

This Week's Schedule

Today	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for PK-8th & adults
	9:15 a.m.	Praise band practice (sanctuary)
	10:00 a.m.	Cookie exchange (narthex)
	10:10 a.m.	Second Sunday in Advent/Worship/ Communion/ Chancel Choir
	11:15 a.m.	Cookie exchange (narthex)
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship (Schuldt Dining Hall)
Mon., 12/8	6:30 p.m.	Advent study-Ch. 2 (Feller Lounge)
	9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m. Church office open	
	9:30 a.m.	UW Faith Executive Board (Schuldt Dining Hall)
	12:00 p.m.	Pastor Mike at Rotary
Tues., 12/9	7:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous
	9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m. Church office open	
	10:00 a.m.	Advent study-Ch. 2 (Feller Lounge)
	1:30 p.m.	Sleeping mat weaving mission (Feller Lounge)
Wed., 12/10	6:30 p.m.	Finance Committee (S. Dining Hall)
	9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m. Church office open	
	5:45 p.m.	Bell Choir practice (sanctuary)
	6:30 p.m.	Teen Time (409 Centennial Dr.)
Thurs., 12/11	7:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous
	9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m. Church office open	
Fri., 12/12	Church office closed & Pastor Mike's day off	
Sat., 12/13	8:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast (Schuldt Dining Hall)
Sun., 12/14	8:30 a.m.	Praise band practice (sanctuary)
	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for PK-8th & adults
	10:10 a.m.	Third Sunday in Advent/Worship/ Bell Choir
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship (Schuldt Dining Hall)
	6:30 p.m.	Advent study-Ch. 3 (Feller Lounge)



Last Week's Attendance

11/30 Worship: 84	11/30 Sunday School: 29*
11/26 No Teen Time	*includes adult leaders

~ GOD BLESS ~
and have a great week!

Welcome!

Second Sunday of Advent December 7, 2025

10:10 a.m.



ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



531 W. Main Street, Cherokee, Iowa 51012
www.cherokeemethodist.com

Nicci's Hours: 9-12 & 1-3 M-T-W-Th

Office Telephone: (712) 225-3955

Office Texting Number: (712) 227-3291

Office Email: cherokeespumc@gmail.com

Pastor Mike's Email: michael.agnew@iaumc.net

Pastor Mike's Cell: (563) 506-7412

Order of Worship

* Indicates that all who are able are invited to stand in praise of God.

Prelude and Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: People of God, Christ has invited us here!

**People: We gather to praise God,
who brings justice and righteousness to all.**

Leader: We gather to give thanks to God for hope and peace.

**People: Blessed be the Lord,
who has done marvelous things.**

Leader: Let us praise God together!



Opening Prayer

***Praise Song** "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" See screen.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Special Music "Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow" Chancel Choir

***The Apostles' Creed** No. 881

Children's Time

A Time of Prayer and The Lord's Prayer No. 895

***Hymn** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v. 1-4) No. 211

Scripture Readings Galatians 3:25-29; Luke 2:1-6

Message "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer"

Offering

***Doxology** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 94

*Offertory Prayer

Holy Communion No. 13

***Hymn** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" No. 196

***Benediction** "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Chancel Choir

Postlude



All are welcome for a time of fellowship and snacks in
Schuldt Dining Hall following the service.
Also, don't forget to get some cookies in the narthex!

Staff and Today's Worship Assistants

Pastor: Mike Agnew

Administrative Assistant: Nicci Lundquist

Financial Secretary: Sarah Cook

Drummer: Kent Lundquist

Custodian: Betty Harman

Guitarist: Charlie Leissler

Organist/Pianist: Betty Point

Bell Choir Director:

North Greeters: Jeff Blum

Dusty Basten

Nursery: Macy Gravenish

Chancel Choir Director:

Liturgist: Gary Jordan

Now Hiring!

Children's Time: Pastor Mike Agnew

Advent Readers: The five Lindas (Appleby, Burkhart,
Christensen, Rutter, and Struck)

Ushers: Jim & Peggy Corrington, Gene & Jean Anderson

Communion Stewards: Bob & Peggy Parker, Laura Benson,
Melissa Schlenger, Linda Rutter, and Gigi Boothby



The altar arrangement is given by
Mike & Deb Samuelson

in honor of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.
December 7th marks the 84th anniversary of the
attack of Pearl Harbor.

December 14th Worship Assistants

Organist/Pianist: Meribeth Adams

North Greeter: Micki Conley

Liturgist: Jason Cook

Children's Time: Miranda Cook

Advent Readers: Rod Raveling and Ervina Scott

Ushers: Dr. Wes & Sue Parker, Scott Osborn, Marla Conley,
and Bonni Conley

Flowers: The Wilkie family.

Nursery: Steph Rochleau



Third Sunday of Advent

Resources Available for Worship

Welcome! Assistive listening devices and children's activity bags are available in the narthex. Please inquire at the sound booth if you would like to try an assistive listening device. If your child needs a changing table, one is available in the bathroom under the west entrance staircase and in the nursery.

Nursery Available

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service! If you prefer, we also have a staffed nursery available for birth through 2nd graders located on the second floor of the education wing in the first classroom closest to the sanctuary.

Boxed Offering Envelope Sets Available for 2026

A limited number of boxed weekly offering envelope sets are available on the table in the narthex for those who prefer to have a specific envelope for each week's giving.

Poinsettia Information



Twenty-five beautiful poinsettias will be gracing the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, thanks to many members of our congregation. If you ordered a poinsettia, please take it home with you following the Christmas Eve service, to ensure its continued survival. If you will be out of town, please arrange for a friend to take yours home. The office will be closed following Christmas Eve day through Monday, December 29th, and we will be unable to care for your plant.

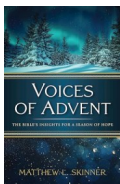
Summer Camp Registration is Now Open!

Enroll today for a fun and faith-filled summer at Lake Okoboji and Wesley Woods! When you register before December 18, you automatically get a \$30 early registration discount. To view the summer events at Lake Okoboji, visit www.okobojicamp.com. To view the summer events at Wesley Woods, visit www.wesleywoodsiaowa.org. Then don't forget to click the register button! Need help? Contact Shannon at camps@iaumc.org or 515-974-8946.



Mitten Tree

We are collecting hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, socks, and earmuffs for those in need. If you would like to donate, please place your items on the tree in the narthex or on the tree at the north entrance.



2025 Advent Studies Update

Option 1: Sundays, 6:30 p.m., in Feller Lounge, on December 7, 14, & 21.

Option 2: Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m., in Feller Lounge, on December 9, 16, & 23.

The Advent groups are reading the book, *Voices of Advent: The Bible's Insights For a Season of Hope*, by Matthew Skinner.

Join us for this message of HOPE during Advent. We still have one book available in the church office. This week, please read chapter 2. We will gather together tonight, Sunday, December 7th, at 6:30 p.m., or Tuesday, December 9th, at 10:00 a.m. You are welcome to invite a friend to join you!

2025 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday,
December 24th
5:30 p.m.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
531 W. Main Street, Cherokee, Iowa
cherokeemethodist.com
(712) 225-3955

The Christmas Eve special offering will go to our Cherokee County School District's outstanding lunch accounts to help feed children in our community. Checks can be made to "St. Paul's UMC," with "school lunches" specified on the memo. We will combine funds and send them one check.

Worship Volunteers Needed



Liturgists and children's time volunteers are needed for January. To volunteer, please sign up in the narthex on Sundays or call the church office.

2026 Altar Flower Sign-up Available



The 2026 altar flower sign-up is available in the narthex on Sundays, or you can call the office during the week. To provide altar flowers, you sign up and then call the florist of your choice. The florists in Cherokee all have a key to our building and deliver the arrangements. Alternatively, you can bring in your own arrangement on Sunday morning. The church is usually unlocked around 8:15 a.m. on Sundays. Following worship, you are welcome to take your arrangement home with you, share with a friend, or leave it for the visitors in the church office to enjoy.

Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed



Bell ringing slots are available from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., on Saturdays, December 13th, and 20th. If you would like to sign up to ring the bell, the sign-up sheets are on the table in the narthex on Sundays, or call Glenda Parrish at 712-221-9801. As of November 30th, \$1,385.00 has been collected. All funds received will help those in need in Cherokee County.

Christmas Cookie Exchange Today!



Stop in the narthex prior to or following the service for our Christmas cookie exchange! For a suggested \$5/plate donation, you will receive a baker's dozen (13). Proceeds support the ministries of the Adult Class and St. Paul's.

Advent Devotionals Available



Free Advent devotionals from the Society of St. Andrew are available on the table in the narthex and on the table outside the office. We also have the December *The Upper Room* devotionals available in the same locations.

Live Nativity



Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to a live nativity at the Bomgaars Building at the fairgrounds on Sunday, December 14th, at 4:00 p.m.

Featuring live animals.

The whole community is invited, especially children!

Children's Christmas Program & Soup Lunch

Sunday, December 21st

10:10 a.m.

You are invited to stay after worship for a soup lunch and visit from Santa. The menu includes chili, hot dogs, turkey noodle soup, and dessert.



Alternative Christmas Gift Guide



The Missions Committee is again offering their Alternative Christmas Gift Guide. This is an opportunity to support ministry while also honoring a loved one. Alternative Christmas Gift Guides are available in the narthex today through Sunday, December 21st.

2026 Pledge Cards

The stewardship mailing went out on November 6th. If you would like a copy and have not received one yet, extras are available on the table in the narthex. Please return your pledge card by putting it in the offering plate as it is passed, or drop it off in the church office.

Welcome to St. Paul's United Methodist Church

We pray that God will use this time to speak to you and help you grow in your faith journey. Would you like to stay connected with the activities happening here? Follow us on Facebook. You can find the link to our Facebook page, YouTube channel, and sermon podcast on our website at <https://www.cherokeemethodist.com>.

Iowa UM Foundation Scholarship Applications Open!

Visit <https://iumf.org/scholarships/> to learn more!



2025 Advent Sermon Series: A Very Special Christmas

Journey through Advent with us as we explore some of the iconic Christmas shows and what they have to teach us about our faith.

11/30 "Frosty, the Snowman"

Psalm 30; Luke 1:26-38

12/7 "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer"

Galatians 3:25-29; Luke 2:1-6

12/14 "Polar Express"

Matthew 1:18-21; Hebrews 11:1

12/21 "It's a Wonderful Life"

Matthew 5:14-16

12/24 "A Charlie Brown Christmas"

Luke 2:1-20

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 531 W. Main Street, Cherokee