

Worship OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship

8:30 & 11 a.m. – Nave

A Change of Mind

Rev. Chuck Starks

Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24 - Nave
Holy Communion and Candlelight

Noon

Traditional service with soloists

3 PM

Service crafted especially for families with young children

5:30 & 10:30 PM

Traditional service with movements from Vivaldi's *Gloria* presented by the Parish Adult Choir, Organ, and Strings. Childcare provided at 5:30 service.

Sunday, December 29

First Sunday after Christmas

Worship

11 a.m. ONLY – Nave

Sunday School at 9:40 a.m.

Time to Go

Rev. Chuck Starks

Matthew 2:13-23

HAPPENING AT CHURCH STREET

Please Volunteer for Christmas Eve Worship

Please scan the QR code at right or call Gabe Blake at 865-300-8186 to sign up to **GREEN** Christmas worshipers at Church Street. There are still several time slots in which we need this critical hospitality support. **USHERS** are needed for the 10:30 pm Christmas Eve service. If you are able to help out, please call the front office at 524-3048.



Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 22

All are invited to the annual Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 22, at 10 am, in the gym. (Children should go to the Children's Hall at 9:40 to prepare.) Join our children and families as we gather for this festive and meaningful event celebrating the story of Jesus' birth the Sunday before Christmas. Cocoa, cookies, and coffee to follow as we enjoy this event together in the gym.



Holiday Hours & Closings

The Pastor-on-Call number is 865-320-9100. Please make note of the following holiday closings of the church:

- **December 24-26:** Church Offices are closed.
- **December 26:** No Soup Kitchen.
- **January 1:** Church Offices are closed.



Listening Circles Feedback Report Scheduled for January

We had nearly 300 youth and adult members join in conversation with Dr. Gilliam and Rev. Hixon in November, plus another 90 persons offered online contributions after the weekend. Thank you to all for your participation. Now it's time to learn what was shared and begin to discern next steps. Craig and Stephanie will present their findings on **Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 3:00 pm**. A short social gathering open to all

will begin at 2:30 pm in the Welcome Center with coffee and cookies.

This report will not be shared with anyone prior to our gathering as a congregation. Afterwards, Craig and Stephanie will work with the church to identify a response to what is reported. Everyone - those who participated in a listening circle as well as those who did not - are invited to attend this report. We look forward seeing you on January 11!

All are Welcome at Church Street!

We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God's image. We welcome and celebrate the gifts God has given to all persons without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, disability, status, economic condition, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religious affiliation. We respect diversity of opinion and expressions of Christian faith. We believe God loves everyone unconditionally! As God loves us, so let us love and serve in the name of Christ.

Calendar: December 22 - January 4

Worship

Worship
 Sunday, 12/22, 8:30 & 11 am,
 Nave
 Sunday, 12/29, 11 am only, Nave
Rejoice! TV Broadcast
 Sundays, 8:00 am, WVLT-TV
 Christmas Eve Worship
 Tuesday, 12/24, Nave
 12 pm, 3 pm, 5:30 pm, 10:30 pm

Sunday School
9:40 AM

Meetings & Ministry

Advent Bible Study
 Sunday, 12/22, 5 pm, rm-201A
 Benevolence Team
 Mondays, 12 pm, Office

Children & Youth

Christmas Pageant
 Sunday, 12/22, 10 am, Gym

Music

Parish Adult Choir Rehearsal
 Monday, 12/23, 7 pm, Nave

Singles & Fellowship

Bridge Group
 Mondays, 6 pm, rm-201C
 Singles Game Night
 Friday, 12/27, 6:30 pm, CLC-124
 Friday Fun Nights Dances
 Friday, 1/3, 7 pm, Gym

Beacon of Hope

BOH Benevolence Team
 Tuesdays, 12 pm, Vestal UMC
 BOH Food Co-Op
 Thursday, 1/2, 9:30 am,
 Vestal UMC

UMW

Lydia Circle
 Friday, 1/3, 12 pm, Chiles Room

Next Messenger

Our next *Messenger* will be published on December 31. If you have an article or photo to submit to the next Messenger, please submit it no later than Sunday, December 29 at noon to communications@churchstreetumc.org.

Honorariums

In honor of:

- **Sue Hung**
Soup Kitchen: Mary W. Huang
- **All United Methodist Women**
UMCOR: Janice Hixson
- **Suzanne Matheny**
Music Ministry: Larry & Vickie Butler
- **Pastors & Church Program Staff**
Building Fund: Seekers Sunday School Class

Memorials

In memory of:

- **John Longmire**
Soup Kitchen: Jim Boehms
Building Fund: The Longmire Family, Larry & Vickie Butler, Jo Wieggers, Linda Smithers, Gary Bevins
- **Sue Cox**
Building Fund: David & Betty Craig, Ann Warwick, Janice Hixson, Tom & Ginger Hood, Crossroads Sunday School Class, Vicky Gardner, Ann Marie Tugwell, John & Cindy Hollingsworth, Kit Brown, Anonymous
Soup Kitchen: Jim Boehms
Memorial Fund: Phillip Jones
- **Lucille Darden**
Youth Ministry: Anonymous

Mark Your Calendar

Please make note of the following important January dates and activities at Church Street.

Soup Kitchen Open

Thursday, January 2, 11 am

UMW Sunday & Toilet Paper Drive

Sunday, January 12

Children / Youth Activities Resume

Sunday, January 5

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday - CSUMC Closed

Monday, January 20

Yoga Resumes

Monday, January 6, 7 pm

Resurrection (Youth)

January 24-26

Midday Worship and Lunch (\$8) Resume

Wednesday, January 8, 12 pm

Master Arts Series Organ Recital with Dr. Edie Johnson

Tuesday, January 28, 7:30 pm

Listening Circles Feedback Report

Saturday, January 11, 3 pm

Join us!

Scenes from the Season of Advent



CLERGY CONNECTION

Together, let's think about *John the Baptist at Advent*

During the month of December, I have been preaching the Wednesday noon services. Last week after the service, one of our regular attendees asked me a question: why was I preaching about John the Baptist being jailed and beheaded during Advent? I thought this was a great question, so I'm going to use this column to share the answer more widely.

The short answer is John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare the way for Jesus. So the Revised Common Lectionary (a schedule of readings for each Sunday of the Christian year shared in common by many different denominations, and used to guide the preparation of weekly Sunday worship), which we follow at Church Street, focuses on John's ministry for a couple of weeks every year during Advent. Because at Church Street we typically have special music programs during Advent, Sunday morning worshipers, especially those who have come to Church Street from a tradition that didn't follow the lectionary, may not be as familiar with the traditional texts associated with the season.

The longer answer is that Advent began as a season of preparation, much like Lent. It is a season marked by confession and repentance as we prepare not just for the celebration of the birth of Jesus into the world, but also for his coming again in final glory. As such, the season begins with texts that offer dire warnings about the end times. Consider, for example, the reading from Matthew for the First Sunday in Advent, which I preached about a few weeks ago:

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming."

Doesn't sound very Christmasy, right?

It's kind of the opposite of what we associate with getting into the "Christmas Spirit." That's because it isn't Christmas. Not yet. It is still Advent.

From these stark warnings about the need to be prepared at all times the First Sunday, the second and third Sundays in Advent follow the ministry of John the Baptist as he calls his followers to repentance as preparation for the one who is coming after him, the one whose sandals he is not worthy to untie. Finally, on the Fourth Sunday, we get to readings that seem a little more "Christmasy" — the role of Joseph in Matthew this year, or last year, Mary's visit to see her cousin Elizabeth, or the angel's visit to announce to Mary that she is pregnant by the Holy Spirit.

In this holy season, may we all hear and heed the call to prepare the way of the Lord!

— Rev. Dawn Chesser

If you have more questions about Advent, please ask Rev. Chesser or email her at dchesser@churchstreetumc.org.



Clockwise from far left, pages 2 & 3: Rev. Cantler leads Children's Worship on December 15; Tim Ward directs children and youth choirs on December 8; Worship on December 8 by youth and children's choirs; December 12 Master Arts Series Christmas Concert with Knoxville Chamber Chorale and West HS Singers; Powell Richardson and Rev. Starks assist Steve and Mary Ellis Richardson on the Second Sunday of Advent; Trio Hannah Berkley, Erin Johnson, and Meghan Mayes present "The Apple Tree" with the Parish Adult Choir on December 15; Carter HS Musical Theater Class share a holiday prelude to a Midweek Advent Service. Photos by the Poveda Family and CSUMC Communications.

Poinsettias are given to the glory of God in memory of the following

In Memory of:

Anne & Neil Jourolmon
Letha Duncan
Margaret & Earl Ailor
Fran and Bill Sarrett
Brodie & Grace Baynes
David & Polly Anna Harris
Lewis & Sara Dickson
Fred Stalcup
Holland Stalcup
Miss Helen A. Diddle
James A. Shaver
Harold V. Kelley
Dorthea K. Kelley
Our Parents
Clay J. Patton, Jr.
Rhett & Hazel Johnson
Harold & Nettie Lee Wimberly
Dr. Charles Glennon Rowell
Hugh Hixson
Ted Pennoyer
Shelby Hord
Tom Hord
Freda Mann
Mazie Chesser
Sylvia Danforth
Rev. Tom Redding
Mr. & Mrs. Richard D. Reeder, Sr.
Richard D. Reeder, Jr.
James R. Carroll, Sr.
Don and Wilma Ferguson
Carl and Betty Bell
Kenneth Bloomer
John Findley Robbins, Sr.
John Findley Robbins, Jr.
Sue Shannon Robbins
Jantina Tallman
Cathy Fern Shearin
George & Lucile Dominick
Ruth and Frank DeFriesse
Dr. Arvell Luttrell
Mr. & Mrs. Jackson C. Kramer
Mr. & Mrs. W. Ingram James
Our Parents
Chuck Poore
Sam Carder
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Conley Poore
Brodie & Grace Baynes
Sue Cox
Rev. Cabel & Doris Trent
John & Polly Sullivan
Bryan Sullivan Coker
Ray & Mae Long
Ruth & Wilton Lynch
Jane & Jerry Parker
Ron Lynch
Dr. Jerry Atkins
Rueben A. Hunter
Ron Schaefer
Our Parents
Rebecca Anne Rimmer Brookshire
Jean Rickels
Jimmy & Billie Jo Cox
Charles Mason
Louis Browning

Given by:

Jim & Charlotte LaFevor
Jim & Charlotte LaFevor
Jim & Charlotte LaFevor
Jim & Charlotte LaFevor
Stephanie B. Womack & Marcia Lee Baynes
David & Patti Harris
Nancy D. & Barry Christmas
Clay, Staci, Seth, Aiden, Caroline, Benjamin & Freddie Stalcup
Clay, Staci, Seth, Aiden, Caroline, Benjamin & Freddie Stalcup
Dan & Julia Kelley
Dan & Julia Kelley
Dan & Julia Kelley
Dan & Julia Kelley
Bob & Mary Carmichael
Mrs. C.J. Patton, Jr.
Harold, Sarah & Chris Wimberly
Harold, Sarah & Chris Wimberly
Harold, Sarah & Chris Wimberly
Harold, Sarah & Chris Wimberly
Harold, Sarah & Chris Wimberly
John & Sandy Mann
John & Sandy Mann
John & Sandy Mann
Scot Danforth & Dawn Chesser
Scot Danforth & Dawn Chesser
Gail Redding, Jayme, Missy & Avery Taylor
Dr. & Mrs. James R. Carroll, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. James R. Carroll, Jr.
The Carroll Family
Andy & Celia Ferguson
Andy & Celia Ferguson and Rachel & Alan Burley
Marion Robbins Bloomer
Marion Robbins Bloomer
Marion Robbins Bloomer
Marion Robbins Bloomer
Alice & Tina Tallman
The Atkins Family
George & Jane Dominick
Susan Dominick
Kay & Family
The Jay Kramer Family
The Jay Kramer Family
Dwight & Jan Wade
Anita, Keller, Anthony, Lucy & Carder Poore
Anita, Keller, Anthony, Lucy & Carder Poore
Anita, Keller, Anthony, Lucy & Carder Poore
Elizabeth Reagon
Elizabeth Reagon
Tommye Jordan
Jeanie Philipps
Jeanie Philipps
Audrey (Long) & Rick Carroll
Jo, David & Jack Lynch
Jo, David & Jack Lynch
Jo, David & Jack Lynch
Jo, David & Jack Lynch
Pat Hunter & Family
Randy & Janice McCoy-Williams
Vance & Davette Gregory
Elizabeth F. Green
Donald Rickels
Doug & Malessa Mason
Doug & Malessa Mason
Emily Browning

Poinsettias are given to the glory of God in honor of the following

In Honor of:

Jan & Dwight Wade
Elizabeth Reagon
Tom & Ann Callcott
Tom & Ann Callcott
Paula Morrison
Sarah Wimberly & Family
Larry & Jan Kerr
Freddie Stalcup
Ann D. Shaver
George & Lou McNutt
Powell Richardson
George & Lou McNutt
Cody & Katryn Bancroft
Barry & Nancy Christmas
Sarah Wimberly
Dr. & Mrs. Wayne T. Davis
Dr. & Mrs. Wayne T. Davis
Dr. & Mrs. Wayne T. Davis
Sarah & Harold Wimberly
Nancy & Barry Christmas
Barbara & Jim Langford
Mary Lewis
Sandy & John Mann
Marion Bloomer
Jane & George Dominick
Verna McLain & Herman Sain
Larry & Loretta Best
Bobbie Carder
Rev. Chuck Starks
Nancy Starnes
Simon, Natalie & Ben Kupczyk
Don & Fran Wheeler
Janice Hixson
Stan & Sandra Inman
Harold & Sarah Wimberly

Given by:

Jim & Charlotte LaFevor
Stephanie B. Womack & Marcia Lee Baynes
Margaret, Becky, John, Jennifer & Steve
Ella, Thomas & Michael
David & Patti Harris
Barry & Nancy Christmas
Clay, Staci, Seth, Aiden, Caroline & Benjamin Stalcup
Clay, Staci, Seth, Aiden, Caroline & Benjamin Stalcup
Dan & Julia Kelley
Stan & Sandra Inman
Stan & Sandra Inman
Harold, Sarah & Chris Wimberly
Harold, Sarah & Chris Wimberly
Harold, Sarah & Chris Wimberly
John & Sandy Mann
Scott Brown, IV
Stuart Brown
Taylor Brown
Ann Warwick
Ann Warwick
Ann Warwick
Ann Warwick
Ann Warwick
Ann Warwick
Nancy Christmas
Susan Dominick
Susan Dominick
Children, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren
Anita, Keller, Anthony, Lucy & Carder Poore
Murphy Builders Class
Murphy Builders Class
Judy & Brad Thompson
Jo, David & Jack Lynch
Lou McNutt
George & Lou McNutt
George & Lou McNutt

Our Prayers

Home from the Hospital:

Sharon Murphy
Jim Reego
Bert Ritchie

Christian love and sympathy to:

The family of Jack Houston, uncle of Susie Siler and Mary Carroll, who died on November 29.

The family of Brian Busker, nephew of Mary Dagel, who died December 7.

The family of Carol Reeder McNish, who died on December 15.

The family of James Enoch, father of Jeri Strong and grandfather of Alex and Nick Strong, who died on December 16.

Our Presence: December 15

Sunday School	271
Sunday Worship	865

Our Gifts: December 15

Operating Budget	\$120,108.90
Building Fund	\$36,495.00
Other	\$7,350.43

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 11/30/2019

Operating Budget Update

Contributions

Budget 2019:	\$2,143,285
Received Contributions	
<u>Year to Date:</u>	<u>\$1,806,519</u>
Shortfall	\$336,766

GIVE PLUS⁺

Give Plus App

It's easier than ever to tithe and give to Church Street. In three steps, you can download, set up, and give directly from a secure mobile giving app. Please search for the GivePlus app in your App Store or Google Play, select Church Street UMC, and begin your donation.

Our Church Family

IN MEMORIAM

Carol Reeder McNish

Joined: 3/26/1972 Died: 12/15/2019

Wedding

David Maulick and Jessica Goodson were married on December 14 in Knoxville, officiated by Rev. Bill Fowler, assisted by Thomas Stubbs.

Advent Wreath



The Advent Wreath is given in loving memory of Dr. Lucian Trent, Edward & Kathleen Crawford, and Wilmer & Jo Loveless by Mike & Mary Crawford.

LECTIONARY READINGS

December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

December 29

First Sunday After Christmas

Isaiah 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23

Contact Us

Church Office [\(865\) 524-3048](tel:(865)524-3048)

Hours: Mon.– Fri., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fax number (865) 521-0288

Pastor On-Call Number [\(865\) 320-9100](tel:(865)320-9100)

For emergencies, call the On-Call Number and the pastor on call will answer or you may leave a message and the pastor will return your call.

www.churchstreetumc.org

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Twitter: [@ChurchStreetUMC](https://twitter.com/ChurchStreetUMC) and

Instagram: [churchstreetumc](https://www.instagram.com/churchstreetumc)

Staff Directory

Dial 521-0 + extension

Senior Pastor Chuck Starks–260

Senior Associate Pastor Dawn Chesser–279

Associate Pastor Palmer Cantler–298

Minister of Spiritual Enrichment Jan Wade–264

Visitation Pastors

Rev. Andy Ferguson, 865-806-0086

Rev. Jim Bailes, 865-919-8328

Director of Music Ministries Tim Ward–276

Music Associate/Organist Edie Johnson–277

Children's Ministry Katelyn Bancroft–282

Child Care Coordinator

Sarah Burtch, 865-567-0913

Youth/College Ministries Jenny Cross–287

Preschool Director Beth Libby: 524-3511

Church Administrator Kate Spencer–268

Bookkeeper Francine Jenne–267

Administrative Assistant Kelly Woods–262

Executive Secretary Doris Lively–271

Receptionist Nancy Keen–270

Part-time Secretary Eileen Weber–278

Director of Communications Katie Strangis –299

Sterchi Lodge Caretakers

Jack & Barbara Bratton, 828-622-3524

Maintenance Supervisor Keith Bailey–295

Head Custodian Jeffery Rose–274

Custodians: Dedra Ellison, Robin Crain,
Kevin Bailey, Jacob Jenne

Beacon of Hope Dona McConnell: 599-5047



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