



At First United Methodist Church, we are each alive in Christ, united in nurturing fellowship, reaching out to share God's boundless love.

December 2, 2018

11:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

Please silence your phone as we prepare our hearts for worship.

✠ *We invite you to stand as you are able.*

Opening Voluntary

People, Look East!

Bertolozzi

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

✠ **Hymn of Praise No. 211**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Helmore

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle

Jim Buchanan

Reader: Jeremiah 33:14-16 reads, *The time is coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill my gracious promise with the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time, I will raise up a righteous branch from David's line who will do what is just and right in the land. In those days, Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is what he will be called: The LORD Is Our Righteousness.*

Reader: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promises I have made.

Congregation: To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls: In you, O God, we trust.

Reader: The one who is coming will show us the path of steadfast love and faithfulness.

Congregation: Teach us your ways, O God of our salvation. We light this candle in the sure HOPE that God's promises endure.

[Light the first blue Advent candle]

Congregation: We will live in the light of HOPE as we await the coming of the Lord.

A Moment of Silence and the Lord's Prayer

Anthem

Come, Heavenly Babe

Roberta Arwood

Chancel Choir

Lord, redeem your world from darkness surrounding the earth;

Let us be filled with heavenly light, and prepare our hearts for your birth.

Release us from shame, Let peace fill the hearts of mankind.

Silence the noises and turmoil of war, Your guiding star, let us once more find.

Come, bright shining star, Proclaiming the message of peace.

The Prince of Darkness has bound us, But you, God alone have the pow'r to release.

Come, Heavenly Babe, Our hearts have been led by your love

To love one another as you have loved. Let Christmas come down from Heav'n above,

Let Christmas come down from Heav'n above.

We Worship with our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Sleepers, Wake!

Walther

† Doxology

*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.*

We Worship with the Children

(Kid Kits in the bright green bags, provided for K-5th graders, are located at the back of the sanctuary. **Today**, following *We Worship with the Children*, the children are asked to return to their seats so that they may participate in communion with their church family. On the 2nd-5th Sundays, K-3rd graders are invited to attend Children's Worship on the ground floor in the Children's Ministry area...*just follow the Worship Leader.*)

Sermon

Fill Us with Hope

Matthew 24:36-44 (NT Pg. 27-28)
Dr. Roger Weisner

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth...

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...

...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Giving the Bread and Cup

† Hymn of Response No. 368 vs. 1

My Hope Is Built

Bradbury

† Benediction and Blessing

† Postlude

Watchmen, Tell Us of the Night (8:30a)

O Blessed Emmanuel (11:00a)

arr. Hayes

Bach

† Chiming of the Trinity

Sympathy

Sympathy of the ministers and the members of the congregation is extended to Jamie, Matt & Maggie Armstrong and their family upon the death of Elizabeth Lorraine Graves on November 27, 2018.

Memorials may be made to the **Elizabeth Lorraine Graves Scholarship Fund #6183716** (please include this number on all gift correspondence).

Via US Mail to:

Alumni and Development Records
Duke University
Box 90581
Durham, NC 27708-0581

Via Express Mail to:

Alumni and Development Records
Duke University
700 W Main St., Suite 110
Durham, NC 27701

Today's Greeters:

Deborah and Terry Arnold

Chief Ushers: Richard Foust, Jimmy Everhart

Captain: Rick Samuels **Co-Captain:**

Mark Berrier, Bradley Hedrick, Loyd Leonard, Adrian Neal and Maywood Wilkerson. **Security:** West Lamoureaux

Announcements

Remember to visit our website www.fumclex.org to stay connected with our church calendar, ministries, activities and events.



Let's Welcome the Season of Advent

Advent Fair for Children & Youth TODAY (9:45a) 2nd Floor Classrooms

Homemade Soup & Sandwich Fundraiser Lunch

TODAY (12p) Sponsored by the Koinonia Sunday School Class Join us in the fellowship hall for homemade soup served with sandwiches, dessert and drinks. Your kind donations will be accepted at the door. All proceeds will benefit mission projects.



Children's Christmas Program TODAY (4:00p) Fellowship Hall

This year, our church family will love and **experience TOGETHER** our Christmas program, **A Keepsake Christmas!** During this engaging **interactive** program, you'll hear a dramatic retelling of the Christmas story from cast members (our children) onstage. And each guest will create their very own keepsake nativity scene to cherish for years to come. We hope you will join us for **A Keepsake Christmas** and add a meaningful family memory to your Christmas this year!



United Methodist Women Group 2 Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 4 (12:00p) Yarborough's Restaurant

Carpooling available—**meet at 11:30a**—we will leave at 11:45a

Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Charlotte

Wednesday, December 5 (We will leave the church at **8:30a** and return between **5:30p-6p**) As a group we will help sort and process shoeboxes before they begin their journey around the world. Sign-up sheets are located at the Volunteer's Desk.

Questions? Contact Judy Deal (336) 956-6150.

Poinsettia Pick-Up Friday, December 7 (10:30a-1p) State Street entrance

Community Christmas Nativity Events

Journey to Bethlehem **Saturday, December 1 & Sunday, December 2 (6p-8:30p)** A drive through Christmas experience at Tyro United Methodist Church.

What Child Is This? **Friday, December 7 & Saturday, December 8 (6p-9p)**

Sunday, December 9 (5p-8p) A drive through re-enactment of the nativity story at Memorial United Methodist Church, Thomasville, NC

Lexington Choral Society Welcome to December Christmas Concert

Friday, December 7 (7:00p) Maple Springs UMC, Winston-Salem, NC

Saturday, December 8 (5:00p) First Baptist Church, Lexington, NC



Carols with the Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Sunday, December 9 - 11:00 a.m.

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE TO ADD OR REMOVE A NAME FROM THE PRAYER LIST.

Prayer Requests

Lloyd Brown
Bob Pearson
Kathy Baragona
Betty Caudill
Sue Corn
Linda Fisher
John & Judy Hensch
Earl Hester
Joyce Inabinett
Adrian Neal
John Scarff
Steve Smith
Mary Louise Wilkerson
Dare Wilson

Shut-Ins

Miheepa Jones
Dot Kinsey
Caroline McCree
Evelyn Sink

Piedmont Crossing

Health Care

Margaret McCrary Carver
Barbara Proctor
Margaret Ragan
Nancy Wilkinson

Residents

Jo Doris Beck
Herman & Naoma Crabtree
Richard & Camille Lawrence
Madeline Palmer

Bethany Woods (Albemarle)

Alvin Pope

Brookdale

Opal Bloome
Hilda Brower
Betty Darr

Brookstone

Albert Gobble

Genesis House (Salisbury)

Julee Smith

Rolling Green Village

(Greenville, SC)

Peggy Trollinger

Spring Arbor (Albemarle)

Bonnie Cates

The Lodge at Wellmore

(Tega Cay, SC)

Harvey Dick

Wood Haven (Albemarle)

Louise Pope

Extended Family & Friends

Rev. Jamie Armstrong
Matt & Maggie Armstrong
Gracie Joy Hedrick
Steve Weeks
Gordon Wright
Ken Hunt
Chris Hunt
Rodney Perdue
Paula Brooks
Mark Milligan
Linda Barbee
Larry Starnes
Bonnie Cook
Clay Jensen, his parents & siblings
Beth Wood Hogan
Jan Greer
Mary Lou LeGette
Pat & Gary Leonard
Debbie Bowman
Clayton Hepler
Rusty Edwards
Lynn Younts
Norma S. Trotter
Jimmy McDermott
Shannon & Steve Ford
Sherry & Roger Smith
Rae Leonard
Sandy Balsler
Craig Thompson
Lynn Mack & family
Jennifer Bagby
Katrina Hunt
Bailey Christensen
Tami Robinson
Kelli Jones
Tom Sigmon
Spencer Davis

Faye Graham
Kendall Conner
David Ogle
Tempie Almstead
Kristin Harris
Claire Dowling
Cameron & Pete Dunlap
Linda & Tom Dunlap
Carol & Steve Harris
Peggy Sisk
Anna Smathers
Pat Wilson
Jack Smith
Gene Oldham
Nakajah Vaughan
Brenda Hipp
Jane King
Breanna Wilson
Ethan Reavis
Jason & Stacy Heitman
Jenny Rains
Jimmy Davis
Bentley Leonard
John Bruce Davis
Eric Leonard
Robert, Doris, & Keith Hunt
Martha Daniel
Debra Ann Leonard
Betty Jean Whitaker
Len & Dottie Harris
Jack & Susan Phillips
Jordan Beswick
Regina Chrest
Bruce Thornton

Serving in the Armed Forces
Capt. Kacie Allred
SGT John Hall
Capt. Jarrad Thorley
SMS Jason Brownworth
SGT Alan Ingram

Our Stewardship for God's Work This stewardship report is given so you may follow our financial progress throughout the year. Each Sunday, please review and thoughtfully pray over this report. Everyone is a part of God's stewardship.

Report for Sunday, November 25, 2018:
Early Worship: 41 Morning Worship: 146 Total: 187
Weekly Offerings: \$3,637.09
Weekly Needed: \$10,632.90
Total Received to Date: \$444,927.07
Needed to Date: \$499,746.30



Online Giving For mobile device users, the QR (Quick Response) code will take you to a secure mobile site for Online Giving from your smartphone or tablet. **On your first visit**, you will need to create a profile.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 2

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship, Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Advent Fair for Children & Youth, 2nd floor classrooms
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Sanctuary
12:00 p.m. Homemade Soup & Sandwich Luncheon, Fellowship Hall
(Donations accepted at the door & greatly appreciated.)
3:30 p.m. Youth Choir, Choir Room
4:00 p.m. Teens of Life assist with Children's Christmas Program
4:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Program—*A Keepsake Christmas*—Join us in the fellowship hall!

Monday, December 3

- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts & Venturers, Youth/Scout House

Tuesday, December 4

- 12:00 p.m. United Methodist Women Group 2—Christmas Lunch
Yarborough's Restaurant—Meet @ 11:30a to carpool
7:00 p.m. Theology Pub, Sophie's Cork & Ale

Wednesday, December 5

- 7:45 a.m. Prayer Breakfast, Cagney's
6:00 p.m. Chancel Bells, Bell Room
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Thursday, December 6

- 7:45 a.m. Men's Devotion & Fellowship, Biscuit King on S. Main Street

Friday, December 7

Saturday, December 8

- 2:00 p.m. *A Celebration of Life Service* for Elizabeth Lorraine Graves
Hawthorne Lane UMC, 501 Hawthorne Lane, Charlotte, NC

Sunday, December 9

- 8:30 a.m. Early Worship, Fellowship Hall
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Carols with the Chancel Choir and Orchestra, Sanctuary
4:30 p.m. Youth Choir, Choir Room
5:00 p.m. Teens of Life Youth Ministry—pack cookies & caroling

Monday, December 10

- 7:00 p.m. Administrative Council, Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts & Venturers, Youth/Scout House

Boy Scouts Christmas Tree Sale Now through December 9

Location: "Your Pharmacy" 100 West 3rd Street in Lexington

Hours: Weekdays 10a to 8p • Saturdays 9a to 8p • Sundays 10a to 8p

Birth Announcements

A single rose is placed on the altar today to the glory of God and in honor of the birth of Neal Knically Cagle on October 20, 2018. Congratulations to Rebecca and Christopher Cagle. Grandparents are Nancy and Frank Cagle and Leslie and Jim Knically. A white New Testament is presented to the baby from United Methodist Women Group 12.



First United Methodist Church

310 South Main Street - Lexington, NC - 27292

Office phone: 248-2886 Website: www.fumclex.org

Dr. Roger Weisner, Senior Minister rweisner@wnccumc.net (336) 575-3974

Rev. Doug Rowe, Minister of Congregational Care & Adult Ministries drowe003@triad.rr.com

Lee Mabe, Director of Music and Youth Ministries maestromabe@gmail.com

Phyllis Jones, Organist phyllis.smith@yadkin.k12.nc.us

Amanda Bostick, Children's Ministries Coordinator aebostick@gmail.com

Kimberly Leonard, Toddler Nursery

Alma Carlton, Financial Secretary acarlton@firstumclex.org

Donna Huskins, Administrative Assistant dhuskins@firstumclex.org



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Opening Voluntary

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. Larson

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

✠ **Hymn of Praise No. 211**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Helmore

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle

Randy Simpson

Reader: *The time is coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill my gracious promise with the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time, I will raise up a righteous branch from David's line who will do what is just and right in the land. In those days, Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is what he will be called: The LORD Is Our Righteousness.*

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[Light the first blue Advent candle]

Congregation: We will live in the light of HOPE as we await the coming of the Lord.

A Moment of Silence and the Lord's Prayer

We Worship with our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

arr. Hayes

✠ **Doxology**

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.

Sermon

Fill Us with Hope

Matthew 24:36-44 (NT Pg. 27-28)
Dr. Roger Weisner

At this time, you are invited to open your bulletin and refer to The Great Thanksgiving.