

Revelations at Concord

The Small Church With a Big Heart

Enter To Worship

December 2011
www.concordumclewisville.org

Depart to Serve

In Good Company

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Matthew 3:3b

The people felt far from God. They were far from home - in exile. The prophet Isaiah painted a picture for them, and Matthew recalls it. The prophet's picture imagined God leading a royal procession, a parade through the wilderness back to Jerusalem.

The road needed to be prepared - the mountains leveled, the valleys filled in, the crooked straightened out, and the rough places made smooth. The road needed to be prepared - not so that God could make the trip. God would not be stopped by mountains or valleys or slowed by curves and potholes. The road needed to be prepared for all those who would be following God in the parade - the people wearied and worn by their long years in exile, people who couldn't make the trip home if the way was too difficult.

In this season, we prepare for Christ's coming once more. The amazing thing is that Christ comes whether or not we are prepared. Christ is not stopped by our busy-ness nor slowed down by the things we don't get done. Christ has a way of breaking into our lives, ready or not.

When Christ comes, along come all those who are part of Christ's parade: People who feel far from God. People who are homesick. People wearied and worn by life. People for whom life's journey is especially hard. For their coming into our hearts and homes and congregations, special preparation might be required. In order to receive them, we might need to slow our pace or build a ramp. We might need to listen with particular care or offer some additional support.

When we think about it, though, we might realize that it is not just "those other people" who need help along the way. We, too, may sometimes feel wearied and worn. We, too, may feel far from God and far from our heart's true home. Especially when we wonder if we can continue on the journey, God's gracious word is: "I am smoothing and straightening the way for you. Come, and be part of my parade."

God, you have prepared a way for me. Help me to be a way-preparer for others.



Larry

Hear my voice, O God... Psalm 64

PRAYER REQUESTS

EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES:

Lucille Hill (Bermuda Commons)	Alma Lee Doub (Mallard Ridge)
Lewana Huffman (Bermuda Commons)	June Pirolo* (Homestead Hills)

MILITARY:

Christopher Ford	Jonathan Hinshaw
Savanna Green	Scott Kyser
John Friend	Dieter Sickerott
Carl Craft	Sam McDuffee

CHURCH FAMILY:

Dollie Hunt	Jean Suddarth
Larry Jones	Robert Ingram
John Breier	Jim Friend
Jim Messick	Sue Krites
Ann Hunt	Jean Messick
Norma Willard	Margaret R. Boggs

CHURCH FRIENDS:

Olivia Swinton (Billie)	Marjorie Dawson (Wilma)
Don Sloan (Phyllis)	Carlos Patino (Elaine)
Nick Schambach (Maggie)	Kathy Freeman (Donna)
Albert Doub	Kim Tetzlaff (Margaret)
Ron Worthington (Theresa)	Lea Castle (Elaine)
Carol Jackson (Wilma)	

DEATH:

We express our Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of Steve Jones. Steve is the son of Phillip and Wilma Jones.

Prayer list additions may be called in or emailed to the church office or to the pastor or the name may be written down and placed in the offering plate. In order to keep our prayer list up to date, church family names will be listed for up to six months and church friend names may listed for up to three months. After that time, they will be removed unless requested to be continued.

MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS

A gift has been given to the glory of God and the Family Life Center Building Fund Principal in honor of Philip and Wilma Jones' 62nd wedding anniversary by Harrison and Sue Krites.

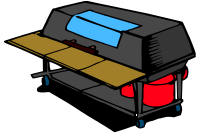
Gifts have been given to the glory of God and Concord UMC in memory of Stephen Phillip Jones by Mrs. Doris Hauser and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Jones.

A gift has been given to the glory of God and the Building Fund in memory of Stephen Phillip Jones by Mrs. Betty Lou Hutchinson and Mr. and Mrs. Ron Simpson and Caroline.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND GIFTS - NOVEMBER

Amount Needed per Week for General Budget: \$3,000

11/6/11	Attendance: 67	General Budget	\$2,773.25
		Building Fund	770.00
11/13/11	Attendance: 60	General Budget	\$ 2,862.35
		Building Fund	520.00
11/20/11	Attendance: 75	General Budget	\$5,010.37
		Building Fund	525.00
11/27/11	Attendance:	General Budget	\$2,720.00
		Building Fund	575.00



OUTREACH MISSIONS BBQ

Orders are being accepted through 12/15 for fried turkey breasts and Boston butts – order slips are available at the church or you may contact Larry & Nancy Cook (945-5691) or Charlene Teague (413-0913). Orders will be available for pick up on 12/22 between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m.

A big thanks to those who donated to Elaine Binkley's Benefit Peru yard sale. As you know, several dates were rained out but regardless of the weather \$305 was raised. That money has been wired to Peru, where it will be used to install electricity at the school where Elaine volunteers.

NEW CONTACT INFORMATION

Robin, Becky and Allison Miller
7181 Styers Ferry Road
Clemmons, NC 27012
766-6020
rmiller1989@triad.rr.com

“BLUE CHRISTMAS”

Sedge Garden United Methodist Church, 794 Sedge Garden Road, Kernersville, will have a Blue Christmas Worship Service on Tuesday, December 20th, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of their church. We recognize that not everyone is joyful during the holiday season and numerous reasons can cause a blue Christmas. Therefore to acknowledge and bring comfort, this special worship service has been planned. This special worship is open to all in our community.

WS DISTRICT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Sunday, January 22
(Snow Date – January 29)
Worship at 2:30 p.m.
Classes begin at 3:00 p.m.
Mount Tabor UMC

The following classes will be offered:

- “Jump into Mission” with UMW
- What is General Conference and Why You Should Care
- Sharing the Easter Faith with Children
- VBS with Cokesbury
- Creative Worship Spaces
- Pastor-Parish Relations Committee
- Safe Sanctuary: Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How
- Basic Lay Speaker Training (must pre-register by 1/13; cost is \$11 – contact Amy Johnson at 725-4502 or ajohnson@wnccumc.org.)
- Missions – “Circles” (initiative for people to move out of poverty)
- 21st Century Stewardship and Financial Reporting
- Congregational Development: Seek Revitalization!

LCAP item for December is BBQ sauce.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

1	John Hickman	14	Dathan Reich
	Dillon Marshall	15	Betty Dixon
2	Jessica Ford		Phillip Jones
	Anna Sparks	16	David Reich
3	Becky Miller	26	Noah Franke
5	Claire Sparks	27	Wayne Reich
	Kate Sparks	29	Emily Phillips
7	James Bennett	31	Bobby Black
	Sue Krites		

Those serving in our worship service in December

Sunday School 3-6 yr olds

Elaine Binkley

Substitute – April Whitehurst

Sunday School 7 & up

Mandy Johnson

Substitute – Shannon Williams

No Sunday School nursery

Church Nursery

4 Denise Hickman and Kimberly Cook

11 April Whitehurst

18 Shannon Williams and Maggie Sparks

25 No nursery

See Nursery room for a list of Substitutes

Children ages 4-6 may go to nursery after Children's Message.

“For the Father seeks such as these to worship him.”

John 4:23

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>USHER</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>GUEST HOME VISITORS</u>
December	George and Terry Doub	Duncan Hickman	Jim Friend
January	Garrett Sparks and Larry Cook	Tanner Bennett	Sam and April Whitehurst
February	Bobby Black	Isaac Hickman	Wilma Jones and Betty Lou Hutchinson
March	Steve and Charlene Teague	Xander Williams	Steve and Charlene Teague



The UMW invites each of you to a program on Sunday, 12/11, at 3:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The program, “Traveling in the Footsteps of Paul,” will be given by Lib Barefoot with Bonnie Prisk. Refreshments will follow the program. This will be the only UMW program this month.

THANK YOU TO ...

- everyone involved with November FNO – always delicious and a great time!
- all who worked so hard on the Thanksgiving lunch and those who attended and brought dishes to share. We are thankful for you!

CHICKEN PIES FOR SALE

UMW continue to sell chicken pies to benefit our building fund. Cost is \$12 each. Thank you to the UMW and all who help with this ongoing project.

DECEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 Choir	2	3
4 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 2 nd Sunday of Advent	5 Deadline for poinsettia orders	6	7 6:00 Family Nite Out	8 7:00 Choir	9	10
11 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 3 rd Sunday of Advent 3:00 UMW program	12	13 7:00 Witness	14 6:00 Acolyte Training 7:00 Trustees	15 7:00 Choir Deadline for Winter BBQ orders	16	17
18 8:30 Men's Breakfast 9:45/11 SS/Worship 4 th Sunday of Advent 4:30 Caroling	19	20	21	22 Winter BBQ for Missions – pickup between 4-7 p.m. 7:00 Choir	23 December newsletter deadline	24
25 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship MERRY CHRISTMAS	26 Office closed	27	28	29 7:00 Choir	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

CHRISTMAS CAROLING



The entire congregation is invited to join the children and youth for caroling on Sunday, 12/18. The group will meet at 4:30 in the fellowship for a meal, then head out to carol.

Contact Shannon Williams if you plan to attend – 924-9017 or shanwilliams@triad.rr.com

MISSIONS/OUTREACH TREE

Each decoration on this tree has an inexpensive item written on the back of the ornament. Some donations will be sent in packages to our soldiers, some to a school in Peru, some to help a needy family or school, and some to supply a needed item in our Sunday school classes. Watch throughout the year how our Mission/Outreach tree changes. Help fill a need.



Poinsettias for the sanctuary may be ordered through 12/5. Cost is \$7.25 for a six inch pot wrapped in green paper – no bow.

ACOLYTE TRAINING

All acolytes should plan to attend a training session on Wednesday, 12/14, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

FAMILY NITE OUT

December 7

Menu will be baked ham, macaroni and cheese, sweet potato casserole, dessert, and beverage. We hope to see you there!



Concord United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 1095
Lewisville, NC 27023

www.concordumclewisville.org

