

REMEMBER IN PRAYER & with your cards, calls, visits

RECUPERATING AT HOME

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

HOMEBOUND

Paul & Lula Towery
Martha Sigmon

IN ASSISTED-LIVING FACILITIES

ABERNETHY LAURELS

Mary Schell—Room 1013
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

CONOVER NURSING & REHAB

Bobbie Whisenant—Room 402

TRINITY RIDGE

Odessa Whitmire—Room 807

CAROLINA REHAB CENTER

Peggy Miller—Room 110

CV ASSISTED LIVING

Mary Crump—Room 114

ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER:

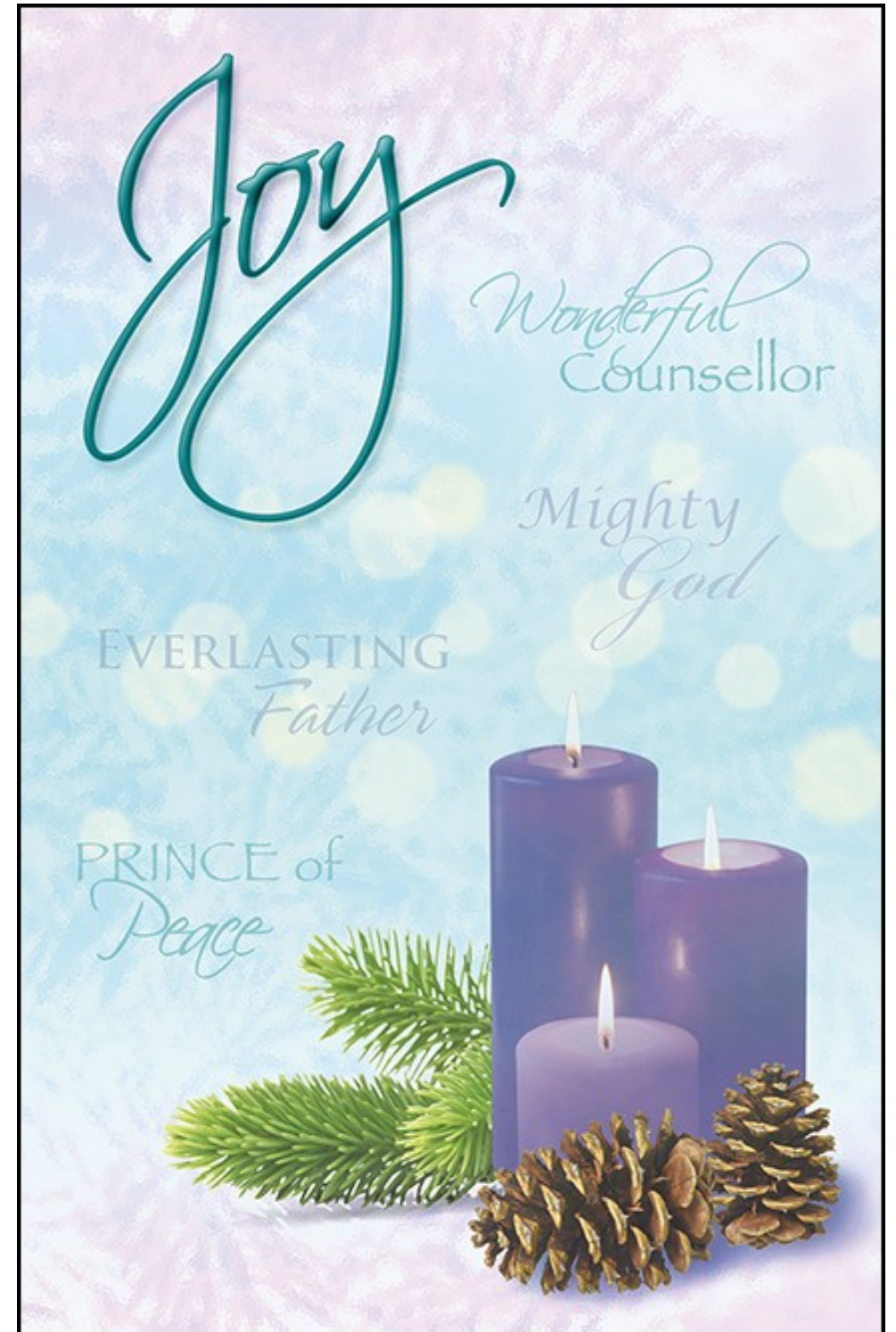
Diane Loftin
Alma Barringer
Peggy Wright
Donna Griffin Cox
Debbie Spencer-Ahrens & mother,
Gloria DiSanto
Will Hill & Samantha Berry

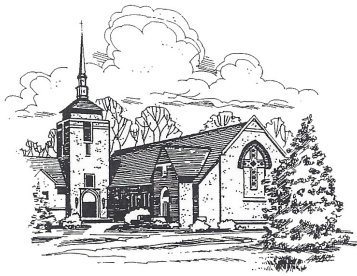
THE WORSHIP MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

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

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Conover, NC 28613
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Office Hours: 8:30am - 3:30pm
Web site: www.trinitytoday.org
E-mail address: trinityucc@trucc.net
The Children's School Telephone: (828) 464-0057





Trinity Reformed
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 15, 2019—10:30 A.M.

**Designates -“Those who are able may stand”*

COMING BEFORE GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Peggy Stout

PRELUDE

Josh Herman, Guest Organist

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(responsively)*

Rev. Peggy Stout

The Lord has done great things for us--***And we are filled with joy!***
 Let us sing our praises to the God of our salvation.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

#377 Blue Book

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION** *(Unison)*

Dawn Wilson, Liturgist

Holy God, increase our longing for Christ the Savior, that the dawn of His coming may find us rejoicing in His presence and welcoming the light of His truth. Amen.

***INTROIT**

Chancel Choir—Martha Caldwell, Director

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Responsively)*

Dawn Wilson, Liturgist

Holy and Merciful God, in whom all things are possible, we confess that we often doubt what we cannot explain. We so easily forget that “all is possible with you.” ***Have mercy on us, O God!*** We often go our own way, get ourselves into trouble, and then wonder where you are. ***Have mercy on us, O God!*** We ask for signs that you are there and you have been there all along, patiently waiting for us to turn to you for guidance. But, we don’t see or hear you.

Have mercy on us, O God! Enter into our hearts and minds afresh and restore to us the joy of our salvation. Grant that we may see you at work in our world and join you in building your kingdom on earth.

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

Our Father, who art 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 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.)

TODAY, immediately following Worship, the Youth will hold a Christmas Get-Together upstairs in the Youth Room. We will have lunch, work on Christmas cards, and enjoy each other’s company for the afternoon. Parents may pick youth up at 2:30pm.



TONIGHT, our Kidz Club will perform their **Christmas Pageant** at 5:00pm. The title of the Pageant is “How the Grinch Found Christ in Christmas.”

Come join us for our play—and stay after to join us for **Supper**. After Supper, we will go **Christmas Caroling!**



Good Timers:

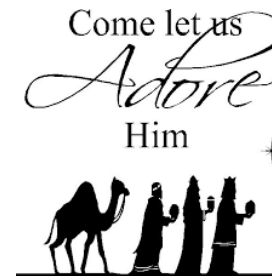
Christmas at The Cove (Asheville, NC)

Monday, December 16—Time: ?

Celebrate the birth of our Savior! Enjoy a special evening of fellowship, a Christmas dinner, and the joyful music of inspiring singers. Please contact Dianne Propst (828-256-5803) for more information.

Brotherhood:

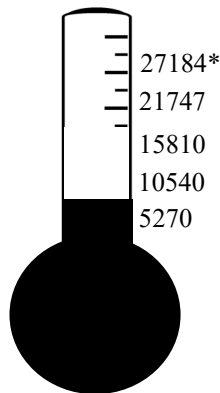
Cheer Basket Delivery to our Homebound Members and Shut-ins—Saturday, December 21 at 9:00am. Please join us in the Sun Room for light breakfast and coffee. We will have maybe 25 baskets to deliver and we need your help!



Next Sunday, December 22—At 10:30am, our Chancel Choir will present their **Christmas Cantata**, “A Great and Mighty Wonder.” *Veteran composer/arranger, Tom Fettke, takes us again to Bethlehem to experience the fulfillment of God’s plan in a humble manger. Beloved and familiar carols along with new texts and melodies are masterfully blended to create a Christmas worship experience as again we are invited to celebrate the great and mighty wonder of God’s love!*

At 5:00pm, Clean Slate will present “**A Festival of Carols**” - followed by Supper. Band Members: Marty & Kellie Light, Kim Vollinger, Chrystal Dieter, Tim Key, Jennifer & Thomas Dufour. Don’t miss this wonderful program!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—“Carols, Candles, & Communion”
 Tuesday, December 24th—7:00pm



<u>ATTENDANCE FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER</u>							
	Lahu	10:30am	5:00pm	Total	SS	Envelope Giving	
December 01	14	139	55	208	51	\$ 3,972.00	
December 08	16	129	—	145	—	\$ 4,055.00	
December 15							
December 22							
December 29							
TOTALS	30	268	55	353	51	\$ 8,027.00	

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

This Week



Kids' Traditional Treat Bags will be passed-out TODAY during Sunday School OR tonight at 4:00pm (before the Christmas Pageant). **Don't forget to pick yours up today!**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Third Sunday of Advent

9:15am—S.S. Assembly
9:30am—Sunday School (all ages)
10:30am—Traditional & Lahu Worship
11:45am—Youth Group Get-Together
5:00pm—Children's Christmas Pageant—"How the Grinch Found Christ in Christmas"
5:45pm—Supper
6:15pm—Christmas Caroling

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

*Good Timers Outing to the Cove

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00pm—Choir Practice

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

9:00am—Prayer Shawl Meeting @ Kathleen Shuford's
12:00pm—Preschool Program, "T'was the Night Before Christmas"
6:00pm—Sweet Adelines'

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

Preschool CLOSED

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00am—Delivery of Cheer Baskets

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:15am—S.S. Assembly
9:30am—Sunday School (all ages)
10:30am—Christmas Cantata!
5:00pm—Faith Alive! Christmas Program, "A Festival of Carols"
6:00pm—Supper

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY Michael, Jennifer, Nathan & Addyson Lingle
When Jesus was born, the angels said that his coming was good news of great joy for all people (Luke 2:10). When Christ comes into our lives, He brings the fullness of His joy. Isaiah the prophet said, "He anoints our hearts with the oil of gladness." Because Christ has come to us and is coming again, we can live every day in the joy of the Lord. During the past two Sun days, we have lit the candles of hope and peace. Today, we light the candle of JOY. (Please light the candle.)

As the flame of the candle begins to burn, let the joy and wonder of the God-given child sing in your hearts and let your voices share the song of the angels—the song of heaven on earth.

Let us pray: (Unison)

Holy God, let your Spirit sing in our hearts; let your song of joy fill our world. As we wait through the Advent season for the baby Jesus' birth, let the glorious angels lead us to the place where the Christ would be born today. Amen.

PRAISE RESPONSE "Away in a Manger" (vs 3) #187 Blue Book
Be near me, Lord Jesus! I ask Thee to stay Close by me forever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

BAPTISM AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS Rev. Peggy Stout
(Amanda and Matthew Steller)

CHILDREN'S SERMON Jessica Spain

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison) Duane Alexander, Lay Reader
Guide us, O God, that as your Word is read and proclaimed that we may open our hearts to Christ, receive Him with joy, and serve Him faithfully. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 146:5-10 Duane Alexander, Lay Reader
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM Chancel Choir—Martha Caldwell, Director

***GOSPEL READING** Luke 1:26-38 Rev. Peggy Stout
The Gospel of the Risen Christ.
All praise to you, Christ our Lord!

SERMON

“A Baby Changes Everything”

Rev. Peggy Stout



RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

ORGAN MEDITATION

Josh Herman

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Apostle’s Creed*)

Rev. Peggy Stout

Let us confess the faith of our baptism:

***I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is at the
right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living
and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

*HYMN

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

#178 Blue Book

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

Invitation

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.***

Rev. Peggy Stout

*Prayer

*HYMN

“Joy to the World”

#171 Blue Book

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Peggy Stout

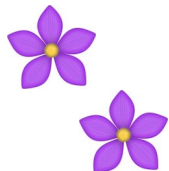
*CHORAL RESPONSE

Chancel Choir

*CHIMES

*POSTLUDE

Josh Herman



THE FLOWERS on the altar today are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Honor of our granddaughter, Raegan Annsleigh Kilby’s, 8th birthday on December 14th.
- Given by Mike and Dawn Kilby

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 146:5-10

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; ⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; ⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. ⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. ¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

***GOSPEL READING**

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, ‘Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.’ ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’ ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ ³⁵ The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.’ ³⁸ Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Risen Christ.

All praise to you, Christ our Lord!

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: Linda Hill

Ushers for December: Consistory

REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Liturgist: Jennifer Lingle

Lay Reader: Deb Hill

Treasurer Assistant: Sandy Lawrence

Flower Calendar: Poinsettias

Advent Readers: Judy Irwin, Soliel,

Jaiden & Jax Seechang