

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER & with your cards, calls, visits**

**HOSPITALIZATIONS**

Mary Schell—Frye, Room 417

**RECUPERATING AT HOME**

Charles Gantt  
Mabel Lawing  
Mike Kilby  
Sarah Hoffman  
Garland & Darlene Whittaker

**HOMEBOUND**

Paul & Lula Towery  
Martha Sigmon  
Bobbie Whisenant

**IN ASSISTED-LIVING FACILITIES**

**ABERNETHY LAURELS**

Joan Williamson—Room 240  
Mary Tuttle—Memory Care  
Peggy Hollis—Apt 219  
Joe Schell—Apt 205

**BRIAN CENTER REHAB (Tate Blvd)**

Wanda Sue Ammerman—Rm 503

**TRINITY RIDGE**

Odessa Whitmire—Room 807

**CAROLINA REHAB CENTER**

Peggy Miller—Room 110

**CV ASSISTED LIVING**

Mary Crump—Room 114

**ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER:**

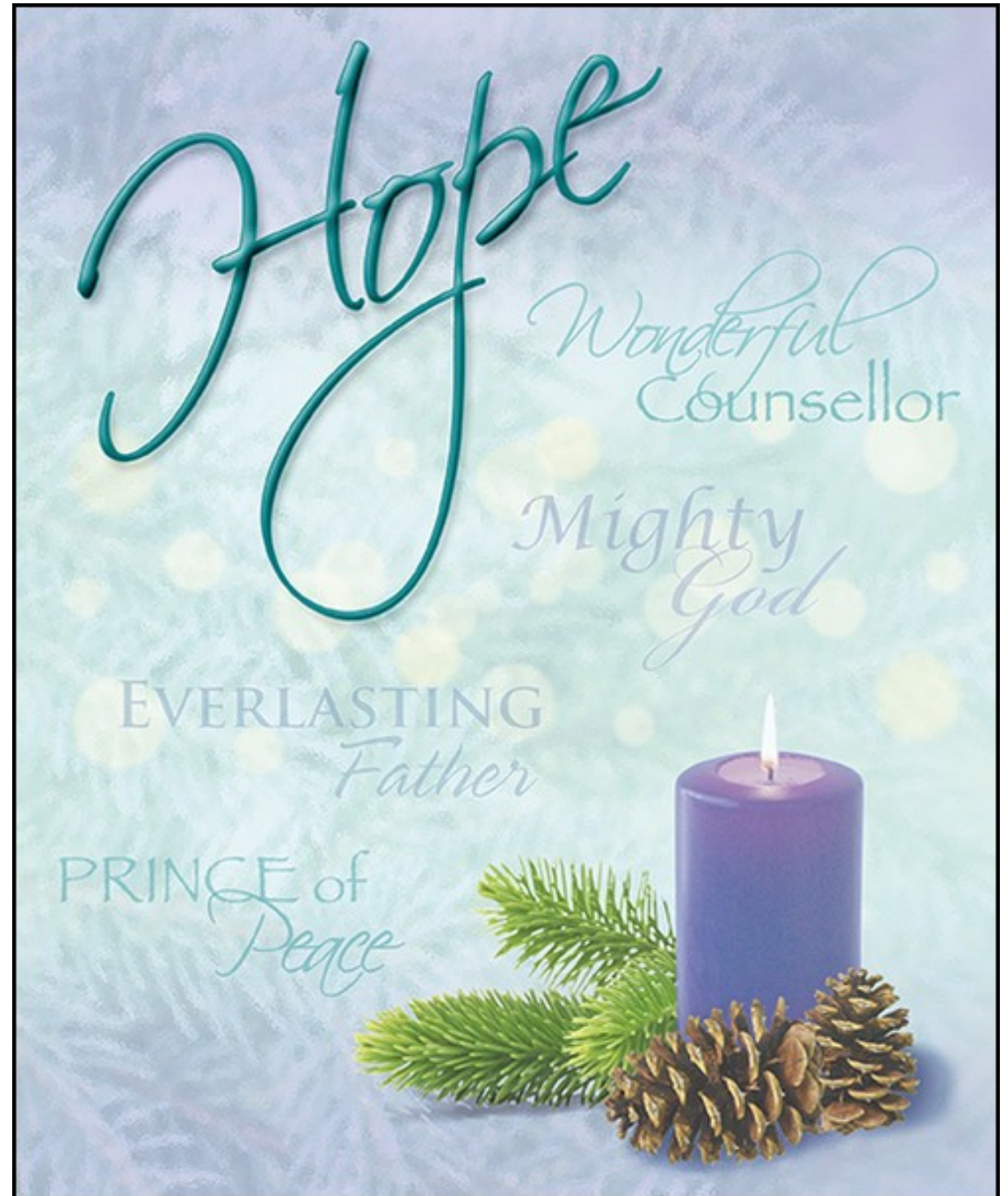
Gloria Hill  
Madeline Birchfield  
Alma Barringer  
Peggy Wright  
Donna Griffin Cox  
Debbie Spencer-Ahrens & mother,  
Gloria DiSanto

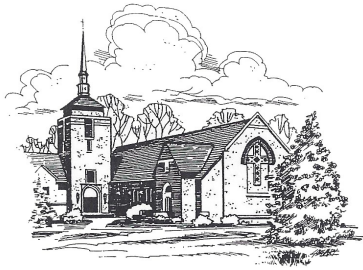
**THE WORSHIP MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH**

All Church Members, Ministers  
Rev. Peggy Stout, Pastor  
Rev. Jaha Seechang, Lahu Worship Leader  
Martha Caldwell, Director of Adult Traditional Choirs  
Marty Light, Organist  
Joe Hart, Financial Secretary  
Tamara McCarter, Church Secretary

**TRINITY REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

217 Second Avenue NE  
Conover, NC 28613  
Office Telephone: (828) 464-8226; Fax: (828) 464-1622  
Office Hours: 8:30am - 3:30pm  
Web site: [www.trinitytoday.org](http://www.trinitytoday.org)  
E-mail address: [trinityucc@trucc.net](mailto:trinityucc@trucc.net)  
The Children's School Telephone: (828) 464-0057





*Trinity Reformed*  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
 HANGING OF THE GREENS  
 DECEMBER 1, 2019—10:30 A.M.

*\*Designates "Those who are able may stand."*

**COMING BEFORE GOD**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Peggy Stout

PASTOR'S DECLARATION Rev. Peggy Stout

PRELUDE "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" arr by P Manz/Marty Light, Organist

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*) Rev. Peggy Stout

Rejoice in the Lord, always.

***I will say it again: Rejoice!***

The Lord is near and we will rejoice in the hope of Christ's coming.

***Let us worship!***

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #193 Blue Book

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*responsively*) Dianne Propst, Liturgist

Holy and Faithful God, we wait for you to come. We know that you will because you already have and because you promised to return.

***While we wait, O Lord, send us your Spirit to purify our lives that we may welcome your coming with heart, mind, soul, and strength.***

***Amen.***

ORGAN INTERLUDE Marty Light

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*responsively*)

Dianne Propst, Liturgist

Merciful God, you sent your messengers, the prophets, to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation.

***Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may celebrate aright the commemoration of the nativity and await with joy the coming in glory of Christ our Redeemer.***

We ask all these things in the name of Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom***



**TODAY**, immediately following Traditional Worship, the **Consistory** will meet in the Chapel—and the Kidz Club will meet in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and to resume **Christmas Pageant Practice**.

Come back and join us **TONIGHT** at 5:00pm for our **Advent Craft Workshop!** Christmas Crafts, Music, & Food for all ages!! *If you would be interested in helping teach a craft, please sign-up at the back of the Sanctuary today.*

The Annual **Connections' Chili-Pottery Fundraiser** will be held THIS Wednesday, December 4th from 11am-1:30pm. Cost is \$18 (\$15 for Adults aged 65 and over) - to include a homemade chili lunch (with all the fixin's) and a piece of pottery of your choice. *Pottery Preview: Tuesday, December 3rd from 5-7pm—\$20 admission for early buying opportunity!* All tickets may be purchased in advance by calling Connections at 828-466-0030.

THIS Thursday, December 5, **The Secret Sisters** will be having their Christmas gathering at Kathleen Shuford's house at 11:30am. Please bring snacks to share!

Next Sunday,  
 December 8:

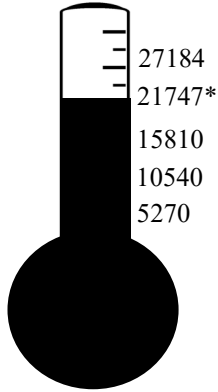
- 10:30am—Rev. Peggy Stout preaching : "Joseph, When Did You Know?" out of Matthew 1:18-25.
- **NO "Faith Alive!" Services Tonight!**

Brotherhood:

Our regular monthly meeting will be held on **Monday, December 9th** at 5:30pm in the Parlor. Please join us as we discuss Bell-Ringing, Cheer Baskets/Treat Bags, & Christmas Eve Luminaries. Many helpers are needed!

*THANK YOU to everyone who helped with our fundraisers by either ordering food or donating change. We will be taking the money earned to go shopping for our **Adopt-a-Family on Saturday, December 14th**. We will go shopping, have dress rehearsal for the Pageant, and enjoy a day of fun and celebration together. Please see Jessica Spain or Suzanne Finlayson for more information.*





<u>ATTENDANCE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER</u>							
	Lahu	10:30am	5:00pm	Total	SS	Envelope Giving	
November 03	13	135	—	148	61	\$ 8,184.00	
November 10	15	121	—	136	56	\$ 3,073.00	
November 17	14	123	20	157	52	\$ 5,302.00	
November 24	14	139	—	153	54	\$ 4,008.00	
<b>TOTALS</b>	56	518	20	594	223	\$ 20,567.00	

Goal for a four week month is \$21,747\* and for a five week month is \$27,184.

## This Week

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

#### First Sunday of Advent/Hanging of the Greens/Communion

- 9:15am—S.S. Assembly
- 9:30am—Sunday School (all ages)
- 10:30am—Traditional & Lahu Worship
- 11:45am—Consistory Meeting
- 11:45am—Children's Pageant Practice
- 5:00pm—Advent Craft Workshop

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

5:00pm—Church/College Dinner @ Catawba College

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 11:00am—Connections Chili-Pottery Fundraiser in the LEC
- 7:00pm—Choir Practice

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

- 11:30am—Secret Sisters' Meeting @ Kathleen Shuford's
- 6:00pm—Sweet Adelines'

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

#### Second Sunday of Advent

- 9:15am—S.S. Assembly
- 9:30am—Sunday School (all ages)
- 10:30am—Traditional & Lahu Worship
- 11:45am—Children's Pageant Practice
- \*NO "Faith Alive!" Services Tonight!

#### Salvation Army Bell-Ringing



A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the Sanctuary for any volunteers that would like to help with the Brotherhood's bell-ringing.

Saturday, December 14 from 9am-8pm at Walmart in Conover. We are hoping for two volunteers for each hour!

*come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.*

*(Please be seated.)*

### LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

#### LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Steve, Stephanie, Evie, & Nick Anderson

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent includes the four weeks before Christmas, and it is the time when we as Christians get ready for the birth of Jesus. During Advent we have the practice of lighting the Advent wreath. We light the candles to remember that Jesus' light is born into the world and is all around us.

Today, we light the first candle—the candle of HOPE.

*(Please light the candle.)*

Hope is the Spirit of God dwelling within us, reminding us that we are never alone. Hope is our assurance that God will finish all He has started and all He has promised. When we light the candle of hope, we embrace God's presence among us—yesterday, today, and always.

Let us pray: (unison)

*Eternal God, we thank you that Jesus brings hope into our broken world. Show us that the power of hope silences doubts and fears. Take this light, small but mighty, and magnify it within us—that we may point others to the hope of the world—Jesus Christ. Amen.*

#### PRAISE RESPONSE

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

#169 Blue Book

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

### HANGING OF THE GREENS

*(In acts of hanging greens and listening to the words of the prophets let us make our hearts and this space a place of inward and outward preparation for the One who comes to give us second birth.)*

#### Litany (responsively)

Rev. Peggy Stout

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of God's Royal Son?

*With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.*

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

*With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever-green and with candles that symbolize the eternal light of Christ.*

*(The cedar branch and holly will be placed on altar and a candle will be lit on the altar)*

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

*With wreaths of holly, ivy, and the humble poinsettia, symbolizing His passion, death and resurrection.*

*(Poinsettias to be put on pulpit and lectern table).*

How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

*By hearing again the words of the prophets who foretold the saving work of God.*

“For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”

*Glory to God in the highest.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING      *Micah 5:2-5a*      Tera Rockett, Lay Reader

ANTHEM      “*Bethlehem Wind*”      by Joseph Martin/Chancel Choir

OLD TESTAMENT READING      *Isaiah 9:2, 6 & 7*      Gina Setzer, Lay Reader

HYMN      “*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*” (vs 1 & 3)      #197 Blue Book  
*(Wreaths are hung on the pulpit and lectern.)*

OLD TESTAMENT READING      *Isaiah 53:1-5*      Tera Rockett, Lay Reader

\*HYMN      “*Angels From the Realms of Glory*”      #190 Blue Book  
*(Placing of Chrismons and Lighting of the Christmas Tree.)*

\*GOSPEL READING      *Luke 21:5-7, 25-28*      Rev. Peggy Stout  
The Gospel of the Risen Christ.  
*All praise to you, O Christ our Lord!*

SERMON      “*Needing Hope*”      Rev. Peggy Stout

#### RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

ORGAN MEDITATION      “*Communion Song*”      by Garrett Parker/Marty Light

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION      Rev. Peggy Stout

#### **The Invitation**

*(All who are confirmed or have made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion. Ours is an open table.*

*The cups are divided between wine & juice. Red is the wine.)*

#### **Words of Institution**

#### **Prayer of Consecration**

#### **The Sharing of Communion**

**Sharing of the Bread**

**Sharing of the Cup**

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving** *(responsively)*

We thank you, O God, that through Word and Sacrament you have given us your Son, who is the true bread from heaven and the food of eternal life. Strengthen us now in your service that our daily living may show our thankful praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

#### **OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS**

Rev. Peggy Stout

#### **Invitation**

#### **Offertory**

“*Air on the G String*”      J.S. Bach/arr by Richard Blake

#### **\*Doxology**

“*Praise God From Who All Blessings Flow*”  
***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;***  
***Praise Him all creatures here below;***  
***Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;***  
***Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

#### **\*Offertory Prayer**

#### **\*HYMN**

“*Of the Father’s Love Begotten*”      #172 Blue Book

#### **\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Peggy Stout

#### **\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

Chancel Choir

#### **\*CHIMES**

**\*POSTLUDE**      “*Hail to the Lord’s Anointed*”      arr by Henry Balcombe/Marty Light



**THE FLOWERS** on the altar today are given in Love  
and to the Glory of God.  
- Given by Jason & Lisa Herman

**CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY** to Will Hill, Samantha Berry, and families on the loss of their son, Grayson Wyatt Hill on November 26th.

**TODAY is the last day that Christmas Poinsettia orders will be accepted.**  
Please make sure you pick-up an order form from the back of the Sanctuary and get your money turned-in ASAP! Thank you!



**OLD TESTAMENT READINGS**

Micah 5:2-5a

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; <sup>5</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 53:1-5

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. <sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. <sup>4</sup> Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

**IN THE LORD'S SERVICE**

**Acolyte(s):** Jakob Lackey

**Cross Bearer:** Eric Misenheimer

**Elder(s):** Tony Wells & Dawn Kilby

**Nursery Attendant:** Sonya Starnes

**Treasurer Assistant today:**

Gloria Hill

**Ushers for December:** Consistory

**REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:**

**Liturgist:** Pat Bowers

**Lay Reader:** Jayne Abernethy

**Treasurer Assistant:** Stephanie Anderson

**Flower Calendar:** Sandy Lawrence

**Advent Readers:** Marcia Pencola

& the Spencer Family



**\*GOSPEL READING**

*Luke 21:5-7, 25-28*

<sup>5</sup> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, <sup>6</sup>'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.'  
<sup>7</sup> They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?'

<sup>25</sup> 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>'People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

The Gospel of the Risen Christ.

***All praise to you, O Christ our Lord!***

**Upcoming Events:**

December 10: Church Staff Christmas Dinner  
@ Catawba Country Club; 6:45pm

December 15: Children's Christmas Pageant;  
5:00pm (*Supper to follow*)

December 16: Good Timers Trip to the  
Cove—please see Dianne Propst for  
more information.

December 22: Christmas Cantata—"A Great  
and Mighty Wonder"; 10:30am & Faith  
Alive! Christmas Concert/Program—"A  
Festival of Carols"; 5:00pm (*Supper to  
follow*).

