

Wednesday Musings December 19, 2018

As we near the end of Advent, we step directly into the busiest week of the church year, so, there is a lot coming up. This Sunday will be our annual Service of Lessons and Carols. The choir has been hard at work rehearsing and, this year, we will again have several dramatic interpretations of our scripture texts. In addition, this will be the Sunday that we collect our Christmas Fund offering in support of retired clergy and lay workers in need. Also, for our Christmas Cheer collection, close to \$1000 was given, this in addition to the gifts that you may have purchased and brought in. Many thanks to the Women's Fellowship for coordinating this effort and Julie and Mary in particular! If you ordered a Christmas poinsettia (or two) please feel free to take them home following our service on Sunday. Then, on Monday evening, we will gather once more to celebrate the birth of Christ with our candlelight/communion service that begins at 5 pm.

This past Sunday following worship, we held a congregational meeting. The 2019 budget was approved, as was the report of the Nominating Committee. In addition, a Pastoral Search Committee was elected. Nominated by the Official Board, the committee will be comprised of: Julie Miller, Phil Bray, Elsie Bolick, Betty King, Ken Little, Mack Painter and June Sellars. Two alternates were also elected and will serve if someone were to drop off of the committee. They are: Nell Allred and Mike Smith.

The church office will be closed on Dec. 25th and 26th, as well as on Jan. 1st and 3rd. Because of the holiday schedule and my being away, this will be the last Musings till Jan. 9th. Margot and I will be heading out to Colorado following Christmas to belatedly celebrate with family out there. Jamie Fonville will be our preacher on Dec. 30th, and there will be both Sunday School and a reception following worship that day so, y'all come! If a pastoral emergency should arise in my absence, please contact Elsie Bolick, chair of the deacons.

This past Saturday, the football team at Matt Rice's school won the Division 2-A state championship. Congratulations to them! As I mentioned in worship, Ron Davis' brother, Keith, passed away last week. It was wonderful to have Jeanne Williams back with us in worship after her recent stay in the hospital. Tomorrow, Jimmy Workman will have surgery on his neck. Benjie Terrel will be having another round of surgery on January 3rd. Garry Massey reported that Sherry was able to return home from rehab on Saturday. She still has a lot on PT ahead of her, but the pain level is much better after this surgery that worked on two different locations on her spine. And Peggy Johnson continues to make progress at home in her recovery from back surgery as well. In addition to all of these concerns, please continue to keep in prayer: Nancy Thomas, Margaret Turner, Donna Freeman, Anna Gerow, and Louise Walters.

I hope you'll be able to join us on Sunday for worship for what promises to be a very special service. But if you're not able to join us and, especially if you are traveling, be safe and have a wonderful and blessed Christmas!

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