



Centenary United Methodist Church

2300 W. Friendly Avenue

Greensboro, NC 27403

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor- Anita Trumpler-Rich, Director of Music

Announcements for Ministry and Missions

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship.....*Go, Tell it on the Mountain*

One: Today is the third Sunday of Advent, and so we light the candle of joy.

All: Joy is new life beating in a heart that has been broken.

One: Joy is awakening to a new morning from a nightmare of grief.

All: Joy is a flight sunward on wings you had forgotten you had.

One: Joy is God's melody amid the discord of life, a song carrying the rhythm of eternity, tuned to hope and peace, touching the chords of longing in our souls. The coming of Christ is Good News of great joy!

All: We give thanks to God for the promise of full joy that this season brings to light.

One: Let us worship God!

All: We have come to worship and to prepare our hearts to receive Good News of Great joy.

Hymn:.....*There's a Song in the Air #249 v.1&2*

*There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!
There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry!
And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!*

*There's a tumult of joy o'er the wonderful birth,
for the virgin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.
Ay! the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!*

Lighting of The Third Advent Candle.....Adele & Leith Singletary

Musical Response: O Come, O Come Emmanuel #211 v.3

*O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on
Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.*

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Joys and Concerns of Congregation and Community

Birthdays This Week Scott Stanley (13), Bobby Burklin (15), Haley Saunders (17), Clara Ellis, Mark Schlueter, Geoff Horn (18), Nancy Carrick (19)

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

We worship with our Tithes and God’s Offering

We want to thank you each week for your gifting of your monetary donations to the church for the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. Your faithfulness is very appreciated.

The months of December and January we are going to have our over and above offering be designated for our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Dominican Republic. Our team is saddened that we cannot physically be there to share in healing ministry, but the pandemic has changed that for us also. We can still be resources of money to help with the orphanage, buying medical needs and resourcing the clinic, as well as rice and beans. So, if God puts it upon your heart to give to the Dominican Republic, please make the check out to Centenary UMC with the DR in the memo line.

Offertory.....*The Summons*

Scripture: Galatians 6: 2, Hebrews 13: 1-3

Sermon: Joy: It’s A Wonderful Life

Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he

ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn*Joy to the World #246, v. 1&2*

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while
fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat
the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

Benediction

Choral Benediction.....*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

The Altar Flowers are given today by Scott Stanley



Angel Tree for Seniors Opportunity

Carolina Pines Home where Louise Woods resides has an angel tree for their residents for Christmas. They have 7 angels left. My family always adopts 3. Their needs are very humble. For example the one of the women whom I am sponsoring wants Pepsi, snacks, a blanket and hygiene products. As stated, they only have 7 angels left. If you contact Melissa, the Activities Director , at [336\) 522-5600](tel:3365225600). She will give you an angel. The gifts are due in a gift bag to Carolina Pines by December 21st. Please consider gifting to a Senior.

Prayer Concerns

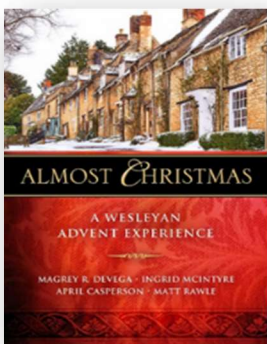
If you have a prayer concern or praise, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643, or call Kelley at the parsonage. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation or

only with the pastoral staff.

The Prayer Chain has received requests to pray for the following people:

Jim Adams, tested positive for Covid. **Peggy Smith. Nina Stowe Aunt**, declining dementia. **Donald Stowe**, health. **Abbie Samuels**, eye surgery. **Peggy Harris**, eye surgery. **Jean Farabee**, Cone Hospital. **Friend of Kelley Groces, Karen Dolbear** palliative care. **Barbara Blackman's sister, Dorthey Wessels. Buddy Durham father of Mandy and Jessica Durham. Dean Saunders**, collapsed lung. **Mary Louise Woods**, tested positive for the Covid-19 virus. **Dwight Adams, Coak and Nancy May's niece's husband** who is hospitalized and on a ventilator with Covid-19. **Bonnie Travis' sister, Peggy Mayo** having chemo. **Bonnie Travis' granddaughter** needs prayer. **Paul Long's younger brother and sister-in-law, Dan and Sharon Long**, both have the Covid-19 virus. **Ann Hennings. Joann Martin** fell and broke her left hip. **Peggy Bowles. Mike Crabtree. Amy Coffee** and her grandmother-Ruby Foland . **Sally Goin's friend Janice Osborne. Jackie Thompson's mom-Lucille Crawford. Friend of Betty Durham-Julia Willis. Judy Milligan, Noah Demmitt, Don & Clara Ellis, Chuck Farabee, Trudy Sillmon, Rachel Sheppard, and Pat Stevenson.** Please, keep all in your prayers as so many who are dealing with many anxieties over the coronavirus.

Continue to lift up Centenary UMC in prayer. The leadership of the church is working on creative ways to bring smaller groups in for study and worship.



New Advent Study-Almost Christmas

When: Sunday mornings @10:00am

Dates: Advent Study will begin November 29 –
December 20 (4 weeks)

Where: via zoom

Make your Wesleyan heritage
a part of your Christmas

In John Wesley's famous sermon, "The Almost Christian," he encouraged people to follow Christ wholeheartedly. In *Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience*, author and pastor

Magrey deVega leads a group of authors in exploring how we can make the same commitment to Christ during Advent, and connect our Wesleyan heritage with the traditional Advent themes of Love, Hope, Joy, and Peace. Additional components for a four-week study include a DVD and a comprehensive Leader Guide, as well as Nativity hymns by Charles Wesley, litanies for lighting the Advent wreath, and prayers that can be incorporated into both worship and small group Setting. You may order the book, which would be helpful, thru Cokesbury, Amazon, or Christianbooks.com

Today, December 13th at 2:00pm there will be a blessing of the Animals on the front lawn with the manger. Socially distanced, mask required, and lovable animals requested.

On Christmas Eve we are asking people to put a white lit candle on their front porch to symbolize the light of Christ on Christmas Eve and to allow it to symbolize all being unified in holding the white Candle during the singing of Silent Night on Christmas Eve night.



Worship Bags are available in the office if you would like to pick up one for Christmas Eve.

⇒ **Dominican Republic** -Each year for over 20 years , Centenary UMC has helped sponsor a medical mission team that goes to the Dominican Republic (usually in January). Unfortunately, we will not be able to go to the Dominican Republic in January due to the coronavirus. Please consider giving what you can to this mission project. We will send the donation in January 2021. A check payable to CUMC with "The Dominican Project 2021" on the memo line may be sent to CUMC, 2300 W. Friendly Avenue, Greensboro, NC 27403. **You can drop off check on December 20th 1-2:00pm.**

⇒ **We will collecting rice and beans for the Urban Ministry on December 20 1-2:00pm**

⇒ **Quarantine Cooking-Cookbook**



Share you favorite recipes and help with our DR fundraising, and get the entire recipe booklet for your contribution! Suggested donation of \$5/recipe included or submit 5 for \$20. You can submit your recipes to Libby in the office along with your check. Deadline 1/31/2021.



⇒ **Rice and Bean Luncheon Sunday, January 17**

On Sunday, January 17 we will have our rice and bean luncheon. Due to the Covid virus it will be pickup only. Email Pastor Kelley or call Libby in the office to reserve you meals.



The office will be closed for Christmas and New Year's Holiday, December 23, 24, & 25, 31.