



**KATY** FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# FAMILY MINISTRY ADVENT RESOURCES

Advent is the season of hopeful anticipation as we wait for the coming of Christ. It is a beautiful time in the life of the church, and it can be a wonderful time for families to reconnect with each other and deepen their faith. It can also be difficult as a parent or caregiver to know what all the opportunities are to make the most of the season. We're here to help! Below you will find links, book lists, videos, and activity suggestions for you to choose from to enhance your experience of the season. There is no wrong, right, best, or worst way to experience this holy season. Use whatever works best for your family to create a wonderful time of rest and reconnection this Advent!

One of the easiest, and also most fun, ways to help your family engage with Advent is through stories! The books listed below are not all overtly Christian, but all hold an important truth of Christ while also being entertaining for our kiddos.

## Books for the whole family

- Faithful Families for Advent and Christmas by Traci Smith - The Faithful Families series is hands down the best set of resources I have found for parents. Each book has tons of easy to understand and utilize ideas to help guide their families in everyday acts of faithfulness.
- Shadow and Light by Tsh Oxenreider - An easy and engaging daily Advent devotional for families (easiest with elementary age and up)
- Advent at the Kids Table: An Offering of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love! by The Welcome Table
- The Christmas Promise Advent Calendar by Allison Mitchell
- The Way to the Manger: A Family Advent Devotional by Jeff Land

## Activities for the Whole Family

This can be a great activity in place of, or in addition to, something like Elf on the Shelf.

- The Giving Manger
- Shepherd on the Search

## Books for Littles

- My First Advent Storybook by Laura Richie (can be used as a daily advent reading)
- Jesus Calling: The Christmas Story by Sarah Young (can be used as a regular advent reading)
- Christmas in the Manger by Nola Buck and Felicia Bond
- Llama Llama Holiday Drama by Anna Dewdney
- All the Colors of Christmas by Matthew Paul Turner
- How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss