

Prayers of the People

Rachel Broome, Julia Cauble, Sue Auten, Frances Woodyard,
Betsy Noblett, Allen & Carolyn Reese, The Hendricks Family,
all who struggle in this holiday season

To share confidential or community prayer, please make a note on the Connection Card in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate. You may also use the Connection Card to indicate your desire to receive the Myers Prayer Chain.

Next Sunday we look forward to receiving new members into Myers Memorial UMC. Should you wish to become a member, please note it on today's Connection Card or contact Pastor Sarah 704-864-3222.

Love Feast Luminary Orders Due Tomorrow (Bulletin Insert) *previously known as Light A Candle For* years it's been a tradition to light luminaries on the night of the Love Feast, bringing light in a dark world. This year, you are encouraged to make a financial gift in honor or in memory of loved ones and friends as we continue to shine a light. A booklet will be distributed and luminaries will be lit at our Love Feast on December 10 at 7p. The amount could be the traditional \$1 per name or a larger donation. *Names cannot not be included in the booklet unless payment and information is received by tomorrow, December 4. This is a firm deadline.*



A Christmas Gift to Christ

The manger at the front of the Sanctuary is awaiting *your* Christmas Gift to Christ. The people of Myers Memorial have been challenged to give sacrificially so that the financial commitments made to the 2017 annual budget may be fulfilled before the end of 2017. The finance committee and Pastor Sally challenge us to give Generously and Sacrificially.

We believe that God calls us during this season to celebrate the depth of God's love as found in the Christ child. What better way to honor baby Jesus, than by making a financial gift in addition to your tithe and offerings you faithfully give to the ministry budget each week. This additional gift will be your Christmas gift to Christ. The manger is awaiting your Christmas gift to Christ and you may bring this forward during the opening hymn.

The goal is to have everyone, from the youngest to the oldest committed to achieve the goal so that we may again celebrate what God can do when we are faithful. Thank you for partnering with Myers Memorial for mission and ministry.

We believe that the local church is the heart of God's redemptive plan for the world, and is worthy of our prayers, presence, service, witness, and financial support. If you have a question about the financial commitment you made to Myers Memorial for 2017, please contact Angie Rutledge at Cherry Bekaert, 704-671-3662 or arutledge@cbh.com.

This Week at Myers Memorial UMC

Sunday, December 3 Communion

Angel Tree Donations Deadline
8a UMMen & UMWomen Breakfast
9a Health Screenings
9a Soulfire
9a Focus Prayer Group, Tower
9:30a Coffee Fellowship, CFC
9:45a Sunday School for all Ages
10:50a Worship, Sanctuary
5p Children's Caroling & Advent Party
5:15p Youth Hayride - McAdenville
5:30p Disciple 1 Fast Track, E-105

Monday, December 4

Luminary & Poinsettia Orders Due
6:30p Disciple II, Asbury
6:30p Cub/Boy Scouts, Scout Hut

Tuesday, December 5

10a GriefShare, Parlor
11a Al-Anon, Asbury
6p Girl Scouts, First Floor
6:30p Chancel Hand Bells, Music Suite
6:30p Disciple IV, E-105
6:30p Divorce Care/DC4Kids

Wednesday, December 6

9:15a Women's Bible Study, Asbury
10a Staff Meeting, Parlor
6p Men's Bible Study, Asbury
6p Knit for Christ, Parlor
7p Chancel Choir, Music Suite

Thursday, December 7

6p Men's Basketball, CFC
7p Chancel Choir, Music Suite
8p Narcotics Anonymous, Downstairs

Friday, December 8

7:15a Prayer & Devotion, Parlor

Saturday, December 9

7a Scout Pancake Breakfast, CFC

Sunday, December 10 Gingerbread Sunday

New Member Sunday
9a Focus Prayer Group, Tower
9:30a Coffee Fellowship, CFC
9:45a Sunday School for all Ages
10:50a Worship, Sanctuary
12p Youth Caroling
7p Love Feast

Light Dawns - Love Grows - Hope Blooms

Justice Comes - In Peace & Joy

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:50am Christmas Eve Worship at 5:30p

Sunday Servants

Head Usher: Ken Avery Crucifer: Reagan Osbourne

Acolytes: Brianna Lambert & Ella Queen

Nursery: Linsy Aul, Jennifer Gross

Coffee Time Hosts Next Sunday: Nurture Committee

A Record of Our Faithfulness

Sunday, November 26, 2017

Worship: 206 Online Worship: 12 Sunday School: 114

Offering Received last Sunday: \$19,413

Offering Received year-to-date: \$560,744



Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

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www.MyersMemorialUMC.org

704-864-3222

Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

December 3, 2017

Light Dawns

First Sunday in Advent

Welcome to Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

Our vision is to be Christ Inspired...People Centered...Service Driven.

We hope you are moved by the Spirit to love one another as Christ loves us! In this bulletin you will find a Connection Card that can be used to share information with the pastor and church office. You can also use it to express interest in events, activities, ministries, reserve your spot for Wednesday Connect Meals, share prayer concerns or comments. Please use it to note your attendance in worship today and return it during the offering as a way of offering yourself to God this week.

Additionally, if you have any prayer concerns or celebrations that you would like shared during worship, please write clearly on the prayer card found in the pew and bring it to the railing at the front of the Sanctuary during the first hymn.

Children are always welcome in this place! There are 'busy bags' at each entrance to the sanctuary for children to use and return. There is also age appropriate nursery care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers should they wish to play. All children are invited to participate in worship and the older Nursery children will join us for the Children's Message. Please ask any member or usher to guide you to the Nursery area.

Should you need a restroom, the closest is just outside the rear of the sanctuary, women's room is to the right as you exit and the men's room to the left. A changing table is located just inside in the women's restroom.

Please recycle this bulletin by taking it with you and use the information throughout the week or by placing it in the blue recycle bins located outside the Sanctuary

December 3, 2017 Susan Martello, Liturgist 10:50am

Order of Worship

Gathering for Worship

Parish Notices

When you see the asterisks [*], please stand as you are able.
Bold print is used for congregational responses.
UMH = United Methodist Hymnal, the navy hardbound book in the pew
TFWS = The Faith We Sing, the black softback songbook in the pew
WS = Worship ⊕ Song, the green softback songbook in the pew.

Welcome ⊕ Announcements

* Passing the Peace of Christ
Offer signs of greeting in the name of Jesus to those seated around you.

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude *Savior of the Nations, Come* arr. Behnke
Aldersgate Ringers

* Call to Worship (responsively)
Leader: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who has visited and redeemed us,
People: and has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of David.
Leader: By the tender mercy of our God,
People: the dawn from on high will break upon us,
Leader: to give light to those who sit in darkness
People: and to guide our feet in the way of peace.

* Opening Hymn *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* UMH#196

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: The Candle of Light
Genesis 1:1-5 Debbie, Melinda ⊕ Angelica Brown
Prayer (in unison)
Holy God, we long for the light of your presence. Guide us from the night of our hopelessness and lead us with joy toward the dawning of your new day. Amen.

Sung Response (sung in unison) *Light Dawns* v. 1
Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all people's dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.

Children's Worship Arts
Musik Makers, Spirit Singers, Cantate Ringers, Myers Drama Troupe

Scripture Lesson Psalm 27
Old Testament, page 503
Leader: The Word of God for us, the People of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns* arr. McCartha
The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks, when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes. The King shall come when morning dawns, and earth's dark night is past: O haste the rising of that morn, the day that aye shall last. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. The King shall come when morning dawns, and light and beauty brings; "Hail, Christ the Lord!" Your people pray, come quickly, King of kings

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 9:1-7 OT, page 638
Leader: The Word of God for us, the People of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Light Dawns Rev. Sally Queen

* Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* UMH #206

Offering

Offertory *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem* arr. Geschke
Aldersgate Ringers

* Doxology *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel. Amen*

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy Communion Rev. Sally Queen
Today we celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. This is our family meal.
All are invited to come forward and receive a piece of bread and then dip the bread into the cup of grape juice. A gluten free station is available.
The Table is open to all who wish to partake.

The Great Thanksgiving UMH #13
The Lord be with you.
And also with you
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise
It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...

...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer UMH #895

**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 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.**

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup
Communion Servers: Connie Elzey, Tresca McSwain, Sarah Davis

* Closing Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* UMH #213

* Benediction

* Congregational Response *Emmanuel, Emmanuel* UMH#204
*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.*

* Chimes of the Trinity

* Postlude *Fugue in D* Pachelbel



The Flowers in the Sanctuary
are given to the Glory of God in celebration of
Bob ⊕ Chris McCullen's Wedding Anniversary

Announcements

Scholastic Book Fair has come to Myers! Books make a perfect gift for children! Books are on display in the CFC today and on the preschool hallway during the week. We can accept cash, check and credit card or you can shop online at www.scholastic.com/bf/myersmemkidsdayout.

It's Time to Spread Some Cheer! Tonight the children and families are invited to share the light of Christ through Christmas Caroling! We'll gather at 5pm and make a few stops at local nursing homes to sing, returning to the church for pizza & an Advent Party that will conclude at 7pm. Preschoolers must be accompanied by an adult and everyone is welcome to join us!

The Annual Youth Hayride through McAdenville is tonight! Please meet at the Holbrook Middle School parking lot at 5:15p. Dress appropriately for the weather.

Annual Christmas Love Feast will be held next Sunday, December 10 at 7p. It's a joy to gather together in worship of our Lord during this Season of Advent! We hope you are moved by the spirit to love one another as Christ loves us! At the Love Feast we celebrate an ancient practice of breaking bread together to signify our union, fellowship and love! *Childcare is provided.*

Light Dawns, Hope Blooms, Love Grows The 2017 Advent Lessons & Carols Service will be held Sunday, December 17 at 7p. Led by our Chancel Choir, Soulfire Youth Choir and Cantate Singers and guess brass ensemble, this special musical presentation will be a moving service for the entire community to enjoy. *Childcare provided.*

Poinsettia Orders Due Tomorrow (Bulletin Insert) You're invited to decorate the sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias this season. The cost is \$15 per poinsettia and they will adorn our sanctuary between December 17 and 24. Poinsettias can be given in honor or in memory of a loved one. *Names cannot not be included in the printed insert unless payment and information is received by tomorrow, December 4. This is a firm deadline.*