

# Olney Free Methodist Church

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## Notes for the Journey

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### Library—New Book

We have a wonderful church library with books for all ages and interests. If you haven't checked it out, we encourage you to do so to find something for the upcoming cold winter months.

We are also excited to announce we have a new book, "The Alphabet Prayer" by Linda Seger and Peter LeVar. It is a book of short devotions and prayers. It also includes beautiful calligraphy work by our very own Matthew Wright. Matt donated a copy to us as "a thank you for all the support he received from the church, its leaders, and the wonderful church family throughout the years. Thanks Matt.

### Christmas Outreach Meal

Next Thursday, December 22 volunteers are needed to help prepare the Christmas Outreach meal for those who will be alone or have no other way to have a meal on Christmas.

The meal will be delivered on Christmas Eve morning and help on all three days is greatly needed. If you can help, please go to Immanuel United Methodist Church and offer your services. Cakes for dessert will be accepted on Friday, December 23.

Call the IUMC (395-8618) if you would like a meal delivered.

### Miss A Sunday?

Have you ever missed a Sunday and then when you came back Pastor Steve made a reference to something in the previous week's sermon and you wondered what it was about?

You don't have to wonder any more. An audio recording of each week's sermon is posted on our church website each Wednesday along with that week's newsletter.

### Thought of the Week

This past Sunday our children did a tremendous job reminding us of the symbolism of so many of the things we decorate with and use during the Christmas season. Everything from the tree, to lights, to ornaments, wrapping paper, cookies and so much more can be a reminder of God's love that He is desiring to express to us.

My prayer for us is that in the midst of all the hectic schedules and obligations, we will be able to see God, experience God and most importantly welcome and embrace Him. This season, keep an eye out for Him. He may just show up when and where we least expect Him.

### Christmas Cantata

This Sunday our choir will present "Gloria! Christ Has Come." In a humble stable in Bethlehem, the Light of the world was born. Angels rejoiced as shepherds gathered in awe. All of heaven cried out, "Gloria to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests."

We invite you to join in the celebration and declare the birth of the Lord. Through a blend of familiar carols and new Christmas songs, we hope to inspire all who attend to embrace God's joy and hope as you grow closer to the heart of Christ.



### Lectionary Scripture

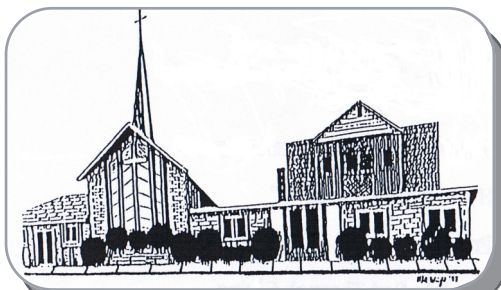
(for December 18, 2016)

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25



### Mission

A community of believers  
endeavoring to live and love  
as Jesus taught.  
Come—Experience  
Community!

