

Welcome In the Name and Love of Jesus Christ

Welcome! We are thankful for your presence as we share in the worship of God. We pray you will find the blessing of fellowship among us. If you are visiting, please know that no one is really a visitor. This is God’s house and all are welcome. We invite you to pray with us, sing with us, rejoice with us, and hear Christ’s call with us. Since we all have needs, during the closing hymn, the altar is open for you to pray, give thanks, dedicate or re-dedicate your life.

Worship Resources: A Nursery is provided during our service. We invite you to use this facility for infants and toddlers. Children’s bulletins are available from the ushers. In the pews, you will find Prayer Cards that you are invited to use to share specific prayer concerns. Please place the card either in the offering plate or in the prayer boxes located in each entryway.

Order of Worship

*Come in, chat, and take a moment to sign the blue hospitality pad and pass it to your neighbor. But when the prelude begins – prepare for worship in a spirit of prayer and expectation! As we begin worship, please silence and put away all cell phones and beepers! *Indicates people stand as they are able*

- The Gathering Music and The Entrance of the Light
- The Welcome and Announcements Minister
- *The Call to Worship #204 *Emmanuel, Emmanuel* McGee
- *The Invocation (In Unison) –Everett Tilson and Phyllis Cole
- We read, O Lord, of the people’s surprise when you were born in Bethlehem. They had expected a display of power, but were confronted by a picture of humility. They had looked for a mighty ruler, but were greeted by a lowly baby. Chasten our expectations of this Christmas with the realism of that first Christmas, so that when you come to us, surprise shall give away, now as then, to recognition, and we shall hail you as “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.*
- * Hymn #220 *Angels from the Realms of Glory* Montgomery
- *The Fellowship Moment – *Greet your brothers and sisters in Christ*
- The Lighting of the Advent Candle –Josh & Tonya Arsenault and children
- The Children’s Time Minister
- The Sharing of Joys and Concerns Minister
- The Prayer Chorus #242 vs. 1 *Love Came Down at Christmas* Rosetti
- The Prayer Time including the Lord’s Prayer Minister
- Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.*
- Anthem – Chancel Choir *Glorious Songs of Old* Stan Pethel
- The Worship with God’s Tithes and Our Offerings Minister
- Offertory –The Sanctuary Singers *Lying in a Manger* Parks
- *Doxology #95 *Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above Ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*
- *Hymn #221 *In the Bleak Midwinter* Rossetti
- The Scripture Lessons *Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:39-45* Minister
- The Sermon *Waiting for What? –Waiting for a Miracle* Minister
- The Invitation to Christian Discipleship and Faith Renewal Minister
- *The Hymn of Invitation #230 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* Brooks
- The Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Reception of New Members #33
- *The Benediction
- *The Benediction Response #228 vs. 1 *He Is Born* Trad

* Postlude

Assisting with Today’s Service

- Pianist.....Gielda Reese Organist.....Charlotte Newman
- Chancel Choir Director.....Dr. Nathan Windt Nursery Attendants.....Elaine and Cortney Davidson
- Acolytes.....Morgan Hutchison and Mary Beth Ronne

Church Calendar

- 10:00 AM Sunday: Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Sunday: Morning Worship
- 4:00 PM Sunday: Rejoicing Spirits
- 5:00 PM Sunday: Chancel Choir Cantata
- 4:00 PM Monday: Youth led Caroling
- 5:30 PM Thursday: Christmas Eve Worship Service

Our Stewardship Last Week

Sunday School	67	Church Budget	\$3,523.79
Morning Worship	220	Parsonage Fund	\$ 130.00
		Sunday School O/Reach	\$ 8.00
		Cook Book	\$ 35.00
		Soup Mix	\$ 100.00
		Homemade Candy	\$ 319.00
		Food Pantry	\$ 125.00
		Student Day	\$ 20.00

Announcements

Altar Flowers: The flowers today are given by Wayne and Susan Scott to the Glory of our gracious God.

Chancel Choir Cantata: Please join us this afternoon at 5:00 for our Chancel Choir’s annual Christmas Cantata. The Choir, under the direction of Dr. Nathan Windt, will present “The Wonder of His Love” by Stan Pethel. Please note this is our first attempt to have the Cantata in the afternoon. This is designed to allow people who don’t drive after dark to attend as well as allow time for family celebrations that may be occurring later that evening. We hope that you will make plans to come and join us for this special presentation. We will have a reception following the service in Wattenbarger Hall.

New Members: We have several people joining the church this morning. If you have been thinking about becoming a member, you are encouraged to come forward with the others. There are three ways you can join the church: by Profession of Faith, by transfer from another United Methodist Church, or by transfer from a church of another denomination.

The Youth Caroling: The Youth and anyone one who would like to join them, will be caroling tomorrow afternoon. Please meet at the church at 4:00 PM. If you can’t come at 4:00 but would like to join later, see Lela for a schedule. They will eat at Gattis Pizza after caroling.

Christmas Eve Service: Please join us on Thursday at 5:30 PM for a Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service. You are invited to come as you are. Bring your family and friends and make time for the true spirit and meaning of Christmas.

Advent Offering: We will receive our annual “Birthday Offering for Jesus“ today. You may bring your offering forward and place it in the manger at the front of the sanctuary during the first hymn. This special offering will be divided between our children and youth ministries to be used for their mission projects.

Mission Money: Thanks to everyone who gave to the Children’s Quarter Project. They raised \$335 which was donated to the Friendly Fellows. Thanks!

Sunday School Outreach Offering: Thanks to everyone who donated to our Sunday School Outreach Fund. We were able to help several families have a better Christmas.

Church Cookbooks: We still have cookbooks for sale if you need a last minute Christmas gift. Each cookbook costs \$15. Stop by the tables in the entryway to pick up a copy.

Newsletter: Any information to be published in the January newsletter needs to be turned in no later than today.

Christmas Program: Thanks to Patti Rae Bryant, the children, youth, and adults, who participated and all those who helped with the Children's Program last Sunday night. It was truly an inspiring service. Also special thanks to everyone who donated to the Toy Drive for the McMinn County Rescue Squad.

Something for Everyone: Join in the fun on Tuesday, January 5th as we will enjoy lunch at the Acropolis Four Stars Grill near Hamilton Place in Chattanooga. We will leave the church at 10:45 and return around 3:00 PM. Please make your reservation with Kathy or Charlotte by Sunday, January 3rd.

Altar Flowers: The 2010 flower chart is up and we especially need someone to provide flowers for the Sundays in January. If you would be willing to do any of the Sunday's available, please sign your name to the chart.

Special Gifts: Special gifts have been given to the Parsonage Fund in memory of Minnie Dodson, Jean & Orvan Dodson, Morein & Charlie Carroll, and James D. Richeson and in honor of Leona Richeson by Carl & Bettye Kaye Richeson. A special gift was given to the food pantry in honor of Charlie and Eva Oakes by Charlie and Betty Davidson. A special gift was given to the Food Pantry in honor of Charlotte Newman by the Friendship Class.

January Body & Soul: We need someone to host our January Body & Soul. We have a program lined up. The Rev. Lou Ann Crandall will be here to update us on the Conference's work in Sudan including sharing with us about her recent trip to Sudan.

We are Praying For.....

Polly Anderson, Lynnette Baines, Nancy Barton, Chris Beaton, Darren Beckett, Bob Beech, Robert Bennett, Lin Birdwell, Samuel Bish, Randy Bishop, Reba Brown, Al Bryan, Rev. Jimmy Buckner, Bonnie Burmood, David & Jenny Byrd and their fathers, Teresa Carpenter, E.J. Castillo, Matt Clare, Tamera Coleman, John Cooley, Stephanie Coppedge & family, Stacy Costner, Brett Currie, Kenny Davidson, Ron Davis, Bruce Delmas Jr., Mike Dingus, Eva & Glenn Dockins, Vicki Estabrook, Bernadette Evans, Nancy Ferguson, Aline Fritz, Dee Gamble, Steve Garren, Janie Goines, Rebecca Gray, James Guffey, Brad & Lynn Hamblin, Bill Hanner, Garrett & Jason Henderson, Dan Herron, Diane Hicks, Gene Higham, Jaynee Holland, Greg Hughes, Don Hutsell, Jim Hyde, Larry Jackson, Mike Jackson, Barbara Jarvis, Jimmy Johnson, Cheryl Lambert, Gwen Lane, Raymond Latham, Eva Ruth Lawson, Charlie & Teresa Littleton, Freddy Malone, Frances Mason, Glenn Mason, Zachery Mason, Will Matthews, Brooke Matthews, Patricia McDonald, David McKee, Randy McKeehan, Jerry McLemore, Matt Merker, Larry Messer, Nathan Murray, Tammy Nantz, Judy Ohman, Eileen Owsley, Patricia Parker, Theda Poplin, Prof Powers, Cole Puryear, Vicki Raper, Yvonne Raper, Jimmy Reeves, Jason Richards, Dennis Richeson, Jerry Roberts, Leona Richeson, T.L. Rollins, Paul Rose Family, Gene & Sherry Sabo, Darlene Schenck, Danny Shannon, Bob Shugart, Bud Smidt, Mildred Smith, Nell Smith, Eric Sohmer, Britianie Stieb, Carol Tatum, Roy Thomas, Gloria Thompson, Tony Thompson, Debbie Tilley, Bruce Vincent, Mildred Vincent, Thursie Waddle, David Walden, Bryan Walker, Tylan Walker, Gladys Wallace, Jim Wallace, Preston Wallace, Ashley & Jackson Walters, Gretchen Watson, Bonnier Werner, Thelma West, Bill Wiggins, Charles Wilson, Sandy Yielding; *In nursing homes, assisted living or shut-in:* Evelyn Black, Lorene Ensminger, Nell Gambill, A.C. Lockmiller, Rubye Maupin, *Expecting Mothers:* Claire Murphy, Kym Wierman, Ashley Ziegler; *Missionaries or in Mission Work:* Boo & Phyllis Hankins, Neal Hicks & family, Steve King Family, Chris Russell Family, Mary Diana Samuel Orphanage, and Herbert & Mary Zigbuo, Pray for our Pastor, our District Superintendent, Mike Travis, our Bishop, James Swanson. *Pray for our Service men and women:* Brandon Carter, Joe Clark, Keith Coleman, Tyler Cooley, Taylor Creasman, Duane Diebold, Michael Dyer, Josh Gary, Taylor Gray, Brent Greer, Eric Greisenhaur, Brent Harbin, Brandon Hashe, Lee Hashe, Daniel Hickey, Derek Hickey, Tim Lammers, Wayne McKenzie, Will Nation, Klaus Ohman, Adam Randle, Alex Randle, Zach Roberts, Brittany Rupert, Raymond Shumate, Dwain Sliger, Bobby Smith, Brent Stephens.

If you know of someone who has improved and can be taken off the list or if we have removed someone from the list who still needs to be listed, please fill out a new card and give us an updated report. Thank You.

Church Prayer Focus for the Week: Pray for our hearts to be open and obedient to God's will .



Fourth Sunday *of* Advent

Allen Memorial United Methodist Church

December 20, 2009

Ministers: The Members

Pastor: Rev. Jeff W. Wright

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