

THE CHAPEL CHATTER

Pastor's Corner

Our Advent worship will begin with a liturgy that is part of the ancient church tradition called the "Hanging of the Greens." This service invites us to prepare for the coming of the Christ child. It also invites us to prepare our hearts, our minds, our very lives for the coming of the King! So an ancient tradition begins anew this Advent at Plank Chapel.

Our worship and activities will be a mixture of the old and the new all during Advent and Christmas. Some of the changes may be challenging and some may seem like we have always done it that way.



Advent is that time of waiting when we hear the voices of the prophets calling out for us to prepare. One of the ways we will hear the prophet's voice will be in the choir's "Lesson and Carols for Advent." This worship will share some of the

birth story, but primarily focus on the prophetic voices of old. Voices that call us out today and ask some challenging questions should we choose to listen.

Then that very night we start a new tradition of having a time of fellowship and fun as we gather around the piano in the Fellowship Hall and sing our favorite carols as the pastor never seems to pick "my favorite." Singing together and hearing why we sing some of these songs through the voices of our youth and children will be an opportunity for us to stop the Christmas rush and simply fellowship. Who knows what God will speak into our hearts that very night. This time of community will be mixed with our

favorite cookies and Christmas treats. We might even share the story of why that cookie or treat became our favorite.

Christmas Eve is a tradition of communion, candles, and "Silent Night."

The period between Christmas Day and Epiphany (January 6) is called Christmastide. In this time of Hope revealed, the children and youth will lead worship with "A Traditional Christmas Pageant" on that 5th Sunday, December 30th. Our children, with whom we place our hope in our future, will be telling the story of the hope of the world coming to earth as the Babe of Bethlehem. Praise the Lord!

As our homes fill with the scents of Christmas; pine, nutmeg, cinnamon, may our worship be filled with peace, love, hope, and joy, and may our hearts be prepared to receive the King of Kings!

Pastor Carolyn



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Thank you!



our church is all about as you professed in our baptismal covenant; "We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness that they may grow in their service to others.

With love from your BASIC Youth

Dear Plank Chapel Family, Thank you so very much for the wonderful Thanksgiving feast as well as the monetary gift. Praise the Lord! We can eat this week! We all had a feast of stone soup the first night and loved it! Then you really answered a dream of making home made pumpkin pie from scratch! It was a great time of sharing and creating a new de-

sert. I'm fast learning how to cook! Thank you again for your generosity!

Love, Christopher, Lizzie and Bethany

A big thank you to all who donated cakes to the Men's BBQ and helping make it a complete success!

The Cake Committee

Thank you everyone for your contributions and assistance to help make the men's BBQ the best one we've ever had! We could not have done it without the support of the whole church family.

The United Methodist Men

Dear Plank Chapel Family,

Thank you so very much to the United Methodist Men, special anonymous gifts of finances, food and support so that we could all attend Pilgrimage. Not only did we have a lot of fun but we also received a very special blessing as many people shared the love of God and what He has done for them. The outpouring of your love was exactly what



B. A. S. I. C. Information.....

BASIC will be meeting the first Sunday of every month for their meetings at 5:30 pm. Meetings will include monthly planning, devotion and games. The times to go caroling will be scheduled at the December meeting as well as our plans for our mission trip and fundraisers.

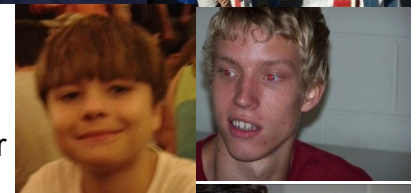
On Sunday, December 30th during worship the

children and youth of the church will be tell the story of Christ's birth as only children and youth can tell. There will be angels and shepherds and wise men and some carol singing and some parents cringing but in the midst of our worship we will be blessed by the gift of the Christ child in all our lives.

Beth Heaton will be directing with an assist

from parents and other adults eager to bring this about.

Rehearsals will be scheduled for Sunday afternoons at 4:30 p.m. We are seeking youth and children to help tell the story and need your support. Come out and see what God teaches you by serving in worship.





Opportunities to Serve

New Year Opportunities for Service:

- Usher
- Acolyte
- Lay Reader

Small Group Leader

- Choir
- Bells

Sunday School Teacher

- UMM
- UMW
- ACTS
- Lifeline

Ruin Creek Animal Protection Society

Relay for Life Team

Community In Prayer

For... John Rogers, Gwen Ritchey, Virginia Rose, Fran Leake, Sally Coghill, David Driver, James Deans,, Kay Deans, Teresa Hock, Faye Young, Sumner Smith, Charles Parsons Smith, Gerald Woodlief, Bo Fitts, Jane Owen, Henry Brown, Janet Bobbitt

For...those facing medical procedures this month,

For...the lost and afraid,

For...those without food, jobs and shelter,

For...healing and reconciliation.



Serving through our Missions

[NC Conference Hurricane Irene Disaster Response & Recovery](#) needs volunteer work teams for the winter and spring months to make repairs to homes damaged by Hurricane Irene (August 2011) and to build new homes for families who lost theirs to this storm. With over 200 home repairs complete, more than 350 remain. Both skilled and willing workers are needed to make repairs that range from replacing roofs to installing sub-floors, floors, insulation, dry-wall, porches, decks, steps to painting and finish carpentry. Please contact Ann Huffman at the NC Disaster Call Center (888-440-9167 or: disasterresponse@nccumc.org to schedule a work team for a day, a week or longer. In the remnants of disaster, God's people witness His goodness and love to the world.

of Durham, and many, many NC Conference United Methodist congregations, has recently shipped 4335 cleaning buckets for Hurricane Sandy storm victims. The cleaning buckets were distributed through UMCOR in Egg Harbor and Ventnor in New Jersey, and through the Salvation Army in Bethpage, NY. Additionally, another 110 buckets were picked up by St. Francis - a Catholic disaster response organization in NY. Because of this massive shipment, we have an immediate and continual need for FULLY assembled flood buckets to continue to meet unmet needs and also to back-fill our depleted stocks. **Please deliver the assembled buckets to the 3MC warehouse at 676 Community Dr Goldsboro NC between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Saturday.** Contact: Sim Honeycutt (919) 552-8274 sim@tygof.com Pam Adkins (919) 739-9167 padkins@3mconline.com

3MC - The Methodist Men's Ministry Center, in partnership with Goodwill Industries

*Change fund:
UMCOR
Disaster relief*

BIRTHDAYS

- 2—David Driver
- 7—Alyssa Sears
- 8—Charles Thompson
- 9—Kallie Sears
- 10—Larraine Abbott, Hayden Harris, Christopher Harris
- 12—Kris Edwards
- 23—James Deans
- 26—Joseph Sears
- 27—Lisa Cottrell
- 28—Jackie Brown
- 29—Kim Barber
- 20—Chase Thompson

ANNIVERSARYS

- 6—Bruce & Debra Newman
- 27— Charles & Kay Thompson
- 29—James & Martha Rowland



Carol Festival - On Sunday, December 16th beginning at 6:00pm we will be gathered around the piano singing our favorite carols and hearing some of the stories about their origins. Santa will be arriving around 7:00 p.m. with gifts and who knows maybe even a story to tell. There will be light refreshments for all! Shall we gather and share our Christmas Gheer?



Christmas Events

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

At 8:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve we will be gathering in the sanctuary through a path lit by luminaries. As we remember the story of Christ's birth we will also share in the communion feast. Worship will end with Silent Night and candles glowing. It is a time of sacred worship approaching the day of Christ's birth.

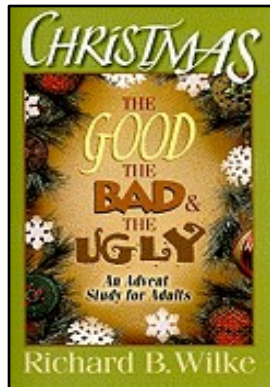


Watch Night Service

At 7:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve the church is open for worship as we reflect on the year gone by and the one to come. We offer to our Lord and Savior what we need to give up and what we desire for God to bless as enter into a new year.

Advent Sunday School Class: Christmas: The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly by Richard B. Wilke

This is a four week Sunday School study that will "focus on people in the story of Christ's birth." Themes within this study include: evil, wisdom, humility, gentiles, another way, and how we come to know Jesus Christ. This adult study is open for our adults from 18 through 90. The class will be held in the parlor next to the Willing Workers Classroom.



K O R N E R

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Have you ever had one of those "wow" moments? I've been reading in Matthew about the birth of Jesus. I found myself wondering what Mary and Joseph went through when she found out she was having a baby. All the questions come to mind, "How do I tell Joseph and my family?" What do I do? "Why me?" and so many more. Then there is the thought Joseph must have gone through 'How could this have happened?' Once they got through the initial shock of being chosen to be early parents of the Son of God, then there was the rest of the decisions to make. Can you imagine being nine months pregnant and riding on a donkey... let alone being in labor during that ride? I cannot imagine going through all that they went through. That being said; the miracle of our Lord arrived that evening in a way that now days would probably be considered unhealthy and anything BUT sanitary. I envision Joseph saying during the delivery, "What do you mean cut the cord? How do I do that?" There were no classes to take or going to the hospital for doctors to deliver to pre-

sent your newborn child to you. As we reflect this season on the reason we celebrate this season, let us reflect upon the special Gift that God has given to us. May His Spirit bless each of you with His love and miracles for the coming New Year!

Blessings to you and yours,

Karin




Dear Friends,

I need your assistance with something. With the New Year fast approaching, I need updated lists of Ushers, Readers, Alter Guild, Flowers, Nursery, Lay Readers and Outreach. If someone would be so kind as to email me the information ASAP. My email address is dubbas-crub55@yahoo.com Also, if you have any articles you would like to be put into the Chapel Chatter, please give them to Pastor Carolyn or me so we can get them in.

Thank you for your help. Blessings,

Karin

DECEMBER 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Hanging of the Greens as we open our advent worship 4:30 pm—Play Practice BASIC meeting 5:30	3	4 7 pm Prayer Group	5 10:00am Four Seasons Café and Gift shop 6:15 pm Bells 7:00 pm Choir Practice	6 Keeping Holy Time Bible Study 1:30pm	7	8
9 Poinsettias in the sanctuary 4:30 pm—Play Practice	10	11	12 6:15 pm Bell Practice 7 Choir Practice	13 Keeping Holy Time Bible Study 1:30 pm	14	15
16 8 am—UMM Pancake Breakfast 3 pm—UMW 4:30 pm—Play Practice 6 pm Christmas Carol Sing with Santa and snacks	17	18	19 6:15 pm Bell Practice 7 Choir Practice	20 Keeping Holy Time Bible Study 1:30 pm	21	22 Caroling Caroling Caroling
23 4:30 pm—Play Practice	24 8:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Communion Candlelight Service	25 Merry Christmas 	26 7 Choir Practice	27 Keeping Holy Time Bible Study 1:30 pm	28	29 Play Practice
30 Worship includes Children's Christmas Pageant	31 7:00 p.m. - Watch Night Service					

CHURCH SCHOOL—10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP—11:00 A.M.

Plank Chapel United Methodist Church

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plankchapelumc@gmail.com

**CHECK US OUT
ON THE WEB:**

**www.plankcha
pel.org**

OPEN HEARTS.
OPEN MINDS.
OPEN DOORS.

*You are hereby invited to the
Plank Chapel
Carol Sing
and
Christmas Party*



6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

Caroling, snacks, fellowship, & Santa
And a Christmas Story shared with the children

In His Service this Month



Flowers:

2—Christine Spencer &
Frances Roberts
9—Poinsettia
16—Poinsettia
23—Poinsettia

Ushers:

Thomas Beckham
Mac Wilson
Todd Wilson
Ben Brown

Lay Readers:

2—Taylor Abbott
9—DR McGhee
16—Various Readers
23—Pat Edwards
24—Patricia Fuller
30—Various Readers

Greeters:

2 Carlton Brown &
Todd Wilson
9 David & Laurie Miller
16 George & Beth
Heaton
23 D J & Jasper Pegram
30 B W & Jackie Brown

Nursery:

2—Judy and Vergie
Eaves
9—Frances Roberts &
Arianna Fuller Bell
16—Judy Wilson, Lau-
rie Miller
23—Roxie Kearney,
Midge Smith
30—Rachel & Olivia
Williams

Outreach:

2—Joe Weaver & Joe
Sears
9—Mac Wilson & Rich-
ard Coghill
16—Debra & Bruce
Newman
23—DR McGhee & Pat
Edwards
30—Darlene Ranes &
Joyce Edwards

Altar Guild:

Faye Woodlief
Beverly Newman

Bishop Hope Morgan
Ward continually up-
dates us on issues in our
church world wide and
local. Visit her page for
links to her videos and
articles:

<http://nccumc.org/bishop/>

