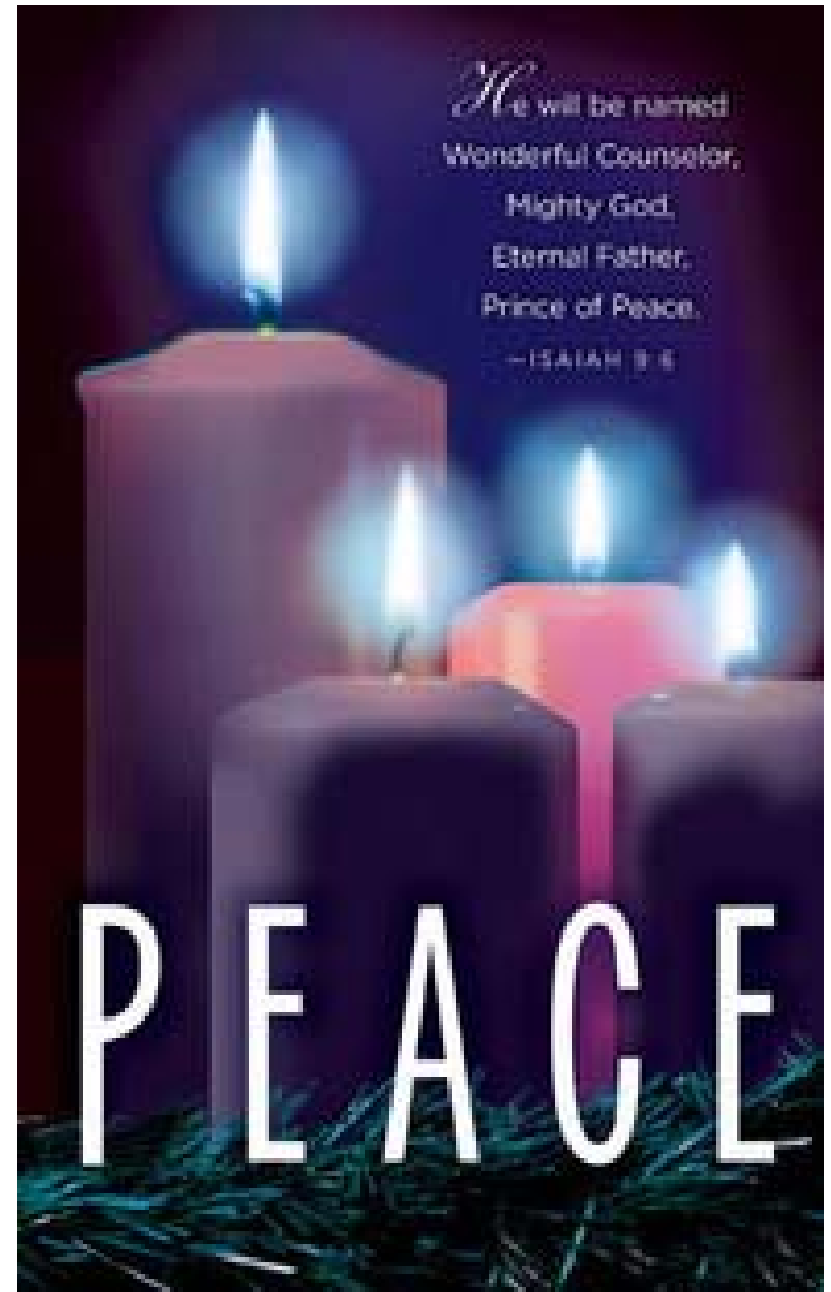


SERMON NOTES  
"The Questions of Christmas"  
Luke 1:26-38

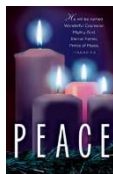


FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 24, 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

8:30 SERVICE ON THE SCREEN 11:00 SERVICE BELOW



WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREET ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE "What Child is This?" (English carol) ConwayRingers

*(Please pass the attendance book in your row.)*

*(Guests, please be sure to list your address, phone number and email address.)*

SERVICE OF LIGHT *Acolytes*

CALL TO WORSHIP

O Lord, I will always sing of your unwavering love. My mouth will pass on your praise to future generations.

**My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

Your covenant-love is reliable forever, your faithfulness more secure than the starry universe.

**God who is mighty has done great things for me.**

The peace of advent be with you.

**And also with you.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (PEACE)

SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM

MORNING HYMN UMH No. 218 "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"  
vs 1-4

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

The money today in the Children's Coin Jar will go to support the efforts of the Burlington United Methodist Family Services, Inc.

All 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to join the Children's Church in the Orange Room on the second floor during the 11:00 Worship Service.

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH No. 895

Our Father, who are in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory – "Born a Mighty King" (Aspinall/McDonald) Chancel Choir  
Vicki Fisher, Donna Jones, Kim Urban

Doxology – UMH No. 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-38

SERMON "The Questions of Christmas" Brian Seders

HYMN OF INVITATION UMH No. 251 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"  
vs 1-3

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Gloria in excelsis Deo" (French carol)



Today we rejoice in the Baptism of Anita Grace Earl, daughter of Rogers Rockwell Earl, Jr. and Emily Ann Earl, granddaughter of Pat & Evette LaFayette; Rogers and Jill Earl.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS (as of December 17)

**RECOVERING AT HOME**

**MILITARY** – Joel DiStefano (Andy Montgomery’s cousin), Sgt. Lantz Elbon (Tim and Beth Conklin’s son-in-law), Tyler Fretwell, Max Jeffries (Heidi Jeffries’ son), Robert Jerow (Jerry Jerow’s son), Ryan Murphy, Tristan Reneau,(Carolyn Shepler’s nephew), Patrick Spears, Isaac Stalnaker (Denise “Stalnaker” Losh’s son), Patrick Thompson (Sue Mallow’s Son), Joel Timmons (Seth and Michelle Pratt’s son-in-law), Aaron Wetsch, Max White (Andy Montgomery’s nephew), Sgt. Megan White (Kit Phillips’ niece), Ann Urban

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** – Crosby Bender, Jack Calain, Faye Cowgill, Dee Clark, Maxine Cooper, Gary Crawford, Mary Sue Daniels, Mike Despar, Ryan DiBacco (John DiBacco’s son), Don Fitzwater, Nellie Galford, Mary Ann Gay, Barbara Halperin (Rachel Montgomery’s mother), Skylar Harman, Jeri Hatch, Amelya Hensley, Janis Hensley, Ruth Hepler, Mike Herron, Kristin Hinchman, Sharon Hinchman, Bob Hinkle, Halie House, Evonne Howell, Kendra Kalar, Lois Kessler, Dana Kirkpatrick, Jack Maynard (Seth Maynard’s son), Jim and Patty McCloud, Sharon McQuain, Norma Kerr Metzger, Jeremiah Myers, Alex Nelson, Roy Nelson, Bill Patterson, John Phillips (Jennifer Wanless’ father), Joan Plant, Tommy and Anne Pritt (Dale Goodman’s cousins), Nancy Rotruck (Jane Corley’s sister), Frank Santmyer, Susan Seders, Tommy Scott (Bill Umbright’s grandson), Jason Snyder, Norma Stalnaker, Steve Stemple, Margie Sutton, Miranda Trader, Ed Tyre, Hollis Vance, Betty Walden, Dick Walden, Lewis Ware, Tom Williams, Margaret Winans

**COLONIAL PLACE** – Rose Barnett, Hope Caplinger, Jo Criss, Millie Metheny, Katie Sayres

**ERCC** – Dixie Gutmann, Paul Mullins, Connie Pizzino

**LAVENDAR FIELDS** – Helen Kramer

**NELLA’S** - Mabel Phares

**VALENTINE’S** – Robert Fretwell

**Daily Bible Readings**

Mon – Hebrews 6 Thurs – Isaiah 60: 1-6 Sun – Matthew 2:1-12

Tues – Hebrews 7 Fri – Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Wed – Hebrews 8 Sat – Ephesians 3:1-12

**Weekly Memory Verse:**

“In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’” Matthew 2:1-2

Theme for Sunday, December 31: First Sunday After Christmas Day

Tom Wamsley is preaching the first service.

Andrew Gongola is preaching the second service.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

THIS EVENING

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

7:00PM Service

11:00PM—Traditional Communion Service

Candlelight at both services

**2018 Offertory Envelopes** are now available on the table outside the office. Please stop by and pick yours up! If you don’t find your name and would like to have weekly envelopes, please drop your name and address in the box on the table and I will have them available the following week.

Danielle Taylor

December 10, 2017

GIFTS: Weekly Collection \$6,970.00

Needed for Budget through 12/10....\$419,231.00

Received for Budget through 12/10..\$391,784.00

I will support my church with my presence and gifts”

December 17, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

8:30 AM Worship 38

Sunday School 24

11 AM Worship 310

GIFTS: Weekly Collection \$17,028.46

Needed for Budget through 12/17.....\$427,615.00

Received for Budget through 12/17....\$408,813.00

Our 2017 Budget is \$436,000.

## The Backpack Food Program needs YOUR help!

We are presently collecting food items to include: granola bars, oatmeal, canned ravioli, fruit cups, veggie cups, snack cracker packs and puddings. Please drop off your items in the bin marked "BACKPACK PROGRAM" by the church office or you may make a donation and earmark your check "Backpack Program". This is an ongoing school project. Monetary, school supplies and food donations are always appreciated. Thank you for your continued support to help the children in Randolph County.



## WE CARE MINISTRIES

If you have any Thinking of You cards that you would like to donate, please bring in to the church office for the We Care Group. It will be much appreciated.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

We Care will meet on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at 12:00 pm in the parlor.  
Please bring a bag lunch.

Finance Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9, 2018,  
at 6:30 pm in the Parlor.

Church Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9, 2018,  
at 7:00 pm in the Parlor.

United Methodist Women Executive Board Meeting will be on Monday,  
January 29, 2018, at 1:00 pm in the Parlor.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday, 8:30 AM – 3 PM / Friday 8:30 AM – 12-noon PH: 304-636-0660  
Pastor: Brian Seders (304-636-0406 Home)  
Administrative Assistant: Rhonda Elmer  
Director of Christian Education: Kary Kramer  
Financial Secretary: Danielle Taylor  
Music Director: Gale Poe  
Pastor Emeritus: Basil Hensley  
Custodian: Angela Kisner  
Nursery Worker: Jennifer Wanless

## COME, SHARE, REJOICE...

### SUNDAY, December 24 (Luke 2:1-20)

8:30 AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP  
9:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES  
11:00 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP  
11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHURCH / Orange Room (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders)  
7:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  
11:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION SERVICE

### MONDAY, December 25 (Isaiah 61:10, 62:3)

OFFICE CLOSED  
9:00 AM QUILTERS / Basement – WILL NOT MEET UNTIL JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>  
10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY – WILL NOT MEET UNTIL JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00 PM CONWAYRINGERS REHEARSAL / Handbell Room - NO REHEARSAL!

### TUESDAY, December 26 (Psalm 148)

OFFICE CLOSED  
WEDNESDAY, December 27 (Galatians 4:4-7)

OFFICE CLOSED  
10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY / Parlor – WILL NOT MEET UNTIL JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>  
6:00 PM BIBLE STUDY / Parlor – WILL NOT MEET UNTIL JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>  
7:00 PM CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL / Choir Room – NO REHEARSAL!

### THURSDAY, December 28 (Luke 2:22-40)

OFFICE CLOSED  
11:00 AM FOSTER GRANDPARENTS MEETING / Parlor

### FRIDAY, December 29 (Isaiah 52:7-10)

OFFICE CLOSED  
SATURDAY, December 30 (Psalm 98)

### LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY, December 31 (Hebrews 1:1-12)

8:30 AM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP Guest Speaker: Tom Wamsley  
9:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES  
11:00 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP Guest Speaker: Andrew Gongola  
11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHURCH / Orange Room (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders)



### CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Monday, December 25 CLOSED  
Tuesday, December 26 CLOSED  
Wednesday, December 27 CLOSED  
Thursday, December 28 CLOSED  
Friday, December 29 CLOSED  
Monday, January 1 CLOSED

POINSETTIAS IN MEMORY OF

**LOU FORTNEY, BRUCE & EVA STALNAKER**  
by Debbie Fortney & Family

**JOHN FROST**  
by LaDonna Frost

**BILL HAWSE**  
by Joyce Hawse

**OUR MOTHER, ELVA HINKLE**  
by John Hinkle, Connie Kemrite and Lynn Ritter

**KEN & PHYLLIS HINKLE, SNODEN & MARGARET HINKLE;  
FRANK, THELMA & IMOGENE JONES; EDYTH FURMAN AND  
BERNICE COFFMAN**  
by Bobbi Triimboli

**HUGH & HELEN HITCHCOCK AND CAROLYN URSO**  
by Hugh & Kathy Hitchcock

**DAVID L. ICE, SR., DAVID L. ICE, II, MARY LOUISE ICE,  
AND WALTER S. ICE**  
by Carol J. Ice

**MINNIE KERNS AND LILLIAN ROSENCRANCE**  
by Grover & Katie Kerns

**HERSCHEL, KESSLER SR. & LILLY M. KESSLER,  
HERSCHEL S. KESSLER, JR., E. LEON IRONS & GRETA M. IRONS**  
by Lois Kessler & Family

**OUR DAUGHTER, SUSAN,  
PARENTS, O.C. AND MARJORIE MCDOWELL**  
by Dick & Becky McDowell

**SISTER, LAURA MARGARET MC MULLEN**  
by Clair & Trudy Carowick

**HUSBAND, PAUL MCQUAIN AND MOTHER, AUDREY JACK**  
by Sharon McQuain & Family

**PARENTS, MR. & MRS. RUSSELL MOORE, SR.  
AND GRANDPARENTS, MR. & MRS. R.C. TRIPPLETT**  
by Margaret Reiter

**HUSBAND, STANLEY PHARES, HIS PARENTS, MR. & MRS. VIRGIL  
PHARES AND HER PARENTS, MR. & MRS. LESLIE VANSCOY**  
by Mabel Phares

**RUBY POE**  
by Neil & Catherine Poe

**FLORENCE RENEAU**  
by Carolyn Shepler and Mary Smith

**RALPH AND MARY FRANCES SHEPLER**  
by Steve Shepler Family

**FAMILY**  
by Zan & Sarah White

**DAVID A. WILHELM**  
by Sue Wilmoth

**FAX & HOLLY WILLIAMS**  
by Tom Williams

**WIFE, NINA WILLIAMS**  
by Tom Williams

POINSETTIAS IN HONOR OF

**FRANK & DORA URSO**  
by Hugh & Kathy Hitchcock



CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO APPORTIONMENT  
IN MEMORY OF

**GINNY SCHOONOVER**  
by Tom, Jim, Bill and Mary Schoonover

CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO CHURCH BUDGET  
IN MEMORY OF

**ROBERT S. GAY**  
by Mary Ann Gay

**JOE GRAHAME**  
By Sandy Grahame

**PARENTS, JIM & MARY (NESTOR) HARTMAN**  
**AND BROTHER, JIM HENRY HARTMAN**  
by Russell and Lorryne Corley

**BILL & LAURADELL LEYLAND**  
by Mary Ann Gay and Kit Phillips

**LOVED ONES** by Syl & Carol Fretwell

**LOVED ONES** by Mary Skinner

**PAUL MCQUAIN, AUDREY JACK, ALVIN JACK**  
**AND WAYNE JACK**  
by Sharon McQuain and Family

**OUR LOVED ONES** by Buddy & Mary Rowan

**OUR PARENTS, HENRY & OLLIE VALENTINE**  
**AND WESLEY & BELVA HOGAN**  
by William & Elaine Valentine

**PARENTS**  
by Willard & Toni Herron



**PLEASE PICK UP YOUR POINSETTIA** after the **WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**11:00 AM OR CHRISTMAS EVE 7:00 PM**  
**OR 11:00 PM SERVICE!**

Appreciation to all who presented the poinsettias.



CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO CHURCH BUDGET  
IN MEMORY OF

**PARENTS; SONS, DARRYL AND STEVEN**  
by Don & Carrie Wetsch

**ROBERT N, SKINNER**  
by Mary Skinner

**BILL WILHELM AND DAVID WILHELM**  
by Rosalie Wilhelm

**KAYE WILMOTH**  
by Ralph E. Wilmoth

CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO CHURCH BUDGET  
IN HONOR OF

**BASIL & JANIS HENSLEY**  
by Chris & Diana Patella

**BASIL & JANIS HENSLEY**  
by Don & Carrie Wetsch

**MUSIC MINISTRIES**  
by Chris & Diana Patella

**OUR DAUGHTERS**  
by Jim & Cindy Stemple

**GALE POE**  
by Sandy Grahame

**BUDDY & MARY ROWAN**  
by Anonymous

**REV. BRIAN & SUSAN SEDERS**  
by Anonymous

**THEIR FAMILIES**  
By Bob & Sara Hinkle

**ROSALIE WILHELM**  
by NJ and Noah Patella

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