

November 8, 2012



PLEASANT VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# CONNECTIONS

## Christmas Is Not Your Birthday—Advent Study

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Last year, several groups and classes traveled the “Journey” through Advent as seen through the lens of Adam Hamilton. This year, a new study is available. “Christmas Is Not Your Birthday” is written by Mike Slaughter with companion pieces for youth and children. The five segments explore the tension between the meaning of Christmas and what it has become. Titles for the segments are: Expect A Miracle

(Who is Jesus), Giving Up on Perfect (Mary and the Nativity), Scandalous Love (Joseph’s role), Jesus Wish List (Gifts and Mission), and A Different Road (Magi). Each segment also contains a missional perspective.

Sample materials are available to Sunday School teachers for review. This study is designed to follow the same format as last years

“Journey” study. If your class is interested in utilizing the study, please contact the church office so that materials may be ordered.



## Plans For The Thanksgiving and Christmas Seasons

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Some of us spent a lot of time Tuesday making plans for the church for the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

It’s going to be great. Please let us know if your class or group is making special plans so we can get these dates and times on our

church calendars.

In Christ,  
Ralph

# First National Thanksgiving Proclamation

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Whereas, it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; Whereas, both the houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me "to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public **thanksgiving** and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for

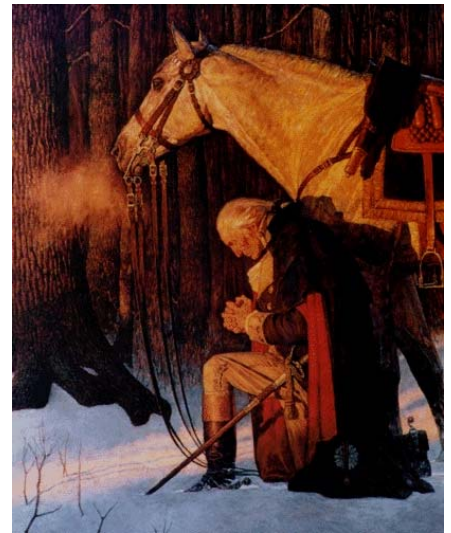


their safety and happiness!"

Now therefore, I do recommend next, to be devoted by the people of the states to the service of that great and glorious being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or

that will be, that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country.

George Washington, 1779”



## Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due Sun., November 18

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### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD DEDICATION DAY IS NEXT SUNDAY!

November 18 is the deadline for returning shoe box gifts. As Franklin Graham says, “Pack your shoe box with love, send it with prayer, and share the good news of Jesus Christ

with a hurting child. That’s the power of a simple gift.”

Let’s fill our table to overflowing with an outpouring of love for God’s children next Sunday! You can learn more about this heart-

warming ministry at [samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanspurse.org/occ).



# KIDS NEWS—Looking Ahead

- **Excite Nite for Children** will not meet on Wednesday, November 21st - **Happy Thanksgiving!**
- **Children's Christmas Program** on Sunday, December 16th, beginning with a Fellowship Dinner at 5:30 pm in the Family Life Center. The children's presentation will take place in the Sanctuary following the meal.
- **Birthday Party for Jesus** will be Wednesday, December 19th in the Family Life Center.



## Advent Events

### Sunday, December 2:

8:30 am Worship Service

11 am Traditional Worship - **Hanging of the Greens Service**

11 am Praise Worship - to celebrate the beginning of the Advent season, we will be **decorating our tree** and ask anyone that wants to participate to bring an ornament to place on the tree that morning.

### Sunday, December 9

8:30 & 11 am Traditional Service - The **Chancel Choir** will present a collection of traditional to contemporary Christmas selections and Rev. Kidd will deliver the morning's message, "How Can We Thank God Enough?"

11 am Praise Service

### Sunday, December 16

8:30 & 11 am Traditional Worship

11 am Praise Worship

5:30 pm **Covered Dish Supper** and Children's presentation of **their Christmas Program**.

### Sun., December 23

8:30 & 11 am Traditional Worship Service

11 am Praise Worship

### Mon., December 24

8 pm **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**.

*And I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.*

*<sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.*

Luke 2:10b-12

**Church Offices will be closed  
December 25th and December  
26th.**





# Ways To Help Victims Of Hurricane Sandy in New York & New Jersey

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It's been a year and a half since tornados hit our county and greatly affected our local economy for a period of time. What we experienced in the days and months that followed was an outpouring of support and help from our own local community as well as from places like New York and New Jersey. We had work crews who came to help in Glade Spring and slept here in our own church. Who knows but what some of those same folks are now suffering from the aftereffects of Hurricane Sandy which caused such devastation in the Northeast on November 1st. The death toll had risen to at least 149 as a result of this "Halloween Nor'easter."

We now have the opportunity to give back. We can give through preparing Flood Buckets, giving money to our United Methodist Committee

on Relief (*UMCOR*) or if you'd like to do some thing quicker, here is an immediate opportunity to respond in our own community. The local United Way is partnering with Berry Home Centers to provide supplies such as, but not limited to: toiletries, cleaning supplies, baby items, new blankets and new children's



coats. Berry's is donating the truck and trailer that will be used to transport the donated items to United Way New York, where they will be distributed to partner agencies like Goodwill of New York

and New Jersey. The truck will leave Abingdon with the donated items on Wednesday, November 14th for New York. Donations can be dropped off at the United Way office which is located in Abingdon at the corner of Preston Street and Colonial Drive between the hours *of 9:00 am to 5:00 pm from now until*

***November 13<sup>th</sup>*** or at Berry Home Center's Abingdon location from ***9:00 am until 12:00 noon on Saturday November 10<sup>th</sup>***.