

**Quilters.** The Quilters meet Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

**Christmas Choir Cantata.** The Choir will perform their program next Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 morning worship.

**Christmas Holidays.** The office will be closed on Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> and Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas Holidays.

**New Years Holiday.** The office will be closed on Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> and Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> for New Years.

**Christmas Eve.** We will not have a Christmas Eve Service this year due to Christmas falling on Sunday.

**Advent Offering.** The Advent Offering Envelopes are placed in the pews during the Advent season to help us meet our mission's commitment to United Ministries, Triune Mercy Center and others.

**Donations to make our church beautiful for Christmas**

We will not be taking orders for Poinsettias this year as we have done in the past, but if you would like to make a donation "in honor of" or "in memory of" someone, we will be accepting those gifts to go toward the expense of making our sanctuary beautiful for the Christmas season. Forms and envelopes are in the pews. December 18<sup>th</sup> will be the last Sunday to take these donations.

**Meetings Canceled for December.** Administrative Council, Trustees, Men's Club, No Covered Dish Lunch, No Christmas Eve Service.

**Morning Circle.** The Morning Circle will meet on December 20, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. and the CDC children will sing for them in the Fellowship Hall. We will go to lunch at Silver Bay.

**For Your Information.**

**Attendance report for Sunday, December 4th:** S.S. – 20 Worship –

**Financial report for Sunday, December 4th:**

Received for Budget \$2,772.00

Received for Christmas donation \$265.00

Received for Advent Offering \$140.00

Esperanza Offering to Berea Friendship \$47.84

Meals on Wheels \$3.00



December 12	Miller Bogan
December 13	Becky Philpot
December 14	Scott Beasley
December 15	Laura Brown
	Barbara Durham
	Diane Greer
December 16	Linda Crouch

Jonathon Holston  
*Resident Bishop*

Dr. George Howle  
*District Superintendent*

Enrique Gordon  
*Pastor*

Joan Kotrady  
*Director of Music*

Joan Kotrady  
*Organist*

Debbie Capps  
*Admin. Assistant*

Pat Teat  
*Membership & Financial Secretary*

Terri McCloud  
*Treasurer*

Debbie Gissendanner  
*Acolyte*

Jane Walker &  
Kristie Argo  
*Nursery*

Vickie Failor  
*Trustee of the Month*

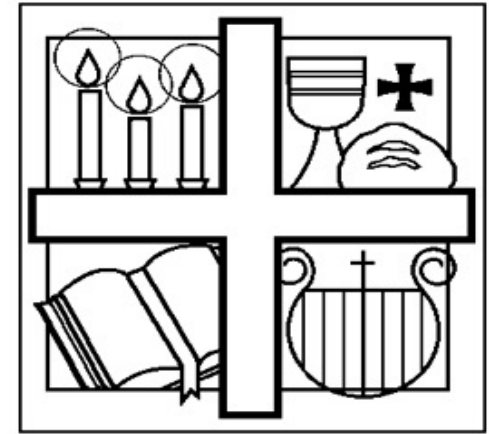
Melissa Miller  
*Children's Church*

Terri McCloud  
*Children's Message*

Vickie Failor  
*Stewardship*

Jane Walker  
*Altar Guild*

Eddie Hughes  
Jim Humphreys  
Corky Holman  
Ronnie Hunter  
*Ushers*



## ***Berea Friendship United Methodist Church***

8001 White Horse Road  
Greenville, SC 29617  
Office Phone: 864-246-4311  
Pastor's Home: 864-534-1196  
www.bereafriendshipumc.com

**3rd Sunday of Advent  
December 11, 2016  
10:30 a.m.**

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*Vision – A place where all of God's children can feel welcome and are able to grow mentally, emotionally, physically, and above all spiritually in Jesus Christ.*

*Mission – Berea Friendship Church is to be intentional about making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by making space for God to work and being a church that is in ministry with the members and the community.*

***Welcome to Berea Friendship United Methodist Church!***

If you are new to our community, we hope you will participate in our service as you are comfortable. An asterisk (\*) indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able. **Bold print** indicates that you are invited to join the community in reading aloud those passages that are indicated.

Please take a moment to sign the Worship Attendance Pad that is found in your pew.

Welcome to this assembly of the people of God!

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**ENTRANCE**

THE PRELUDE **Nazareth** Charles Gounod

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Isaiah 35:10 pg. 709, 1112 Jayne & Jose Ferrer

TRINITY CHIMES

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP **Until Jesus Comes** Dean McIntyre

\*HYMN – No. 213 **Lift Up your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**

\*OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray

**O God, whose will is justice for the poor and peace for the afflicted, let your herald's urgent voice pierce our hardened hearts and announce the dawn of your kingdom. Before the advent of the One who baptizes with the fire of the Holy Spirit, let our complacency give way to conversion, oppression to justice, and conflict to acceptance of one another in Christ. We ask this through the One whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

\*ACT OF PRAISE- pg. 1013, 1589 Luke 1:46b-55 (scripture from the pew bibles)

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let us pray

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON –pg. 709, 1111 Isaiah 35:1-10 Lay Servant

CHILDREN'S MOMENT (*ages 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade are dismissed at this time for Children's Church.*) Terri McCloud

\*GOSPEL LESSON pg. 965, 1512 Matthew 11:2-11 Lay Servant

CHORAL ANTHEM **People Look East** Tom Mitchell

SERMON

“Christ our Joy”

Rev. Enrique R. Gordon

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

CONCERNS AND PRAYER

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – No. 881

OFFERTORY

**Christ We Do All Adore Thee**

Theodore Dubois

\*DOXOLOGY – No. 95

**SENDING FORTH**

\*HYMN – No. 216

**Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming**

\*EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

CHORAL BENEDICTION

**Go Now in Peace**

Natalie Sleeth

(The congregation is invited to sing)

Go now in peace, go now in peace,

May the love of God surround you everywhere,

Everywhere you may go.

\*POSTLUDE

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

Arranged/ Gordon Young

**OUR PRAYER COVENANT:**

**Our Prayer focuses for this new conference year will continue to be:**

- The direction in which God is leading the church to do ministry in the church, in the community, and the world
- The people God will send our way to be in ministry with us
- The new and existent ministries that will be the cornerstone of Berea Friendship Church

**Spanish Worship.** The Spanish Worship hour is at 1:00 every Sunday afternoon.

**PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS:**

**Sunday** – Christian Spiritual Formation/Worship; Visitations

**Monday** – Sabbath Time

**Tuesday** – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and Community Outreach from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Wednesday** – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30, CDC children's church, Office hours 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Sermon preparation from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**Thursday** office hours 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.—Community Outreach 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. except last Thursday of the month (Prayer and Reflection day)

**Friday** – Family Time

**Saturday**- Family Time and Worship Preparation; Please call the church office to make an appointment.

**Newsletter Deadline.** The January Newsletter deadline is Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.

**PRAYER LIST.** Mildred Bray, Mary Childs, Troy Clements, Ann Donaldson, Bob Helms, Carolyn Hunter, Jan-Hunt Grady, Jackie Lumsden, Joe Philpot, Margie Philpot, Mildred Pollard, Fredda Powell, Pat Teat, Lloyd Turner, Glenn Wells, Allen Zorn. Special prayers for Glenda Argo and Carolyn Hunter's mother Doris Hollingsworth who is now recuperating between the homes of her daughters.

**Sympathy.** The Pastor and congregation express their deepest sympathy to Jane Walker and family upon the death of her sister-in-law Linda Walker who passed away last weekend at Poinsett Health and Rehab. We extend our sympathy to Terri, Dennis, Denise, Cindy, Adam, Krystal, James and all the other family members during their loss.

**Thank You.** To my very loving and caring church family, I would like to say "thank you" for all the prayers, cards, flowers, phone calls, visits, etc. during my recent surgery for knee replacement. I'm doing good – just enduring this physical therapy.  
Love & blessings to all, Pat Teat

### ***"Experiencing the Joy of Generosity"***

#### ***Members Respond to Annual Stewardship Campaign***

We are wrapping up our annual stewardship commitments. We thank all those who have already submitted their commitments for **2017**. Your support enables us to continue our ministries in the church and the community. Thank you!

We encourage everyone to submit a commitment for **2017**, by the end of the year (**2016**). Making a financial commitment is part of the commitment that we make to the Lord and to each other as members of our church. God has brought us together ... let's all do the best we can for the Lord!

### ***"Opportunity to Serve"***

We are seeking volunteers from the membership of the church to be a part of ***"the membership caring team."*** If you are interested in becoming a member of this team, please call the office and give Debbie your name or call Rev. Gordon. "Thank you in advance for your support of this ministry."

### ***"Opportunity to Give for Christmas"***

You are invited to participate in providing an age appropriate gift to a child in our Child Development Center for Christmas. In the back of the sanctuary is a box with the names and age of a child in the CDC, pick a name and drop off the Christmas gift to the office by December 16, 2016. Thank you in advance for putting a smile on a child's face during Christmas, Rev. Gordon.

### ***jj "Opportunity to Serve"***

Brothers and Sisters, in the New Year we are going to need someone to take over the ministry of bereavement chairperson position. This is a very important ministry of the church because it meets with people at a very low point in their lives after the death of a loved one. Please pray about this ministry and ask the Lord to show you if this is a ministry for you. If you pray and feel that the Lord is leading you to this ministry, please call the office and give Debbie your name or call Rev. Gordon. "Thank you in advance for your support of this ministry."

### ***"P/SPRC Meeting"***

On December 12, 2016 @ 6:30pm in the Ruth Room we will be having a meeting to complete the advisory response report that is due to the District Office by Thursday December 15, 2016. If you have any questions contact the Chair of the SPRC.