

POINSETTIAS & WREATHS

White poinsettias (\$12) and door wreaths (\$32) can now be ordered through the church financial secretary's office (472-7718) by completing the form below. ALL REQUESTS MUST BE IN WRITING. Checks are to be made payable to Memorial UMC. We have 18 wreaths available. Please place your orders as soon as possible. The cut-off date will be Friday, December 9. REMINDER: Please leave your poinsettia for the Love Feast Service, which will be held December 18 at 7pm.

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

By: _____

No. Poinsettias _____ No. of Wreaths _____

Preparing for Advent: from the Altar and Arts Committee

The beginning of the Christian year begins with Advent. Colors are often symbolic in the life of the church and based on tradition. Their symbols represent various aspects of Christian faith. As such, they are powerful devotional and educational tools and have been used since the 6th century A.D. Purple is the color of royalty and penitence and is used for the weeks prior to Christmas Day. Exodus 35:25 refers to women spinning purple, blue and scarlet fine linen for the tabernacle. Our paraments or altar cloths, traditionally silk, are known as frontals or antependia. Under this frontal is a cerecloth, made of linen which is attached with heavy hooks to the back of the altar, and aids the frontal in hanging well. Hanging from the lectern or pulpit is a fall, or bible marker. Its appearance resembles an altar stole. The liturgical color for Christmas Day is White.

WEDNESDAY EVENING PROGRAMS

5:30 PM supper and 6:15 PM program.

11/30 Stephanie Strickland, Director of CCM

Please bring a can of food to stock the shelves

Dinner will cost \$6.50 per adult and \$4.00 per child children (preschool eat free); maximum for family is \$15.00. The deadline for reservations each week is Tuesday at 12 noon. Please call the church office: 336-472-7718. ALSO NOTE: EVERYONE needs to call into the church office to make reservations or to cancel standing

CHURCH FINANCES

In order to keep everyone up to date on our church finances, we will be printing the year to date expenses and income in the bulletin and Messenger.

Year to Date Expenses as of October 31, 2011 \$643,358.58

Year to Date Income as of October 31, 2011 \$665,690.33

Net Income as of October 31, 2011 \$22,331.75

Copies of the 2011 budget are available upon request. Contact either Jerry Smith 475-6597 or Peggy May 472-7718-ext. 22. Have you considered making your weekly or monthly contribution to the church online through your bank?

UMW GENERAL MEETING

Monday, December 5, 2011 Dinner - 6:00 pm

Program arranged by Bettie Rowe, Vice President

AN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS STORIES AND SONG Priscilla Oldaker, Tara Oldaker, Paige Hepler, Mia and Brittany Moore, Abby Williams, Victoria Overby This will be a very special Christmas program and church members are invited to attend and bring guests. Hands on project: Food items for emergency food bags for the church.

Opportunities Through The Week

SUNDAY, November 27

Daily Bible Reading-Matthew 6:25-34
1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:30 Nursery Care
8:50 Contemporary Worship-Jarrett Hall
9:45 Sunday School
10:00 R. L. Pope Class: Bill Cates
11:00 Worship Service-Sanctuary
NO MUMY
7:00 CHRISMON SERVICE

MONDAY, November 28

Daily Bible Reading-Acts 7:1-8
6:15 Praise Team Rehearsal-Jarrett Hall
7:00 Scouts

TUESDAY, November 29

Daily Bible Reading-Deuteronomy 4:5-9
5:30 Chicks-JR. High Room
6:30 Small Group Meeting-Parlor

WEDNESDAY, November 30

Daily Bible Reading-Deuteronomy 26:1-11
5:30 Fellowship Meal
6:00 Kids Club
6:15 Program: Stephanie Strickland, CCM Director
6:00 Disciple IV Bible Study
6:30 H.S. & M.S. Small Group
7:15 Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, December 1

Daily Bible Reading-Isaiah 51:1-6
9:15 Disciple IV Bible Study
10:30 Chicks-Parlor
6:30 Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting-parlor

FRIDAY, December 2

Daily Bible Reading-Matthew 3:1-10
5:00 Scrapbooking-Jarrett Hall

SATURDAY, December 3

Daily Bible Reading-Hebrews 6:13-20

SUNDAY, December 4

Daily Bible Reading-Genesis 12:1-9
2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:45-10:15 Chapel Communion
8:30 Nursery Care
8:50 Contemporary Worship-Jarrett Hall
9:45 Sunday School
10:00 R. L. Pope Class: Jim McGhee
11:00 Worship Service-Sanctuary
5:00-7:00 MUMY
7:00 CHRISTMAS CANTATA: Excerpts from Handel's *Messiah*



New Ministry Formation

Plans are being made to introduce a new ministry in 2012! Modeled loosely after John Wesley's Class Meetings, the intent of this ministry is to offer an opportunity for spiritual growth through regular meetings of small groups. Meetings will be multi-faceted, including fellowship, prayer, study, and mutual accountability in our faith journeys. You are invited to an informational meeting on Tuesday, November 29, at 6:30 pm in the Parlor, at which time we will also discuss plans for moving forward in January. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Lyons at 476-1117 or Tracy Brinkley at 880-5875.



Congregation's Ministry and Staff

- Larry M. Goodpaster Resident Bishop
- Sylvia D. Wilhelm District Superintendent
- Ivan H. M. Peden Senior Minister
- Peggy A. Finch Associate Minister
- Rodney W. Denton Associate Minister
- Lynda C. Hepler Minister of Children and Families
- Danny Frye Director of Music
- Brian Vannoy Organist
- Debbie Averett Director of Contemporary Worship
- Priscilla Oldaker Director of Children's Choir
- Peggy May Financial Secretary/ Treasurer
- Christine Lamacchia Executive Secretary
- Steve Myers Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds
- Dennis Corbett Sexton
- Margaret Ivey Food Services Director
- Charles Wade Church Properties Administrator
- Leslie Gibbs & Gayle Murdock Receptionist Coordinators

**MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
THOMASVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Ministers

IVAN H. M. PEDEN
Senior Minister

PEGGY A. FINCH
Associate Minister

RODNEY W. DENTON
Associate Minister

LYNDA C. HEPLER
Minister of Children & Families

**November Twenty Seventh, Two Thousand Eleven
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



Welcome to the family of God known as Memorial United Methodist Church. Here we believe all people are God's children and related to us through Jesus Christ. Please take time to fill out a registration form this morning. As it is passed back toward the center aisle prior to the Offering, use it to get to know persons seated near you. If you wish to become a member of this church, please indicate that. If you need to talk with a minister, write a notation on the bottom of the sheet and include your home and work phone numbers, or email address. We trust that you will experience the love and power of the risen Christ with us this morning.

Our Mission is to follow Jesus Christ as a caring community of believers who- enabled by God's Grace- seek to grow spiritually, share the Gospel, love and serve all people, and live the Christian faith in our daily lives.

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

November 27, 2011 11:00 A.M.
Morning Worship Broadcast over WGOS-AM 1070

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GATHERING

Prelude *Come, Ye Savior of Mankind* JS Bach

Chiming of The Hour

Lighting of the Altar Candles The Acolytes

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

*Processional Hymn, UMH No. 211 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
(verses 1, 4-7) H. S. Coffin/VENI EMMANUEL

*Congregational Greeting & Acclamation The Reverend Doctor Ivan H.M. Peden
Leader: I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
May Christ's peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: We gather to worship the Creator,

People: whose gift of life we celebrate.

Leader: We gather to worship the Christ,

People: whose advent we await with longing.

Leader: We gather to worship the Spirit,

People: whose power uplifts and energizes us to do God's work in the world.

Leader: Let us give glory to God—Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit!

People: Yes, let us give glory to God!

*Gloria Patri UMH, No. 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Lighting the First Advent Candle John & Amanda Collett

Sung Response: *Light The Advent Candle* Chancel Choir and Congregation
Davenport-Wagner

Light the Advent Candle, for the infant Jesus, keep the candle burning in your heart. A tiny King is coming, this little Child will lead us, light the Advent Candle in your heart. Child so dear, Christ is near, and leading once again to Bethlehem. Light the Advent Candle keep the candle burning in your heart.

Welcome and Parish Notes Dr. Peden

Dismissal of children for Children's Church

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The Offering
Offertory *O Come, Emmanuel* arr. Held

*Doxology No. 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

*Prayer of Dedication The Reverend Rodney W. Denton

THE WORD AND PROCLAMATION

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25 The Reverend Peggy A. Finch
Minister: This is the Gospel of our Lord.
People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Anthem *Carol of the Advent* Dietterich

"People look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth, and set the table. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there: Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the rose is on the way. Birds, though ye long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen, He for fledging time has chosen. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way. Angels, announce to man and beast Him who cometh from the East. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look East, and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way."

Homily for the First Sunday of Advent Dr. Peden

Christmas Gifts that Won't Break: Part 1, The Gift of Hope

*Communion Hymn: UMH No. 620 *One Bread, One Body*
J. B. Foley/ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

A Service Of Word and Table II, UMH Pg. 12 Reverend Finch

SENDING FORTH

*Benediction Dr. Peden

*Benediction Response *Emmanuel, Emmanuel* Bob McGee
"Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel."

*Chimes of the Holy Trinity

*Postlude *Vom Himmel Hoch* Luther

*Please stand, as you are able.

+Please pass the registration pads at this time

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available in the Narthex. Just ask an usher if you need one. **Chief Usher:** Gerry Crowder **Leaders:** Don Clinard, Carey Eanes, Zeb Hanner, J. H. Williams, Charles Wade **Today's Ushers:** Melanie, Eric, Jake and Matthew Kuppel; Larry Murdock, Larry Cagle, Robert Reed, Randall Edwards. **Today's Greeters:** Agnes Farthing, Nancy McClain, Ann Worsham, Tim Lyons, Randall Tysinger. **HEARING DEVICES** are available in the Narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Participating in today's service:

The Reverend Doctor Ivan Peden, Senior Minister
The Reverend Peggy A. Finch, Associate Minister
The Reverend Rodney W. Denton, Associate Minister
The Reverend Lynda C. Hepler, Minister of Children and Families
Dr. Danny Frye, Music Director
Mr. Brian Vannoy, Organist
Mr. Neal Faircloth, Acolyte
Mr. & Mrs. John C. Collett, Lighting the Advent Candle
Mr. Bob Styers, Crucifer

Nursery Care is available for children ages, infant to 5 years, in the main building from 8:30 am to 12 noon. Directions to the Nursery from the Sanctuary: Exit sanctuary at doors on either side of the chancel area. At the bottom of the steps, follow directional signs to the nursery located on the ground floor in the south wing. Our caring nursery staff will be there to meet you!
Children's Worship is held in the Chapel following the Children's Sermon. Directions to the Chapel from the Sanctuary: Exit sanctuary at doors on either side of the chancel area. At the bottom of the steps, follow directional signs to the Chapel located on the ground floor in the north wing. Children ages 4 and up are invited to come for their own style of worship including: music, storytime, video, role play and other activities. Parents are asked to pick up their child after the worship service in the chapel.

PRAYER LIST

If you or a loved one would like to be added to the prayer list, please contact Lorna McCullough at 475-6026. If you put a name on the list, please keep in touch and let us know how he/she is doing as names will be removed after 3 weeks. During the week, please pray for:

Military personnel stateside and overseas	Tracy Brinkley
Becci Cagle	Sharon Van Vechten
Wayne Leonard	Andrea Cain
Jane Dorton	Ralph Link
Jack Herring	Robin Branson
Charlie Sparrow	Becky Kearns
Tom Walker	Ginger Cranford
	Debbie Hill
	Mike Schartiger
	Evelyn Harris
	Jackson Gilliam
	The Jabez Williams family

LOVE FEAST LUMINARIAS

HONOR or REMEMBER a loved one this Christmas with a LOVE FEAST LUMINARIA. These Luminarias will be used to light the path to the Love Feast on December 18. ALSO, you and your loved one's name will appear in this year's Love Feast bulletin! SALES BEGIN Thursday, November 24 and END Sunday, December 11. Contact Rodney for more information (472-7718) Cost is 1 for \$2 or 3 for \$5.