

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 24

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

Monday, December 25th
Office & Preschool Closed

Tuesday, December 26th
Office & Preschool Closed

Wednesday, December 27th
Preschool Closed
 1:00 pm Prayer Meeting Library
 7:00 pm FPCM College Group Davidson Home

Thursday, December 28th
Preschool Closed
 7:00 pm Praise Band Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 31st
 9:00 am First Praise Fellowship Hall
 10:00 am Church School Classrooms
 11:00 am Worship Sanctuary

LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH

SESSION

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| David Rockness, Moderator | | Mark Auten, Clerk |
| <u>Class of 2017</u> | <u>Class of 2018</u> | <u>Class of 2019</u> |
| Phil Heilman | Mark Auten | Bill Brawley |
| Sparky Hitchcock | Karen Shore | C. P. Chappell |
| Rog McCrea | Sue Stevens | Janice Pluer |
| Dot Nelson | Harry Weyer | Steve Robinson |
| Trent Newell | | John Streb |

DIACONATE

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Chris Creech, Moderator | Scott Mauney, Associate Moderator |
| <u>Class of 2017</u> | <u>Class of 2018</u> |
| Chris Creech | Sandy Bickett |
| Dave Culler | Maria Heilman |
| Tom Kirkland | Pat King |
| Jane Peterson | Paul Manning |
| Susan Poore | Scott Mauney |
| Amy Williams | Tom Trosuk |

PASTOR

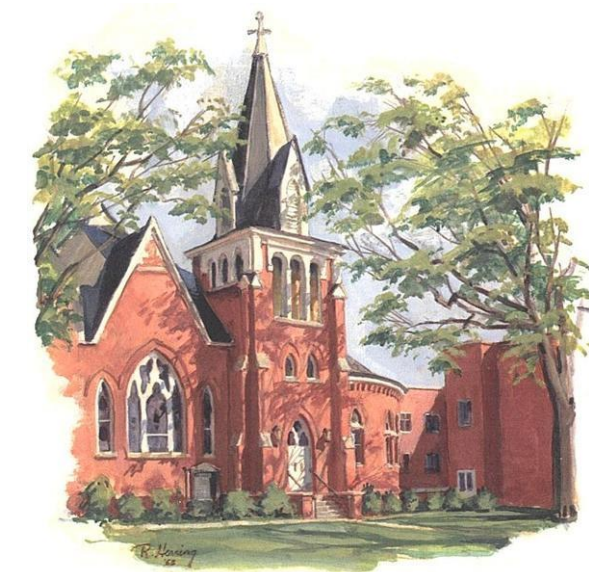
The Rev. Dr. David Rockness, Pastor, Head of Staff dave@moorevillefpc.org
 The Rev. Jason Sentas, Associate Pastor jason@moorevillefpc.org

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 |



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 24, 2017 ♦ 11:00 A.M ♦ Fourth 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: Kommt her zu mir, spricht Gottes Sohn Dietrich Buxtehude
 Greg Thompson, Organist

WELCOME Dave Rockness

CALL TO WORSHIP Jason Sentas

INVOCATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE 189: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

*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

Liz & Ellie Rader

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Dave Rockness

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Thomas McMillan

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 pg. 475

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:

Were You There on That Christmas Night Natalie Sleeth
Chancel Choir

Were you there, were you there on that Christmas night, when the world was filled with a holy light? Were you there to behold when the wonder foretold came to earth? Did you see, did you see how they hailed Him King, with the gifts so rare that they chose to bring? Did you see how they bowed, as they praised Him aloud At His birth? Did you hear how the choirs of angels sang at the glory of the sight? Did you hear how the bells of heaven rang all through the night? Did you know, did you know it was God's own Son, the salvation of the world begun? Did you know it was love that was sent from above to the earth?

*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: Luke 1:26-38

SERMON: Grace Received Dave Rockness

*HYMN 203: *Away in a Manger*

*INVITATION

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE 188: *Angels We Have Heard on High (v. 1 & 3)*

**Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**Come to Bethlehem, and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

*POSTLUDE: How Brightly Shines the Morning Star
Greg Thompson, Organist 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.

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.

College Group: Over the Christmas break, the FPCM College Group will be meeting on Wednesday nights from 7-9 pm. Locations will vary.

The church office will close Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26 in observance of the Christmas holiday. The office will also be closed on **Monday, January 1** for the New Year's holiday. If you wish to drop off any pledges or offerings to be included with your 2017 charitable contributions, please bring them by the church office no later than Wednesday, December 27. Also, if you are planning to donate stock, in lieu of monetary donations, please call or email Marian to let her know to expect it. Any gifts mailed and postmarked by December 31 will be included on your year-end statement.

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.

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 |

Friends of the Church

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 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 | Dick Scovil | Jade Knittel |
| Ronnie Shultz | Becky Smith | Robb Parker |
| Jennifer Torsiello | Becky Starnes | Patt Seyller |
| Jenny Wheeler | Linda Wilson | Deb Shultz |
| Mike & Candi Hawkins | Daniela | Jan Zamudio |
| Diane Church | McKenzie Graham | Douglas |
| Jeff Snyder | Wanda Cravens | Charlie Chapman |
| Claire & Manny Fontaina | Mary & Bill Clowney | |
| Turner Family | | |

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 | |