# Heard on High

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, TN



# December 2019

As I write you today, I am surrounded by the titles of hymns sung during Advent and Christmas. *Come, O Come Emmanuel; Prepare the Way, O Zion; Angels We Have Heard on High; Joy to the World.* It is such a joy and a privilege to be here serving you during a season of Advent and Christmas cheer.

Columbia truly embraces the light that is coming near. You show that light in extraordinarily good ways. For all who joined us at our tables for worship and a meal on Thanksgiving Day. For the hundreds of families The Family Center delivered turkeys and all the fixings for their own tables on Thanksgiving Day. For the many angels that will have a special present under the tree with their name on it. For our bundled up neighbors who received a cup of hot chocolate during the Christmas Parade. For the seniors who will gather to hear beautiful sounds of the season in our sanctuary this week. For the special offering we will bring on Sunday December 22nd to help the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) missions.

You shine light in this community, and in the world. God be with you. For God is with us.

"God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

Rev. Len Carrell



The season of **Advent**, which comes from the Latin word adventus meaning "coming" or "visit," begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year for Christians.

During Advent, we prepare for, and anticipate, the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation and a new beginning. Even as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a humble stable in Bethlehem, we also look forward anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming.

The Christmas season begins at sundown on December 24 (Christmas Eve) through Epiphany of the Lord (January 6). This period is popularly referred to as "the twelve days of Christmas."

### The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath was created out of evergreens, symbolizing everlasting life in the midst of winter and death as the evergreen is continuously green. The circle reminds us of God's unending love and the eternal life He makes possible.

- The first candle symbolizes hope and is called the "Prophet's Candle."
   The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival.
- The second candle represents faith and is called "Bethlehem's Candle."
   Micah had foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, which is also the birthplace of King David.
- The third candle symbolizes joy and is called the "Shepherd's Candle." To
  the shepherd's great joy, the angels announced that Jesus came for
  humble, unimportant people like them, too. In liturgy, the color rose
  signifies joy.
- The fourth candle represents peace and is called the "Angel's Candle."
   The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace--He came to bring people close to God and to each other again.
- The **fifth candle** represents **light and purity** and is called "Christ's candle." It is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day.

# Hories & Stories & Stories

6 o' clock in the evening Wednesday, December 18 In the Sanctuary





In this season of thankfulness and giving, the Mission Committee would like to thank our congregation for the tremendous support given to all our local church benevolences, our efforts to help those in Harlan, Kentucky through Project Joy, and donations to assist those in need nationally

and internationally through PCUSA's Special Offerings. Your monetary gifts have helped many persons around the world. Your contributions of school supplies, food, and turkey boxes have brightened many lives in Kentucky and Maury County. Twenty-five percent of the funds collected at the Special Offering in October was given to The Center of Hope, our local domestic Our church has sent \$500 to help purchase medications and provide interpreters for the medical mission trip sponsored by our Presbytery in March, 2020. Through the Deacons Benevolences our contributions provide monies to assist about a dozen local agencies and non-profit organizations.

We all get requests for help almost daily for worthwhile causes locally and around the world. We live in a world with many people in need because of wars, famine, natural disasters, accidents, health crises, etc. We are also blessed to have so many willing to help others. I am proud of our church's quick and generous response to requests. We are also fortunate to have many in our congregation who not only give of their money, but give faithfully of their time to volunteer at local agencies by helping with food and turkey giveaways, Peoples Table, Meals on Wheels, MUMS, etc.

THANK YOU!!

Besides the Angel Tree, there are several other opportunities to give locally at this time of year. The Family Center always relies on donations of new toys to provide a Christmas shopping experience for 600-700 youngsters. Another worthy local program is sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging and Disability for the South Central Tennessee Development District. They are looking for a few good "Santa's" to bring joy to Senior Citizens or Persons with Disabilities who are home bound and who have no family or other social support system during the holiday season. You may stop by the office at Cherry Glen (on bypass near Mt. Pleasant) and select a person who will have needed items under \$25 listed. You may purchase gifts and take to the office (unwrapped), or you may send \$25 to the AAAD and they will do the shopping. Checks should be made payable to SCTDD and mailed to Santa For a Senior, c/o SCTDD/AAAD, 101 Sam Watkins Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, TN 38474



Many thanks to all of you that volunteered to help with the **Community Thanksgiving Service and Meal.** From preparing food, serving, delivering meals and ushering, you are all appreciated!



People's Table Thank you to all that cooked, served food, and cleaned at The People's Table during the month of November.





## **Acolytes for December**

December 1-Molly Potts & Houston Jones
December 8-Sarah Ann Crichton & Perry Crichton
December 15-Lilly Allred & Lee Holloway
December 22-Mary Dudley Hill
December 24-McKennon Jones & Houston Jones
December 29-Sarah Ann Crichton & Perry Crichton



### **Ushers for December**

December Captain: John Hill

Dec 1 Bill Handy, Will Dale, Jeff Smith, Houston Jameson

Dec 8 Dick Green, Alan Phillips, Frank Bellamy, Michael Lukens

Dec 15 Jeff Baxter, Ron Neal, Don Crichton, Al Harlan

Dec 22 Matt Campbell, Andy Crichton, Brooks Jones, Mollie Grace Demoss

Dec 29 Frank Dale, Mike McAlister, Tom Price, Becky Price



### **Liturgists for December**

December 1-Lee Maddox
December 8-Jenny Sloan
December 15-Gloria Dale
December 22-Jeff Baxter
December 24-Ed Lancaster
December 29-Mollie Grace DeMoss



# Presbyterian Women 2019/2020 Horizon Bible Study "Love Carved in Stone"

The second Monday Circle will meet on December 9 at 10:00 AM at the home of Carolyn Fisher, 814 Academy Lane. Everyone is asked to bring a sandwich.

The Tuesday Circle will meet on December 17 at 6:30 PM at the home of Linda Horner, 977 Rip Steele Road.



Men's Bible Study will meet at MRMC at 6:00 am on Tuesday, December 10. We will not meet on December 24.



Our Church uses a prayer chain when we are made aware of prayer requests and needs. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain, please email Renea at rfosterfpc@gmail.com.



A special thank you to those who graciously volunteered to provide flowers for Sunday morning worship service this past year.
They serve as a reminder of the beauty in our lives that God provides. If you wish to provide

flowers for the sanctuary for the upcoming year, there is a calendar for 2020 on the table in the gathering area that you may sign up for, or you may email me at rfoster@gmail.com or call the church office at 388-1985.



In **memory** of Bob Duncan by: Jack & Cindy Baxter, Jack & Cathy McDonald, Cleo Mayfield, Bruce & Jade Kayser, Jim & Terri Ross, Linda Horner, Dr. & Mrs. Ralph Barr, Dalton & Roben Mounger, Mark & Patsy Bridges

In **memory** of David Locke by: Cleo Mayfield, Mrs. William H. Pigg Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Waymon Hickman, Mr. & Mrs. Campbell Ridley Jr., Jack & Cathy McDonald, Ricky & Margaret Moore, Amanda & Stephen Young, Sami & Nancy Naddy, Bruce & Jade Kayser, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Gordon, Jim & Terri Ross, Linda Horner, Bob Sweeney, Dr. & Mrs. Ralph Barr, Dalton & Roben Mounger, Robert & Jennifer Grimes, Ann Evans, Terri & Patrick Flynn

### In memory of Pat Smith by:

Jack & Cindy Baxter, Dorothy Duncan, Jack & Cathy McDonald, Cleo Mayfield, Mrs. William H. Pigg Jr., Mary Jane Miles, John & Mary Beth Cotham, Douglas & Monette Fagan, Ken & Sue Brinkley, Paul & Sharon Messick, Linda Horner, Bob Sweeney, Dr. & Mrs. Ralph Barr, Dalton & Roben Mounger, Mark & Patsy Bridges

In **memory** of Elizabeth Cole by: Mrs. William H. Pigg Jr.

In **memory** of Lillian Frances Lee (mother of Dianne Messick) by: Linda Horner, Terri & Patrick Flynn

In **memory** of Doyle Trigg (father of Rachel Allred) by: Linda Horner

In **memory** of Bee Fletcher (sister of John Fletcher) by: Dalton & Roben Mounger

In **memory** of Betty Kennedy by: Ann Evans

In memory of John Satterwhite Jr. by: Linda Horner

In memory of Mary Lucy Fuqua by: Cleo Mayfield

In **memory** of Beverly Douglas by: Ann Evans

A **donation** has been given to the church for the People's Table by: John Whiteside

**Memorials** to the John Satterwhite Memorial Endowment Fund By Buddy and Carolyn Fisher:

John Satterwhite, Jr., Bob Duncan, Edwin James Carrell (Father of Len Carrell), David Locke, Dr. William and Mary Lucy Fuqua, Sam & Betty Kennedy, Helen Fleming, Pat Smith, Elizabeth Cole, Lillian Frances Lee (Mother of Dianne Messick), Syd Garten, Virginia Jones (Mother of Chipper Jones), Joe Lancaster (Father of Ed Lancaster and Emily McKnight), Tom Lucas, John Jackson, Geert Vandyk (Father of Judie Forrest),

Frances Wise (Mother of Danny Wise), Clyde Lincoln (Father of Barbara Lincoln), Jean Harlan (Mother of Ed and AL Harlan), James Stumph (Father of Sharon Messick), Bob & Nancy Coirier, Dr. Lawrence & Mary Ann Nickell, Doyle Trigg (Father of Rachel Allred), Bee Fletcher (Sister of John Fletcher).



### **Schedule for December:**

December 4 & 11th-5:00 PM Christmas Program Practice 6:00 PM Handbell Choir

7:00 PM Chancel Choir

(There will be no dinner on December 4 & 11)

December 18 5:00 Dinner

6:00 Christmas Program

7:00 Chancel Choir



Take a moment to let our college kids know you are thinking about them. There are boxes in the gathering space where you can leave notes of encouragement, snacks or anything they might like. Let's let them know we care!

The Youth Committee



If you have something to put in the upcoming January Newsletter please send your articles to sbaxterfpc@gmail.com by December 23.





If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to be delivered to our shut ins, envelopes can be found at the end of each pew. Fill out the form and drop the envelope in the offering plate.

# THESE DAYS

Daily Devotions for Living by Faith

Copies of the January-March These Days Devotionals can be picked up on the table in the Gathering area and in the Narthex.

### Sunday Schedule

9:10 Sunday School 10:10 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Worship



First Presbyterian Church 801 S High Street

### Wednesday Schedule

5:00-5:45 Children's Choir and Youth Music 5:30-6:15 Dinner 6:00 Handbell Choir 6:15-7:00 Bible Studies 7:00-8:30 Chancel Choir

December 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1st Sunday of Advent	2 Columbia Christmas Parade	3 Session 6:00 PM	No WW Dinner 4 5:00 Practice 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	5 Senior Adult Ministry 1:00	6 Angel Tree Gifts due back	7
8 2nd Sunday of Advent	9	10 Mens Bible Study Deacons 6:00 PM Committees 7:00	No Dinner 11 5:00 Practice 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Choir	12	13	14
15 3rd Sunday of Advent	16	17	Dinner 5:00 18 Stories & Singing 6:00 Choir 7:00	19	20	21
Reception for 22 Marcy Lay 4th Sunday of Advent	23 Newsletter Articles due	24 Christmas Eve Service 5:00 PM	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27 Office Closed	29
29 No Sunday School 1st Sunday of Christmas	30 Office Closed	31 Office Closed				