

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 17

Sunday, December 17th Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 am	First Praise	Fellowship Hall
10:00 am	Church School	Classrooms
10:00 -10:45 am	Nativity Tableau Rehearsal	Sanctuary
11:00 am	Worship with Exaltation Ringers	Sanctuary
3:00 pm	HS & MS PYF Christmas Party	Room 310

Monday, December 18th

	Preschool Closed	
5:30 pm	MCM- Circles	Fellowship Hall, 300, & 301
7:00 pm	Boy Scouts	Scout Building

Tuesday, December 19th

	Preschool Closed	
12:30 pm	Saints Alive Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Cub Scouts	
6:30 pm	Men's Dinner	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 20th

	Newsletter Deadline	
	Preschool Closed	
1:00 pm	Prayer Meeting	
6:15 pm	Supper Club	
7:00 pm	FPCM College Group	Sentas Home

Thursday, December 21st

Preschool Closed

Sunday, December 24th Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 am	Church School	Classrooms
11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
7:30 pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary

LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH

SESSION

David Rockness, Moderator

Class of 2017

Phil Heilman
Sparky Hitchcock
Rog McCrea
Dot Nelson
Trent Newell

Class of 2018

Mark Auten
Karen Shore
Sue Stevens
Harry Weyer

Mark Auten, Clerk

Class of 2019

Bill Brawley
C. P. Chappell
Janice Pluer
Steve Robinson
John Streb

DIACONATE

Chris Creech, Moderator

Class of 2017

Chris Creech
Dave Culler
Tom Kirkland
Jane Peterson
Susan Poore
Amy Williams

Scott Mauney, Associate Moderator

Class of 2018

Sandy Bickett
Maria Heilman
Pat King
Paul Manning
Scott Mauney
Tom Trosuk

Class of 2019

Fern Alexander
Ross Culp
Lorra Lee Holshouser
Joyce Lytle
David Ramey

PASTOR

The Rev. Dr. David Rockness, Pastor, Head of Staff dave@moorevillefpc.org
The Rev. Jason Sentas, Associate Pastor jason@moorevillefpc.org

PASTOR EMERITI

The Rev. Dr. S. Edwin Lewis The Rev. Dr. Frederick A. H. Coates

PROGRAM AND SUPPORT STAFF

Marian Dillingham, Business Administrator	marian@moorevillefpc.org
Bryan Cerrone, Director of Youth Ministries	bryan@moorevillefpc.org
Alan Sledge, Director of Music	alan@moorevillefpc.org
Ellen Auten, Director of Christian Education	ellen@moorevillefpc.org
Lori Stewart, Director of Preschool	lori@moorevillefpc.org
Tonya Stinson, Receptionist	tonya@moorevillefpc.org
Greg Thompson, Organist	greg@moorevillefpc.org
Jerilyn Fair, Hostess	jerilyn@moorevillefpc.org

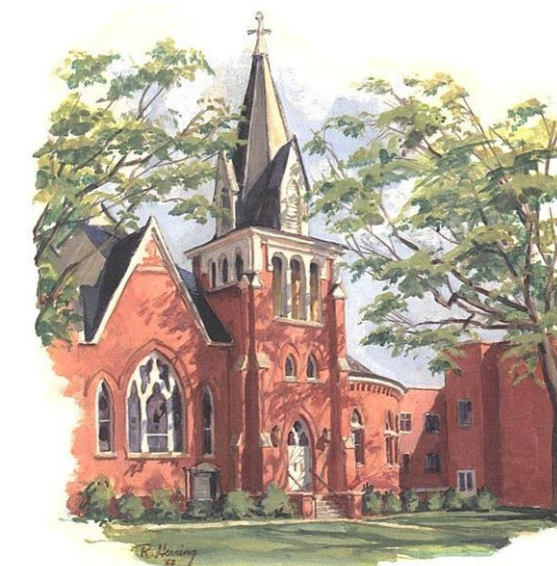
EXALTATION RINGERS

Beth Sink, Ginny Swedenberg, Debbie Hyatt, Angie Toma, Teresa Trimble, Maria Heilman, Martha McDonnell, Liz Rader, Dorothy Campbell, Lisa Davidson, Jim McDonnell

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

The 2018 Flower Calendar is available in the parlor for anyone who would like to sign up to provide flowers to enhance worship in the coming year. The calendar will remain in the parlor until the end of January. This is a wonderful way to mark a special occasion or honor a loved one. Your flowers can also encourage someone who is ill or homebound if you wish to leave them to be used by our flower ministry volunteers. Your arrangement will be used to create smaller bouquets that will be distributed on Mondays to brighten someone's day

2018 Offering Envelopes are available for pickup at the back entrance of the Sanctuary and in the Parlor. When you take an envelope packet, please sign your name on the Envelope Sheet beside of that envelope number.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

249 West McLelland Avenue
Mooresville, North Carolina 28115
704-664-5275 www.moorevillefpc.org

Loving God, Loving People, and Making Disciples
December 17, 2017 ♦ 11:00 A.M ♦ Third Sunday of Advent

Please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it down your pew for all to sign.

*Please stand as you are able.

Please turn off your cell phones or place them on "vibrate."
Words printed in **bold** are said by the congregation.

PRELUDE: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. Burton Bumgarner
Greg Thompson, Organist

WELCOME Dave Rockness

CALL TO WORSHIP

INVOCATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE 218: *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost;
born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Cerrone Family

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Jason Sentas

ANTHEM: *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen* arr. M. Compton
Exaltation Ringers

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Sue Stevens

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 126 pg. 499

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT CONFESSION, LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY:

Pachelbel's Canon in D arr. Linker/McFadden
Exaltation Ringers with Greg Thompson, Organist

*THE DOXOLOGY 34: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SERMON SCRIPTURE READING: John 1:6-8, 19-28

SERMON A Voice in the Wilderness Dave Rockness

*HYMN 184: *What Child Is This*

*INVITATION

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE 198: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (v.1)*

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

*POSTLUDE: *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* arr. James Pethel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are our guest today, welcome! We're so glad you're here. For more information on FPC, please indicate your interest on the Friendship Pad. **You can become a FPC member** by your profession or reaffirmation of faith or transfer of membership. Please speak with our pastor following the service for information. **Large print bulletins** are available from the ushers. The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing a loop. **Assisted listening devices** are also available from the sound console at the back of the sanctuary.

Preschool and elementary children during worship: Childcare is provided for infants through kindergarten age during all Sunday morning

activities. Childcare is located on the second floor of the educational building. **First graders through fifth grade children** are invited to participate in First Kids' Worship following the *Time With The Children*. The service is designed as an age-appropriate worship service for elementary age children and is held in the fellowship hall; parents will pick their children up in the fellowship hall. **Worship bags** are available at the rear of the sanctuary for all children.

There will be a congregational meeting following the 11:00 a.m. worship service today. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect officers for the class of 2020. Nominations from the floor will be allowed at the meeting, if the nominee has given consent before their name is placed on the ballot. The committee is placing into nomination the following persons:

- Elder-class of 2020: Brent Curtis, Tom Morrow, Gene Vaughan, Mike Toma, and Mike Campbell
- Elder-class of 2018 : Roger Hyatt (1 year filling unexpired term)
- Deacon-class of 2020: Beverly Chappell, Andrew Coates, Hillary Cole, Angie Copeland, and Teresa Trimble.

Saints Alive Luncheon: The monthly Saints Alive luncheon (\$4) will be held this Tuesday, December 19 at 12:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Come enjoy a festive Biltmore House themed luncheon, followed by the "Christmas at Biltmore" DVD as our program. Organist Diane Bish will play the majestic Biltmore pipe organ and take us on a tour, via DVD, of the magnificent Biltmore House and grounds. Our donation item for December is to bring paper products to donate to Mooresville Christian Mission.

Cross Stitch Group Wanted: Do you love to cross-stitch? Have you been waiting for an opportunity to hone your skills? Then we need people like you. The church wishes to organize a cross-stitch group who would provide items for babies who are baptized. All materials will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Pat King, 704-663-0844.

Nativity Tableau: All preschool and elementary children are invited to participate in a Nativity Tableau at the 5:00 pm Christmas Eve worship service. Rehearsals will be held this morning and next Sunday, December 24 from 10:00 – 10:45 am. Please contact Ellen Auten to sign up.

Logos/MSM 2nd semester will begin Wednesday, January 10, 2018. If your child is currently enrolled in the program, there is no need to register for 2nd semester; if you would like to register your child as a new participant for 2nd semester, please contact program director Valerie Mauney (704-723-1523; valeriemauney@mi-connection.com) or assistant director Stephanie Sentas (781-267-5559; ssentas02@yahoo.com). There will be a parent meeting (for new participants only) on Wednesday, January 10 at 4:30 pm.

Men's Dinner: The Men's Dinner (ages 15 – 100), will gather in the fellowship hall on Tuesday night, December 19th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm for Olivia's famous meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, and salad. We will have a Christmas themed discussion and a Christmas game.

College Group: Over the Christmas break, the FPCM College Group will be meeting on Wednesday nights from 7-9 pm. Locations will vary but this Wednesday, December 20 will be at the Davidson home located at 174 Mandarin Drive, Mooresville 28117.

Alternative Christmas Gift Selections Available: If you are still searching for Christmas presents for friends and loved ones, why not support our mission partners and consider one of the alternative gift selections FPC is offering this year. Cards are available in the parlor with our Mission Partners information. Checks should be made out to First Presbyterian Church, with the mission partner written in the memo line.

Ladies Who Lunch: Dear sisters in Christ, we will not be lunching together this Thursday 12/21. We pray everyone has a "Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year." We look forward to seeing everyone again the third Thursday in January.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please contact the church if you, a family member, or a friend faces illness, hospitalization, bereavement, or some other concern. Please do not assume the church office knows. If the concern is confidential, please let us know and we will honor your wish for privacy. Names in **bold** indicate new concerns.

Members in Hospitals, Care Facilities, or Homebound

Willie Allison	Margaret Carrigan	Ellen McGuirt
Joan Gibson	Mary Fortanbary	Margaret Sanders
Lecie Miller	Lois Kirk	John Westmoreland
Estelle Mott		

Members of the Church

Ray & Billie Brawley	Bill Harris	Al Culp
Shirley Crowley	Joyce Sloop	Shirley Morrow
P. J. Decastro	Diane Crymes	Becky Rader
Rosemary LaBarre	Cathy Irvin	Bedo & Pat Culberson

Bereavement

John Johnston, death of aunt, Mabel Lee Johnston

Friends of the Church

**Charlie Chapman and The Turner family; friends of Harry Weyer
Shirley Abele, mother of Bill Abele**

Donna Buyer	Amos Family	Ed Barber
Barbara Gepford & family	Maureen & Richard	David Childers
Ava Lawrence	Teresa Knutsen	Rick Ervin
Judy Nickliss	George McClure	Jayden Hoppel
Linda Rice	Christine Morgan	Jade Knittel
Ronnie Shultz	Dick Scovil	Louis Newton
Jennifer Torsiello	Becky Smith	Robb Parker
Jenny Wheeler	Becky Starnes	Patt Seyller
Mike & Candi Hawkins	Linda Wilson	Deb Shultz
Diane Church	Daniela	Jan Zamudio
Jeff Snyder	McKenzie Graham	Douglas
Claire & Manny Fontaina	Wanda Cravens	Mary & Bill Clowney

Armed Forces

LTC David Dennison, Army	Sgt. Adam R. Loftin, USMC	LT James B. Eilers, USN
LSSN Dylan McIntyre, USN	2 nd LT H. Craig May, USMC	Ens Dylan Powell, USN
Maj. William Matheny, Army	Capt. Ben Peacock, USAF	