

The Newsletter of Bainbridge First United Methodist Church

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Vol. 22

December 2, 2018

No. 48

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ADVENT

The season of Advent, which comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming" or "visit," begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year for Christians.

[Liturgical -- from liturgy, which means the forms and functions of public worship.]

During Advent, we prepare for and anticipate the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for and need of forgiveness, salvation, and a new beginning. Even as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a humble stable in Bethlehem, we also look forward, anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by His first coming.

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/what-is-advent>

Calendar for November 28, 2018

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

3:00 PM-----Knitting/Crochet Ministry, Simmons Parlor
5:30 PM-----Two Year Old Music Group, Circle Room
*6:00 PM-----Christian Fellowship Dinner, J. O. Smith Building
*6:25 PM-----Children's Worship Arts, Drama Room & Sanctuary
*6:25 PM-----Preschool Music and Arts, Circle Room
*6:40 PM-----Youth Small Group Bible Study, Youth Basement
*7:30 PM-----Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Thursday, November 29, 2018

-----Decorating the Church for Advent

Saturday, December 1, 2018

-----Decorating the Christmon Tree

Sunday, December 2, 2018 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*9:00 AM-----Contemporary Worship Service, J.O. Smith Building
*9:45-10:45 AM-----Sunday School, Sharp Building and Adult S. S. Building
*11:00 AM-----Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary
4:30 PM-----Youth Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
5:00 PM-----Children's Snack Supper, J. O. Smith Building
5:30 PM-----Children's Fellowship, Sharp Building
5:30 PM-----Youth Snack Supper, J. O. Smith Building
5:45 PM-----Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Handbell Room
6:00 PM-----1 Timothy 4:12 UMYF, Youth Basement
*7:00 PM-----"Hanging of the Greens" Service, Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

9:00 AM-----Food Bank, Adult S. S. Building

6:00 PM-----Cub Scout Pack #519 Meeting, Scout Hut

6:30 PM-----Grace Christian Academy Choral Christmas Concert, Sanctuary

* denotes 'nursery provided'

2018 Advent and Christmas Calendar

Advent and Christmas are busy and exciting seasons at Bainbridge First United Methodist, filled with special services and activities. Make your plans now to attend and participate in the following events!

December 2, First Sunday of Advent

Hanging of the Greens, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

December 9, Second Sunday of Advent

Come to Christmas, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Sharp and J.O. Smith Buildings

December 12, Wednesday

Last Christian Fellowship Dinner for 2018, 6:00 p.m., J.O. Smith Building
Children's Christmas Program, 6:45 p.m., Sanctuary

December 16, Third Sunday of Advent

Service of Lessons and Carols, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

December 19, Wednesday

Chili, Cornbread, and Caroling, 6:00 p.m., J.O. Smith Building

December 24, Monday, Christmas Eve

Come-and-Go Communion, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Reynolds Chapel
Communion and Candlelight Service, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

December 30, First Sunday after Christmas Day

Fellowship Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., J.O. Smith Building (No Sunday School)
Unity Worship Service, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

Have You Invited Someone to Church Lately?

The Advent and Christmas Seasons are excellent times to invite others to join us for worship and our special activities. In the holiday season, people are more receptive to our invitations—and, any time of the year, people will respond positively if asked! Make it a point to invite someone—or several someones—to worship and our other activities during these "holy days"!

Pastor Mike's Upcoming Sermons

Sermon Series: "The Church in Advent"

December 2—First Sunday of Advent—Jeremiah 33:14-16—"Hopeful"

December 9—Second Sunday of Advent—Malachi 3:1-4—"Preparing"

December 16—Third Sunday of Advent—Zephaniah 3:14-20—"Rejoicing"

December 23—Fourth Sunday of Advent—Micah 5:2-5a—"At Peace"

Sermon Series: "The Church at Christmas"

December 24—Christmas Eve—John 1:1-18—"Enlightened and Alive"

December 30—First Sunday after Christmas Day—Colossians 3:12-17—"Transformed"

January 6—Epiphany of the Lord—Isaiah 60:1-6—"The Church at the Epiphany: Shining"

January 13—First Sunday after the Epiphany—Baptism of the Lord—Luke 3:15-17, 21-22—
"Water, Wind, and Fire"

Wednesday Night Activities Resume

Our Wednesday Night activities resume this week on November 28. Please remember that if you have standing reservations for our Christian Fellowship Dinner, cannot attend, and do not cancel, we ask that you please pay for your meal.

Decorating the Church

We will be decorating the church this Thursday and Saturday. If you are interested in participating, please contact Elizabeth Simmons, and she will be more than willing to find you a job. Come help prepare for this joyous season!

Keenagers

Our December meeting of Keenagers will be held on Wednesday, December 5, at noon. Jackie Bridges, Director of the Decatur County Department of Family and Children's Services, will be our guest speaker. She will talk about the Foster Children's program. Anyone who wishes may bring a new, unwrapped toy or may make a donation to help with the Christmas gifts for the foster children in Decatur County. Please call the Church Office or email Lauren for reservations.

Cornbread and Caroling

We are in need of two trailers for caroling. If you are able to provide a trailer for this event on December 19, please call the Church Office or email/call Lauren. Thank you for helping with this.

Bereavement Meal Ministry

We are currently updating our food group lists for bereavement meals. If you are not on a food group list and wish to participate, please call the Church Office or let Lauren know. These groups serve our church families when a church member passes away. We invite all - ladies and gentlemen- to join this very important ministry in our church.

Stewardship Letters Have Gone Out!

Letters inviting members of the congregation to make an estimate of their pledge to the work of Jesus through Bainbridge FUMC in 2019 have been mailed. If you have not received one, please check with Mary Nell Lovering, our Financial Secretary, in the Church Office. Please pray about your response to God's grace in 2019 through your financial discipleship, and be prepared to bring your estimate of giving to the church on December 2! (Of course, you can always mail your estimate or drop it by the Church Office!)

Financial Faithfulness Checkup!

We're about to enter the last month of 2018, and now is a good time to check on your financial faithfulness to the work of Jesus through Bainbridge First United Methodist Church. Are you up-to-date? Are you behind and need to catch up? Can you give a little extra? We still have ministry expenses for the rest of the year, and we also have 2 apportionment payments to make. Please make the ministry of BFUMC happen through your faithful giving!

Apportionment Scoreboard

Total Apportionments for 2018: \$79,588

Payments Made: 10

Amount Paid: \$66,413.30

Payments to Be Made: 2

Amount Due: \$13,174.70

Let's keep up our great record of paying 100% of our apportionments and being in ministry beyond the local church by being faithful to our financial stewardship and perhaps giving a little extra if we can!

Thank You

Dear Bainbridge FUMC,

Thank you all for the wonderful meal you provided for our family. It was such a wonderful way to unwind and feel God’s presence with our family. Fran Mary loved her church and we love you for taking such good care of us. Please tell every single cook how wonderful it was. We have two college boys and they never get a home cooked meal. They too were so appreciative.

Love you all!

Russell, Donna, John, Paige, Kelly, Turner and Alex
(The family of Mary Ruth Gilliam)

Dear Bainbridge FUMC and Rev. Brown,

Thank you for your donation to our Boys and girls at The Methodist Home. Your support of our children is greatly appreciated as we work together to restore childhoods and strengthen families.

We often encourage our boys and girls as they process the hurt they have faced in order to heal. One of our girls recently shared her heartbreaking story with me and the reason why she was at The Methodist Home. After sharing, she smiled and said she believes God allowed her to go through tough times so she could encourage others... Wow – to have the faith of a child!

Your kind gift helps us to continue ministering to our young people. Lives are being transformed at The Methodist Home and we could not do it without your generous support. Thank you!

You are such a generous, caring church! God bless you!

Warmly,
Alison Evans
President/CEO
The Methodist Home

Food Bank

Food Items Needed:

Peanut Butter (16 oz), Dried Beans (16 oz), Evaporated Milk (12 oz), Canned Soups (10.5 oz), Chunky Soups (18 oz), Canned Vegetables – Green Beans, Corn, Tomatoes, etc. (14.5-15 oz).

Still Waters

Still Waters is a nondenominational, faith-based, temporary residence for women and children. The ministry relies on volunteer help and donations of items. They are always in need of the following: Trash Bags (13 gal.), Paper Towels, Toilet Tissue, Kleenex Tissue, Dishwasher detergent, Dish detergent, Laundry detergent, Dryer Sheets, Vinegar, Bleach, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Soap, Deodorant, Towels (new), and Washrags (new). Contact Cheri Jaeger at Still Waters (229) 254-3877, or the Church Office for more information.

I will support my church with my prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

November 25, 2018 Attendance:	Sunday School:-----	78
	Contemporary Worship: 9:00 a.m.-----	64
	Traditional Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.-----	80

Members Who Minister

Ushers for December 2018: Jack Leverett, Todd Martin, Steve Morrison, Ansley Yarbrough

Greeters for December 2, 2018: 9:00 AM Terri Fleetwood
11:00 AM Martha Hatcher

Contemporary Worship Leader for December 2, 2018: Suzi Kraft

Communions Servers for Traditional Worship, December 2, 2018: Hal Earnest Family,
Paxton Poitevint Family

Lighting the Advent Wreath during Traditional Worship: Grayson Flowers Family

Snack Supper for December 2, 2018: Christi Murray

Services of Worship

December 2, 2018

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 AM – Contemporary Worship Service

11:00 AM – Traditional Worship Service

SCRIPTURE -----Jeremiah 33:14-16----- Rev. Mike Brown

SERMON-----“The Church in Advent: Hopeful”-----Rev. Mike Brown

Music Notes

Children’s Music and Arts Ministries: Our Preschool Music and Arts and Children’s Worship Arts are happening! Join us on Wednesday afternoon/evenings!

Two Year Old Music Group (for ages 18 months-2 years old): Our last Wednesday night for this year will be December 5. We will resume in January for another season.

We usually meet on Wednesdays in the Circle Room from 5:30 to 5:55 p.m. We welcome all our little ones in joining us for developmentally appropriate music activities, including: singing, playing instruments, movement, and social interaction.

Preschool Music and Arts (PreK 3-4): Our last Wednesday night for this year will be December 5. We will resume in January for another season.

We meet on Wednesdays in the Circle Room at 6:25 p.m. for developmentally appropriate music activities and then move to the Arts and Crafts Room for Bible stories and art from 7:00 to 7:25 p.m.

Children’s Worship Arts (Grades K-5): will meet this Wednesday, November 28, in the Drama Room from 6:25 to 7:25 p.m. We are continuing rehearsals for our Christmas play!! Our performance will be Wednesday, December 12, at 6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will have dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir: will meet for rehearsal on Wednesday, November 28, at 7:30 p.m. We are continuing our Christmas music rehearsal for “Lessons and Carols,” which will be Sunday evening, December 16. We will have a joint rehearsal with the Youth Choir on Wednesday, December 12, at 7:30 p.m. following the Children’s Christmas play, and dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 15, time TBA.

Youth Choir (Grades 6-12): will meet for rehearsal on Sunday, December 2, at 4:30 p.m. in the Choir Room to finalize preparation for the “Hanging of the Greens” at 7:00 p.m. Make every effort to be on time and ready to work.

We will also have joint rehearsal with the Chancel Choir for “Lessons and Carols” on Wednesday, December 12, at 7:30 p.m. following the Children’s Christmas play, and dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 15, time TBA. The “Lessons and Carols” service will be Sunday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Handbell Choir: will rehearse this Sunday at 5:45 p.m. in the Bell Room. We are preparing for our part in the Lessons and Carols on December 16.

Children's Chat

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving break!!

We will continue our study of the Beatitudes this Sunday at Children's Fellowship. I hope to see you there! All children, Pre K-3 through 5th grade, are invited to join Miss Ida in the Sanctuary to participate in the "Hanging of the Greens" ceremony this Sunday, following Children's Fellowship.

I sure hope you are studying your lines for "The Twelve Days of Christmas"! Our performance is coming quicker than you think! (Wednesday, December 12.)

Youth News

We will have our regular activities this Wednesday, November 28. On Sunday, December 2, we will meet for UMYF at 6:00 p.m., then join in the "Hanging of the Greens" service at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. I hope to see all of you, both this Wednesday and this coming Sunday!

Pay attention to the rest of the upcoming dates published in the December calendar handout.

1 Timothy 4:12 Youth Group Weekly Schedule

Sunday Night:

5:30-6:00 pm--Snack Supper (J.O. Smith Building)

6:00-7:00 pm—1 Timothy 4:12 UMYF (Youth Basement)

Wednesday Night:

6:00-6:40 pm--Christian Fellowship Dinner (J.O. Smith Building)

6:40-7:30 pm--Small Group Bible Study (Youth Basement)

Members to Visit, Call or Send a Card

Marcia Barber	1633 Wesleyan Drive, Unit 122, Macon, GA 31210	
Charles Burch	1032 Julia Circle, Bainbridge, GA 39819	229-246-4707
Betty Hester	1020 Julia Circle, Bainbridge, GA 39819	229-246-1845
Nita Holt	1407 Botts Street, Bainbridge, GA 39819	229-246-4334
Sue Jones	1904 Douglas Dr, P.O. Box 245, Bainbridge, GA 39818-0245	246-3141
Steele & Kathy Malone	1808 Woodridge Drive, Bainbridge, GA 39819	229-246-1381
Gloria Murphy	111 Bunny Lane, Bainbridge, GA 39817	229-246-8005
Ruth Sansom	161 Redwood Drive, Bainbridge, GA 39819	229-220-2313
Pat Smith	1118 Julia Circle, Bainbridge, GA 39819	229-246-0875
William & Peggy Wildhagen	1104 Douglas Court, Bainbridge, GA 39819	229-248-0817

Sue Cole	Memorial Manor, 1500 E. Shotwell Street, Bainbridge, GA 39819	
Anne Fowler	Wildwood, 3333 E. 28 Street, Tulsa, OK 74114-5915	918-935-9352
Betty Jo Fulmer	Riverside Place, Room #152, 1151 W. College Street, Bainbridge, GA 39819	
Evelyn(Pat) Morgan	Memorial Manor, Room #16, 1500 E. Shotwell Street, Bainbridge, GA 39819	
Helen Tillman	Riverside Place, Room #113, 1151 W. College Street, Bainbridge, GA 39819	

*Cadet Nathaniel Lambert P.O. Box 2533, West Point, NY 10997-2533

Memorials

General Fund

In Memory of:

Mary Ruth Gilliam
Pat Reynolds
Tony McLain
Homer & Vasta Yarbrough
Mary Ruth Gilliam

By:

Jane M. Powell
Jane M. Powell
Leah McLain
Leah McLain
Beverly Milford & Connie Richards

Building Fund

In Memory of:

Bill Holt
Pat Reynolds

By:

Oscar & Bobbie Dewberry
Oscar & Bobbie Dewberry

Food Bank

In Memory of:

Pat Reynolds
Mary Ruth Gilliam
Bill Holt
Pat Reynolds
Mary Ruth Gilliam
Debi Griffin

By:

Mary O'Quinn Sunday School Class
Mary O'Quinn Sunday School Class
Montine O'Quinn
Montine O'Quinn
Montine O'Quinn
John & Marian Monk

Music Fund

In Memory of:

Sandra "Sandy" Higdon

By:

Montine O'Quinn

Roof Fund/Sanctuary

In Memory of:

Bill Holt

By:

John & Marian Monk

Missions Fund/Hurricane Relief

In Memory of:

Sandra "Sandy" Higdon

By:

John & Marian Monk