

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

**HOSPITALIZATIONS**

Garland Whittaker (Charlotte)

**RECUPERATING AT HOME**

Jerry Mallonee  
Andy Collins  
Check Mills  
Marjorie Reaves  
Virginia Brown  
Sarah Hoffman  
Wanda Sue Ammerman

**HOMEBOUND**

Paul & Lula Towery  
Martha Sigmon  
Joyce Potts  
Peggy Wright  
Bobbie Whisenant

**IN ASSISTED-LIVING FACILITIES**

**ABERNETHY LAURELS**

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

Joe Schell—Apt 205

**TRINITY RIDGE**

Odessa Whitmire—Room 807

**CAROLINA REHAB CENTER**

Peggy Miller—Room 110

**CV ASSISTED LIVING**

Mary Crump—Room 114

**ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER:**

Vae Hamilton            Wally Davis  
Jo Ann Simmons        Diane Loftin  
David Eckard

\*Bill Comby (Alicia Deal's father)  
\*Mason Archer (18-yr old undergoing  
chemo for leukemia)  
\*Deborah Godfrey (friend of Terra West  
& Kathleen Shuford)

**THE WORSHIP MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH**

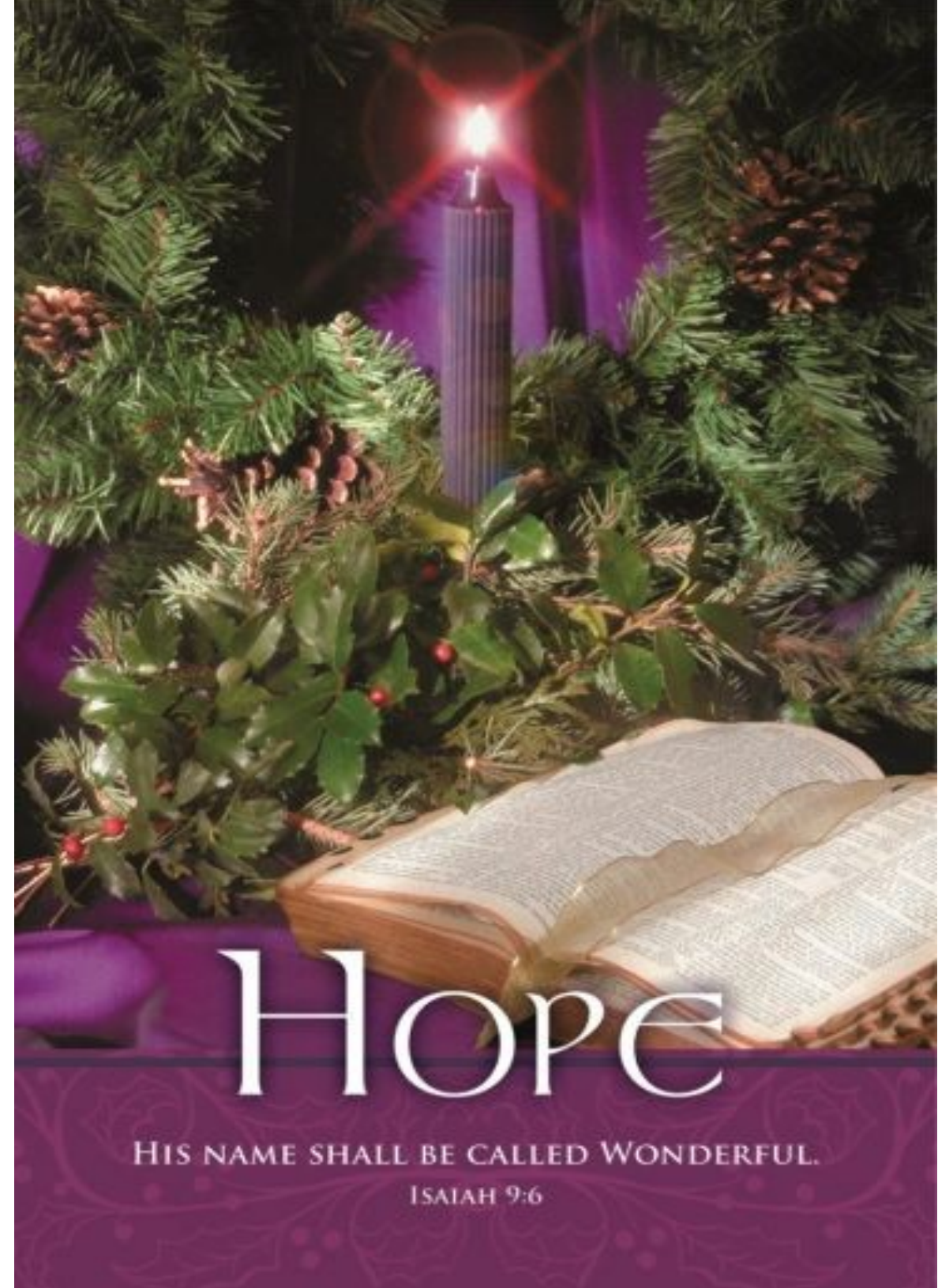
All Church Members, Ministers  
Rev. Peggy Stout, Pastor  
Rev. Jaha Seechang, Lahu Worship Leader  
Martha Caldwell, Director of Adult Traditional Choirs  
Marty Light, Organist  
Joe Hart, Financial Secretary  
Tamara McCarter, Church Secretary

**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)

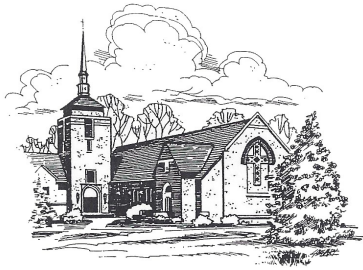
The Children's School Telephone: (828) 464-0057



# HOPE

HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL.

ISAIAH 9:6



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

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**NOVEMBER 29, 2020—10:30 A.M.**

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

**COMING BEFORE GOD**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Peggy Stout

**HYMN**

*"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*

Choral Ensemble

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Dennis Falder, Liturgist

Let us use this time of worship to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

***What must we do to be ready?***

We are to repent of our sins and vow to follow the teachings of Jesus in all our ways.

***Then, let us come before the Lord with penitent hearts and seek the power of the Holy Spirit to be faithful followers of Christ.***

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Dennis Falder, Liturgist

Christmas is coming, O Lord, and there are many preparations to be made if we are to be ready. Help us, we pray, to concentrate on clearing our minds and hearts of all that would distract us from the true meaning of this season. May our worship and our lives bring glory and honor to your name. Amen.

**PIANO INTROIT**

Marty Light (*recording*)

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Rev. Peggy Stout

Almighty God and Loving Father, when we think of preparing the way for the coming of your Son into the world, we are tempted to think of the changes that need to be made by others. We confess that far too often we overlook the fact that we need to straighten our the rough places in our own lives and fill the valleys of doubt that exist within us. Send your Holy Spirit to transform our thinking and our actions that we may be faithful and effective messengers of your Advent.

We ask all of this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who

***Our Advent Workshop has been cancelled for this year.***

The Board of Christian Education will be handing out **CRAFT KITS** that the children can do TODAY, immediately following Worship.

*(Please see Jessica Spain to get yours.)*



**THE TRINITY FOUNDATION** (Shuford Fund) will accept requests for funding of projects in 2021 ending on November 30, 2020. Final decision on projects will come in early 2021. **Application forms can be obtained in the church office.** Questions can be directed to Foundation Board members: Don Patrick, JV Randall, Jo Ann Simmons, Patsy Wells, or Greg Reitzel.



Becky Setzer is working on the **FLOWER CALENDAR** for 2021. If you would be interested in placing flowers in the church for Sunday Worship in 2021, please contact Becky at 828-962-5625 as soon as possible!

**Due to COVID-19, our annual CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS will be changed a bit this year.**

We will not have the poinsettia flowers at the church (due to space in the LEC), BUT we are giving you an opportunity to donate the poinsettia cost (\$10) in Honor or Memory of your loved ones.

*The money collected will go to Carolina Caring (Hospice).*

***If interested, please contact Tamara in the church office.***

**Salvation Army Bell-Ringers** are needed to help on Saturday, December 12th from 9:00am until 8:00pm at the Wal-Mart in Conover. Please be on the look-out for a sign-up sheet at church or call Tamara in the church office if you can help!





OLD TESTAMENT READING      *Isaiah 40:1-5*      Linda Hill, Lay Reader

SPECIAL MUSIC “*I Wander as I Wander*” Kathy Alexander & Choral Ensemble

GOSPEL READING      *Luke 3:2-3, 15-18*      Rev. Peggy Stout  
The Gospel of the Risen Christ.  
***All praise to you, Christ our Lord!***

SERMON      Rev. Peggy Stout

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

PASTORAL PRAYER      Rev. Peggy Stout

HYMN      “*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*”      Choral Ensemble

**OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS**

Invitation      Rev. Peggy Stout

Offertory

Doxology      “*Praise God From Whom 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      “*O Come All Ye Faithful*”      Choral Ensemble

\*BENEDICTION      Rev. Peggy Stout  
May you go in God’s love to share His grace; may Christ, His Son, reveal to you the path from darkness to light, and may the Holy Spirit help you bear the fruits of repentance and holiness this week. Amen.

\*POSTLUDE      Marty Light (*recording*)



**THE FLOWER** on the table today is given in Loving Memory of Grayson Wyatt Hill. - Given by his Great Aunt Deb

**THE ROSE** on the table today is given in honor of Laila McKenzie Whitworth, born on November 20th to parents Colby & Lauren Whitworth. Laila is Tim & Rhonda Lail’s grand-daughter— and JV & Patsy Randall’s great-grand-daughter.



OLD TESTAMENT READING      *Isaiah 40:1-5*

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup> A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

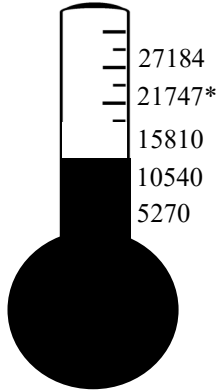
The Word of the Lord.  
***Thanks be to God!***

\*GOSPEL READING      *Luke 3:2-3, 15-18*

<sup>2</sup> during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, “I baptize you with<sup>l</sup> water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with<sup>l</sup> the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” <sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

The Gospel of the Risen Christ.  
***All praise to You, Christ our Lord!***



<u>ATTENDANCE FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER</u>						
	Lahu	10:30am	5:00pm	Total	SS	Envelope Giving
November 01	—	75	—	75	—	\$ 2,588.00
November 08	—	70	—	70	—	\$ 3,722.52
November 15	—	74	—	74	—	\$ 2,422.50
November 22	—	65	—	65	—	\$ 3,551.00
November 29						
<b>TOTALS</b>	—	284	—	284	—	\$ 12,284.02

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

## This Week

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

#### First Sunday of Advent

- 10:30am—Traditional Worship (LEC)
- 10:30am—Radio Broadcast (90.5FM—in the parking lot)
- 10:30am—LIVE stream available on church Facebook and website

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

#### Second Sunday of Advent

- 10:30am—Traditional Worship (LEC)
- 10:30am—Radio Broadcast (90.5FM—in the parking lot)
- 10:30am—LIVE stream available on church Facebook and website
- 11:30am—Consistory Meeting

#### REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

**Liturgist:** Natalie Inman  
**Lay Reader:** Dr. Thomas Hamilton  
**Advent Readers:** Stacy & Jillian Helton  
**Flower Calendar:** Jayne Abernethy

taught us to pray:

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 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.***

#### LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Ted & Becky Setzer

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 candles.

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. Our hope in Christ gives us strength to go on when we want to quit. When we light the candle of hope, we embrace God's presence among us—yesterday, today, and always.

Let us pray:

***O God, we thank you that Jesus brought hope into the human family. By the good news of the Bible and the leading of the Holy Spirit you are still bringing hope to your people. Help us during this season to be ready to welcome Jesus as our Savior and each day to reaffirm our discipleship in Him. Amen.***

**PRAISE RESPONSE** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (vs 4) Choral Ensemble  
*O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;  
 Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.  
 We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
 O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!*

#### LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Linda Hill, Lay Reader

***Holy God, open our minds to the scriptures that they may become living words. Stir our hearts, challenge our thinking, and transform our actions that they may reflect the light and hope of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.***