

# Myers Memorial United Methodist Church



## 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*

## This Week at Myers Memorial UMC

**Sunday, December 31**  
10:50a Worship, *Sanctuary*

**Monday, January 1**  
*Weekday Preschool Closed*  
*Church Office Closed*

**Tuesday, January 2**  
*Preschool Resumes 9 to 12*  
11a Al-Anon, *Asbury*  
7p Church Council, *Asbury Room*  
6p Girl Scouts, *First Floor*

**Wednesday, January 3**  
9:15a Women's Bible Study, *Asbury*  
10a Staff Meeting, *Parlor*  
5:15p Connect | Eat, *CFC*  
6:15p Epiphany Worship, *Sanctuary*  
6p Knit for Christ, *Parlor*  
7p Chancel Choir, *Music Suite*

**Thursday, January 4**  
6p Aldersgate Bells, *Music Suite*  
6p Men's Basketball, *CFC*  
8p Narcotics Anonymous, *Downstairs*

**Friday, January 5**  
7:15a Prayer & Devotion, *Parlor*

**Sunday, January 7**  
9a Trinity Ringers, *Music Suite*  
9a Focus Prayer Group, *Tower*  
9:30a Coffee Fellowship, *CFC*  
9:45a Sunday School for all Ages  
10:50a Worship, *Sanctuary*  
5:30p Sunday Night Live  
Disciple 1 Fast Track, *E-105*  
Child Care, Preschool Choir &  
Worship Arts, Elementary Choirs  
Youth Main Event  
6:30p Elementary Open Gym/  
Childcare  
7p SoulFire, *Music Suite*



### Sunday Servants

**Head Usher:** Jim Warnock      **Crucifer:** Lauren Snyder  
**Acolytes:** Brianna Lambert & Brock Davis  
**Nursery:** Christina Carpenter, Katie Carpenter, Jennifer Gross  
**Coffee Time Next Week:** UMMen & UMWomen



**Myers Memorial United Methodist Church**  
301 South New Hope Road Gastonia, North Carolina 28054  
ChurchOffice@MyersMemorialUMC.com  
www.MyersMemorialUMC.org  
704-864-3222

### Prayers of the People

Max Erwin & Family, Bill & Libby Drum,  
Allen & Carolyn Reese, The Hendricks Family,  
Alice Sweazy, Doug & Jackie Gross  
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.*

**Communion Stewards** Anyone interested in helping to serve communion in 2018 is invited to join Pastor Sally for a training on Sunday, January 7 at 10am in the Sanctuary. We will talk about the sacrament of communion and will learn the how-to's of Communion at Myers (setting-up before worship, assisting during worship, and cleaning-up once communion is over). We welcome anyone who would like to serve in this way to attend. Those who attend will be added to a 2018 Communion Steward schedule. Please let Sally know if you have any questions, pastor@myersmemorialumc.com or 704-864-3222

Church Council will have an important meeting on Tuesday, January 2 at 7pm in the Asbury Room to discuss the 2018 budget. All Church Council members are asked to be present.



## 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.

December 31, 2017

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 *The Old Year Has Now Passed Away* JS Bach

\* Call to Worship (responsively)

Leader: Through Christ, we are one with God.

We are flesh and spirit, joy and sorrow.

**People: We are more than what we seem.**

Leader: Christ was God's gift to us,

And we celebrate always this gift of eternal grace.

**People: We are redeemers and we are the redeemed.**

Leader: We have received the most lovely gift,

And for that, we sing of a great song of peace.

**People: We have received it in order to go forth,**

**To share Christ's love with all who love to listen.**

\* Opening Hymn *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* UMH #240

*You are invited to bring your extra financial gift to the manger at the front of the sanctuary.*

\* Opening Prayer (in unison)

**God of Promise and mysterious Light,**

**be with us this day as we journey in our faith; to meet your Gift.**

**Give us courage and hope along our way,**

**as your light will continue to glow brightly in our path,**

**leading us to service and discipleship in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

Children's Time

Call to Prayer ⊕ Pastoral Prayer

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.**

Offering

Offertory *We Three Kings* Alec Wyton

\* Doxology *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;* UMH #94

*praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!*

*Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

\* Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scripture Lesson John 13:7 NT, page107

Leader: The Word of God for us, the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Ashley Broadwater

Anthem *Trust in You* Lauren Daigle

McKenzie Rankin, soloist

Scripture Lesson Psalm 27:1-3 OT, page 503

Leader: The Word of God for us, the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Elisabeth King

\* Hymn *O Little Town of Bethlehem* UMH#230

Scripture Lesson Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 OT, page 616

Leader: The Word of God for us, the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon April Martin

\* Hymn *Go, Tell It On the Mountain* UMH #251

\* 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 *Finale* Eric Thiman

## Known College Students

Mallory Alman, NCSU

Hannah Black, Queens

Andrew Bradley, UNCC

Raegan Bridges, Gaston College

Tucker Bridges, Univ. S. Carolina

Ashley Broadwater, UNC-Chapel Hill

Jamison Brown, Furman University

Patrick Brown, Univ. of Nebraska -

Lincoln, PhD program

Solomon Collins, UNC-Chapel Hill

Dustin Farris, Elon University

Carson Fletcher, ASU

Alyson Flint, UNCC

Easton Gragg, Wake Forest

University

Cole Hairston, Univ. of Wisconsin

Dalton Hoskins, UNC-Chapel Hill

Elizabeth King, Queens

Anna Lanier, ASU

Austin Lowry, ASU

Harrison Mantooth, UNCC

Whitney Marr, UNCC

April Martin, Pfeiffer University

Tori McLean, Western Carolina

University

Jonathan McMillian, UNCC

Tyler Pell, Gaston College

Katie Proctor, Gaston College

Gretchen Purvis, UNC-Chapel Hill

Rachael Purvis, UNC- Chapel Hill

McKenzie Rankin, UNC-Wilmington

Amanda Rodgers, Indiana State Univ.

Amie Rodgers, Indiana State Univ.

JP Rooney, Samford University

Mikayla Sage, ASU

Kimberly Shellman, Clemson

Taylor Shellman, ASU

Madison Shoemaker, NCSU

Alexa Smarr, Univ. of Maryland

Blake Smarr, Wesley Theological

Seminary

Fisher Stines, NCSU

Conrad Tolbert, NCSU

## Recent College Graduates

Adam Knight ~ NCSU

BS, Business

Catherine Lloyd ~ Gardner-Webb

BS, Science

## Announcements

Happy Birthday to Everyone! On Wednesday, January 3rd, we'll celebrate everyone's birthday with a cake for each of the 12 months! We look forward to this annual January event and invite you to make your reservations on today's Connection Card for a delicious spaghetti dinner and birthday cake!

Sunday Night Live Resumes Next Week The Children & Youth Music Ministry program resumes January 7! The Children's Choirs, *Musik Makers*, *Spirit Singers*, and *Cantate Singers* will meet from 5:30 to 6:30p on the third floor of the education wing. Each group will also include a segment of Liturgical Arts ~ exploring the Bible through various mediums, activities and movements that will complement their choir's focus. Now is the time to join! When families arrive on Sunday nights, please enter the building from the rear parking lot and walk your children to the third floor. Unless otherwise directed by the parents, the children will head to the gym at 6:30p for 30 minutes of free play and a snack. Parents are invited to pack a snack supper for their child.

Youth Music Ministry resumes on January 7 with Trinity Bells at 9a and Soulfire Youth Choir at 7p. Adult Handbell Rehearsals resume on January 4th for Aldersgate Bells and January 9th for Chancel Bells.



## The Flowers in the Sanctuary

are given to the Glory of God in honor of Doug Gross  
on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday

