

Overview of December 2021

“ADVENT-URE”

Would you like to know what “Advent” means? Sure you would! Glad you asked. **Advent is “the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event.”** In the Christian sense, of course, it is the season where we prepare for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. What is interesting to me, as applied to the working definition above, the birth of Jesus Christ is not just the arrival of “a notable person”, its not just the arrival of a “thing” or an “event”. The birth of Jesus Christ is ALL THREE!

The person of Jesus Christ is remarkable enough. Born of a virgin...by the power of the Holy Spirit...holding the full humanity we all have, yet also holding the absolute divinity of God Himself. Experiencing wants, desires, hurts, love, and grace along with the countless emotions and ideals of every human on earth, Jesus Christ is far more than a “notable person”. He’s the second person of the Trinity. When is the last time you have pondered that reality? What does it mean that we are invited every year to know the person of Jesus Christ?

The “thing” about Advent is it ushers us into a whole new time in the existence of humanity. We have two segments of time that we must always consider: the already and the not yet. What this “thing” does is launch us from the “already” into a focus on the “not yet”. What is the “not yet?” It is in the return of Jesus. That hasn’t happened yet, but we are promised it is coming. So many signs were told of us that would signify the “Not Yet” is almost here! Many of you are wondering, “Are we in the End Times?” The answer is YES! Because the “thing” of Advent is Jesus pushes us past the already! I know, I’m making your head hurt. Mine too! Shouldn’t we ponder these things though?

The “event” of Advent is such a powerful reality. Imagine, you have been waiting. Not just a little while, but waiting for centuries for God to send the Messiah...the promised One, the One who would save us from our sins. And it FINALLY has arrived! It was announced not to the royalty, not to the religious elite, not to governors or kings. It was announced to shepherds who were peacefully watching their flocks on a quiet hillside. Shepherds...considered one of the lowliest of positions. After centuries of waiting, God announces this to them! Is that by accident? Not likely at all. It is a HUGE statement! If you are feeling worthless, less-than, broken, battered by life...God is not ignoring you. You are revered!! God would move heaven and earth for YOU. And He has proven His love for you by this “event”...and the “event” that would transpire 33 years later!

Advent-URE! Ponder deeply, think on these things, consider the magnitude of what it all means. Your Christmas experience WILL be different this year if you do!

Pastor Scott

Pastor Scott



Christmas Eve Services

6pm & 11pm

We are very excited to be back to some semblance of normalcy for the Christmas season. We are thoroughly enjoying the Advent Concert series. And now we are delighted to announce that we will have two opportunities for you to join us in worship on Christmas Eve.

There will be a Contemporary Service in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00pm and a Traditional Service at 11:00pm in the Sanctuary...both on December 24th. Both services will be by candlelight.

The Contemporary Service at 6:00pm will be lead by our Worship Band and include Christmas songs, a short sermon and the lighting of the Christ Advent Candle.

The 11:00pm Traditional Service will include Lessons and Carols, a short sermon and the lighting of the Christ Advent Candle.

Join us on Christmas Eve to worship our Savior born to us in a manger. If you are unable to be here in person, join us online through Facebook! God bless you as we celebrate The King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ~Isaiah 9:6

Overview continued...

Jimmy Pettigrew	12-02	Kathryn Smith	12-09	Suzy Matthews	12-16	Peggy Wilkerson	12-23
Emily Graybill	12-03	John Simpson	12-10	Emily Paxton	12-17	Reuben Keeton	12-27
Paul Lauzon	12-03	Gloria Davis	12-13	Brad Surratt	12-18	Gayle Boles	12-28
Mark Foster	12-05	Susan Floyd	12-13	Verta Barrett	12-19	Christy Caig	12-28
Sophia Phillips	12-05	Yates Davis	12-14	Scott Chandler	12-19	Anna Reinke	12-28
Vivian Hazelton	12-06	Linnie Flippin	12-14	William Murphy	12-20	Terri Paxton	12-29
Gil Rushing	12-06	Kaitlynn Malarney	12-14	Angela Tice	12-20	Callie Smith	12-31
Ron Creel	12-07	Minta Summey	12-14	Amy Proctor	12-21		
Jamilee Moore	12-07	Larry Intihar	12-16	Austin Lawwill	12-22		
Stacy Menichelli	12-08	Carolyn Lawwill	12-16	Chelsea Faulling	12-23		



Giving		
Date	Budget	Building Fund
Nov 07	\$ 4,912.51	\$ 869.00
Nov 14	\$ 3,822.79	\$ 220.00
Nov 21	\$ 6,199.75	\$ 555.00
Nov 28	\$ 5,586.92	\$ 6,870.00

Please do not forget your church when you go out of town, on vacation **OR watching online due to health reasons.**
 "...God loves a cheerful giver." ~ 2 Corinthians 9:7b

Advent Concert Series

I hope you are enjoying our Sunday afternoon Advent Concert Series. Last Sunday we were blessed by the talent of Savannah and Jake Hemminger and their "Carols of Christmas". What a wonderful time of fellowship that was. If you missed it, you have three more opportunities to join in. This coming Sunday, December 5th at 3pm, one of our favorites will be back with us...The Queen City Ringers will present the Seasons of The Heart.



Please make note and remember The Ringers require that all audience wear face masks for their performance. Then on December 12th, we will be delighted by the stylings of the Queen City Groove's Holiday Concert (again at 3pm). And finally, on December 19th at 3pm our own Stallings UMC Chancel Choir will present "Love was Born a King". Please be sure to make a point to attend each of these performances and bring your family and friends. We sorely missed having anything like this last year. What a great opportunity to worship and fellowship together once again! There is no price for admission. Donations will be accepted and all proceeds will go to sponsor our 2022 Youth Mission and Camp Projects. We hope to see you at the shows!

United Methodist Men's Breakfast

Our United Methodist Men's Group meets next on Saturday, December 11th at 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall for a hearty breakfast, inspiring fellowship, and a short meeting. We will begin planning our Spring Golf Tournament! Men, if you've never been to UMM or haven't been in a while, please join us! Come get to know us and see how we are growing in our faith and our community! Remember, this will be the last official Men's gathering before Christmas and the last gathering of 2021.



In Memory of Jean Capps:

- ♦ Tommy & Judy Stilwell

In Memory of Jan Brownlee:

- ♦ Tim & Marie Garris
- ♦ Mac & Sharon Powell
- ♦ The Lee Park Discipleship Sunday School Class
- ♦ Ken & Kathy Broadway
- ♦ Tommy & Judy Stilwell

In Memory of Curtis Estep:

- ♦ Janice Limburg
- ♦ Larry and Barbara Lee
- ♦ Gil & Kathy Rushing
- ♦ Judith Carpenter
- ♦ Tim & Marie Garris
- ♦ The Agape Sunday School Class
- ♦ Ken and Kathy Broadway
- ♦ Tommy & Judy Stilwell
- ♦ Ben & Debbie Davis
- ♦ Mac & Sharon Powell

In Memory of Lynn Deason:

- ♦ Ken & Kathy Broadway
- ♦ Brian Smith
- ♦ Tommy & Judy Stilwell
- ♦ Floyd & Janice Hull
- ♦ Phillip & Silva Deason



The Church Office will be closed for the Christmas holiday December 24, 2021 through January 2, 2022. We will reopen on Monday, January 3, 2022. If you have an emergency, you may reach Pastor Scott or Julie on their cells.