



FARMVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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God's Calling for FUMC: For the Glory of God - Empowered by the Holy Spirit - We Passionately Seek God's Truth and Boldly Share the Grace and Love of Jesus Christ!

December 2018



THE
CHRISTMAS
Story

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MESSAGE FROM PASTOR STEVE....

Everyone knows that this is a season for big things. There are big family gatherings taking place from sea to shining sea as people who might only get together for special holidays make big travel plans and cause big problems in our airports and on our highways. There are big feasts prepared with endless hours of labor to be served up on great big tables. There will be big bills to pay as many of us rack up big debts to buy gifts for our friends and loved ones, and every child is eager to tear open the big gift first.

But what if God is gently whispering to us in the small things? That seems to be what Jesus likes to do. For all of the Bible's big claims about who the Christ-child is: King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Prince of Peace, and Son of God, Jesus keeps finding ways to humbly reveal himself to us that are shockingly, unexpectedly, small. Born to us in a feed trough, he lived in a lowly rural place called "nowhere," and he died on a common Roman cross as one unworthy of adoration. Despite his many miracles, many refused to believe in Jesus because his life seemed so pitifully small in a world where only big things matter.

I think Jesus still likes to show up in our lives in ways that are unexpectedly and sometimes shockingly small. Can you see him? He's there in the love of the meek whom we've so often taken for granted. He's there in the poor little overlooked gifts hand-crafted with only you in mind. He's still there in the small moments when the holiday chaos has passed you by like an Atlantic hurricane and only the quiet and the mess remain in your home. We keep expecting Jesus to make a grand entrance to our overcrowded inn, and time after time we keep finding him in that messy old manger out back- the myriads of daily blessings and miracles we see but never truly notice. This Christmas season of hustle and noise, be mindful of the small things, for that is exactly where our Jesus likes to be.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Steve Dunn



LIVING Nativity

Only two weeks until the Live Nativity. It will take place two nights, December 15 and 16 from 6:30-8:30pm. It takes a lot of people to make our live nativity possible, 56 each night. Please consider helping on either Saturday the 15 or Sunday the 16 so we can offer this wonderful gift to our community again. Sign-up sheets are on the information desk and in Sunday's bulletin. Just complete the sign-up sheet and drop it in the offering plate on Sunday or bring it by the church office. Thank you for helping make our Live Nativity a success!
Lynn Faircloth, Nativity Coordinator



The Away Day Group will meet Wednesday, December 5 at 10:00am. We will have a Christmas Party, so bring your favorite Christmas goodies and join us for a fun morning. Our adopted sisters will be with us to help us celebrate Christmas.



FUMW will have a "Cozy Christmas Gathering" at the home of Nancy Harris on Mon, Dec. 17 at 6:30pm.

Everyone is asked to bring "pick-up" food. Please RSVP by Dec. 14. If your plans change then "Come anyway?" Contact Nancy by text to 252-341-4061; by email – pinharri@hotmail.com or 252-753-6155.

Peanut Fundraiser...

Thanks to everyone in our church for helping make the peanut fundraiser a success. Peanuts can be picked up on Monday, Dec. 3. We sold around \$5,900 and should make just under \$2,000.



One of the main things the MYF focused on last month was planning for the New Year. We discussed what the youth thought MYF should be. Then we discussed what the future would hold for our group. We also attended the Thanksgiving Service at First Christian Church. The youth of our community showed in great numbers to show support.

On December 15th at 3, the youth will be caroling around town. If there is any one you would like for us to go see, please let Hunter Walters know as soon as you can. Also that weekend, we will be participating in the Live Nativity.

And as always, thank you for your continued support.



2019 Pledge Cards

Included with this newsletter you will find a pledge card for 2019. As 2018 comes to an end, we encourage you to spend some time prayerfully reflecting on your giving. We ask this not to pressure or guilt you. You are under no obligation. We present these pledge cards to you instead as a simple opportunity to worship and give thanks to God by supporting the work of this congregation in whatever capacity brings peace to your heart. In your giving, may you be richly blessed!
-2018 Stewardship Team



THE GIVING TREE – GIFTS FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Working again with the Methodist Home for Children and the Pitt Co. Dept. of Social Services, we will provide gifts for adults and children. Our **Christmas Giving Tree** outside the Fellowship Hall contains **names of children and adults in foster care in Pitt Co**, along with gift suggestions. Some of the names are already taken, there are a few left. Pick out a name, buy a gift, help make someone's Christmas better this year. The gifts are **due by Dec 12**. **For any questions or to make a monetary donation see Cindy Parks or Debra Evans.**

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS.....

I admire the way our Christmas decorations have come together so nicely at FUMC. The 1st thing I noticed on the Sunday after Thanksgiving was our GIVING TREE which gives the true spirit of Christmas. The tags are going quickly but monetary donations are welcomed for the stockings.

Just prior to the HANGING OF THE GREENS someone kindly hung all the outdoor wreaths while it was still light enough to work - Thank You! Another secret someone got our heavy Christmas trees out of storage so they could be decorated. Several members hung garlands and set up the nativity scene, etc., after which we all enjoyed delicious refreshments. A total of 22 people helped decorate this year - and even more will do so when the Youth complete the process in the fellowship hall!

Other ways our church will celebrate the birth of our Savior is thru our music ministry. Both groups are practicing SPECIAL MUSIC - I can hardly wait for the morning of Dec. 23! Our LIVE NATIVITY is planned for Dec. 15 and Dec. 16 and our Youth will go CHRISTMAS CAROLING.

THANKS to everyone who is making all this happen. All of this and more --- FOR THE GLORY OF GOD ---- EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT ---!
Blessings to All,
Marion Stowe



**BIRTHDAY PARTY
FOR BABY JESUS**

Sun., Dec. 23 - (during regular Sunday school time) the children's

Sunday school classes will celebrate the birth of the Baby Jesus with a birthday party. Parents are welcome.



**CHURCH-WIDE
CHRISTMAS CAROLING
DEC. 16 – 3:00pm**

We'll meet at the church at **2pm and plan on leaving around 3:30pm**. If there is a home you would like us to stop by, please call the church office. After caroling, we will come back to the church to enjoy some hot chocolate and treats. If you are planning to participate, **please bring a treat to share**.



**Christmas For
Back Pack Pals**

Christmas is upon us so it's time for Christmas backpacks. We will be placing a small box of cereal,

a small box of poptarts, several protein items that are light weight (mac & cheese, noodle bowls, etc.) snack items that are notorious like pudding cups, 4 pack applesauce. **(No peanut butter, nabs, any products with nuts)** We will need to **pack by December 10**. Thanks for anything you choose to do. You may leave all items in food room on backpack side. Donations would be appreciated,



**DECEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**

- Dec. 3: Jamie Cleveland**
- Dec. 4: Garland Mozingo**
- Dec. 8: Delane Fuquay**
- Dec. 13: Ann Rogers**

- Dec. 14: Bert Warren, Sr.**
- Dec. 16: Cindy Parks**
- Dec. 21: Mary Allen**
- Dec. 25: Player Eason**

REMINDER

All contributions for 2018 should be in the church office before December 31 to go on this year's statement



Please Be In Prayer For... Rufus Cochran (health), Tracey Smith

(health), Mary Allen (peace), Minnie Lee Winborn (health), Billy & Gray Baker (health), John Sherman (health), Jean Padgett, (healing), Wendy Little (healing), Janice Wilkerson (healing), Jackie Stevenson (healing), Laura Whitehurst (healing), Eric Thomas (recovery), Evelyn Stevens (health), Melody McKeel (healing), Bob Hodge, (healing), Asher Eastwood (healing), Jatha Jenkins, (healing), Andrew Parks (healing), Kristin Sanford, Logan Barnes (healing), Jean Price (healing), David Gay (healing), Anne McGaughey, (healing) Jilayne Erwin, (healing), Sandy Matthews (healing) Jim Duyck (healing), Sandy Tugwell (healing), Wayne Copeland (healing), Ruben Matthews (healing) Wanda Hancock (healing) Paula Tugwell (healing) Bob Paul (healing).



Thank you to everyone who has provided refreshments this fall for our fellowship time following the Early Service. Hope we can volunteer to fill the December Sundays. Often have visitors during December so great to have Sunday morning refreshments for them. A calendar for 2019 is now beside the coffee pot in the Fellowship Hall for those who may wish to begin signing up for the New Year. Thanks, Nancy



ADDRESSES----

Hilda Medlin
435 NW Rutland Rd. #207
Mt. Juliet, TN 37122

Hazel Jones
6397 US Hwy 13
Farmville, NC 27828

Minnie Lee Winborn
White Stone Masonic &
Eastern Star Community #306
700 S. Holden Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27407

Laurel Patton
3377 N. Pitt St.
Farmville, NC 27828

Jackie Stevenson
Heritage Healthcare
4351 N. Main St.
Farmville, NC 27828

Jo Ann Benfield
5990 May Blvd
Farmville, NC 27828

Marry Allen
c/o Elizabeth Womack
2508 Colton PL.
Raleigh, NC 27609



The season of Advent began December 2. As in previous years, an Advent offering has been taken for missions. This year, the Advent offering will be designated to The Pastor's Discretionary Fund. All monies raised will go to this mission. **At any time during the season of Advent you may contribute by using one of the envelope on back of the pew or personal check. Just indicate on the envelope/check "Advent" and drop it in the offering plate.**



Christmas Eve Worship Service will be at 5:00pm.



**Blessings!
From Your FUMC Staff,
Pastor Steve, Drucilla, Hunter,
Aubrey, Melody, Bill and Nan
A Sincere Thank You
To The Congregation of FUMC
For your Love and Support in 2018**

Farmville United Methodist Church
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Farmville, NC 27828-0153
Phone 252-753-4803
E-Mail – church@farmvilleumc.com
Webpage: www.FarmvilleUMC.com

Return Service Requested

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Dunn – sdunn@nccumc.org
Admin. Assist.: Nan Walston – chuch@farmvilleumc.com
Organist/Music Director: Drucilla Lamm – choir@farmvilleumc.com
Youth Director: Hunter Walters - youth@farmvilleumc.com
Children's Ministry – Melody Ballard – children@farmvilleumc.com
Praise Team Leader: Aubrey Digh – praiseteam@farmvilleumc.com



December 2018

11:00am Traditional Worship

USHERS

- Dec. 2: David Monroe
- Dec. 9: Garland Mozingo
- Dec. 16: David Stowe
- Dec. 23: Charles Walston
- Dec. 30: Mike Terrell

ALTAR FLOWERS

Dec. 2 - Dec. 30 - Christmas Decorations

SANCTUARY GREETERS

- Dec. 2: Rachel Patterson & Anita Powell
- Dec. 9: David & Marion Stowe
- Dec. 16: Mike & Paula Tugwell
- Dec. 23: Buzzy & Margaret Wells
- Dec. 30: Hunter & Melissa Walters

WELCOMING GREETERS

- Dec. 2: David & Harriett Baker
- Dec. 9: Brad & Tracie Durrett
- Dec. 16: Charles & Hassell Eason
- Dec. 23: Debra Evans & Margo Sherman
- Dec. 30: Dwayne & Kristi Benfield

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

- Dec. 9:
- Dec. 16: Tracie Durrett
- Dec. 23: Mae Dunn
- Dec. 30: Pastor Steve

NURSERY - INFANTS TO AGE 5

- Dec. 2: Tracie Durrett
- Dec. 9: Mary Monroe
- Dec. 16: Paula Tugwell
- Dec. 23: Tracie Durrett
- Dec. 30: Allison Eastwood

8:30AM PRAISE & WORSHIP

USHERS/GREETER

- Dec. 2: Dwayne Benfield
- Dec. 9: Robert Heath
- Dec. 16: Randy Erwin
- Dec. 23: Mary Anne Pennington
- Dec. 30: Mike Terrell

KID'S KORNER

- Dec. 9: Julie Kingrey
- Dec. 16: Joy Fields
- Dec. 23: Teresa Parent

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FELLOWSHIP MEALS

No Meals for the Month of December  
Jan. 9: UMWomen Group 3

YOUTH MEETING AND SUPPER SCHEDULE

- Dec. 2: 6pm, Regular Meeting  
Supper - Lynda Kachman
- Dec. 9: 6pm, Regular Meeting
- Dec. 16: TBA
- Dec. 23: No Youth - Merry Christmas!
- Dec. 30: No Youth - Happy New Year!

Statistical Report for November 2018

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Ave. Sunday School Attendance ----- | 23           |
| Ave. Worship Attendance -----       | 77           |
| Ave. Offerings-----                 | \$2,622.00   |
| Need to Date-----                   | \$240,252.48 |
| Raised to Date-----                 | \$212,163.10 |



# December 2018



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                    | Tue                                                                                        | Wed                                                          | Thu                        | Fri                        | Sat                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                    |                                                                                            |                                                              |                            |                            | 1<br>Set Up<br>Nativity                                                                             |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 2<br>8:30am Praise & Worship<br>9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments<br>10:00am Sunday School<br>11:00am Traditional Worship<br>6:00pm Youth Regular Meeting                       | 3                                                                  | 4<br>7:00pm<br>Community Men's<br>Group                                                    | 5<br>10:00am<br>Away Day                                     | 6<br>7:00pm<br>Sober Life  | 7                          | 8                                                                                                   |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 9<br>8:30am Praise & Worship<br>9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments<br>10:00am Sunday School<br>11:00am Traditional Worship<br>6:00pm Youth Regular Meeting                       | 10<br>7:00pm<br>UMMen's Supper                                     | 11<br>7:00pm<br>Community Men's<br>Group                                                   | 12<br>7:00pm<br>Choir Rehearsal<br>7:00pm<br>Financial Peace | 13<br>7:00pm<br>Sober Life | 14                         | 15<br>6:00pm<br> |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 16<br>8:30am Praise & Worship<br>9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments<br>10:00am Sunday School<br>11:00am Traditional Worship<br>6:30pm Live Nativity<br>3:00pm Christmas Caroling | 17<br>6:30pm<br>A Cozy Gartering<br>UMW – home of<br>Nancy Harris  | 18<br>7:00pm<br>Community Men's<br>Group                                                   | 19<br>7:00pm<br>Choir Rehearsal<br>7:00pm<br>Financial Peace | 20<br>7:00pm<br>Sober Life | 21<br><br>Office<br>Closed | 22                                                                                                  |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 23<br>8:30am Praise & Worship<br>9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments<br>10:00am Sunday School<br>11:00am Traditional Worship and<br>Chancel Choir's Christmas Cantata<br>No Youth | 24<br>5:00pm<br>Christmas Eve<br>Candle Light<br><br>Office Closed | 25<br> | 26<br><br>No Choir<br>No Finance<br>Peace                    | 27<br>7:00pm<br>Sober Life | 28                         | 29                                                                                                  |
| <b>Combined Worship</b> 30<br>10:00am Sunday School<br>11:00am Combined Worship<br>No Youth                                                                                                                           | 31<br><br>New Year's Eve                                           |        |                                                              |                            |                            |                                                                                                     |