



Salem Matters

Salem United Methodist Church
378 N. Pilot Knob Road, Denver, NC 28037
704-483-5055

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
Monthly Newsletter – December 2011

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



'Sing Gloria'
December 11
7:00 PM

Gift of Friends and Family Night

December 14, 5-7:30 pm
(see page 5 for more details)



*'Hooray for
Baby Jesus'*
December 18
7:00 PM



Family Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 7:00 PM

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 11:00 PM



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 25, 10 a.m.

(no Sunday School)

One combined worship service.

***If you would like to share in the 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service,
please let Cheryl or Pastor Dave know.**

"Touch someone - not once, but always"

BUDGET NEWS

How our gifts have been designated year to date through 10/31/2011 vs 10/31/10



	YTD Thru		Yr. To Yr. Difference	
	10/31/2010	10/31/2011	Increase (Decrease)	
			\$	%
Offerings designated to:				
Building/Capital Improvement	\$ 29,880.00	\$ 18,243.95	\$ (11,636.05)	(38.94% Decrease)
Cemetery/Driveway	\$ 6,576.00	\$ 16,716.00	\$ 10,140.00	154.20% Increase
Missions/Misc.	\$ 16,384.27	\$ 32,393.00	\$ 16,008.73	97.71% Increase
Budget (Oper. Exp. And Ministry)	\$ 358,071.07	\$ 364,812.86	\$ 6,741.79	1.88% Increase
Total Giving	\$ 410,911.34	\$ 432,165.81	\$ 21,254.47	5.17% Increase

Profit and Loss at 10/31/11

Income related to the Budget	\$397,205.86
Expenses related to the Budget	\$377,566.74
<u>Ordinary Income</u>	<u>\$ 19,639.12</u>

Attendance

10-02-2011	192	10-23-2011	207
10-09-2011	228	10-30-2011	197
10-16-2011	191		

Christmas Cards



When sending out your Christmas greetings, don't forget our homebound and assisted living folks. Make their day by sending them a Greeting of Love.

Margaret Camelo
7860 Hagers Ferry Rd.
Denver, NC 28037

Martha Houser
6367 Spruce Street
Denver, NC 28037

Robert and Marian Cook
8387 Hagers Ferry Road
Denver, NC 28037

Sarah Nixon
1550 S. Hwy. 16
Stanley, NC 28164

Zelma Brown
2565 Norton Avenue
Denver, NC 28037

Dick and Virginia Garrett
Carillon Assisted Living
440 Salem Church Road
Lincolnton, NC 28092

Pauline Miller
649 S. Highway 16
Stanley, NC 28164

Ruby Furr
1876 Cameron Heights Cir.
Denver, NC 28037

Salem United Methodist Church

378 N. Pilot Knob Road
Denver, NC 28037

Church phone: 704-483-5055

Fax: 704-483-0778

Email: salemmethodist@bellsouth.net

Church Office Hours:

Monday 8:30am–12:30pm

Tuesday—Thursday 8:30am-3:30pm

Friday—Closed

Website: www.salem unitedmethodist.com

Webmaster: Crystal Cody (volunteer)

Salem Matters: Articles due 20th of each month

Church Staff

Pastor: David Hobson davesalem@bellsouth.net

Dir. Christian Ed.: Jenny Reilly jennysalem@bellsouth.net

Dir. Youth Ministries: Monica Childers monicasalem@bellsouth.net

Dir. Music & Arts: Cheryl Barker cherylsalem@bellsouth.net

Organist/Pianist: Miriam Robinette robinet2@bellsouth.net

Office Admin.: Debbie Harvey salemmethodist@bellsouth.net

Financial Secretary: Joy Isenhour joysalem@bellsouth.net

S.A.M. Director: Caroline Rinehart Cardais salemsam@bellsouth.net

Facilities Manager: Ray Miller

Please email newsletter articles to salemmethodist@bellsouth.net

Stuff You Should Know About the Advent Wreath – (But were afraid to ask)



The Advent wreath is part of our long-standing western Church tradition. However, the actual origins are uncertain. There is evidence of pre-Christian Germanic peoples using wreaths with lit candles during the cold and dark December days as a sign of hope in the future warm and extended-sunlight days of Spring. In Scandinavia, during Winter, lighted candles were placed around a wheel, and prayers were offered to the god of light to turn “the wheel of the earth” back toward the sun to lengthen the days and restore warmth. By the Middle Ages, the Christians adapted this tradition and used Advent wreaths as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas. After all, Christ is “the Light that came into the world” to dispel the darkness of sin and to radiate the truth and love of God (cf. John 3:19-21). The

tradition of the Advent Wreath survived the Reformation, and made the shift to Protestantism. By 1600, both Catholics and Lutherans had more formal practices surrounding the Advent wreath.

The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. Even these evergreens have a traditional meaning which can be adapted to our faith: The laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering; pine, holly, and yew, immortality; and cedar, strength and healing. Holly also has a special Christian symbolism: The prickly leaves remind us of the crown of thorns, and one English legend tells of how the cross was made of holly. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ. Any pine cones, nuts, or seedpods used to decorate the wreath also symbolize life and resurrection. All together, the wreath of evergreens depicts the immortality of our soul and the new, everlasting life promised to us through Christ, the eternal Word of the Father, who entered our world becoming true man and who was victorious over sin and death through His own passion, death, and resurrection.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. A tradition is that each week represents one thousand years, to sum to the 4,000 years from Adam and Eve until the Birth of the Savior. Three candles are purple and one is rose. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, *Gaudete Sunday*, when the priest or pastor may also wear rose vestments in the worship service; *Gaudete Sunday* is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord’s first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead. The light again signifies Christ, the Light of the world. Some modern day adaptations include a white candle placed in the middle of the wreath, which represents Christ and is lit on Christmas Eve. Another tradition is to replace the three purple and one rose candles with four white candles, which will be lit throughout Christmas season.

At home, in family practice, the Advent wreath is most appropriately lit at dinner time after the blessing of the food. A traditional prayer service using the Advent wreath proceeds as follows: **On the First Sunday of Advent**, the father of the family blesses the wreath, praying: O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Thy blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant graces. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.” He then continues for each of the days of the first week of Advent, O Lord, stir up Thy might, we beg thee, and come, that by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved by Thy deliverance. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.” The youngest child then lights one purple candle. **During the second week of Advent**, the family prays, “O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.” The oldest child then lights the purple candle from the first week plus one more purple candle. **During the third week of Advent**, the father prays: O Lord, we beg Thee, incline Thy ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.” The mother then lights the two previously lit purple candles plus the rose candle. **Finally, the father or mother prays during the fourth week of Advent**, O Lord, stir up Thy power, we pray Thee, and come; and with great might help us, that with the help of Thy grace, Thy merciful forgiveness may hasten what our sins impede. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.” The children then light all of the candles of the wreath. Since Advent is a time to stir-up our faith in the Lord, the wreath and its prayers provide us a way to augment this special preparation for Christmas. Moreover, this good tradition helps us to remain vigilant in our homes and not lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas. Next year we will deal with the tradition of the Christmas Tree. (Hint...The Protestants invented it) **Love, Pastor Dave**

MUSIC AND ARTS MINISTRIES

Director of Music & Arts – Cheryl Barker 704-483-5055 Ext 310 or cherylsalem@bellsouth.net Cell: 704-530-5657



You don't want to miss these important events!



SING GLORIA!

December 11th 7:00pm at Salem U.M.C.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

**Youth and Adults come together in
Celebration and Worship**

HOORAY! For Baby Jesus - The Savior of the World

December 18th 7:00pm at Salem U.M.C.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY

Presented by:

Preschool and Elementary Children's Ministries

Christmas Eve Services

December 24th

7:00pm Family Christmas Eve

11:00pm Christmas Eve – What Can I Give Him?

(Please contact Cheryl Barker if you wish to share your gift in music, story, poem, etc.)

Christmas DAY Service

ONE SERVICE - 10:00am

Service of Carols

(No Sunday School)

The FIRST CHRISTMAS -

SLEEPLESS and bewildered, but gloriously proud, the husband of Mary emerged from the stable and made his way to the census-taker's booth. The angels' song hummed through his heart, and his fine bronzed face was radiant with the wonder of the night. But the census taker saw only another peasant standing in line.

"Name?," he demanded in a routine tone.

"Joseph, carpenter, of Nazareth of the house of David."

"Wife's name?"

"Mary."

"Children?"

"Jesus, born last night."

Was there any comment? Did the petty government official wonder as he wrote for the first time the name that was to be above every name? It was just one more name on the census roll.

What laughter would have run through Rome if someone had pointed to the name and said, "There is the beginning of the end of your empire and of all empires everywhere." Yet it would have been true.

Rome would have laughed, and Rome is dead.
But the influence of Christ lives on.

East Lincoln Community Chorus

East Lincoln Community Chorus presents
Goin' Home For Christmas

Thurs, Dec 8 & Fri, Dec 9, 2011 at 7:30 PM
Sat, Dec 10, 2011 at 2 PM
Unity Presbyterian Church
Denver, NC

Adult Ministries.....

Gift of Friends & Family Night

Wednesday, December 14th, 5-7:30 pm

As a gift to you and an opportunity to extend the gift of Salem to others, we are hosting this night of food, fun, and fellowship. Invite a neighbor who needs a night out, a neighbor who may be looking for a new church home, or just bring yourself, your family, and anyone else you can think of as we enjoy each other's company and have some fun.

If you can, we also invite you to bring one or more of the following...

- pot of soup/chili to add to our baked potato bar
- cards/board games
- a dessert

After dinner simply enjoy the company of others while playing games around the tables. Enjoy this gift of time with friends and family of all ages.



Bible Study Opportunities

- Tuesday Night Study – 7:00 pm
Our Advent study will end December 13. The winter study, James Moore's *I Hear Voices...and That's a Good Thing!* will begin **January 10th**. This study celebrates the voices of the Bible who continue, every day, to strengthen and encourage us when we not only hear but *listen* to them. We will meet in the home of Lorinda Schwartz. Register with Elinor Heermans at 704-840-8080.

- Christian Believers Study
With Pastor Dave

Wednesday, Dec. 7, *Dinner at 5:30 pm
No December meetings on Sundays.

- Young with the Restless
No meetings in December. Looking ahead, our next study will be *Heaven is for Real*.



....& More

New Morning Fit Club

December 1, 8, 15, 22 @ 9:30 am

For more details about this free fit club, see the flyers outside Jenny's office. Free Child Care is provided in Room 7.



Special session on December 22!

School's out, so give the gift of fitness to the whole family! This workout will be kid-friendly (1st grade and up) and get everyone on the right track for the holidays.

Special Thanks

To everyone who represented Christ through Salem hospitality at the Denver Christmas Parade. Donations of food and drinks, loan of golf carts, as well as your smiles and time commitment helped us share the light of Christ with over 1200 parade participants. (And keep our soon-to-be-neighbors "Cookies & Cream" in mind and thank them for the use of their golf cart when they open their doors at the corner of Hwy 73 & Pilot Knob Road in the spring.)

Grand Days

Many of my Christmas memories involve my grandparents - special gifts like the Holly Hobby sleeping bag, the gold fish, and the toy box my Paw Paw made; Grandmom's cookies and sourdough rolls; piano playing and crazy singing; Christmas visits to New Mexico as a small child but also the time I knew would be my last visit with my grandfather when I surprised him by showing up on Christmas Day; being asked to say the blessing and then being interrupted because it went too long (yes I have always been long-winded). I remember feeling loved and accepted. All of this while hearing stories from my grandparents during our times together, especially our Christmas gatherings.

Your story + their story = God's story

During this Christmas season, remember that what you share of your faith and life story combines with the faith and life story of your grandchildren (and anyone else you encounter) to create the story of God, continuing the message of hope, peace, love & joy through the birth of the Christ child, God's own son. Keep this equation strong and they will continue the story for generations to come.

Kids Korner

Igniting a SPARK
in Children's Ministries



Wednesday Night SPARK @ 6:30 pm

December Calendar

7th **A**mazing **A**dvent **A**dventure Night

14th **G**ift of Friends & Family Night (5:00-7:30)

Bring board games, cards and other fun stuff to do and enjoy a night of food, fun, & fellowship with family & friends (be sure to bring some of them with you too).

21st **C**hristmas Eve Rehearsal at 6:30 pm

For everyone participating in this annual highlight of the season. No regular SPARK.

28th – NO SPARK

Children's Christmas Play

Sunday, December 18 at 7:00 pm.

There is still room for more non-reading actors. Let Cheryl know if you want to be part of this sharing of the Christmas story. And be sure to come support your friends during this great play.

Christmas Eve Service

7:00 pm

While Salem has two services, the early service features the leadership of our children and youth. We need readers, actors, communion servers, greeters, musicians, and other helpers to make this a beautiful night of giving praises for the newborn King. Let Jenny know if you can be part of our leadership team.



Special Christmas Eve Offering

There will be a special offering on Christmas Eve to support the Salem H2O (Him to Others) program.

Thank you

To the children who visited Operation Christmas Child and experienced what happens to a box! And thanks to Barb Lauro who organized this event and other adults who assisted.



Parent Points

Unplug the Christmas Machine – What a great title for a book designed to give insights for a more joyous and stress-free Christmas!

And what a wonderful message for us all as we head into one of the busiest seasons of the year. Isn't it interesting that the busiest time of year is the very one which celebrates the birth of a little baby in a simple stable, with just the animals as witnesses?

We often have our heart in the right place, but what message do we send our children and youth when our focus becomes a hurried and frantic pace of last minute gift-buying (I forgot cousin Ken!) and stressing over the financial strain of the season? What will your life look like these next four weeks?

How does what we do over the next four weeks honor God's gift of the Christ child? Do our calendar and budget reflect an attitude of hope, peace, love, and joy? Are the gifts we buy our children and youth reflective of what God is calling them to do and be? Food for thought as we unplug the Christmas machine this year.

Focus & Ideas for December – Gift of Friends & Family



1. Join the whole church family on Wednesday night, December 14th, 5:00-7:30 pm. If you can, bring some soup, chili, or dessert and of course bring some neighbors and family. We will have potatoes and fixings. And bring a favorite board game or cards. Then just enjoy each other's company with no agenda but to share time with the **gift of friends & family**.
2. Set a budget with the mindset of unplugging the Christmas machine – asking what God would have you do to honor the Christ child.
3. Have a family discussion about giving up a gift request and using that money to:
 - a. Give to the H2O Christmas Eve offering
 - b. Buy & bring items (by 12/21) for a local family whom we are sponsoring.
4. Instead of a purchased gift, give a coupon for a meal/outing with your family member or friend, or a coupon for cleaning, yard work, or carwash help which gives them some extra time to spend with others.
5. Take time to celebrate the Christ child by attending the cantata, children's Christmas play and other church/community events as a family.



DECEMBER YOUTH CALENDAR

Surge
Sunday 5:30pm -7:00 pm

- December 4th- Christmas Tea and youth Christmas party and shopping spree.
- December 11th-Dinner and practice for Participation in Cantata
- December 18th- Dinner and Practice for participation in children's play
- December 25th- No Surge

Event Calendar

- December 1st – Deadline for 2012 Mission Trip Commitment letters and Deposits.
- December 3rd 2:00- Christmas Parade
- December 4th 2:00-4:00 Christmas Tea
- December 10th- 10:00am Cantata/Drama practice
- December 24th 7:00 & 11:00 Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 30th- Jan.1st – Boys Chrysalis

Upcoming Information for January

Winter Jam

Registration for "Summit" winter retreat
Confirmation Lock-In and two special events

H2O Christmas Project Sharing



This Christmas the H2O group will be sponsoring a family of five. A single mother with four children is in need of help. The children age from 11, 13, 16, and 18. The group will be collecting gift items or monetary donations until Dec. 4th, in which the youth will be going on a shopping spree to purchase needed or additional items for the family. A list of sizes and items can be found in the mission hall. Please be sure to bring all items or donations to youth room on or before Dec. 4th

Thanks in advance for being a part of sharing Him 2 Others!



Wired
Wednesdays 6:30pm-7:30 pm

- December 7th- Tis' the season, advent study.
- December 14th- Family Night
- December 21st- No Wired Ministries
- December 28th- No Wired Ministries

Plugged In
Sunday 10:00am -10:45 am

- December 4th- "Taking Communion to the World"
Field Trip with Pastor Dave
- December 11th- "What is Advent?" Discover the celebrations and praises of Christmas.
- December 18th- Traditions of Christmas
Bring a snack item and share your favorite Christmas Tradition
- December 25th- No regular SS - See worship schedule

Confirmation Class

- December
- 4 Church
- 11 New Creation
- 18 New Creation
- 24 Christmas Eve Worship (Service Opportunity)
- 25 Merry Christmas! No Confirmation Class – One Service at 10:00 am



Salem United Methodist Youth "Wired Student Ministries" is now on Facebook. Parents and youth visit us at Wired Student Ministries and join to receive updates, events, forms and information.



PRAYER BREAKFAST 2012

“Living as the Garden of God”

Speaker: **Rev. Susan Heafner-Heun**
Sr. Associate Pastor of Davidson UMC
and Pastor of Inclusion Community

Saturday, January 21, 2012

Breakfast – 9:15 AM Program – 10:00 AM

The deadline for pre-registration is January 2, 2012

Tucker’s Grove UMC Family Life Center

(Intersection of Beth Haven Church Road and Hwy. 73)

4501 Highway 73, Iron Station, NC 28080

Our *Special Recognition* recipient for 2011 is [Sarah Nixon](#) for her participation in all our UMW Missions whether she could attend meetings or not. Thank you, Sarah, for your example of what a United Methodist Woman can become.



As we begin planning for next year, the *Circle of Friends* group invites you to join us on the third Monday of each month. We meet in SS room 13 at 10am. We’re so glad Gayle Stroupe came back to us at the October meeting, and Our president, Babs Yarbrough, has been a great example making sure we stay centered on the Purpose of United Methodist Women. Bernice Nixon, our Spiritual Growth Chair, keeps us updated on our Missions and Missionaries thru our Prayer Calendar at each meeting. Christy Cook prepares the best programs from the UMW Program Book: *Walking With Wholeness*. And Joanne Tallent reminds us with her minutes of what we promised to do in our meetings.

Beginning in January, Brenda Stowe will be our Treasurer. Thanks, Judy Gibson, for all your faithful work as our past Treasurer.

A schedule for next year will be in the Mission Hall and in January’s Salem Matters.



Tabitha's Hands Circle

CALLING ALL STAMP COLLECTORS! UMW *Tabitha’s Hands* Group needs your help in a canceled stamp project. If you will, take the time to carefully cut around each canceled stamp you can find and bring them all to the Mission Hall at the church. Then place them in the jar marked “Stamps for Disabled Children” on the counter above Tabitha’s Hands’ cabinets. The stamps will be sent to an organization which sponsors a rehabilitation center for disabled children. If you need more information about this project, please contact Elinor Heermans at (704) 840-8080. Thank you for your support.



On November 21 our Circle met at hostess Judy Broussard's home with Carol Duggins as her co-hostess. After the unison reading of the UMW Pledge, our Christmas party meeting was planned. Members in attendance indicated what dish to pass they intend to bring. Sue Murdock will be our hostess so be sure to let her know if you will be attending. We will meet at 11 a.m. on December 19 at Sue's home. It was decided that we will each bring a Christmas gift for a child at the Barium Springs Children's Home in Troutman. More information will be forthcoming

Officers were elected for 2012. They are as follows: President, Sue Murdock; Vice President, Sandy Race; Secretary, Pamela Peer; Treasurer, Judy Gibson; Special Trips Chairperson, Carol Duggins. Our schedule for hostesses and programs for 2012 was also determined.

Pamela Peer gave a program entitled "What the Cards Represent" based on how each card in a deck can have religious significance

Food Backpack Mission



The Food Backpack Mission currently serves 12 children at Pumpkin Center Elementary (5) and Pumpkin Center Intermediate (7) schools. This mission provides 7 meals for the children to cover food from Friday's dinner to Sunday's dinner. If you would like more information about the Food Backpack Mission, please contact any of the Circle of Friends group members or Anita Clark, anita5110@yahoo.com, 704-483-5110. Also, look for the display in the Mission Hall or in Wednesday's e-mails regarding local sale items that can benefit the mission.

Thank you for making this Mission a possibility!

WOMEN OF JOY EVENT - APRIL 20-22, 2012

Attention ladies of Salem who enjoy enlightening fellowship in a praise and worship venue, you will enjoy joining us for another Women of Joy Weekend. Twelve of us traveled to Myrtle Beach last year and this year we will head to the mountains of Tennessee to Sevierville. We will leave on Friday morning April 20th and return on Sunday evening April 22. You will hear great religious speakers such as Lisa Terkeurst, founder of the Proverbs 31 Ministry and Christian comedian Anita Renfroe among others. The Saturday night concert will be by Chris Tomlin and Christy Nockels, both great Contemporary Christian music performers. For a complete schedule of events check out the website: womenofjoy.org/sevierville.

The cost for the hotel and all events will be \$149 each (2 per room - less if more people in a room). Some of the event hotels have already filled up so we need to get our reservations in by mid-December to guarantee our rooms. The deposit fee is \$25.00 per person and the balance is due in March. There is a sign up sheet in the mission hallway.

If you have any questions, contact Carol Duggins by email cgduggins@earthlink.net or call 704-907-8983.

Invite your friends and let's go to Sevierville!!



BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Sarah Beard
Quinn Melton
- 3 Lindsey Jones
Linda Alden
- 4 Pat Garrett
Janice Springs
- 6 David Tench
Rodney Smith
David Scoggins
- 8 Bonny Lauro
- 9 Margaret Camelo
- 10 Ruby Furr
Sherri Smith
Brian Smith
Debbie Webb
Morgan Lawing
- 11 Sheila McCutchan
- 12 Susan McGinnis
- 15 Betty Stafford
Dianne Gunter
- 16 Susan Robinson
- 17 Adam Watkins
Amber Parker
- 18 Jerry Moss
Kay Sigmon
Phil Riddle
- 19 Martin Oakes
Pat Loomis
- 20 Sandy Estep
- 21 Bill Carlson
- 23 Rose Marie Young
Eric Caldwell
Michael Birdsong
Amy Turbyfill
- 24 Hannah Caldwell
- 25 Jason Robinson
- 28 Julie France
- 30 London Fowler
- 31 Jennifer Tallent

ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Tony and Julie France
- 2 Perry and Judy Broussard
- 8 Melvin and Carol Miller
- 13 Bob and Nancy Brock
- 16 Adam and Teresa Watkins
- 19 David and Amanda Keck
- 23 Jerry and Emily Moss
- 24 Bob and Sarah Sigmon
- 28 Richard and Grace Bisanar
Pete and Kim Riley

GIFTS TO SALEM

In Memory of

Velma H. Nixon

Joyful Christians Sunday School Class
Jerry and Vickie Nixon
Sarah Beard
Jimmy and Ann Owen
Bill Owen
Marshall Owen
Chris and Anita Clark
Hill's Chapel UMC
The Quilting Bees/Cooks Memorial
Presbyterian Church

Wally Yarbrough

Rose Marie Young
The Yarbrough Family

Barbara York

Gary and Carol Tench

Reverend Eugene Jonte UMC

Judy and Perry Broussard

Mildred Forbes

Gary and Carol Tench

In Honor of

Carlee Addison and Hannah Springs

Andy and Susan Michaels

Carolina and Zach Cardais

Laurence and Kimberly Presti



- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Nick Bosiak | Brandon Mitzel |
| Steven Crowder | David Newman |
| Rich DuBreuil | Danny Nichols |
| J. T. Duggins | Kevin Oakes |
| Robert Hendrix | Joshua Parrish |
| Harrison Hobson | Michael Reynolds |
| Paul Johnson | Preston Sellers |
| Wes Lockman | Tony Trevet |
| Austin Smith | Todd Williams |
| Marc McPherson | |

MERRY CHRISTMAS

From your church staff

*Pastor Dave
Jenny Reilly
Monica Childers
Debbie Harvey
Cheryl Barker
Miriam Robinette
Joy Isenhour
Caroline Cardais
Ray Miller*

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

- Denver Christmas Parade** - December 3rd - 2:30 pm
- Joyful Christians Christmas Party** - Saturday, December 3rd - 6:30 pm
- Christmas Cantata "Sing Gloria"** - December 11th, 7:00 pm
- Gift of Friends and Family Night** - December 14th, 5:00 pm
- Griefshare Celebration Dinner** - December 15th, 7:00 pm
- Children's Christmas Program "Hooray! For Baby Jesus - The Savior of the World"** - December 18th, 7:00 pm
- Christmas Eve Services** - December 24, 7:00 pm and 11:00 pm

MONTHLY EVENTS

- Holy Communion** - 1st Sunday
- Circle of Friends** - 3rd Monday at 10:00 AM
- Helping Hands** - 3rd Monday at 10:00 AM
- Tabatha's Hands** - 3rd Wednesday at 5:00 PM
- United Methodist Men** - 1st Saturday at 7:30 AM
- Newsletter Deadline** - 20th of each month

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday

- 8:30 AM Traditional Worship (not 12/25)
- 9:30 AM Coffee Time – Meeting Room
- 9:45 AM Sunday School for All Ages (not 12/25)
- 9:45 AM Confirmation Class (not 12/25)
- 10:45 AM Praise and Worship Service-Sanctuary (December 25 - One service at 10:00 am)
- 12:15 PM New Creation Practice (not 12/25)
- 5:30 PM **'SURGE'** Youth (only 12/4)
- 5:45 PM Bible Study (Pastor Dave) (resumes 1/8/12)

Monday

- 2:30 PM SAM After School Care (not 12/26)
- 6-7:30 PM Girl Scouts (1st and 3rd Mondays) (not 12/19)

Tuesday

- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting
- 2:30 PM SAM After School Care (7 am-6 pm, 12/27)
- 6:30 PM Fitness
- 7:00 PM Bible Study at Lorinda Swartz's home (12/6, 12/13)

Wednesday

- 2:30 PM SAM After School Care (7am-6pm 12/21,28)
- 5:45 PM Hims of Praise Practice
- 6:30 PM Bible Study (Pastor Dave) (resumes 1/11/12)
- 6:30 PM Nursery (not 12/14,
- 6:30 PM **'SPARK'** for Children (only 12/7))
- 6:30 PM Young with the Restless (not in December)
- 6:30 PM **'Wired'** Youth Ministries (only 12/7)
- 7:00 PM MOJ Choir Practice (not 12/21)

Thursday

- 9:30 AM Fit Club (not 12/29)
- 2:30 PM SAM After School Care (7am-6pm 12/22,29)
- 6:30 PM Fitness (session ends 12/20)
- 6:30 PM GriefShare (12/8, 12/15)

Friday

- 2:30 PM SAM After School Care (7am-6pm 12/23,30)

DECEMBER MEETINGS

- Tues., Dec., 6, 6:00 PM Missions
- Tues., Dec., 13, 7:00 PM Finance Meeting
- Church Council (NCD) - No December meeting
- Evangelism - No December meeting



Wednesday Night Community Dinners

REMINDER:

There are no Wednesday Night Community dinners during the month of December.

There is a special dinner on December 14 to celebrate Friends and Family. See details on page 5.

Regular dinners will resume on January 4th, 2012.



You are invited to the Heerman's Nativity Open House
195 Austin Lane, Stanley, NC
Saturday, December 17, 10 am - 8 pm.
At this annual Nativity Open House, many of our nativities will be looking for new homes!
Come, find a special nativity, and make a donation to:
Heifer International

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday 8:30am-12:30pm,
Tuesday - Thursday 8:30am-3:30pm
Closed - Friday

The church office will be closed December 26-30 for Christmas. The office will reopen January 2nd.