

**Fourth Sunday in Advent – December 20, 2009**

First United Methodist Church

Gathering Time and Announcements

**Let Us Prepare our Hearts and Minds for Worship!**

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude *A Festival of Carols* arr. Wagner  
The Handbell Choir

\*Congregational Call to Worship No. 234 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* Wade  
*sing stanza 1*

**O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

\*Opening Prayer

\*Carol of Praise No. 245 *The First Noel* Traditional English Carol

Lighting of the Advent Candle Doris & Sharon Nichols  
*Chorus No. 211 sing stanza 4 – after the lighting of the Candles*

**O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be;  
before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession

**Magnificent God, look upon us with your loving favor. Shine upon us with the light of your wisdom. Strengthen us in our weakness, that we might know the power of your love. Scatter us in our pride, that we might learn the humility of servanthood. Forgive us when we weaken others and forget your place in our lives. Lift us up when we are disheartened, and nourish us with your abundant grace. Help us, O Promised One of Israel, to be your people and to serve your world. Help us to live as an Advent people, hopefully expectant, and patiently diligent, that we may bring your realm to this earth Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Prayer Request

Chorus No. 217 *Away In A Manger* Murray  
*sing stanza 3*

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray; bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Offertory *O Little Town of Bethlehem* arr. Charles Callahan  
Invitation to Giving  
Giving of Tithes and Offerings  
\* Presentation, Doxology and Dedication

Children's Time Lee Griffith  
(Ages 4-8 are invited to Children's Church following Children's Time Today)

Anthem *O Holy Night* Adam

\*Scripture *New Testament – pg 69* Luke 1: 47-55

\*Sermon *Mary Sings* Rev. Mike Sykes

\*Carol of Response No. 216 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Praetorius

\*Dismissal with Blessing

\*Choral Benediction *Praise Ye The Lord of Hosts* Saint-Saëns

\*Chiming of the Holy Trinity

\*Postlude *Joy to the World* Handel-Ritter  
\*Stand as you are able

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**The flowers on the altar today** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Michael Rohleder on his 57<sup>th</sup> birthday by his family.

**The Tuesday Morning Bible Study** will not meet the next two Tuesdays. Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, January 5, 2010.

**Tonight the Youth** will meet at the church at 4:00 pm to eat supper and to put together luminaries for the Christmas Eve Service. Then at 6:00 pm, Team 1 will go serve supper at the homeless shelter and the rest of the youth will go home. Please remember to bring your food items tonight for the supper at the shelter.

Thursday, December 24th, youth will need to be at the church at 4:30 pm to set out the Luminaries for our Christmas Eve Service. After the service, please meet outside to help clean up.

No Wonderful Wednesday this Wednesday, December 23.

**CALENDAR**

**Sunday – December 20, 2009**

9:30 am Sunday School Fellowship  
10:00 am Sunday School for all ages  
10:55 am Worship Hour  
3:00 pm Disciple III – Bynum Bldg.  
4:00 pm Youth Supper and fixing luminaries  
6:00 pm Youth (Team 1) leave church for Homeless Shelter  
7:45 pm Youth (Team 1) Return to church

**Monday – December 21, 2009**

6:30 pm Disciple I – Cameron Morrison's

**Tuesday – December 22, 2009**

**Wednesday – December 23, 2009**

**Office Closed**

**Thursday – December 24, 2009**

**Office Closed**

**Friday – December 25, 2009 “Merry Christmas”**

**Office Closed**

**VOLUNTEERS**

**Ushers:** Steve Webb Team  
**Nursery:** Sunday School: Melanie Saunders  
Worship Service: Mary Stogner  
**Greeters:** Randall & Karen Mace  
Jerry & Barbara Thomas  
**Hedge Prayer:** Ladies Bible Class  
**Hermitage:** Robert Heath, Doris Sears  
**Sunday School Fellowship** Refreshments for December – Ledbetter Class

**Financial Update:** \$58,000 is still needed to meet the 2009 Budget.

**Budget & Attendance Information – 2009**

Operating Budget (Includes Bynum Bldg. loan payment)	\$ 576,696.00
Operating Budget Needed to Date	\$ 554,474.06
Given to Date	\$ 495,691.76
Percentage Given	89.40%
Percentage Behind	10.60%
Bynum Building Loan Balance	\$ 122,409.00
Worship Attendance Last Sunday	258
Sunday School Attendance Last Sunday	121
Pennies for Zoe (Total to Date Collected)	\$ 1,612.50



**Christmas Eve Service  
Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**

**TOYS FOR TOTS THANKS YOU**

This has been a banner year for the campaign. Our church was the largest contributor monetarily in addition to giving four boxes of toys. The individual contributors are too numerous to mention, as you and God know who you are. I would like to recognize and thank the following organizations within the church: Ledbetter Men's Bible Class, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, Ladies Bible Class, and Circle Number 9. On behalf of the Foundation, the Marines of Detachment 1252, and all the children who received toys, please accept our humble gratitude and thank you. Your incredible generosity and kindness has been simply overwhelming. Have a wonderful Christmas and may God bless each and every one of you.

**Prayer List**

**FUMC Members**

Claudette Brownley	Julia Ratliff	Tim Capel	Ann Covington Huggins
Bill Crouch	Brian Walker	Roy Shepard	Robert Ewing
Linda Sharpe	Chuck Tincher	Jim McKenzie	Don McLain & Barbara

**Others**

Kelly Brown	Cathy Castle	Mary Fielder Adkins	Mac Lunsford
Jim Webb	Mary Ellen Barnes	Beth Williams	Reba Williams
Chaplin Soloman	Gloria Scudder	Jackie Foster	Bessie Tadlock
Carley Williams	Dick Forrester	John Sears, Jr.	David Doolittle
Danny Jacobs	Donna Teal	Leslie Harrington	Von Sumner
Dawn Kelly	Marshall Berry	Dave McCuiston	Annie Lee Stafford
Fern Redd	Christine Weeks	Catherine Monk	Donna Williams
Albert Lee	Rev. Marshall Norris	Mary Milligan	Ott Simmons
Tina Sellers	Angie Shively	Ralph McDonald	Fred James Harrison, III
Jeremy Donovan	Vic Graham, Jr.	Linda Scott	Timmy Gibson
Helen Shy	Phyllis Parsons	Brenna Bendell Husel	Jed Honeycutt
Marvin Lee Bennett	Natalie Sparks	Lindsey Belcher	Greg Shelley
Kenneth Jackson	Michael Bowden	Abel McClendon	Joan Holmes
Betty Burris	Brandon Bennett	Ed O'Neal	Ann Moore
Reba Gentry	Steven Brown	Ralph Maree	Nancy Thomas
Jack McClendon	Connie Latham	Louise Thomas	Mariah Allison
Robert Baxley	Valerie Bradley	Kinsey Lewis	Diane Davis
Kim Haines	Gil Evans	Genevieve Conner	Dan Capps
Thomas Davis	Renee Diaville	Buddy York	William L. Martin, Jr.
Jerry Sutton	Wayne Foster	Sharon Blue	Carol Gulledege
Bob Crouch	Beula Bennett	Tammy Jones	Dennis Pittman
Annie Dorsey	Betty Howell	David Woods	Charles Foster

**Also remember our \* homebound members, nursing home residents, our missionaries, service men and women and those imprisoned.**

*\*Jim McKenzie, Harold Clayton, Louise Neal, Frances Harris, Geneva Thrower, Jackie Page, Agnes "Mac" Bennett, Nancy Hinchliffe, Villa Webb, Don & Nancy Smith, Burgoone & Pauline Carnes, Steve Bennett, Warren Teal, Emily Comer, Thurman & Ashby Scott, Sarah Reynolds, Nina McDuffie, Mary Jenkins, Rev. Leonard & Mrs. Judy Mayo.*