



# ETCHINGS

919/489-6557

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

December 12, 2018

Friends,

What a beautiful and majestic snow that graced our landscape last weekend! As I was snowed in and doing some readings for upcoming sermons, I came across these words by David J. Schlafer: *Some things cannot just be said; they must be sung. In seasons of sorrow or joy, in settings where we are mired in despair or swept up in hope, experience finds fullest voice not in the sequence of words but in lines of melody.* These words joyously describe this coming Sunday as we will have two services full of powerful and glorious music to share the message of this Advent and Christmas season. You will not want to miss either one!

This Sunday, December 16 at 10:00am (note the time), the Chancel Choir will present their cantata, "How Great Our Joy" by Lloyd Larson and Douglas E. Wagner. (Also note that Sunday School will be at 9:00am this morning.) The children will sing during children's time. Refreshments will follow the service. Church bus pickup at Croasdaile is at 8:15am and at The Forest at Duke at 8:35am.

Also, that evening (postponed from last week) is Epworth's annual LOVE FEAST at 7:30pm. You'll want to be sure to come early as the music begins at 7:00pm. Church bus pickup at Croasdaile is at 6:30pm and at The Forest at Duke at 6:45pm.

December 16 is also the first day of our BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH campaign. I encourage all of you to bring your friends to come and experience the joy and magic of this holy season. "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness---on them light has shined." --Isaiah 9:2

Also, speaking of the light coming into the world, I want to give a special thanks to the witness and worship committees and Jay Hallan for sharing the beautiful nativity scene that adorns the church yard.

See you all Sunday!

Pastor Karen

December 16

Ushers: Jim Wilcox, Mike Shiflett, John Lott, A West

Counters: Fred Mowry, Todd Benware

Sound Technician: Christopher Thomas Liturgist: Brennan Sullivan Bus

Driver: Steve Smith Greeters: Mike Shiflett, Elaine Hardin

Altar Guild: Kathy and Harry Dutton, Joyce Dalgleish,

Kenneth Roberts, Judy Daymont

Acolyte: Caleb Engel Crucifer: Ben Engel

ECUMENICAL BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Tuesday, Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m. is for those who find this ~~service~~ because of the loss of a loved one. Everyone is welcome.

Monday, December 2

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 p.m. Children/Family Service –  
an interactive Children's Nativity and Communion

7:30 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Service  
with Communion and Candlelight



MEMORIALS

In memory of Harriet Childs

from Heather Gale, Rick and Claudia Childs (Care Group), from the ~~Childs~~ family in tribute to Rev. Karen Whitaker (Pastor's Discretionary Fund) and to the Martha Society, and from Michael J. Graziano and Pamela J. Pepsin (~~a~~ Group).

In memory of Rod Myers to the Love Feast from Nancy Myers.

In memory of Dee Stanley from Nancy Myers (Choir) and Judy Daymont (Music Ministries).

## FROM OUR 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!

### STEWARDSHIP 2019

If you have not yet filled out a pledge card for 2019 and would like to do so, please stop by the office to pick one up or contact the church office at 96557 or [office@epworth-umc.org](mailto:office@epworth-umc.org) and we can mail or email one to you.

End of Year Finance Office News.....

All financial gifts received on or before Sunday, December 30, 2018 will be recorded on your 2018 year-end giving statement.

**OUTREACH CHRISTMAS CARDS** The Outreach Committee will again be selling "Gifts of Grace" Christmas cards. You can purchase cards for \$10 each for your friends and family and help support your favorite charity. We'll have cards for the following charities as Urban Ministries, Families Moving Forward, Haiti Mission, Heifer, Epworth's back pack ministry and Bread for the World.

**YOU ARE INVITED** Please join us in celebrating Elaine Herndon's 60th birthday and Bob Hodgins' 75th birthday, and Elaine and Bob's 25th wedding anniversary on Saturday, January 5, 2019, 2-5 pm in Fellowship Hall. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be served. Family and friends welcome. Best wishes only; no gifts please. Please RSVP to Lisa at [lthain@rogers.com](mailto:lthain@rogers.com) or call Kim at 470-231-2313 by December 30, 2018.

**YOUTH** Information you need will be in the "weekly word".

DECEMBER 2018

<b>16</b> <b>Sunday School 9:00</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Service:10:00</b> <b>7:30 Love Feast</b>	<b>17</b> <b>3:15</b> <b>Tutoring</b>	<b>18</b> <b>6:45 Men's</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>10:30 Staff</b> <b>Mtg.</b> <b>12:00 Advent</b> <b>Devotionals</b> <b>1:30 Care</b> <b>Group</b> <b>6:00 Yoga</b> <b>6:30 Blue</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Service at</b> <b>St. Paul's</b>	<b>19</b> <b>10:00</b> <b>Preschool</b> <b>Program</b> <b>3:00 Prayer</b> <b>Group</b> <b>3:15 Tutoring</b> <b>6:30 UMMen</b> <b>at Bennett Pt.</b> <b>6:30 Chancel</b> <b>Choir party</b>	<b>20</b> <b>7:00 AA</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <b>7:30 Praise Team</b> <b>Rehearsal</b> <b>Worship Services:</b> <b>8:30, 9:00, 11:00</b> <b>9:50 Sunday School</b> <b>10:15 Chancel Choir</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Eve</b> <b>Services</b> <b>5:00 and</b> <b>7:30</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Day</b>  <b>Church office</b> <b>Closed thru</b> <b>Jan. 1</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>7:00 AA</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <b>7:30 Praise Team</b> <b>Rehearsal</b> <b>Worship Services:</b> <b>8:30, 9:00, 11:00</b> <b>9:50 Sunday School</b> <b>10:15 Chancel Choir</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>JAN. 1, 2019</b>  <b>Happy New</b> <b>Year!!!</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 AA</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

*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.*

CHURCH STAFF

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