymns, a short message with conversation, and Holy Communion.

