

ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK:

THIS IS THE OFFICIAL CALL FOR OUR CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 27. We will have a potluck just after church on Sunday, January 27 and hold our 2018 Year in Review as well as setting our 2019 Budget. In addition, this year we will have a chance to become a Creation Justice Church. We will get a chance to vote on a statement developed by the Green Church Committee as well. It will be an important day for the church! So, be sure to sign up to tell us what you can bring for the potluck and plan to be a part of the day.

WINTERFAITH LUNCHEONS. JANUARY 9, 16, AND 23, at 11:45-1:00 PM:

This year we are able to return to 3 Wednesdays in January for WINTERFAITH, an exploration of other religions and an Interfaith journey of how we can work together. Look for the three presentations planned in our January 2019 Torch, but save the dates, invite, and plan to attend this wonderful program shared by Elon Community Church and the Truitt Center at Elon University. As it was last year, lunch will be \$8 and done by our own Ted's Catering. Sign up on the insert if you plan to attend.

ITS TIME TO HOST THE ELON WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM FOR DINNER!

Each year between the semesters at Elon University, the Women's Softball team must be here to get ready for their season which opens on February 8. Each year we get persons or groups to host a dinner for the nights they require. Sometime during the last week of January, we will be hosting around 3-5 dinners as they ask. We have an ongoing relationship with this team and their coach, Kathy Bocock. If you are interested in helping and providing dinner (or part of dinner with a group) for one of these nights, let the office know. The Dates will be set in January once "J" Term begins. This is a great opportunity to show hospitality and continue our partnership!

THIS WEEK AT ELON COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday 1/6

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service
3:00 pm Genesis Chimes
3:00 pm InspiRING Bells
3:00 pm JuBELLation
3:45 pm Children's Choir
4:30 pm KICK
4:30 pm Young Ringers
5:15 pm Little Lights

Monday 1/7

10:30 am Women's Fellowship
7:00 pm Cub Scouts
7:00 pm Women's Fellowship

Tuesday 1/8

8:00 am LIFT Exercise
5:30 pm POUND Fitness

Wednesday 1/9

11:45 am Winterfaith
1:15 pm Green Church
Committee Meeting
2:00 pm Deepening Your
Faith Walk
5:15 pm QiGong
8:00 pm AA

Thursday 1/10

8:00 am LIFT Exercise
6:30 pm Girl Scouts

Friday 1/11

6:30 pm NA
6:30 pm Special Fridays

Sunday 1/13

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service
3:00 pm InspiRING Bells
3:00 pm JuBELLation
3:45 pm Children's Choir
4:30 pm KICK
4:30 pm Young Ringers
5:15 pm Little Lights
5:15 pm Hospitality Committee
5:30 pm Music Committee
6:30 pm Church Night
7:30 pm Church Council

ELON COMMUNITY CHURCH



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dedicated to spiritual renewal, we strive to be an accepting, thinking, and serving community of faith.

A FESTIVAL OF NINE Lessons and Carols



JANUARY 6, 2019
10:30 AM
EPIPHANY

We welcome all guests and members who worship with us this morning. If you are a visitor, please take time to sign the visitor portion of the insert.

Gathering God's People in Peace

PRESERVICE MUSIC *Various Selections for Organ, Handbells, Piano and Violin*

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP—Please Sign In

The Call of Peace

CALL TO WORSHIP *Change Ringing*

PRELUDE *Creator of the Stars of Night* arr. Anne Krentz Organ

† CAROL *Once In Royal David's City* IRBY

Solo: Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed;
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ her little child.
All: He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all.
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior Holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood, He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly Maiden, in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love.
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by;
We shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high.
Where like stars his children crowned, all in white shall wait around.

† BIDDING PRAYER Rev. Randy Orwig



In lieu of flowers a donation has been made by Mike and Janet Mayse, which is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of their parents.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD ANNUAL

REPORTS ARE DUE: Annual Reports for the 2018 Yearbook were due to the church office by Friday, December 14. All boards and committees are expected to submit a report and we still have a significant amount missing. If you are uncertain whether you should submit one, please contact the church office. Thank you for your cooperation.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Colleen Gutierrez	1/6
Monica Nicholson	1/6
Patrick Sheldon	1/7
Jackie Boada	1/7
Jeff Drummond	1/12

WEEKLY GIVING

Received Last Week:	\$4,822.00
Received to Date:	\$517,808.66
Expenses to Date:	\$515,289.88
NBF Last Week:	\$325.00
NBF Loan Balance:	\$483,227.00

CHAT AND CHOW will meet next at Reno's Pizza in Gibsonville on Friday, January 18 at 5:30 pm. Please sign up on the insert if you plan to attend. If you sign up and find you cannot make it, please be sure to cancel your reservation. See Margaret McTaggart with any questions.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Greeters: Mike and Janet Mayse
Ushers: Bob Abrahamson, Jean Lawton, Bob Lawton
Acolyte: Thomas Gregory
Deacon on Call: Gary Weerts

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

eloncommunitychurch.org



Prayer List

Bill and Barb Sharpe	Stuart Hoyle	Bruce Hester	Estelle Willard
Don and Shirley Judd	Bill Franklin	Victoria Hughes	Brittany Rogers
Dominick Lawrence	Toine Spann	Avery Williams	Lee Emily
Terry Mitchell	Terry Merced	Donna Glass	Trent Peters
Jennifer Price	Vicki Price	Stephanie Kimble	Michael Houlihan
Grace Paden	Jerry Godwin	Ruth Stamback	Andrew Hartle
E.J. Emerson	Marianne Hart	Anita Davis	Scott Dixon
Cathy Rose	Luanne Driver	Steven Brown	Curtis Foster
Nancy Wharton	Amanda Dover	Vicky Lewis	Diane Halliday
Emma Brooks	Rick Murph	Barbara Seigler	Craven Ford
Heather Rodney	Phil and Melanie Del Gaizo	Sue Wilson	Charles Tobelmann

O Lux!
(Translated from Latin)

Tobin Stokes

Follow the star that shines so bright, a sparkling diamond in the night.
Follow your heart until morning's light, all the way to Bethlehem.

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie.
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Christian, can you tell me? Where's God's Lamb?
Christian, can you tell me? Do you know the way to Bethlehem?

Seek the Truth and you will find the Savior of all human-kind.
Follow your heart and then find new life, all the way to Bethlehem.

SECOND LESSON

Promise
Genesis 22:15-18

Joshua Wood

Advent Hope

Drek K. Hakes

THIRD LESSON

Prophecy
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Annie McLane

Gaudete
(Translated from Latin)

Sheldon Curry

† NINTH LESSON

Mystery
John 1:1-14

Rev. Randy Orwig

† CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Of The Parent's Heart Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Chancel Choir: Of the Parent's heart begotten when the worlds were yet to be,
One there was with no beginning, One who is eternally—
Source and Ending of all things that have been,
and all things that are to be, forever and forever.

All: By this Word was all created, by this Word were all things done:
Land and air and deepest ocean, harmony of three in one,
And all growing in the luminance
Shed forth from the moon and sun, forever and forever.

Women: Blessed dawning of salvation as the Word is breathed in grace
Into earthly flesh receiving— God incarnate taking place;
Now the light of God revealed
Through the Child of human face, forever and forever.

Men: Now behold the One whom prophets have foretold for ages long
On the faithful page of scripture, seers and sages in their song;
Now the Promised One shines forth!
Let all earth its praise prolong forever and forever.

All: Depths and heights break forth in singing, angels, saints make melody,
All dominions, every power sing, make new psalms of ecstasy,
Let no heart refrain from praising God,
Celebrate in harmony, forever and forever.

O rejoice! For Christ is coming from a Virgin Maid. O rejoice!

Dawning now the day of grace, day so long expected;
Let us raise our song of praise. Hope is resurrected.
Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak you peace, thus saith our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them.
Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

God is born in common stall, miracle of nature.
Open hands to one and all, sov'reign Holy Stranger.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His Holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

Therefore let our gathering sing the lustrous story;
Praising God with heart and voice, greet the Son of Glory!

FOURTH LESSON

Bethlehem
Micah 5:2-5a

Eden Brown

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

The First Noel

THE FIRST NOWELL

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
(Refrain)

And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
(Refrain)

Then entered in those wise men three
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
(Refrain)

EIGHTH LESSON

Wise Men
Matthew 2:1-11

Tom Powell

Do You Know The Way To Bethlehem

Roger Thornhill/
Brad Nix

Shepherd, can you tell me? Where's God's Lamb?
Shepherd, can you tell me? Do you know the way to Bethlehem?

Ride the music of angel wings, soar upon the news they bring.
Follow your heart 'til you find the King, all the way to Bethlehem.

Sages, can you tell me? Where's God's Lamb?
Sages, can you tell me? Do you know the way to Bethlehem?

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to-night.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given;
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of God's Heaven.
No ear may hear God's coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive God still, The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray!
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

FIFTH LESSON

Mary
Luke 1:26-35, 38

Grier Ingalls, English Translation
Fabian Lujan, Spanish Translation

My Soul Doth Magnify

John Purifoy

My soul doth magnify the Lord. And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
He hath done great things, and holy is His Name.
His mercy from generation to generation He shows with His mighty arm, he scatters the proud.
He hath exalted the humble in heart, He hath fed the hungry with good things.
He hath spoken to our fathers and to us now and forever.

SIXTH LESSON

Birth
Matthew 1:18-25

Chris Gregory

What Child Is This?

Jim Brickman

SEVENTH LESSON

Shepherds
Luke 2:8-20

Angelina Moore