

## Prayer Requests

Chance Bailey  
Tinaka Bolen, Cancer, Roberta Bolen's  
Daughter-in-law  
Alice Bone, Marsha Houchins' Sister-in-law  
Diane Brown  
Darlene Buchanan  
Will Calfee  
Kathy Catania, Cancer  
Theta Childress, Lung Cancer, JoAnn Davis'  
Sister-in-law  
Shelby Clendenen, Surgery  
Jared Cregar, Cancer, Josh Spencer's Friend  
Dewey Deel, Cancer  
Patty Dillon  
Angie Eads, Janet Moore's Cousin  
Larry Fanning  
Lou Freeman  
Everett Frost, Cancer  
Jerry Hickman  
Becky Kaylor  
Cynthia Leech  
Montie Leffel, Stroke, Gerry Stowers' Cousin  
Merilou Frost Moore  
Philomena Raines, Cancer, Bronwyn Owen's Friend  
Abby Shoemaker, Accident  
Roger Stacy  
Charlie Thomason  
Debbie Wyrick

### OUR MILITARY

Ryan Shott  
Lucas Graham  
Jeremy Woody  
Austin Brown  
All those serving our Country

### LONG TERM ILLNESS

Merve & Marie **Anderson**, Rudy **Austin** (Vera Lee Austin's Brother), Barbara **Bailey**, Bobbie **Bellamy** (Margaret Elam's Sister), Dennis **Bennett**, Husband of Rita Bennett), Pauline **Brown**, E. C. **Browning**, Joe **Davidson**, Leon **Devor**, Ethel **Earls**, Syd **Ellison**, Margaret **Farmer**, Tom **Hodge** (Shelby Clendenen's Brother), Jimmy **Jones**, Mary **Martin**, Sue **Owens**, Wilma **Shay**, Roger **Shutt** (Charlie Thomason's Nephew), Irma **Webb**

# Order of Worship

December 22, 2019

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m.

Prelude William Elliott  
*The prelude is an invitation to begin to focus our hearts on worship.*

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship "For Unto to us a Child is Born" Chancel Choir

\*Hymn "Good Christian Men Rejoice" UMH 224

Special Music "Joy to the World" by Go Fish Ministries Children's Ministry

Prayer Children's Ministry

Dismissal to Children's Church (Pre-K to Grade 5)

Receiving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory "Sing We Now of Christmas" UMH 237

\*Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

Lighting of Advent Candle Mark Stowers

Prayer O Lord God, who has chosen dwelling in the hearts of the unworthy: We give thanks that you revealed yourself in the holy child Jesus, thereby sanctifying all childhood in him. We ask you to make us humble in faith and love, that we may know the joy of the Gospel that is hidden from the wise and cautious and revealed unto babes. Amen.

Scripture Luke 1:39-55

Anthem "The Thrill of Hope" Chancel Choir  
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Sermon "My Soul Magnifies The Lord" Rev. Dr. Jay Ferguson

Invitation to Follow Jesus

Special Music "It's Christmas" by Chris Tomlin Children's Ministry

Benediction "The Lord's Prayer" Children's Ministry  
\*Choral Benediction "A Christmas Blessing" Chancel Choir

\*Postlude William Elliott

\*People Stand as Able

Advent poster: "My Soul Magnifies The Lord" Artwork by: Jan Tribodeau

Children's Artwork by: Abby Houchins, Alex Spencer, Annie Houchins,  
Bryan Giberson, Colt Hager, Gabriella Sexton, Jaxson Spencer, Joseph Maldonado,  
Kinsley Hager, Lucas Nash, Maylee Ferguson, Noah Goins

## First United Methodist Church December 22, 2019 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Come let us  
*Adore*  
Him



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Facebook: Bluefield, Virginia, First United Methodist Church



**First Light Worship**

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
December 22, 2019

Welcome/Announcements

\*Hymn "Good Christian Men Rejoice" UMH 224

Lighting of Advent Candle

Prayer O Lord God, who has chosen dwelling in the hearts of the unworthy: We give thanks that you revealed yourself in the holy child Jesus, thereby sanctifying all childhood in him. We ask you to make us humble in faith and love, that we may know the joy of the Gospel that is hidden from the wise and cautious and revealed unto babes. Amen.

Scripture Luke 1:39-55

Receiving of God's Tithes and Offerings

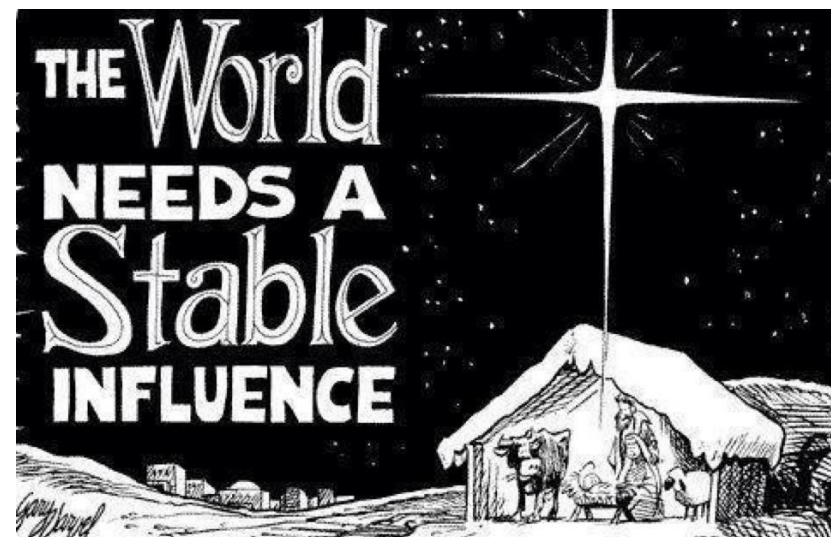
Offertory  
\*Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

Sermon "My Soul Magnifies The Lord" Rev. Dr. Jay Ferguson

\*Hymn "Sing We Now of Christmas" UMH 237

Benediction "The Lord's Prayer"

\*People Stand as Able

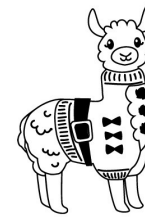


**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**  
December 24 at 6:00 p.m.



Our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is a long-standing tradition both in our church and in our community. Each year, as the candles are lit one by one, it is symbolic of spreading the message of God's love to each other, our community, and all over the world.

As we sing in darkness surrounded by the glowing of candles, we can reflect on the reason for the gathering. Christmas, the day that our Savior, the Lamb of God, our Messiah, incarnated Himself to save mankind. That is something worth celebrating!



**Ugly Sweater Sunday**  
December 29 at 10:00 a.m.  
Combined Worship Services

December 29th will be the first Sunday after Christmas and the last Sunday of the year 2019.

It is a chance to reflect on Christmas and look forward to the upcoming new year.

Join in a time of fellowship.

Breakfast refreshments will be served 9:00 a.m.

A combined Worship Service will be at 10:00 a.m.

**Watch Night Service**  
December 31 at 11:30 p.m.



The Watch Night Service, or Covenant Renewal Service, has been a part of Methodism since 1775. A Watch Night Service is a renewal of an individual's covenant with God through a service that was established and emphasized by John Wesley. He made frequent use of it when visiting the early Methodist Societies.

John Wesley found it meaningful and "a time of remarkable blessing." He believed that all Christians should reaffirm their covenant with God annually.



Thank you to all who helped make the Head Start Christmas Dinner a huge success! Your monetary donations, time given, and gracious hospitality is much appreciated.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Sunday, December 22**

First Light Service 8:00 a.m.  
Fellowship in Palmer Hall 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, December 24**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6:00 a.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal will resume on January 8, 2020.

Bible Study will resume in February and will study Jonah.

**Sunday, December 29**

**Ugly Sweater Sunday**

Scripture: Isaiah 63:7

Sermon: "I Just Gotta Tell You"

**A Christmas Prayer**

Lord, we pause here in the midst of the busyness and excitement of Christmas to thank You for coming low as a baby in a Bethlehem manger to rescue us from sin and to offer us salvation.

Your gift to us is greater than any present wrapped and placed under a tree.

We thank You and worship You and commit to seeking You first

*this day.*

*this season.*

*this year.*

*In Jesus 'name. Amen.*