



EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BERKELEY, CA



510.524.2921
1953 Hopkins St, Berkeley, CA 94707
office@epworthberkeley.org
www.epworthberkeley.org

This year's Advent theme, **Constellations of Hope** is inspired by Epworth's new art installation project, **Star Sanctuary**.

We are calling on the congregation and beyond to email or snail-mail us their hopes. We will then create a star for each submission (or, you can make your own star and mail it to us) and hang it in our sanctuary throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Your written expressions of hope will rise as stars and form constellations within our sanctuary.

It will be an undeniable affirmation that, as sure as the sun, **the stars** shine even in a time of darkness.

SEND US YOUR HOPES

Star Sanctuary



A Place of Hope in
a Time of Darkness

Every expression of hope we receive will be paired with a star made by you or made by artists in Epworth's studio. The installation will hang in the Epworth Sanctuary from 11/30/2025 to 1/6/2026.

Email: hopes@epworthberkeley.org
Mail or drop off:
1953 Hopkins Street, Berkeley CA 94708

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Debbie Weatherspoon, Pastor
Susan Jardin, Director of Children and
Family Ministries and Older Adult Ministries
Laura Heid, Director of Youth Ministries
Scott Jespersen, Director of Music Ministries
Joy Cha, Communications/Property Use
Carlos Altamirano, Pastoral Intern

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Judy Kriege, Worship Coordinator
Office Team
Clark Kellogg, Artist-in-Residence



As we journey through Advent, we are not alone. Participating in the church community's offerings can make the season more meaningful. Take a moment to look inside this brochure to find opportunities for you to experience the promises of the season: hope, peace, joy, and love.



Celebrate Advent & Christmas
2025

EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, BERKELEY, CA
www.epworthberkeley.org

*Wreath & Candles Designed by pikisuperstar / Freepik

ADVENT STUDY



Throughout Advent to Epiphany (November 30, 2025 to January 6, 2026), our church sanctuary will transform as it fills with stars and hope.

To accompany this artistic endeavor, Pastor Debbie is facilitating small groups using resources from **Abbey of the Arts**. The book for our series is Christine Valters Paintner's book *Give Me a Word*.

► **Advent Small Group (in person)**
December 2–January 6
Tuesdays | 3:30pm – 4:30pm | in Adult Study

► **On Zoom**
December 3–17, and January 7
Wednesdays | 7-8pm

Register with the Pastor at:
pastordebbie99(at)gmail(dot)com.

In-depth retreat online options are available through the Abbey of the Arts website. Ask Pastor Debbie for more information.

ADVENT WORKSHOP

Sun, 12/7 | 11:30pm – 1pm | Fellowship Hall

Be sure to mark your calendar for our annual Advent Workshop on Sunday December 7th, right after worship in Fellowship Hall. There will be music, a finger-food potluck, and lots of fun crafts and activities for all ages—6 months to 96 years old.



CHRISTMAS MARKET

Sat, 12/13 | 10am – 1pm | Fellowship Hall



ALL ARE WELCOME to this unique and festive community event! Immerse yourself in the Christmas spirit with twinkling lights, heartwarming music, and homemade gifts to purchase. Cash & Credit (via Stripe using QR Code) accepted

A+ CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Thur, 12/18 | 11:30am – 1pm | Fellowship Hall

A Christmas luncheon for the Older Adult Ministry. Lunch is on us! Contact: susanejardin@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS EVE | 12/24

Kids of all ages re-enact the nativity story with costumes and fun at 5 pm, and the 11 pm service is contemplative. Both include sharing candlelight while singing *Silent Night*.

► **Children's Nativity DIY Christmas Eve**
Wed, 12/24 | 5pm – 6pm | Sanctuary



► **Contemplative Candlelight Service**
Wed, 12/24 | 11pm* – 12pm | Sanctuary



*Meditative music starts at 10:30pm

LABYRINTH WALKS*



*All walks are facilitated by Judy Cayot

► **Advent Walks: December 2–January 6**
Tuesdays | 3pm-3:30pm | Fellowship Hall

If you are in the Tuesday Advent Study group at 3:30pm, come early and center yourself with a walk. **Or, if you just want to walk - come!** The labyrinth awaits you.

► **Solstice Labyrinth Walk**
Sunday, 12/21 | 4pm-5pm | Fellowship Hall

Celebrate the Solstice - the shortest day and the coming of the light!

► **New Year's Ritual & Labyrinth Walk**
Wed, 12/31 | 3:30pm-4:30pm | Fellowship Hall

New Year's ritual followed by a candlelight Labyrinth Walk.

NEW YEAR'S EVE JAZZ CONCERT

Wed, 12/31 | 5pm | Sanctuary

Start your New Year's Eve with Jazz & Poetry at Epworth. This is a free event.



COMMUNITY-CENTERED KWANZAA

During the holiday, 12/26-1/1

Check the church website for details in mid-December.