



Highlander

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ANDREWSUMC

a welcoming congregation of grace and growth through Jesus Christ

Thank you.

Dee and I are extremely grateful to our AUMC "family" for the many kind expressions of sympathy for the recent losses of both my brother-in-law Albert and my sister Rosalind. Pastor Tom and other AUMC members have kept us aware that Christ's love and sacrifice is truly the guidance to the way of life that achieves peace.

We are particularly glad that our church has a memorial garden that now holds their intermingled ashes. It was the experience of love that Rosalind received from members visiting her at Valley View Rest Home that triggered them expressing desire that their ashes be placed in that consecrated space.

Through cards and memorials, many members of the church have extended sympathy to Dee and I. These touched us deeply. As I have told people many times, our church here is the main reason that we have not moved from Andrews to either my place of work in Waynesville, NC or our former hometown of Cleveland, TN.

Thanks again to all, - Dee and Philip Dooly

What You Don't Know Can Hurt You!

- If you are age 21-80 learn your risk for developing 6 different chronic diseases
- \$3 out of every \$4 spent on healthcare is for treatment of chronic disease
- Better lifestyle habits can help prevent 80% of heart disease and 90% of type 2 diabetes

Children and Youth

Zoom Youth Group

Thursday @ 8:30 pm

Contact Robby Morris:

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Office 828.321.5216

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The **6 for Life Health Assessment** measures your risk of developing 6 chronic diseases, including heart disease, congestive heart failure, stroke, diabetes, COPD and lung cancer. A customized report will determine which risk factors contribute most to your disease risk and are within your control to change. Finger-stick blood tests along with biometric measurements are included with this assessment. These are separate from our vascular screenings.

Andrews United Methodist Church will be hosting a Life Line Screening preventive health event on Friday, December 4, 2020. Protect your health by registering today for the 6 for Life Health Assessment for \$79. Call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or text the word circle to 797979 to schedule your appointment. Take control of your health, knowledge is empowering.



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Andrews United Methodist Church Newsletter
December 2020
Volume 26, Issue 12

Pastor Tom's Message

As I begin to compose my thoughts, I am listening to Christmas music. At this moment "Toyland" is playing. As I listen, I am transported back to my childhood standing outside the display window at the downtown Sears store. Before Thanksgiving that window would display all the toys a child could want and hope for. Perhaps you have a similar memory.

One of the great things that coincides with the massive display of toys at Sears was receiving the Sears catalog in the mail. When that catalog hit the mailbox, I would snatch it off the mail table in the front hall, and run off with it to my room. There I would judiciously go through the toy section circling the toys I wanted Santa to bring.

Just this past weekend Jean and I were visiting with Chris and Meredith and the boys. The first morning we were in their home, Wes, the youngest, crawled into bed and began to show Jean the things he had circled in the Target Christmas flyer. And man, had he circled a lot. But I can remember circling something(s) on every page of the Sears catalog; and so, his effort to convey his desires brought a smile to my face. And a yearning for the innocence of childhood.

I smiled as he excitedly and precisely explained the workings of each toy he'd circled and gave reason for his desire and need, as he put it, for each item. I thought of our other grandchildren whom we don't see, and the collective Christmas dream we hold for each of the grandchildren. And for your children and grandchildren as well.

That dream is of a world in which truth is valued and expected. Not my truth or your truth, but truth. Truth, that life is precious, and words and actions matter. I dream of a world where children and adults treat each other and are treated with dignity and respect. Where hatred and division no longer hold the currency that they currently hold. I dream of a time when justice "rolls down like a mighty stream" and flows to everyone equally. I dream of a time in which our children and ourselves can peer through the window of our humanity and recognize the gift each of us is to the other. And share the gift of love that was and is given to us in the birth of Emmanuel, God with us ... All of us!

From Jean and me, we wish you all a Blessed Advent and Happy and Joyous and Dream-filled Christmas.

Tom+





December Highlights

- 6—2nd Sunday of Advent
- 13—3rd Sunday of Advent
- 20—4th Sunday of Advent
- 24—**Christmas Eve** Event
- 25—**Christmas Day**—
Church Office Closed
Until January 4
- 31—New Year's Eve

December 2020



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Methodist Church
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" - Luke 2:14	2	3 10-12--**Sanctuary Open for Prayer and Meditation 4:30--Welcome Table-- United Methodist Men 8:30--Youth Group Zoom	4	5	
6--2nd Sunday of Advent Worship Online: 10:50 am--YouTube 11:00 am--Facebook	7	8	9	10 10-12--**Sanctuary Open for Prayer and Meditation 4:30--Welcome Table-- Snowbird Outfitters 8:30--Youth Group Zoom	11	12
13--3rd Sunday of Advent Worship Online: 10:50 am--YouTube 11:00 am--Facebook	14	15	16	17 10-12--**Sanctuary Open for Prayer and Meditation 4:30--Welcome Table-- Sam Mabry 8:30--Youth Group Zoom	18	19
20--4th Sunday of Advent Worship Online: 10:50 am--YouTube 11:00 am--Facebook	21	22	23	24 10-12--**Sanctuary Open for Prayer and Meditation 4:30--Welcome Table-- 5:30--Christmas Eve Event	25--Church Office Closed 	26
27--1st Sunday after Christmas Day Worship Online: 10:50 am--YouTube 11:00 am--Facebook	28--Church Office Closed	29--Church Office Closed	30--Church Office Closed	31--Church Office Closed 4:30--Welcome Table-- Marble Springs Baptist Church New Year's Eve	1--Church Office Closed  *Happy New Year! * New Year's Day	2

Birthdays

- 2-- Mike Clements
- 3-- Ken Deese
- 4-- Phil Dooly
- 5-- Easton Francis
- 8-- Laura Wilson
- 15-- Bobbie Wilson,
Chelsea Bristol
- 16-- Marsha Mashburn
- 17-- Baylee Hall
- 18-- Joe Thompson
- 21-- Margaret Freel,
Matthew Esposito,
Tim Coffey
- 23-- Alex Denison,
Alex Ledford,
Amy Thompson
- 24-- Holly Salinas
- 26-- Chuck West
- 27-- Nick Nickerson
- 28-- Charles Parks
- 31-- Amanda Adams,
Haydon White

Anniversaries

- 2-- Scott & Margaret Freel
- 15-- Chuck & Julie West
- 18-- David & Julie Aiken
- 19-- Ray & Bobbie Wilson
- 21-- Don & Beth Duncan
- 29-- David & Cheryl Kelley

** The Sanctuary is open on Thursday mornings from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon for individual prayer and meditation. Please observe the necessary health precautions of wearing a mask, maintaining a safe distance from others and having no more than 10 people in the Sanctuary at a time.



Shoeboxes!

Thanks to the generous contributions of our congregation we were able to fill 36 shoeboxes for the annual Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Each box that was prayerfully packed for boys and girls in need around the world is a tangible expression of God's love and represents an opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with a child, their family, and community! You just never know how God is going to bless someone's life through your gift! You can see this mission in action at samaritanspurse.org.

Our shoeboxes were filled with useful and fun items that will make a child's Christmas special. Thank you for your donations!

Christmas Eve Event



On December 24 at 5:30 we will have a Christmas Eve event on the lawn around the Christmas tree. We invite you to come spend a few moments to place an ornament on the tree and share communion. We will have further information about this event in our weekly emails.

November Honorariums and Memorials

- In Memory of Porter Duncan, by Maurice and Elizabeth West.
- In Memory of Rosalind Tovar, by Robert and Kay Turner.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. - John 1:14

From the Organ Bench--Hymn Story by Kerry Archer



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel--This familiar Advent hymn, its origins in Latin from the 12th century, was translated into English by John M. Neale (1818-1866). Neale is credited with having done more than any other person to make available the rich heritage of Greek and Latin hymns. He is also the translator of the hymns "The Day of Resurrection" (hymnal page 303) and "All Glory, Laud and Honor" (page 280).

Advent, beginning four Sundays before Christmas, is the season of the church year that emphasizes the anticipation of the first coming of Christ to the earth. Today's hymnbooks use just five of the original statements addressed to the anticipated Messiah:

- Verse One - "Emmanuel" (Deliverer)
- Verse Two - "Lord of Might"
- Verse Three - "Rod of Jesse"
- Verse Four - "Day Spring" (literally, "sun-rising")
- Verse Five - "Thou Key of David"

Check out this rich, historical hymn on page 202 of our United Methodist Hymnal.