



919/489-6557

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

December 15, 2016

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

We will have our 3 regular services at 8:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. with special music by our Instrumental Ensemble.

**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

Have you Lost a Loved One? Is this Christmas difficult? You are invited to the Community Blue Christmas service: In the midst of an often overwhelming holiday season, you are invited to a service of silence and contemplation, hope and peace at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on December 18th at 4:00 p.m. We'll join together with St. Paul's Lutheran, and Westminster Presbyterian in holding one another in collective Light.

**EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR – PETER WALKER**

This Sunday, Dec. 18 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**CONGREGATIONAL ADVENT STUDY AND POTLUCK**

Plan to come to the Advent event on Sunday evening! Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> (5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.), the Rev. Dr. Ross Wagner, Associate Professor of New Testament at Duke Divinity School, will continue his discussion about the biblical images in our beloved Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel".

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

5:00 p.m. Family service with the children participating, Christmas Carols, and Communion.

7:00 p.m. Candlelight communion, Chancel Choir Cantata

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

One Service at 11:00 a.m.: *A Service of Lessons and Carols*

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Services at 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary



**Sunday, December 18, 2016**  
**Fourth Sunday in Advent**

8:30 and 11:00 Worship

Sermon: Rev. Karen H. Whitaker

Scripture: Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19, Isaiah 7: 10-16, Matthew 1” 18-25

8:30 and 11:00 Hymns “O Come All Ye Faithful” “Angels from the Realms of Glory”  
“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

9:00 Worship

9:00 “God Is With Us” Rev. Dr. Sangwoo Kim

Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-20

Songs: “Mary’s Boy Child” “The King of Glory Comes”  
Hallelujah” “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

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

Liturgist 8:45 Maureen Oakes 11:00 Todd Benware

Nursery Marcey Harp, Theresa Shebalin, Anne Posey, Meg Bass

Ushers Jay Hallan, Patsy Harlow, Dave Harlow, Marvin Carver

Counters Chuck Darr, Harry Dutton Greeters Debby Meyer and Craig Morgan

Acolyte Ian Kim Crucifer Jerush Christopher Youth Reader Katherine Lantzy

Sunday School Coordinators Mike Shiflett, John Lott Bus Driver Todd Benware

---

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

**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)

Dr. Sangwoo Kim, Associate Pastor 919-627-1357 [sangwoo@epworth-umc.org](mailto:sangwoo@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)

Joyce Dalglish, Interim Youth Director 919-489-6557

Rev. Amanda Wilson, Coordinator of Children's Ministries [awilson@epworth-umc.org](mailto:awilson@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.

## **FROM STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

We are collecting a Love Offering for the church staff to show our appreciation for their dedication and performance. All year, they carry out the necessary duties required to complete Epworth's obligations and commitments both within our church and our surrounding communities. If you would like to participate, please make checks payable to Epworth and note "Love Offering" on the memo line. You may place your gifts in the offering, mail them in or bring them to the church office. We are all blessed to remain committed to doing His will.... Thank you, and Merry, Merry Christmas to all...



**SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE** After this coming Sunday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, SNL will resume on January 8<sup>th</sup> with a new format. Send Sangwoo Kim ([sangwoo@epworth-umc.org](mailto:sangwoo@epworth-umc.org)) your questions about theology and spiritual practices. Every Sunday evening, we will have churchwide conversations about some of your questions. Stay tuned for more details!

### **Finance Office News**

As we move through the Advent season, I would like to thank everyone for their generous gifts to Epworth UMC and ask that we "Finish 2016 Strong". This is also the last year of our three-year Horizon Capital Campaign. I encourage you to prayerfully consider continuing to give what you have budgeted for the last three years for the Capital Campaign, to our 2017 operating budget. Our Sanctuary and Narthex have been repaired, repainted and much of the lighting has been upgraded to LED energy-efficient bulbs. The soffit around the outside of our Sanctuary will be repaired soon, and we will begin to worship in our Sanctuary again next Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, the first Sunday in Advent. Without the generous gifts from you all and the loan from our General Endowment, it would have been difficult to fund these necessary repairs. We are committed to being good stewards of the gifts we receive so we can use our many resources for those who need us most both locally and around the world.

**I will need all gifts that you wish to credit toward 2016, including those for your operating budget pledge, "close the gap", and/or your capital campaign pledge, by Thursday, December 29th at 4:00 PM.**

### **STEWARDSHIP 2017**

If you have not yet filled out a pledge card for 2017 and would like to do so, please stop by the office to pick one up or contact me at 919-489-6557, ext. 102 and I will be glad to mail one to you.

In Service,

*Meg*



## YOUTH NEWS & NOTES



U.M.Y.F.

### Date

### Program Topic

December 18 <sup>th</sup>	Rehearsal during Sunday School for the Family Christmas Eve Service U.M.Y.F. Christmas Party (details to follow in a separate email)
December 25 <sup>th</sup>	No U.M.Y.F. MERRY CHRISTMAS, EVERYONE!
January 1 <sup>st</sup>	No U.M.Y.F. HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

**REMINDER:** don't forget your Sunday School offering!! Our offering this week will go to UMCOR for disaster relief. Please give careful and prayerful consideration to your offering that goes to support those recovering from the devastation caused by Hurricane Mattew.

Lesson topic this week: The Reason for the Season!

1. What have you done this week to prepare for celebrating the Jesus' birth? What does this season mean to you?
2. We light four candles during Advent. What candle is lit on Christmas Eve and what does it represent?
3. As we continue to prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth, take the time to reflect on the gifts God has given you. How have you shared those gifts with others so that they may know the love of God in their hearts?

### SAINTS FOR THE WEEK:

Ben Engel, Jerryl Christopher and Caleb Engel for serving as crucifer/acolyte/reader during the 11:00 worship service! To Anna Darr and Carolina Mumford for their special music during the 11:00 worship service. The following youth who played in the Instrumental Ensemble for the Love Feast: Anna Darr, Jerush Christopher, Jerryl Christopher and Virginia Nadworny. Also, Anna Darr, Kaitlyn Montgomery and Virginia Nadworny for helping the children sing "Morning Star". Everyone who helped with the luminaries: Elise Benware, Ethan Benware, Jerryl Christopher, Jerush Christopher, Ben Engel, Caleb Engel, Erin Engel, Will Grider, Hannah Morris, Henri Nadworny, Virginia Nadworny, Julia Boltz, Ian Kim, Katherine Lantzy, Kaitlyn Montgomery, Beck Northern, Zoey Northern, Ryan Vandevander, Peter Walker...and our "honorary youth" Luke Kim and Olivia Vandevander!! These awesome "Pastry Chefs" for helping to make the youth "Dessert Feast" following the Love Feast absolutely scrumptious: Sharon Walker, Lisa Vandevander, Libby & Brent Engel, Laura Boltz, and Shar West!! Suzanne Lantzy, Katherine Lantzy, Jennifer Sweeting and Beck Northern for helping to move poinsettias into the Narthex. And Hannah Morris who served at the Love Feast. We are TRULY blessed by the many ways our youth shine God's life and share His love!

### ACOLYTE/CRUCIFER/READER SCHEDULE for the month of November:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Crucifer</u>	<u>Reader</u>
December 18 <sup>th</sup>	Ian Kim	Jerush Christopher	Katherine Lantzy
December 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. service. <b>ACOLYTE AND CRUCIFER NEEDED!</b> Please let Joyce know if you can serve for this special service.		



**IMPORTANT:** If you are not able to acolyte/crucifer/read on an assigned week, please find a substitute and contact Joyce and the church office so we will know of the change.



## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**December 24<sup>th</sup>:** Family Christmas Eve Service: The following have volunteered to be help with this time-honored tradition at Epworth: Hannah Morris, Peter Walker, Ethan Benware, Elise Benware, Ryan Vandevander, Ian Kim and Morgan West!! Thanks for helping to make this a memorable service for our families!

We hope that you are enjoying the special Advent Reflections from our youth.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas. May your travels be safe, and may your Christmas be filled with the gifts of peace, joy, hope and love, and may God's light shine on you this glorious season...and always.

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

Are you 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 Sunday, December 4 until Sunday, December 18, 2016 with honor cards for purchase for \$10 each supporting the following ministries:

1. **Bread for the World:** A collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision-makers to end hunger at home and abroad by changing the policies, programs and conditions that allow hunger to continue.
2. **Heifer International:** A non-profit organization dedicated to ending hunger through providing livestock and training in environmentally sound agriculture to those with genuine need.
3. **Habitat for Humanity of Durham:** A non-profit organization that creates partnerships to build, restore and repair safe, decent and affordable homes for low income families.
4. **Hurricane Matthew Relief in NC:** This is the ministry focus for the NC Conference of the United Methodist Church this year. Many of our neighbors in the eastern part of our state are still struggling to recover from Matthew's flooding and devastation. 100% of your gifts go to the victims of Hurricane Matthew.
5. **Urban Ministries of Durham:** Provides food, shelter, clothing and supportive services to our neighbors in need.
6. **Families Moving Forward (formerly IHN):** Provides transitional housing and moves families into residential stability and self-sufficiency by mobilizing congregations and people of faith.
7. **Backpack Ministry:** Epworth's own program which provides food for the weekend for 50 children of need who attend Hope Valley Elementary School.
8. **Epworth United Methodist Church Ceiling Repair:** As we celebrate the birth of the Christ child in our newly repaired and repainted Sanctuary, please consider gifts to Epworth above and beyond your pledge this year to help pay for our Sanctuary repairs. We have raised \$41,000 to date and need an additional \$9000 to pay off the entire debt.
9. **Fond Doux Foundation:** A foundation created by Epworth United Methodist Church to assist families of Haiti to enjoy better nutrition and health through enriched foods and training to those with genuine need.

## **MEMORIALS and OTHER GIFTS**

In memory of Trish Robertson: from Nancy Myers (to Music Ministries), Mary Ellen Ayres (to Endowment), and Betty Ketch.

In memory of Marg Mann To the Love Feast Endowment Fund from Jim Kimbrough and Judy Strickland.

In memory of Rod Myers and in honor of Kathy and Harry Dutton to the Love Feast from Nancy Myers

In memory of Lanny Lambert Sr. from Louise McKee.

\*\*Plaques have been placed on the Endowment Board in memory of Trish Robertson and Lanny Lambert, Sr. indicating gifts to the Endowment Fund made in their memory.

**THE NURSERY WILL BE AVAILABLE** At the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service and the 11:00 a.m. service on Christmas Day.

**NEEDED BY URBAN MINISTRIES** (PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DONATIONS IN THE CONTAINERS NEAR THE CHURCH OFFICE).

- 1) Girls' underwear sizes 4-T to 8, Boys underwear sizes 2T – 16. Socks for boys and girls
- 2) For the Food Pantry: cereal, canned fruit, canned meat, mac and cheese


**NEW MEMBER CLASS** If you have been attending Epworth and would like more information about the church or church membership, we invite you to attend the 2 part class at 9:50 on January 23 and 29 in the conference room in the church office. Please speak to one of the pastors if you wish to participate.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS FOR LC'S (ages 50 and up!)**

- Monday, December 19... We will have our annual Christmas luncheon and (musical program) at Croasdaile Village at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are needed, as well as your preference for an entrée: salmon or chicken. Cost is \$12.
- January 16, 2017... We will go to the Videri Chocolate Factory in Raleigh, leaving the church at 10:30 a.m., taking the self-guided tour at 11:00. Lunch will be across the street at the Pitt Barbecue Restaurant at noon. Join us for fun and fellowship!

**FROM THE CHURCH KITCHEN** If you or your group have any items stored in the freezer, please remove them by the first of the new year as we are cleaning the freezer. Thanks. Jim Wilcox, Kitchen Committee

**DECEMBER, 2016 - JANUARY, 2017**

<p><b>18 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>                  7:30 PraiseTeam  <b>8:30, 9:00 and 11:00 Worship -</b>                  9:50 Sunday School                  2:00 Boy Scout Court of Honor                  4:00 Blue Christmas Service -St. Paul's                  5:30 Potluck Dinner and Advent Study</p>	<p>19                  11:30 LC's At Croasdaile Village                  3:30 Tutoring</p>	<p>20                  10:30 Staff Meeting                  1:30 Care Group                  6:00 Yoga.                  7:00 Boy Scouts</p>	<p>21                  9:00 AM Altar Guild: Install &amp; Decorate Pew Candelabras                  12:00 Advent Devotions                  3:30 Tutoring                  3:30 Prayer Group                  6:00 Handbells                  6:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>22                  7:00 AA</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24  <b>Christmas Eve</b>                  5:00 Family Service                  7:00 Communion and Cantata  </p>
<p><b>25 Christmas</b>  <b>11:00 Service of Lessons and Carols</b></p>	<p>26                  Christmas Holiday Church Office Closed</p>	<p>27                  Church Office open                  10:00 -1:00</p>	<p>28                  9 AM Altar Guild: Disassemble Pew Candelabras                  Church Office open                  10:00 - 1:00</p>	<p>29                  Church Office open                  10:00-1:00</p>	<p>30                  Church Office Closed</p>	<p>31</p>
<p><b>January 1, 2017</b>                  8:45 and 11:00 Services in the Sanctuary</p>	<p>2                  Church Office Closed for New Year's Holiday</p>	<p>3                  1:30 Care Group                  6:00 Yoga                  7:00 Boy Scouts</p>	<p>4.                  3:30 Tutoring                  3:30 Prayer Group                  7:00 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>5                  11:00 Bible Study                  7:00 AA</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>

