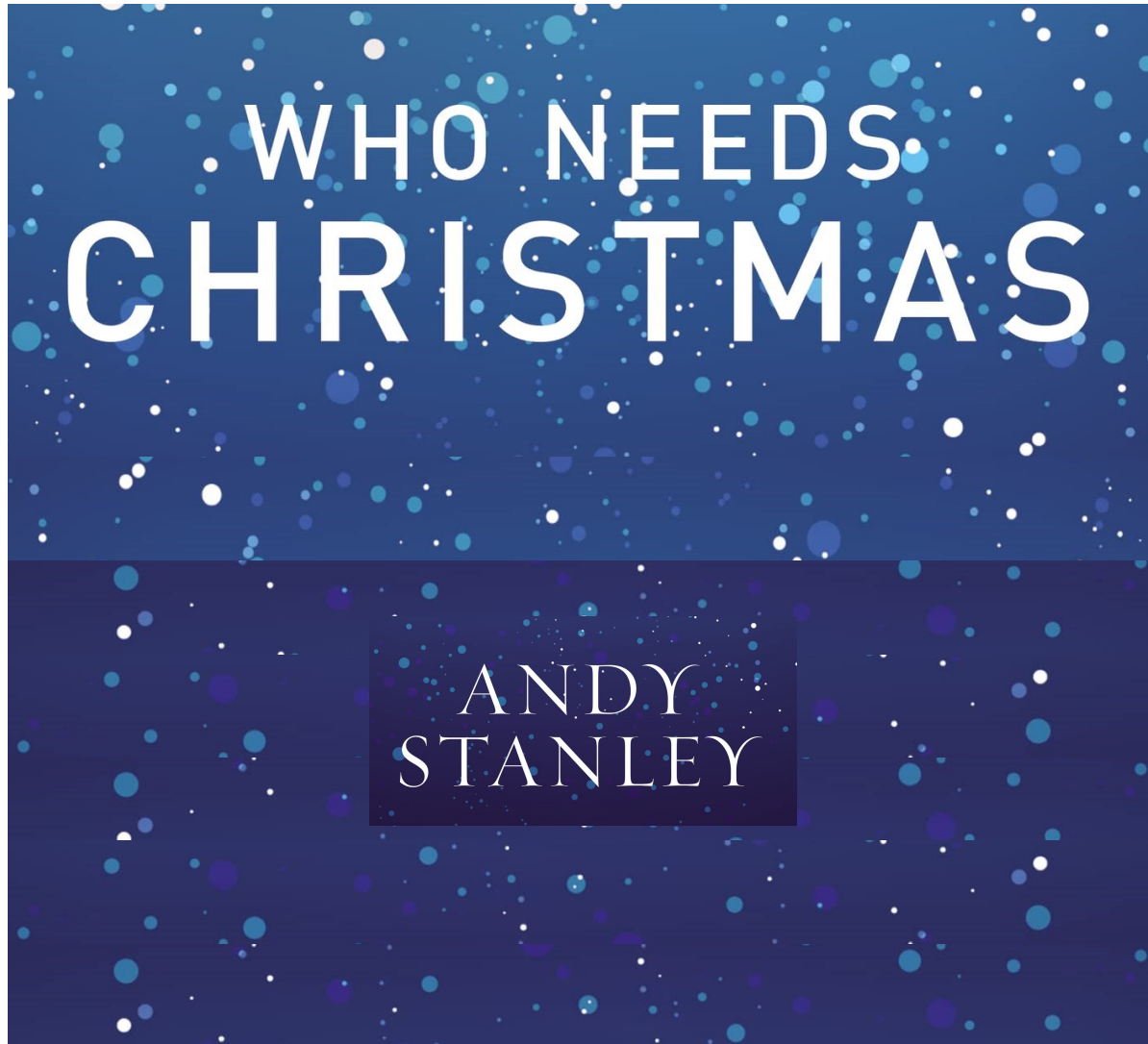


## Advent Sunday Sermon & Study Series begins on Sunday, November 27



Please consider enhancing your worship experience by joining a small group!  
Class Details Enclosed!

## WHO NEEDS CHRISTMAS

BY ANDY STANLEY

When someone mentions Christmas, what's the first thing that comes to mind? The myriad of things you need to accomplish before Christmas arrives—cards, decorations, food, gifts, family gatherings-----the list goes on and on! Or, do you remember that Christmas is really about the birth of Jesus?

In this study, WHO NEEDS CHRISTMAS, Andy Stanley reminds us that we sometimes just remember Christmas like we remember a fairy tale. After all, the story of the birth of Jesus was not what anyone expected when they were waiting for a Messiah.

Four thousand years ago, God promised He would do something through the line of Abraham. Two thousand years later, Jesus was born. And now, two thousand years after that, we still remember Christmas.

Christmas—the story of Jesus who was born in Bethlehem to save us from sins. Stanley unpacks the story and why the improbability of the Christmas story is what makes it so believable. No one could have made it up!

Stanley begins with “the story behind the Story” or with the promise given to Abraham and moves through the birth, Zechariah, Elizabeth, angels, shepherds, and ends with “Ready or Not.....He Is Coming!”

This is one of the easiest studies to read that we have ever done---just three or four pages a week plus some Bible verses. However, the questions are thought provoking and urge one to figure out who needs Christmas and reminds us as to why we need Christmas!

Please plan to find time to join a group, listen to the video, discuss, and enjoy the fellowship that is offered. The following groups will be offering WHO NEEDS CHRISTMAS.

## ADULT STUDY OPPORTUNITIES ON SUNDAY MORNING

### AGAPE PLUS

Contact:	Marian Paulson	309-507-1714	<a href="mailto:marianedmund@yahoo.com">marianedmund@yahoo.com</a>
	Phil Paulson	309-502-9236	<a href="mailto:paulsonphil2@gmail.com">paulsonphil2@gmail.com</a>
	Pam Thornton	563-676-5619	<a href="mailto:psthornton@gmail.com">psthornton@gmail.com</a>
	Pat Thornton	563-332-4824	<a href="mailto:psthornton@gmail.com">psthornton@gmail.com</a>
	Kurt Streicher	563-508-7614	<a href="mailto:kurtstreicher@gmail.com">kurtstreicher@gmail.com</a>

ADVENTURES IN FAITH, AGAPE, and CIA (CHRISTIANS IN ACTION) are meeting together on Sundays from 9:30-10:25 AM on the upper level in Room 302-303. This mixed class participates in the Fall, Advent, and Lenten Sunday Sermon Study Series. They will follow the Fall Sunday Sermon Study Series by viewing and discussing a video by Adam Hamilton on the State of the Church and where UMC is headed. On the first Sunday in November, they will discuss Tom Berlin's explanation of Compatibility and A Discipleship Pathway being developed. This group is also planning a service project to be completed during class time before beginning the Advent Sunday Sermon Study Series, WHO NEEDS CHRISTMAS by Andy Stanley.

### EXPLORATIONS

Contact:	Realf Ottesen	563-370-6923	<a href="mailto:rottesen741@gmail.com">rottesen741@gmail.com</a>
	Ann & Dan Brown	563-320-0257	<a href="mailto:dbhoms@msn.com">dbhoms@msn.com</a>

This mixed class is studying CHRISTIANITY AND WORLD RELIGIONS using material by Adam Hamilton. They meet at 9:30 AM on the main level in Room 202. Everyone is welcome to join this class which features unusual studies throughout the year.

**If you have questions or need help connecting with a group,  
please call Linda Manning 563-343-5319, the church office, or the group leader.**

## OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE WEEK

### LADIES ARM GROUP

Contact: Sharon Phillips 563-340-6595 [phillips363@mchsi.com](mailto:phillips363@mchsi.com)

This Ladies ARM group is a caring and sharing group of women whose primary focus is to create an atmosphere where group members affirm and encourage one another. They meet every other Thursday from 7:00-9:00 PM via ZOOM. Once they finish the Fall Sunday Sermon Study Series, THE LORD'S PRAYER by Adam Hamilton, they will begin the Advent Sunday Sermon Study Series, WHO NEEDS CHRISTMAS by Andy Stanley. Please contact the leader if you plan to join this group. All women are welcome!

### THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Contact: Chris Harvey 563-210-1888 [chrisharvey4155@hotmail.com](mailto:chrisharvey4155@hotmail.com)

This mixed group has discussed changes facing the UMC and listened to Adam Hamilton's sermon on the Lord's Prayer. They will finish THE LORD'S PRAYER book study; will NOT meet on Thursday, November 24 (Thanksgiving) and then go directly into the Advent Study, WHO NEEDS CHRISTMAS by Andy Stanley. New members are always welcome! They are meeting via ZOOM, so please contact Chris Harvey for the link to ZOOM.

### WINGS (WEDNESDAY INSPIRATIONAL NIGHT (OF) GROUP STUDY)

Contact:	Jean Black	563-676-0120	<a href="mailto:jeaniniowa60@gmail.com">jeaniniowa60@gmail.com</a>
	Heather Dennis	563-340-1748	<a href="mailto:rhdenfour@mchsi.com">rhdenfour@mchsi.com</a>

WINGS is a group that is open to everyone! They gather to study the current Sunday Sermon Study Series in the Fall, during Advent, and Lent. After finishing the Fall SSSS, they will serve the Churches United Meal; discuss the changes coming to UMC, do a One and Done book, and discuss Adam Hamilton's Vesper's. They will not meet on November 24, so they will move directly into the Advent Study, WHO NEEDS CHRISTMAS by Andy Stanley the following week. Please contact one of the leaders for the link to ZOOM.

