

Prayers of the People

Nancy Westbrook, Sara Davis, Paul Outlaw, Woodie Carothers,
Allison Drennan, Bud Hoover, Melanie Lambert, Sally Drennan,
Bill Drum, Trinity United Methodist Church

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.



Angel Tree Warehouse Work, Thursday, December 13. Meet at the church at 9a as we travel to the Salvation Army on Union Road to sort all the Christmas Angel Tree gifts from around our community. Anyone is invited to join in the fun work of playing elf! College Students are invited to join Tresca for lunch following the morning's work.

HalfTime: Blessing of MidLife Thursday, December 13 at 6:30pm. We're headed to Stowe Gardens for the Holiday Lights for live music and fellowship. Meet in the lobby of Stowe Gardens and if you are a member, please share your membership discount with others in the group.

Youth & In}{Between Christmas Parties ~ December 16 ~ 5p
Both parties will end by 6p, in time for the Youth Chorale to rehearse before Lessons & Carols. Others are invited to hang out in the youth lounge until Lessons & Carols begins at 7p.

Youth (9th-12th graders) will gather in the youth lounge for the annual ornament exchange. Bring your favorite snack to share and a wrapped ornament that costs less than \$10.

In}{Between (4th-8th graders) will meet in their room off the youth lounge where we'll have games, food and fun! Bring your favorite snack to share, and a gender neutral wrapped gift of \$5 or less (seriously, you can wrap something from your house). Don't forget to bring your friend and a gift for them to exchange as well!

Opportunities Available Janet Lagos, our Sunday morning Nursery coordinator is currently seeking volunteers for the next quarter. If you are able and willing to help one to two Sundays in the next 3 months, please contact Janet Lagos at preschool@myersmemorialumc.com or 704-864-3222. You can still listen to the sermon while you snuggle and play with the youngest among us!

Make Up Directory Photos ~ January 2 ~ 2p to 9p Have you recently joined the church? Recently married? Added a child to the family? Or didn't have your photo made last time? This is your final chance to be included in the directory! Please sign up online—a link is at www.MyersMemoiralUMC.org or call Louisa Suggs, 704-824-2015.

Columbarium Conversation Over the years we've explored the possibility of having a columbarium at Myers Memorial UMC. If this is something you are interested in, please mark today's connection card or contact Louisa Suggs, louisa.suggs@gmail.com or 704-824-2015

This Week at Myers Memorial UMC

Sunday, December 9

Angel Tree Donations Due
Poinsettias Orders Due

9a Focus Prayer Group, Tower
9:30a Coffee Time
9:45a Sunday School for all Ages
10a Pastries with the Pastors, CFC
10:50a Worship, Sanctuary

Monday, December 10

9a Weekday Preschool
9:30a Angel Tree Sorting
6p Disciple 3, E-105
6p Koinonia, Panera

Tuesday, December 11

9a Weekday Preschool
10a GriefShare, Parlor
11a AI-Anon, Asbury
6p Chancel Bells, Music Suite

Wednesday, December 12

9a Weekday Preschool
9:30a Women's Bible Study, Asbury
11a Warlick Mentoring, Warlick
6p Knit for Christ, Parlor
6:30p Chancel Choir, Music Suite

Thursday, December 13

9a Angel Tree Warehouse
9a Weekday Preschool
12p Joy Circle, Stroupes
5-7p CAM Reception, CFC
6:30p HalfTime, Stowe Garden
8p Narcotics Anonymous, Downstairs

Friday, December 14

7:15a Prayer & Devotion, Parlor
9a Weekday Preschool
Girl Scout Lock-In

Saturday, December 15

8a Trinity UMC Community
Breakfast, 1513 Florida Street

Sunday, December 16

Gingerbread Sunday

9a Focus Prayer Group, Tower
9:30a Coffee Time
9:45a Sunday School for all Ages
10:50a Worship, Sanctuary
5p Youth & In}{Between Christmas Parties, Youth Lounge
7p Lessons & Carols, Sanctuary



Gingerbread Sunday

December 16 ~10:50am

Sunday Servants

Usher: Debbie Brown
Scripture Reader: Hallie Walker
Crucifer: Katie Carpenter
Acolytes: Ella @ Mattie Queen
Nursery: Judy Seay, Annie Oliver, Paula Phillips, Allison Buchanan, Karen Carrick, Angelica Brown

Giving on the Go

www.MyersMemorialUMC.org
/Online-Giving

A Record of Our Faithfulness

Sunday, December 2, 2018
Sunday School: 102 Worship: 256
Online Worship: 13
Offering Received: \$15,551

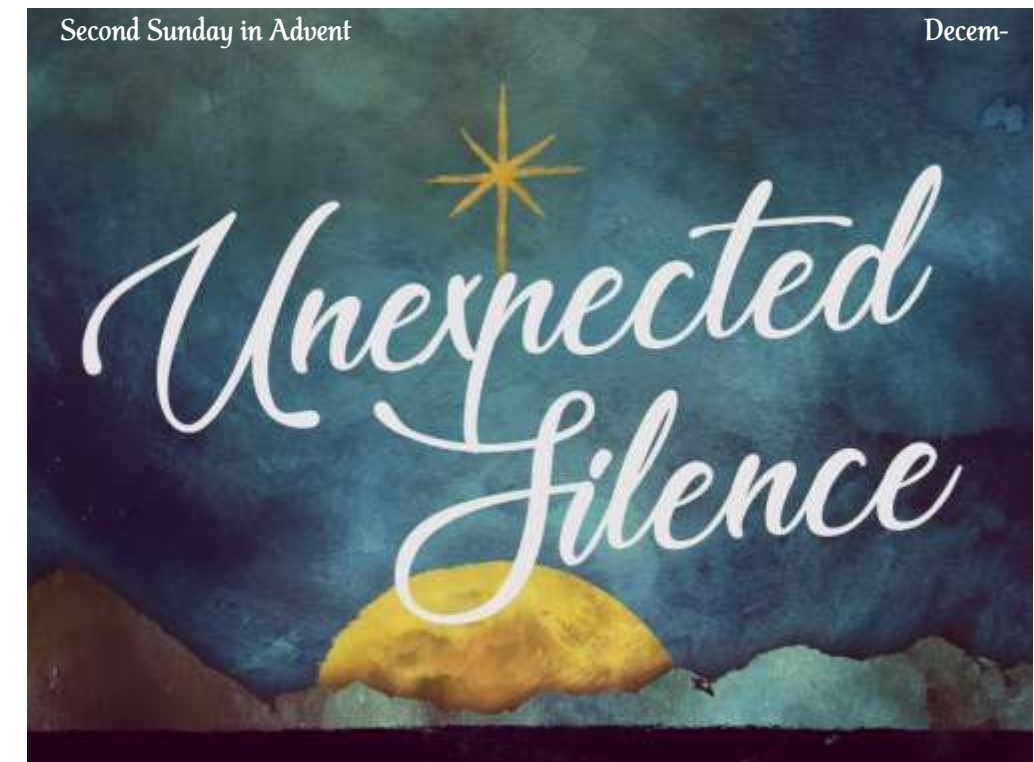
Upcoming Dates

Lessons @ Carols: December 16, 7p
Caroling at CaroMont: December 23, 12:15p
Christmas Eve Services: 5:30p @ 11p
Rake @ Run: December 30, 12:15p

Myers Memorial United Methodist Church

Second Sunday in Advent

Decem-



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 church meals, share prayer concerns or comments. Please use it as a way to note your attendance in worship today and return it during the offering as an act of offering yourself to God this week.

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 inside both men and women's restrooms.

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.

#ourmissionistolove

Rev. Sally Queen, Pastor
301 South New Hope Road Gastonia, North Carolina 28054
www.MyersMemorialUMC.org 704-864-3222

December 9, 2018

10:50am

Order of Worship

Gathering for Worship

As you gather today, you are invited to light a candle to remember the saints in your life.

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

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 *Variations on "Sing We Now of Christmas"* C. Dobrinsky
Chancel Bells

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Marty Current

Scripture: Isaiah 40:3-5

Prayer: Christ our guide and friend, we trust you to walk with us through all the highs and lows of life. Our journey sometimes seems long and difficult. We encounter barren and silent places and we find our selves in the wilderness. You have come into our midst that we might have new life. Help us to receive Your good gifts. Amen.

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

Children's Message Pastor Sally

Choral Call to Prayer *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Michael Praetorius
Chancel Choir

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung. It came, a flower bright, amid the cold of winter when half-spent was the night.

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.

* Hymn of Thanksgiving UMH #206

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Offering

Offertory *Carol of the Bells* Arr. Arnold B. Sherman
Chancel Bells

* 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.*

* Prayer of Thanksgiving Rev. Sally Queen

Scripture Lesson Psalm 27 Hallie Walker
Old Testament, page 503

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* Gustav Holst
Chancel Choir, Louisa Oswald and Mike Rhodes, soloists

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand; Ponder nothing earthly-minded, For with blessing in His hand, Christ our God to earth descendeth, Our full homage to demand. King of kings, yet born of Mary, As of old on earth He stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture, In the body and the blood; He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food. Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads its vanguard on the way, As the Light of light descendeth From the realms of endless day, That the pow'rs of hell may vanish As the darkness clears away. At His feet the six-winged seraph, Cherubim with sleepless eye, Veil their faces to the presence, As with ceaseless voice they cry: "Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!" Amen!

Scripture Lesson Luke 1:5-23; 57-80 NT, page 56

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Unexpected Silence Rev. Sally Queen

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

* 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 *People, Look East* Wold



The Flower Arrangements in the Sanctuary
in honor of Bob & Chris McCullen's 28th Wedding Anniversary

Announcements

#unexpected Due to the weather forecast, the 40th Annual Love Feast was celebrated yesterday, December 8 in the Sanctuary. The service is an annual tradition dedicated to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joe Ben Lindsey, Edith & Walter Talley, Flora Ann & Harold Craig and Tolbert W. Lowry whose service helped bring the Love Feast tradition to Myers Memorial UMC. We are also indebted to the Marr & Suggs families for the contribution of their time and means in planning and directing the service this year. Thank you to the many musicians and participants for their efforts in preparing for this year's Love Feast.

2019 Estimate of Giving Cards may be dropped off at the church office or mailed to Angie Rutledge c/o Cherry Beakert at 322 Burtonwood Dr, Gastonia, NC 28054.

December Hours

Church Office Monday-Thursdays 9-4p; Fridays 9a-12p

Closed: Dec. 24, 25, 26, 31

Special Hours: Dec. 27 & 28, 9a-12p

Weekday Preschool Closed Dec. 20-Jan. 1

Cherry Bekaert, LLP *(Cherry Bekaert is the CPA firm that handles our church finances)* 322 Burtonwood Dr. Gastonia, NC 28054

Closed: Dec. 24, 25 & 31 *Special Hours:* Dec. 21 9am -12p

To receive 2018 tax credit, donations must be received by December 31.

Poinsettia Orders You're invited to decorate the sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias this season. Please see the bulletin insert for more information.

Don't miss church on December 16 as we celebrate Gingerbread Sunday! It's the sweet way Louisa Suggs shares God's love with everyone! We hope you'll find a way to share God's love with others this season too!

New Member Sunday On December 16, we'll welcome new members into the life of Myers Memorial UMC. If you are interested in becoming a member of Myers, please mark your interest on today's Connection Card or speak with Pastor Sarah by calling the church office.

The 2018 Lessons & Carols service is titled *To the Least, the Last and the Lost* and will feature stories and music depicting the characters of the Christmas story. This service will be led by the Myers Chancel Choir featuring the Myers Youth Chorale, a guest brass ensemble and numerous guest musicians. You are invited to lend your voice to the music on Sunday, December 16 at 7pm to celebrate the unexpected characters we find in the birth narrative of our savior, Jesus.

Angel Tree Sorting Monday, December 10, 9:30a. Before we send off the Angels and Christmas Critters, we need to make sure we have abundant gifts for them! Join us in the CFC to sort and tag all of our gifts! The more the merrier!

The Joy Circle of the UMW will be gathering at the home of Katrina Stroupe on Thursday, December 13 at 12pm.