



919/489-6557

December 16, 2015

[www.epworth-umc.org](http://www.epworth-umc.org)

**Caroling this Sunday!**

In place of our usual Sunday Night Live activities we will be caroling in the Epworth neighborhood this Sunday! We will meet at 5pm for a covered-dish dinner, and then we'll head out to spread some Christmas cheer. Parents, you may want to bring strollers for the smaller children, and don't forget your coats!

Remember, "the best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!"

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**

**4:30 FAMILY WORSHIP WITH SPONTANEOUS  
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND COMMUNION**



**7:00 COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED AND CANDLES LIT  
AS WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.**

**SUNDAY, December 20, 2015**

**Worship 8:30 and 11:00**

**Sermon** Rev. Karen H. Whitaker

**Scriptures:** Micah 5: 2-5a, Luke 1: 47-55, Luke 1: 39-45

**Hymns** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"  
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" "In the Bleak Midwinter"

**Worship 9:00**

**Sermon** "Mary Full of Grace: Not a Silent Night" Rev. Laura Wittman

**Scripture** Micah 5: 2-5, Luke 1: 39-55

**Songs** "Welcome to Our World" "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"  
"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" "Celebrate the Child"

**Liturgists** 8:30 Maureen Oakes 11:00 Norma Aaron

**Ushers** Tim Dahlgren, Bobbie Dahlgren, Frank Dono, Leanna Murphy Dono

**Altar Guild** Kathy and Harry Dutton, Joyce Dalgleish, Judy Daymont,  
Kenneth Roberts

**Nursery** Marcie Harp, Theresa Shebalin, Tina Wilcox, Joan Fletcher

**Counters** Mike Hanson and Greg Bolt

**Acolyte** Ian Kim **Youth Reader** Virginia Nadworny

**Crucifer** Jerryl Christopher **Bus Driver** Belo Shelton

**Greeters** Greg Barrow, Beth Kizakevich

**ALTAR FLOWERS** We need flowers Jan. 17 and 24. If you would like to donate the flowers either of these Sundays, or later in the new year, please call Gloria Dewey, 919-493-1139.

Progress Toward our \$15,000/week in December  
"Finish The Year Strong" Goal  
Giving to God  
December 1, 2015 to December 15, 2015

Total Income:	\$36,161
Total Expenses:	(\$18,819)
Remainder:	\$17,342

2015 YTD Totals:

Total Income:	\$604,211
Total Expenses:	(\$623,883)
Shortage YTD:	(\$19,672)

A BIG thank you to all of you who are catching-up your 2015 pledges and to those of you who are going the extra mile. Because of your generosity, we have decreased our shortage for the year by \$7,413 these first 2 weeks of December. We ask that you continue to prayerfully consider additional gifts to our 2015 operating budget so we can "Finish the Year Strong".

### **Alternative Giving/ Gifts of Grace Cards for Christmas**

Having a hard time deciding on just the right gift for a special friend or loved one. Consider the gift that keeps on giving. The Outreach Committee will have a table in the Farthex starting on Sundays until **Dec. 20, 2015** with honor cards for purchase for \$10 each supporting the following ministries.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD    HEIFER INTERNATIONAL    FOND DOUX

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF DURHAM    IMAGINE NO MALARIA

URBAN MINISTRIES OF DURHAM    DURHAM INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY

NETWORK    BACKPACK MINISTRIES

EPWORTH UMC OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2015

### "Imagine No Malaria" Special Offering

Throughout the season of Advent we have challenged our children to collect spare change for Imagine No Malaria. Our conference has set a goal of raising \$1,000,000 for this wonderful cause of eradicating malaria in Sub-Saharan Africa and we still have quite a way to go. We have boxes available in the office. Some ways that you can help are by donating your extra change, putting a dollar in each day of advent, fasting for lunch, and giving the money you would have spent. It only takes \$10 dollars to provide a net to protect a child from mosquitoes. This is a great chance to make a difference this holiday season. These boxes and a special offering will be collected on Christmas Eve.

### We Wish You .....



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From the Church Staff

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS! Received December 13



Brian Pritchard by  
Transfer from Christ UMC  
In Greensboro



Brennan Mange by transfer from  
First UMC in Kalamazoo, Michigan

Alan, Justin, Kristen and Megan  
Whitaker by transfer from  
Soapstone UMC in Raleigh



Ann Davidson by transfer from  
Shady Grove UMC in Virgilina, VA.



DECEMBER 2015

<p><b>20 Fourth</b>  <b><u>Sunday in Advent</u></b>  <u>Worship at 8:30,</u>  <u>9:00, and 11:00</u>            9:50 Sun. School            5:00 Sun. Night            Live</p>	<p>21            11:30            LC's at            Croasdaile            Village</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p><b>24</b>  <b>4:30 and</b>  <b>7:00</b>  <b>Christmas</b>  <b>Eve</b>  <b>Services</b>    <b>7:00 AA</b></p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
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***Sunday, Dec. 27 - one worship service 11:00.***

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**EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 3002 Hope Valley Rd.,  
 Durham, NC 27707 919-489-6557**

- Rev. Karen H. Whitaker, Senior Pastor 919-210-6839 (cell) [kwhitaker@epworth-umc.org](mailto:kwhitaker@epworth-umc.org)
- Rev. Laura Wittman, Associate Pastor 919-666-8774 (cell) [lwittman@epworth-umc.org](mailto:lwittman@epworth-umc.org)
- John Treece, Director of Youth Ministries [jtreece@epworth-umc.org](mailto:jtreece@epworth-umc.org)
- Kim Philpott, Director of Music [kphilpott@epworth-umc.org](mailto:kphilpott@epworth-umc.org)
- Meg Bass, Financial Manager [mbass@epworth-umc.org](mailto:mbass@epworth-umc.org)
- Dona Gamble, Administrative Secretary [dgamble@epworth-umc.org](mailto:dgamble@epworth-umc.org)
- Dr. Fred Ibberson, Organist [fred.ibberson@gmail.com](mailto:fred.ibberson@gmail.com)
- Gail Heath, Preschool Director 919-489-6098 [director@epworth-preschool.org](mailto:director@epworth-preschool.org)
- Marcey Harp, Nursery Director [nursery@epworth-umc.org](mailto:nursery@epworth-umc.org)
- Marlin Lennon, Sexton

Epworth United Methodist Church declares itself a Reconciling Congregation, seeking to welcome all persons, regardless of age, race, ethnicities, disabilities, gender or sexual orientation, into the discipleship of Christian living and proclaim our commitment to seek the reconciliation of all persons to God and to each other through Jesus Christ.