Advent 2026

2026 Advent Worship Opportunities

Sunday, November 29th – FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
Hymn Sing

Sunday, December 6th -- HANGING OF THE GREENS
& Chili Lunch to follow

Sunday, December 13th -- "CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
& Cookie Reception & Holiday Card Making

Sunday, December 20th – FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Thursday, December 24th, 2026 – CHRISTMAS EVE
5:00 pm – Family friendly and candlelighting
10:00 pm – Communion and candlelighting

Sunday, December 27th – FIRST SUNDAY IN CHRISTMAS Carol Sing & Soup Luncheon

Advent Book Discussion

Please join us for our Advent Book Discussion: **"With Open Hands" by Henri J.M. Nouwen.** You can purchase the book in advance on your own if you like. If you are interested in attending, a signup sheet will be in the narthex starting November 8th.
Tuesdays (ZOOM only), 10:30 am until noon
Wednesdays (ZOOM **and** in-person), 6:00 pm until 7:30 pm

Hanging of the Greens & Chili Luncheon

Come join us for the Hanging of the Greens during worship service with a few more items to go up after service and a chili lunch. Help decorate the church inside for Christmas on **Sunday, December 6th**. We will prepare for Advent together. If you have any questions, contact the church office or Karen Miller.

Holiday Help for Our Neighbors in Need

You, the wonderful people of Woodridge UMC, have a tremendous track record of providing a heap of holiday help for our neighbors in need. We hope to continue that traditio

- **Hat and Mitten Tree Returns**

Once again, we will be collecting children's mittens, gloves, and warm hats for the children of Woodridge School District 68 throughout the Advent season and into the New Year. The mitten tree will be available in the Narthex for you to hang your donations. District 68 gives them out to children who don't have appropriate gear for the winter weather. Please donate as you can.

- **Help Support Area Families This Christmas!**

The Outreach Committee is happy to announce we are partnering with Woodridge School District 68 to provide Christmas gifts and grocery gift cards for 5 local families this year! Please stop in the Narthex by our hat and mitten tree to sign up to bring grocery gift cards. If you are providing a gift please return it wrapped and with the tag attached to the outside. Additional information will be available at the signup table. All

items and gift cards need to be returned to church **by Sunday December 6th** so they can be distributed after the Christmas Program on December 13th.

Back by popular demand!! It's the Woodridge UMC Gift Card Sale!!
This fall, we will once again have the opportunity to purchase gift cards and support our church's General Fund. The first chance is on **Sunday, November 22nd and runs through Sunday, December 3rd**. Gift cards will be available for pickup on **Sunday, December 13th and Sunday, December 22nd**.

Prairie Central District Advent Concert
The Prairie Central District is having an Advent concert on **Sunday, Dec 6th at 3:00 pm** at Glen Ellyn: First UMC. All are invited to attend this joyful concert, bringing together musicians from across the Prairie Central district. They are currently looking for more singers. Join us as we enjoy the sounds and songs of Christmas. RSVP by visiting www.geumc.org/events. The event is free, but registration is encouraged.

Christmas Program
On **December 13th**, we will have a Christmas Program during worship service. Everyone is welcome to participate with Christmas themed music (singing or playing), dance, poetry, visual and fabric arts, etc. The visual and fabric arts (paintings, sculpture, crafts, quilts, needle work, etc.) will be displayed to their best advantage either in the narthex or at the altar. **Please contact Pastor Dave by December 1st** if you would like to take part. There will be a cookie reception after service. Everyone is asked to bring a plate of cookies to share (especially Christmas cookies).

Holiday Cards for Seniors
Reach out to others this holiday season. Write or draw holiday notes in cards to give to local nursing home seniors right after service on **Sunday, December 13th** during our cookie reception. (Sponsored by the Youth Group).

Concert for Family and Friends
The Senior Suburban Orchestra and Dan Pasquale D'Andrea, Conductor invite us to their Family and Friends Concert on **Saturday, December 19th at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary**. Donations Greatly Appreciated and light refreshments will be served after the concert. For more information about the orchestra that meets here at Woodridge UMC go to seniorsuburbanorchestra.org.

WUMC Music Ensembles: 2026
Our Music Ministry offers you three ways to get involved: the Handbell Choir, the Worship Band, and the Adult Choir. This could be the year you take that "leap of faith" and join a group! All ensembles are LOW commitment. We ask that you please attend the rehearsals leading up to the service date. It is that simple! See the rehearsal and performance schedule in the e-News or bulletin.