



**First United Methodist Church**

Welcome! We're glad that you are here.  
To all who need comfort; all who need friendship;  
all who are lonely and need companionship;  
all who want sheltering love, all who sin  
and need a Savior; and whosoever will  
—we open wide our doors and say,  
"Come; let us worship together."

**10:15am Sunday Worship Service                      December 24, 2017**

Prelude  
Words of Welcome and Announcements  
Special Music                      Susan Michelle Jepsen, Vivian Eaton

\* **Opening Prayer (In Unison)**  
Before your Word becomes flesh, O God, connect us with the wild, the ancient, the urgent. Connect us to your words uttered in human voice, from tent and tabernacle, full of fear and mercy. Connect us to your words uttered in angelic voice, from the Holy Name. Attune our minds and hearts to you, O God of mystery and greatness. Amen

\* **Hymn #240 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"**

\* **Call to Worship**  
L: Can you feel something powerful at work in the world?  
P: **We can catch glimpses here and there.**  
L: We need to look beyond the hustle and bustle of Christmas to see what's coming:  
P: **Faithful women giving birth to freedom; a babe who will transform the world. The birth quakes are almost here. We can feel it.**  
A: **Come, let us prepare ourselves in this time of worship, that we may be ready when our world is turned upside down. Amen**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE: Proclamation**  
**Susan Michelle, Brigit**  
**Hymn #2090 "Light the Advent Candle" (vs 1,2,3,4,5)**

\* **Sharing the Peace of Christ**  
"Peace be with you. And also with you!"  
(Take this time to greet one another in Christ's love.)

**Children's Moment**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns  
Pastoral Prayer  
Silent Prayer  
Lord's Prayer

Scripture Lesson                      **Psalm 96:1-13/ 1 Corinthians 13:4-10**  
L: This is the word of God for the people of God.  
P: **Thanks be to God.**

\* **Hymn #234 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (vs 1,3,6)**

\* **Gospel Lesson-                      Luke 2:1-20**

Message                      "The Love of Christmas"  
Pastor Joey Garcea

Offertory Sentence  
Please use this time to register your attendance in the red booklets found at the end of each pew and pass it along your row.

Offertory  
\* **Doxology # 95**  
Offering Prayer  
O Lord, our God, we praise you for your generosity. You provided tents, safety, and sustenance for your people in Israel when they followed your pillar of fire in the desert. You called them to trust and worship you alone. Today, you give us what we need to live, work, and rest in peace. Help us never to take for granted your provisions for us: shelter, food, and Christian fellowship. We give these offerings for the ministries of our church to bless people in need of your help and love. May they come to know Jesus Christ, whose kingdom will last forever. Amen. (2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16)

\* **Apostle's Creed**  
\* **Hymn #246 "Joy to the World"**  
\* **Benediction**

Altar Flowers  
In Honor of Vivian & Jim Eaton's 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

In Our Prayers  
John Hamm, Glen Brunner, John Powell, Rex Felten, Eli, Judy Orn, Robin Cook, Jim Chaplin, Nancy Sweitzer, Elinor Froehlich, Sharon Beyer, Joan Hallaron, John McConnel, Ann Larsen, Military Personnel and their families

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

Dec. 24 Ann Larsen  
25 Joseph Green  
26 Jackie Walker, Suzanne Atherton, Troy Yenney  
27 Jim & Vivian Eaton '62  
28 Joe Lieb, Shayla Roberts  
30 Jessica Whitmer, Kathy Schoenhaar, Brayden Garcea

**Calendar**

**Sunday, December 24**  
9 am Sunday School  
10:15 am Worship  
7 pm *Christmas Eve Service*  
**Monday, December 25**  
Merry Christmas  
OFFICE CLOSED  
**Thursday, December 28**  
8 am Breakfast (Café Crumbles)/ Bible Study  
9 am Body & Soul Yoga  
**Saturday, December 30**  
8:30 am Weight Watchers- Fellowship Hall  
5 pm Worship  
**Sunday, December 31**  
9 am Sunday School  
10:15 am Worship  
**Monday, January 1**  
Happy New Year  
OFFICE CLOSED  
**Thursday, January 4**  
8 am Breakfast (Café Crumbles)/ Bible Study  
9 am Body & Soul Yoga  
**Saturday, January 6**  
8:30 am Weight Watchers- Fellowship Hall  
5 pm Worship  
**Sunday, January 7**  
9 am Sunday School  
10:15 am Worship



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **We welcome all visitors** to our Worship time today. We are glad you're here. Our slogan is Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors. We are the people of the United Methodist Church.
2. **Friendly reminder** to Frank Grove! You are the verifier for next Sunday! The counter will be Paula Mayer!!
3. **LAST WEEKS ATTENDANCE:**  
**Saturday:** 26  
**Sunday:** 85  
**Sunday School:** 28
4. **Please PICK-UP your TELSTAR** after the service. They are located in the Narthex!
5. We need people to sign up for the **nursery. Two people each week.** We also need people to learn how to operate the media and audio systems. Please call the office if you are willing to volunteer!
6. **Extra Christmas offering envelopes are located in the Narthex!**
7. **Join us for our candle light service TONIGHT at 7pm.**
8. **2018 offering envelopes** are now located in the **Narthex! Please help yourself!**



## Worship Helpers Pastor Joey Garcea

**MUSICIAN:** Vivian Eaton  
**CUSTODIAN:** Kay Cavanagh  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ASST:** Shauna Roberts  
**GROUNDKEEPER:** Don Kramer

### December 24

**Acolyte:** AM- Tommie Falk PM-  
**Audio:** AM- Kris Yingling PM-  
**Children's Time:** Pastor Joey  
**Coffee Hour:**  
**Communion:** x  
**Greeters:** AM- PM- Bob & LaVona Grissinger  
**Liturgist:** AM- Brennon Cavanagh PM-  
**Media:** AM- Chris Falk PM-  
**Nursery:** AM- Molly Andersen PM-  
**Ushers:** AM- Linda Jachino PM- Bob & LaVona Grissinger, Jessica Boyer  
**Advent Wreath:** AM- Susan Michelle Jepsen PM- Guilinger Family

### December 31

**Acolyte:**  
**Audio:**  
**Children's Time:** x  
**Coffee Hour:**  
**Communion:** x  
**Greeters:**  
**Liturgist:**  
**Media:**  
**Nursery:**  
**Ushers:** Molly Andersen, Bonnie Davies



## First United Methodist Church

Sunday, 10:15am

*"You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart, and with all your soul,  
and with all your mind, and with all your strength,  
and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."  
--Jesus Christ*

2100 Chicago Ave, Savanna, Illinois 61074

Phone: 815-273-2345

Email: [office@firstumcsavanna.org](mailto:office@firstumcsavanna.org)

Web: [www.firstumcsavanna.org](http://www.firstumcsavanna.org)

[www.facebook.com/savanna.firstumc](https://www.facebook.com/savanna.firstumc)

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