

# **Wednesday Musings December 5, 2018**

First, let me say a special thanks to all who helped both decorate the sanctuary last Saturday as well as those who helped with the Lovefeast on Sunday: Mike Smith who made the coffee; to all who shared their mugs, trays and baskets; to our many servers; and to Matt and the choir for their music – it really was a wonderful morning in a celebration that was new to us, but had very ancient roots.

But things do not slow down this time of year. This coming Sunday following worship we will have a congregational meeting to act on the proposed 2019 budget, the report of the Nominating Committee and a slate for the Pastoral Search Committee proposed by the Official Board. The meeting will begin immediately following worship and, because of that fact, there will be no reception. Also, it should be noted, if we get the snow and ice that may come our way this weekend, the meeting will be rescheduled for the following Sunday, the 16<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully that will not be necessary, but just in case it's good to have a back-up plan. This coming Sunday is also the date that we ask you to bring in any Christmas Cheer gifts you've purchased. And if you'd like to make a contribution to this effort, it is not too late. Make checks out to the church and write "Christmas Cheer" on the memo line.

The following Sunday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, will be our annual Service of Lessons and Carols. The choir has been hard at work on special music for this event, and this year we will have dramatic interpretations of our scripture lessons. Invite a friend and plan to attend. Also, if you haven't yet brought in a creche for display in our art gallery, it's not too late for that either. We've already made a good start, but there is room for more.

On the prayer concern front, on this day when President George H.W. Bush's funeral is taking place in the National Cathedral, please keep their entire family in prayer. In addition, Peggy Johnson is home and doing much better, with great relief from the pain she had been experiencing. She is still dealing with pain from the surgery and is doing physical therapy, but she is making good progress. Sherry Massey is also recovering from her two back surgeries in three days. Sherry has been moved from the hospital to a rehab center in Reidsville. She also is still dealing with pain, but is doing much better than better and is attacking her physical therapy with determination. As I mentioned in worship on Sunday, Jeanne Williams was hospitalized briefly with congestive heart failure. She is home now with round the clock care. Debbie Williams had a fall a few weeks ago and is recovering from a concussion. Benjie Terrell got word that his most recent surgery was not completely successful and he has been referred to Duke Hospital for further evaluation. As Connie mentioned in the prayer concern time on Sunday, her mother had an appointment with a surgeon yesterday to address her serious back condition. The good news is that the doctor is very optimistic about surgical treatment options and will be planning surgery sometime in early next year. Finally, in addition to all of these, please

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remember in prayer: Louise Walters, Margaret Turner, Nancy Thomas, Donna Freeman, Anna Gerow, and the people of Alaska who are recovering from a devastating earthquake.

This Sunday for worship we will be looking at Mal. 3.1-4 and Mtt. 3.1-12. Hope to see you there – weather permitting.

Mark