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HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Christmas services around the region

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3 TEXT BODY:

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4 ***Green River Carol Sing*** ~~on~~ **Dec. 21**

5 GUILFORD — Guilford welcomes the return of a ~~special~~

6 holiday tradition, with the 62nd anniversary of the "Green River

7 Carol Sing" ~~on~~ Sunday, Dec. 21, at 5 p.m.⁷ at the Green River

8 Community Church in the historic village center of Green River.

9 This community event started in the early 1960s to raise
10 funds to restore, rebuild, and maintain the 185-year-old~~1838~~

11 Green River Community Church. Traditionally scheduled for the
12 last Sunday before Christmas, the Carol Sing is a mix of scriptures
13 and carols, ending with a candlelight version of "Silent Night."

14 Pastor Michael Mario will again lead the service and
15 locally renowned organist, Patty Myer, will play the historic Estey
16 pump organ. The church will be beautifully decorated, and
17 following the service, cider and holiday treats will be served in
18 the vestibule. Local children will act as ushers and bell ringers, and
19 families are encouraged to attend.

20 For more information, call 802-254-4813 or visit
21 greenrivervillage.org.

22 ***Candlelight service in Marlboro***

23 MARLBORO — Marlboro Meeting House, 5284 South
24 Rd., will host a Christmas candlelight service of lessons and
25 carols Sunday, Dec. 21, at 4 p.m. The story of the birth of Jesus
26 will be told through Bible readings and special music
27 interspersed with community members taking part.

28 The program will be about an hour, ending with the
29 singing of "Silent Night" in candlelight. An offering will
30 be taken during the program to benefit equally Heifer
31 International and The Women's Freedom Center. Rob Szpila will
32 lead the program and offer a reflection. Jim Levinson and Andrea
33 Howe will lead organ and vocalists. Refreshments and fellowship
34 will follow.

35 ***First Universalist Parish of Chester welcomes***

36 ***the season***

37 CHESTER — First Universalist Parish of Chester
38 have presents a celebration of the solstice and the season, with
39 caroling and other special music, during its 10 a.m. service on
40 Sunday, Dec. 21.

41 On Sunday, Dec. 28, at 10 a.m., First Universalist offers
42 "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," a staged reading of the
43 Nativity.

44 | **Join then An** in-person gathering follows at 211 North St.
45 | (Route 103) in Chester's Historic Stone Village, or attend via
46 | Zoom^{L7} contact the parish for a link at chestervtuu@gmail.com.

47 | ***Christmas pageant in Westminster***

48 | WESTMINSTER — On Sunday, Dec. 21, First
49 | Congregational Church of Westminster~~we~~ will ~~be~~ presenting a
50 | Christmas Pageant at the 10 a.m. service. Children of all ages are
51 | welcome to be a part of the pageant.-

52 | On Wednesday, Dec. 24, First Congregational will
53 | celebrate Christmas with their Christmas Eve Service at 5:30 p.m.
54 | Everyone is invited and the service will include carols, a special
55 | message and, of course, the Christmas story.

56 | ***Christmas eve service, pageant in***
Guilford

58 | GUILFORD — Guilford Community Church, 38 Church
59 | Drive, presents their traditional Christmas pageant~~on~~ Sunday,
60 | Dec. 21, at 10 a.m. All are welcome. If any child would like to
61 | be an angel, shepherd, or stable animal for the pageant, arrive at
62 | 9:30 a.m. so there is time to get into costume. Questions can be
63 | addressed to Sue Owings at Skowings@gmail.com.

64 | The church will hold its Christmas Eve service, "Shining
65 | a Light into a World of Darkness,"~~on~~ Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 7
66 | p.m. All are welcome. This service, led by Pastor Allyson Platt,
67 | will also be streamed live, and a link will be available on the
68 | church website, guilfordchurch.org, shortly before Dec. 24.

69 | ***Christmas services in Westminster West***

70 | WESTMINSTER WEST — The Westminster West
71 | Congregational Church will host two Christmas Services this year.
72 | On Sunday, Dec. 21, at 5 p.m., Adrienne Major will lead a
73 | service of Christmas story-telling^{L7}, highlighted by a shadow
74 | puppet play of the Nativity put on by Leslie Turpin and Tom
75 | Griffith. It is a service for all ages and includes familiar carols and
76 | other Christmas music.

77 At 11 p.m., on Wednesday, Dec. 24, everyone is
78 welcome to join a Christmas Eve candlelight Service of Lessons
79 and Carols led by the Rev. Lise Sparrow in collaboration with the
80 Rev. Shawn Bracebridge on harp, organ, and piano. These who-
81 aAttendants who can are encouraged to bring candles, and
82 candles will be provided, to light in memory of loved ones and-
83 will also be provided for candle lighting to conclude the service.

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