



CELEBRATING

Our Partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ



FITH US

The Newsletter, A Publication of the Farmville United Methodist December 2012

Christmas greetings, and may God's grace and peace be with you!

With the Christmas Season now in full swing, we all are getting barraged with feelings to **buy** this or that...to **do** this or that...and to **run** here and there-----so a gentle and loving reminder to us all—let us do our best...to not lose sight of who we are to **BE** for Jesus!

As a believer in the Christ child, we are called to **be different**...in----but not of the world! God's word teaches us to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:39)...to minister to those in need—like giving something to eat and drink to the hungry and thirsty...giving clothing to those in need...helping to care for the sick and hurting...visiting those in prison and alone (Matthew 25: 34-40)...and to live and be guided by the Spirit—revealing the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-25).

To **be** this way is to put away bitterness, wrath, anger, wrangling and slander! To **be** this way is to be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another...as God in Christ has forgiven us! (Ephesians 4:31-32)

So, with the Christmas Season now in full swing...as we get out all the decorations from our storage space...venture into all the stores and malls, dodging all the shopping carts and crowds and then waiting in extremely long checkout lines...struggling to make it through the stop light before it turns red and we have to wait for yet another sequence of lights...trying to make sure we have all the ingredients to prepare that special dinner...go through all the picture taking trying to capture that perfect picture...and please feel free to continue this list by adding your own to it...let us remember--

Christ was born...lived his life...died on the cross...and was resurrected to life...so that you and I could **be different**...become a new creation!

So brothers and sisters, we do have so much to celebrate...so much to give thanks for...so many reasons to **BE** this Christmas Season—the light and example of God's Son, Jesus Christ—to the different world around us!

To God be the glory...for the King of kings and the Lord of lords—**The Savior is born!**

May you and yours have a joy filled...blessed Christmas Season!!

Take care...peace....

Pastor Bill



**Today, Tomorrow, and
Beyond, GOD is Calling Us
To.....!**

**For God, who commanded
the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined
in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge
of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 4:6 (KJ21)**

Holiday Helpers was a huge success! The decorations were beautiful – thanks to Polly Galloway, Diane Warren, and Marion Stowe. Thanks to Lindsay Annis, Nancy Jessup, and Delane Fuquay for advertising and getting the word out. Thanks to Kay Crossan, Ann McGaughey, and Debra Evans for collecting money. Thanks to Pat Sumrell for providing refreshments. Thanks to Marion Stowe for taking care of the Silent Auction. Thanks to Pat Sumrell and Gray Baker for taking care of the white elephant table. And a special thanks to EVERYONE who donated food, Silent Auction items and money, and to those who worked before, during and after the event. Holiday Helpers raised a total of \$2,322.75. The money will be used for missions.

The church is beautifully decorated with its bows, wreaths, trees, and manger scenes. THANK YOU to all the ladies, gentlemen, boys, and girls who helped to decorate our church!

Next Special Event for the Sound District United Methodist Women:

January 19th (ALOTS Day) – Local Officer Training Day – Centenary UMC, 309 New Street, New Bern, NC – registration is at 9:30 a.m.

December Circle Meetings

Circle III – December 4th – Christmas dinner at Plank Road – 6:30 p.m. Contact Willa Rae Bullock or Debra Evans

Circle IV – December 10th at the home of Jean Price – 7:00 p.m.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

It has truly been a blessing to serve as Co-Presidents of the Farmville United Methodist Women for the past two years. Darlene Gaynor and Nancy Harris will be taking over as Co-Presidents in January 2013. Your continued support and prayers for our women's program is much needed and appreciated.

***Friends in Faith,
Connie Mazingo, Debbie Terrell***

Thank You to
Our Staff

Dear Congregation,

It's the time of the year that we like to show our appreciation to our wonderful staff here at FUMC. If you would like to make a contribution toward the gift for our staff, you may do so by dropping of your donation by the church office or by giving it to me by December 21st. Please mark your checks in the memo "Staff Gift".

Thanks to everyone and have a very blessed and Merry Christmas!!

God Bless,
Mike Tugwell,
Chairman, Administrative Council



We do have people signed up to provide refreshments in the fellowship hall following the 8:30 am worship service during December. Hope many of you will join us for a time of fellowship, coffee, and food. What a great opportunity to meet and talk with many of the visitors we will probably have during the Christmas season. The January 2013 calendar is beside the coffee pot for those of you who wish to sign up to provide refreshments in the New Year. Many thanks to those who did refreshments in 2012.



The Youth would like to thank you all for your prayers and support for our trip to Pilgrimage last month! I am happy to report that it was a great trip all around! The Youth experienced some amazing worship at the Crown Coliseum in Fayetteville and a day of fun at Camp Rockfish. I would also like to personally thank all the chaperones that attended and helped make the trip successful as well as all of you that made the great "goodies" that we enjoyed throughout the weekend. So again, thank you all! Here are a few "special items" to let you know about in December...

December 12th (Wednesday Night Supper)- The Youth is hosting a "Fiesta" themed supper! We will be serving beef tacos! There will be a "taco bar" with all the fixings. Please join in fellowship with us to celebrate this wonderful time of year in a little different way!

December 13th- We will be Caroling! Please meet at the church at 5:30 pm.

Jonathan



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

The UMMen are hosting a special movie night, **Friday, December 14 at**

6:30pm, featuring the movie, **Arthur Christmas**. Take a trip to the North Pole and discover exactly how Santa Claus makes Christmas magic happen every year in this imaginative comedy for the entire family. This fun-filled holiday film introduces viewers to Santa's mischievous son Arthur, who races to complete an important mission in time to ensure that this year's Christmas celebrations will go off without a hitch. No charge for the movie. Drink, popcorn, hotdogs will be available. Proceeds will go the youth.



Back Pack Pals started the year with a bang. **We are serving 16 children**, but only eight families, as all our bags

are doubles. Due to your wonderful support of "Fill the Pew Sunday" we had to purchase only about \$1000.00 worth of food so far but that is quickly coming to a close as a large portion of the food donated has been used.

I have **two requests** of you now. **(1) Continue to pray for the families who are being served through this ministry.** Though I do not know names I do know the circumstance of some of the families. These families need our prayers – for jobs, healing for both children and parents, introduction to Jesus Christ in their lives – to name a few needs. **(2) Consider making a Christmas donation to the Back Pack Pals in honor or memory of someone dear to you.** I can't imagine anything more honoring. Thank you in advance for these considerations.



We will have **no fellowship meals on Wednesday, December 19 and 26.** We will

begin the New Year with a meal prepared by the men on Wednesday, January 2. Please consider availing yourself of the opportunity for fellowship during this special midweek time. Good meals are served at a very reasonable price and a time is provided to fellowship with your church family. Attendance has been off this year. I look forward to the New Year, a new start and a great time fellowshiping with you all.



Christmas Worship Schedule

ADVENT GIFTS TO BRING--EACH SUNDAY

The season of Advent is from Sunday, December 2 through Sunday,

December 23. Each week children, youth and even adults are asked to bring that week's item to hang on the Christmas Tree during our worship service. The items can be homemade or purchased. The items to bring are:

December 9—Cut out or bring a picture of a Bible with Dad's name printed on it.

December 16—Cut out or bring an ornament of an angel.

December 23—Bring a Candy Cane.

Except for the Candy cane, please put something on the item for hanging. Also, all items will be available to pick up after the Christmas Eve Service. May your family enjoy the time together preparing these items for each Sunday...as we draw closer to the remembrance and celebration of our Savior's birth.

Other Events During December:

Thursday, Dec. 13: Church-Wide Caroling at 5:30pm

Friday, Dec. 14: Family Movie Night, "Arthur Christmas" at 6:30. Movie begins at 7:00pm

Sunday, Dec. 16: Live Nativity from 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Sunday, Dec. 23: Jesus' Birthday Party during Sunday School at 10:00am

Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata, "A Night of Rejoicing" at 11:00am Traditional Service

Monday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Communion and Candle Light Service at 7:00pm

Office will be closed

Tuesday, Dec. 25: MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

Office will be closed

Sunday, Dec. 30: Combine Worship Service--11:00am.

***Jesus' grandpa will be visiting & bringing the message.**



Baptism –

Lola Camille Grimes, daughter of Erin & Paul and sister of Lance, was baptized during the Traditional Worship Service, Sunday, December 2.

New Member --

Erin Grimes joined our congregation on November 18 during the Traditional Worship Service. As you see Erin, please welcome her. Erin and her family live at 4298 W. Church St.

Death –

Christian sympathy to –

---the family of **George Robert (Bobby) Meeks, Jr.** who died November 21, 2012.



We are offering the chance to honor God and the people special to us, while helping others through giving a contribution in honor or memory of someone to a mission.

A "Giving Tree" card will be printed and put on the tree with the name of the person you are honoring or remembering. We will also have a bulletin listing the same. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex and Chapel with a list of missions. Stop by and fill out the form, and leave your contribution in the envelope along with your information.



The season of giving

This holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported Farmville United Methodist Church this past year with their time, talent and financial contributions and

look forward to support from all of our members in the year ahead. If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings or if you plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up, especially around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. Visit our web site www.farmvilleumc.com or contact the church office for more information.



From the Staff....

**Christmas Blessings!
From Your FUMC Staff
A Sincere Thank You
To The Congregation of FUMC
For your Love and Support in 2012**



Dec. 3: Jamie Cleveland

Dec. 4: Garland Mozingo

Dec. 8: Delane Fuquay

Dec. 13: Ann Rogers

Dec. 14: Bert Warren, Sr.

Dec. 15: Walter Jessup

Dec. 16: Cindy Parks

Dec. 17: Cody Fuquay

Dec. 21: Mary Allen

Dec. 24: Edna Hobgood

Dec. 25: Player Eason

Dec. 28: Tanner Craig



PLEASE BE IN PRAYER

FOR... Andrew Parks and family, Rufus & Evangeline Cochran (health), Horace Allen (health), Tracey Smith (health), Karen Campbell (healing) Denise Stillwell (healing) Edna Erwin (healing), Kailey Eaton (healing), Jean Cuthrell (healing), Minnie Lee Winborn (health), Lee & Nancy Baldree (healing), Kirsten Baker (healing), Alex Alvraez, Jr. (healing), Kesleigh Moore (grief, loss of her newborn baby), family of Bobby Meeks, Carey Gaynor (recovery) Dorothy Wilson (healing, cousin of Eloise Carraway) Tammy Barnes (healing, member at Monk Memorial), Leonard Bullock, (healing, brother of Tommy Bullock), Mr. Midgette, (healing, father of Lisa Midgette), Logan Simonowich (strength, healing and comfort, cousin of Erin Grimes), Vickie Herring (health), Adam Corbett (healing, heart), Teresa Branch (healing, family of Lisa Midgette), Billy Baker (upcoming surgery) unspoken request.

Return Service Requested

Farmville United Methodist Church

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Organist/Music Director: Drucilla Lamm

Youth Director: Jonathan Lemmon - youth@farmvilleumc.com