

Friendship News

Volume 30

December 2008

Issue 12

The Church Calendar in a Hallmark World

This newsletter comes to you at the beginning of a new year according to the calendar of the Christian Church. Advent marks the beginning of each new year as we make preparations to celebrate the birth of Jesus again.

The name “Advent” comes from a Latin word that means “coming.” This is a season that proclaims three comings of Jesus Christ. First, it is a season to mark the days leading up to the birth of the historical Jesus. In contrast to the shopping malls and stores, we see value in remembering the stories that lead up to the coming of the Christ child. Advent is not an extended Christmas; rather, it is a time to remember how God worked in preparing the world for the Christ child. We remember the promises of God through the prophets. We remember the faithfulness of mother Mary when the angel came to her with a special calling. We celebrate the calling of Elizabeth to be the mother of John the Baptist and remember that Jesus’ coming was in the context of family and community.

Advent celebrates a second coming of Jesus, too. Not only did Jesus come to earth as a baby long ago, but also we proclaim that Jesus still comes to earth in many, many ways today. How many of us could tell a story of experiencing the presence of Jesus in our own lives? I’ve certainly had the blessing of sensing the presence of Christ during my time at Berea Friendship. In hospital rooms, nursing homes, houses, and when we gather on Sunday for worship, I have been aware that God’s coming to earth did not end with the birth of Jesus. God continues to come to us day by day, accompanying us along life’s way, both in times of joy and in times of pain.

Finally, Advent is a time to celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ in the last day of history. As our United Methodist Book of Worship says, “[Advent] proclaims the comings of the Christ – whose birth we prepare to celebrate once again, who comes continually in Word and Spirit, and whose return in final victory we anticipate (p. 238).” I’ve never been one to trust much in the many theories that folk put forth regarding the end of time. Instead, I find comfort in the early church teachers who said that when we speak of the final advent of Jesus we know that in the midst of the mystery of it all, God can be trusted with our future. Indeed, one of the great images of the last day from both Old and New Testaments is the feast. On the last day there will be a heavenly banquet...and our job as the church is to invite as many folk as possible to the table where God is praised and people are blessed by their creator.

So Happy Advent to you all. Take time in the midst of the busy season to remember the church’s message in these days. Prepare to give thanks for the baby Jesus. Open your eyes to the coming of Jesus in our midst day by day. And live into the future with great hope and anticipation. Remember, Emmanuel means “God with us,” in the past, in the present, and in the days to come.

Blessings,

Monthly Bible Readings

Happy Birthday



December 2	Danielle Melton
December 6	Hilda Hagins Mildred Pollard Kirby-Annah Philpot
December 7	Buddy Stover
December 8	Betty Palmer
December 11	Garl Revis
December 12	Miller Bogan
December 13	Becky Philpot
December 14	Scott Beasley
December 15	Laura Brown Barbara Durham Diane Greer
December 17	Susan Leonard-Ray
December 19	Anne-Marie Failor
December 20	Jim Humphreys
December 22	Diane Vaughan Sentell
December 26	Martha Smith
December 27	Edith Watts
December 28	Tom Presnell
December 29	Matt Painter
December 31	Pam Harrelson

Happy Anniversary



December 19	Martha & Benson McWhite
December 27	Ellen & Corky Holman
December 31	Vera & J.H. Hunt (Happy 60th)



Daily Bible Reading for December

December 1	1 Samuel 2:1-10
December 2	1 Luke 1:25-38
December 3	Luke 1:34-38
December 4	Luke 2:25-35
December 5	John 2:1-11
December 6	Acts 1:6-14
December 7	Luke 1:46-55
December 8	Genesis 18:1-8
December 9	Genesis 18:9-14
December 10	Luke 1:5-11
December 11	Luke 1:12-20
December 12	Luke 1:21-25
December 13	Luke 1:39-45
December 14	Luke 1:57-63
December 15	Isaiah 46:8-13
December 16	Psalm 24
December 17	Psalm 113
December 18	Psalm 148
December 19	Romans 16:25-27
December 20	Luke 2:1-7
December 21	Luke 2:8-20
December 22	Luke 7:24-29
December 23	John 1:6-9
December 24	John 1:19-27
December 25	John 1:29-34
December 26	John 5:30-35
December 27	John 3:22-30
December 28	Luke 3:7-18
December 29	Psalm 15
December 30	Psalm 27:1-6
December 31	Psalm 23



Calendar of Events

Office Closed for Christmas

The Office will be closed on December 25th & 26th for the Christmas Holiday. We wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and Happy New year.

Administrative Council

There will be **no** Council meeting in December.

Bible Study Meeting

The Bible Study program will begin on Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2008, at 4:30 PM in the B. R. Huckaby classroom. We will begin with a brief preview of Hebrew History and study the book of Jeremiah. Look forward to seeing you and bring your Bible. For any questions call **Bob Helms** at 295-2973.



Covered Dish Lunch Our covered dish lunch will be December 21st after the worship hour. Please join us for a wonderful time of fellowship.

Book Club There will be no Book Club meeting this month, because of Christmas Eve.

Join us on Wednesday Evenings for our Fellowship Meal. Dinner is served from 5:30-6:30, and is a great opportunity to visit with all of the members of your church family. Due to a price increase from the caterer, we will be changing the **cost of the meal to \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children,** effective January. This is a great value for a dinner, complete with dessert and drink!



Wednesday Night Suppers

Morning Circle will meet at Bill's Restaurant on Tues, Dec. 16, 2008, at 11:30 for their Christmas Luncheon. A Brief Devotional will be given by Jane Walker. Please bring heavy socks to be given to Triune Mercy Center. Husbands and guests are welcome to attend this luncheon also. See you then.

Girl Scout Schedule

The Junior Girl Scouts will meet at the church on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month, at 6:00 p.m.
The Cadetts & Senior Girl Scouts will meet on the 1st and 4th Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.



December Schedule for Quilters

December 2nd 10:00

December 9th 10:00

December 11th 10:00

December 18th 10:00

Start back full force on January 6th.



INSPIRATION GROUP 2008-2009 Schedule

Dec. 4, 2008 Meeting will be held on Dec. 4th in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 am. Activity will be Bingo and White Elephant. It will be catered by Henry's Bar-B-Q and Bill Teat will have the devotion.

Jan. 22, 2009 speaker will be A.V. Huff telling the history of Greenville. We will have Soup & Cornbread with dessert. Vivian Day will have our devotion.

Feb. 26, 2009 We will have Pastor Keith Ray as our speaker and a covered dish lunch.

Mar. 26, 2009 will be announced later. Ann Trammell will do our meal and Jim Durham will do our devotion.

April 23, 2009 Our Child Development Center will be with us and Henry's Bar-B-Que will do our lunch. Blanche Creswell will do our devotion.

May 28, 2009 We will go to Dub Childs brother's house for a picnic and Bob Helms will do our devotion.

December 14th Lessons in Carols

The choir will present "Lessons in Carols" during the morning worship hour on Dec. 14th. Please come and join us and bring a friend!



Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas Eve Service will be held on December 24th, at 5:00 P.M. Please come and bring someone with you. Our poinsettias will be placed in the church on Dec. 14th and 21st.



Our Church Family

Sympathy The pastor and congregation express their deepest sympathy to Doris Hunt upon the passing of her 2 sisters Reba Evatt who died on November 11th, and Dot Moore from Byhalia, MS who died on November 13th.

Congratulations
Kenley Michelle Emerson, born November 11th weighing 9 lbs. 1 oz. and 21.5 inches long, daughter of Ashley (Philpot) and Justin Emerson. Congratulations to Alex Philpot, grandfather, Donna Philpot, grandmother, Margie Philpot great-grandmother, Zack Philpot, uncle, Lucy P. Hughes, great aunt, and all the other Philpot's. Ashley is a former member of our church.



Youth Director Wanted
Part-time youth director to work with youth aged 11-18. Most work will be on Sundays and Wednesdays, with other days as needed. Background check required. Request job description or send resume and one-page statement of your reasons, qualifications, and vision for leading a youth ministry. Salary is \$100/week. Please send letter of interest to Berea Friendship United Methodist Church (attention SPRC Committee).

Casseroles
The Quilters still have casseroles for sale. If you are interested, please let Nancy Neal know or stop by or call the office.

Cards to those who need our thoughts and prayers
If you would like to write a note to our folks that need our prayers, please feel free to pick up a card on the back table of the sanctuary and the office will be glad to mail them out for you.

Dear Berea Friendship Church Family,
Thank you so much for visiting our mother, Louise Davenport, on her special celebration. It was such a joy to share her 90th birthday with members who had such a positive influence on our Christian lives. Never discredit your wonderful Christian influence on anyone. I teach today because of working with my mother & Mrs. Bobby Nalley (when I was a fifth grader) teaching kindergarten Sunday School. Thank you for the love & support you all have given our families. Louise Davenport, Sharon Mahaffey, Ted & Becky Mann and Family.

Fall Festival Thank You In a rush to get an article done for the newsletter a few people were left out by accident. We would like to apologize for over looking Jim Humphreys, Jane Walker, and Ken and Linda Garland.

Thank you all for including me in your staff appreciation. The lunch was wonderful and I appreciate so much your kind words and the monetary gift. You are such a blessing to this church and I am very blessed to be a part of it. Many Thanks, Shannon Finley-Newbill.

Thank You

Dear Church Members, Thank you so very much for the gift to Miracle Hill Ministries in Larry's memory, and thank you, too, for your caring, support and prayers during this time of loss. The Lord truly blessed Larry and me when he led us to Berea Friendship UMC! With love and gratitude, Connie LaParl

Thank you for your gift in memory of Larry LaParl. Your gift is helping care for nearly 400 men, women, and children every day through the ministry. These people are in desperate need of compassion and unconditional love and your gift helps provide that and so much more!

Sincerely yours,
Frankie Powell, VP of Miracle Hill Ministries

Dear Church Family ,
Thank you for all the support during Charlie's illness and at the time of his death . The calls, cards, food and especially the prayers were all very meaningful. Please continue to remember me in your prayers as I adjust to life without Charlie. Love Jewell Hunt

A special thank you to all you nice people for the cards, gifts, prayers, & telephone calls, while I was ailing. I'm much better and am so thankful for each new day. Love to my friends, Edith Bynum.

Thank you
Many thanks to the Quilters, Garl Revis, Henry & Becky Philpot, and Rachel Palmer for their gracious contribution to purchase choir anthems. We will recognize the specific donors and honorees when the music is performed.

Thank you for the cards, calls, support and prayers during the death of my 2 sisters. It is good to have

Please Remember Our Family who need Prayer and others we do not know about

- Keep in prayer the following:
- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ruth Brock | Benson & Martha McWhite |
| Edith Bynum | Nick & Dot Nichols |
| Louise Davenport | Rachel Palmer |
| Shirley Dickson | Margaret Rivers |
| Bob & Ann Donaldson | Juanita Sherlin |
| Georgiana Dougherty | Jerry Smith |
| Morris "Dub" & Mary Childs | Martha Smith |
| Hilda Hagins | Helen Stebbins |
| Lucy Hughes | Doris Williams |
| Doris Hunt | Jack & Libby Wingate |
| Jewell Hunt | Helen Yockey |
| J.H. "Jay & Vera Hunt | Margie Philpot |
| Connie LaParl | Claire Philpot |
| Louvina Leach | Joe Philpot |
| Eunice Looper | Margie Philpot |
| | Walter & Gwen Vaughan |



United Methodist Women's News

"GLAD TIDINGS" FROM THE UMW

Purpose of the UMW

The organized Unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of missions through participation in the global ministries of the church.

"Glad Tidings" Mission Work Continues

- The Morning Circle collected Kleenex and lotion for the nursing home
-
- The UMW collected individual food items for the Mercy Center
- The UMW collected cereal for United Ministries
- The Morning Circle collected can goods for United Ministries at their March 18th meeting.
- The Shalom Evening Circle collected a monetary offering for Bethlehem Center in Columbia at their March 19th meeting.
- The UMW made a donation to the youth for the 5th Sunday lunch in March. We are still collecting Campbell's Soup Labels for Wallace Family Life Center. A collection box is located on top of the mail-boxes in the hallway.
- The Shalom Circle is collecting used jewelry for the bazaar in November. A collection box is located in the back of the sanctuary.
- The UMW is doing a special collection to help with our missions work.
- Collected School supplies for needy children within Greenville County Schools.
- Had 2 participants in the SC School Of Missions
- Participated in the UMW prayer calendar
- Collected over \$102.00 for the World Thank Offering
- Provided a meal for the new minister and family
- We profited over \$300.00 from our cutlery and flavoring sale at the bazaar

"Glad Tidings" Important Dates to Remember

December 3, 2008	6:30 P.M. Executive Board meeting for current board members and new board members in the Ruth Bible Class
January 10, 2009	Officers Training at Aldersgate United Methodist Church
September 12, 2009	Greenville District Annual Meeting at Piedmont United Methodist Church

"Glad Tidings" From the Morning Circle

We will meet on Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at 11:30 A.M. at Bills' Restaurant on White Horse Rd. At our November meeting we collected boxes of Kleenex for the nursing home.

"Glad Tidings" From the Shalom Evening Circle

We will have our Christmas covered dish dinner on Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. at the home of Marsha Disher. We will be collecting food for a needy family for Christmas.

"Glad Tidings" Thank You for supporting the UMW at the Church Bazaar

The UMW had a table at the bazaar. We sold our flavoring and stainless steel cutlery items. We raised over \$300.00. These funds will be used to help further our mission projects. The Shalom Circle reported that the jewelry table had a lot of activity. They think it was the best year that it has had since starting.

2009 UMW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Vickie Failor	President
Marsha Disher	Treasurer
Patti Humphreys	Vice President
Debbie Capps	Communications Coordinator
Dawn Bryant	Secretary
Diane Greer / Jane Walker	Missions Coordinator/Program Resource Sec.
Pat Teat / Anne-Marie Failor	Fundraiser Coordinator
Jane Walker	Morning Circle Leader
Ellen Holman	Shalom Circle Leader
Bobby Nalley	Nominations Chairperson
Blanche Creswell	Membership and Nurturing Coordinator
Keith Ray	Pastor/Ex-officio

"Glad Tidings" Cutlery and Flavoring


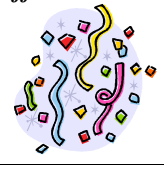
We have cutlery items and flavoring for sale all year long. If you need flavoring for baking, you can not beat our price, \$3.00 for a 7 ounce bottle. WE currently have vanilla and lemon. We can order different flavors. If there is a flavor you would like, let Pat Teat or Anne-Marie Failor know and we will see about ordering it.

We have a great section of stainless steel cutlery items. They make great gifts. If you would like to see what we have please contact Pat Teat or Anne-Marie Failor.

This is the last edition of the "UMW Glad Tidings" as we have a new theme for 2009. I appreciate your help and support of the UMW during the 2008 year. I am looking forward to working with the ladies and different groups of the church again in 2009. If you are not a member of the UMW, but would like to be and need more information, please feel free to contact me. Thank You – Vickie Failor – President.

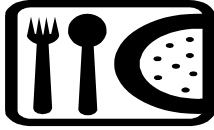


DECEMBER 2008 EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>1</i></p> <p>Cadette & Senior Girl Scouts 6:00 P.M.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>2</i></p> <p><i>Quilters 10:00</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>3</i></p> <p>Bible Study 4:30 WNS 5:30 Youth 6:15 UMW Executive Board Meeting Choir 7:30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>4</i></p> <p><i>Inspiration Group 11:30</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>5</i></p> <p><i>Girl Scouts reserved Girl Scout Room 6:30-8:30</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>6</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>7</i></p> <p><i>Communion Sunday</i> <i>SS 9:30</i> <i>Worship 10:30</i> <i>(Lessons in Carols) performed by the choir</i> <i>Youth 3:00-4:00</i> Flowers Margie Philpot</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>8</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>9</i></p> <p><i>Quilters 10:00</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>10</i></p> <p><i>WNS 5:30</i> <i>Youth 6:15</i> <i>No Admin. Council Meeting this month</i> <i>Choir 7:30</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>11</i></p> <p><i>Quilters 10:00</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>12</i></p> <p><i>Junior GS Troop 3130 reserved Girl Scout Rm. 6:30-8:30</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>13</i></p> <p><i>Choir Practice 10:30 am</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>14</i></p> <p><i>SS 9:30</i> <i>Worship 10:30</i> <i>Choir presents Lessons in Carols</i> <i>Youth Breakfast 8:30 a.m.</i> <i>New Friends wrapping party at 5:30.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>15</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>16</i></p> <p><i>Morning Circle will meet at Bill's Restaurant at 11:30 for Christmas Luncheon, Jane Walker will have the devotion. Shalom Circle will have Christmas covered dish at Marsha's home at 6:30 P.M.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>17</i></p> <p><i>WNS 5:30</i> <i>Youth 6:15</i> <i>Choir 7:30</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>18</i></p> <p><i>Quilters 10:00</i> <i>Carol Presnell has FH Hall reserved for this evening.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>19</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>20</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>21</i></p> <p><i>SS 9:30</i> <i>Worship 10:30</i> <i>Covered Dish Lunch after service</i> <i>Youth 3:00-4:00</i> <i>Flowers Vickie & Ron Failor</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>22</i></p> <p><i>Cadette Senior GS 6:00 pm</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>23</i></p> <p><i>No Quilters</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>24</i></p> <p><i>Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm</i> <i>No Wed. Supper</i> <i>No Book Club</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>25</i></p> <p>Christmas Day <i>Office Closed</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>26</i></p> <p><i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>27</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>28</i></p> <p><i>SS 9:30</i> <i>Worship 10:30</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>29</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>30</i></p> <p><i>No Quilters</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>31</i></p> <p><i>No Wed. Night Supper tonight</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>January 1</i></p> <p>New Years Day Office Closed</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>		



Menu for Wednesday Night Supper



December 3

Baked Spaghetti
Tossed Salad
French Bread, Brownie
Tea, Water, Coffee

December 10

Grilled Chicken
Scalloped Potatoes
Lesuer Peas, Rolls
Angel Food Cake w/pineapple topping
Tea, Water, Coffee

December 17

Beef Tips, Rice
Black-eyed Peas
Slaw, Rolls, Banana Pudding
Tea, Water, Coffee

December 24

No Wednesday Night Supper

December 31

No Wednesday Night Supper

Financial News

Expenses for October \$18,563.18
Expenses Jan-October \$172,168.22
Average attendance for
S.S. — 57 Worship — 134
Financial Report for November (4Sundays)
Needed for Budget \$18,745.12
Received for Budget \$18,351.08
Needed to-date for Budget \$220,255.16
Received to-date for Budget \$177,109.31



Those Who Serve in December

Stewardship Pat Teat
Trustee of the Month Patti Taylor
Altar Guild Mary Penland



Nursery For December

December 7
December 14
December 21 Patti Taylor/Alex Smith
December 28 Becky & Henry Philpot

Acolytes for December

December 7 Monroe Stone
December 14 Kevin Baker
December 21 Anne-Marie Failor
December 28 Denise McCloud

December Ushers

Dec. 7 Gene Bondurant, Steve Capps,
Corky Holman, Ronnie Hunter
Dec. 14 Eddie Hughes, Jim Humphreys,
Ronnie Hunter, Corky Holman
Dec. 21 Steve Capps, Tony Earnest,
Corky Holman, Ronnie Hunter
Dec. 28 Steve Capps, Wilson Creswell,
Ronald Failor, Ronnie Hunter

Flowers in December

December 7 Margie Philpot
December 14 Blanche Creswell
December 21 Ronald & Vickie Failor
December 28

NOTE: If you would like to sign up for the flowers we have a calendar posted outside the Huckaby Class.

BEREA FRIENDSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8001 White Horse Road
Greenville, SC 29617
Return Service Requested

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