



## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT FRONT STREET UMC

### "A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS"

DECEMBER 12 AT 10:45 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

NOTE: 8:45 A.M. ADLERSGATE'S SERVICE WORSHIPS AS USUAL

### DECEMBER 19 - MEMBER GUEST SUNDAY

BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH. COVERED DISH LUNCH TO FOLLOW 11

A.M. SERVICE

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

DECEMBER 24 AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

## Welcome New Member

We welcome Ashley Cole to the Front Street family. Ashley grew up in Greensboro and attended Appalachian State University. She moved to Florida after grad school and worked as an elementary school counselor for ten years. In June, Ashley married Elliot Cole, a Burlington native and member of Front Street. She is employed at Hillcrest Elementary where she loves working with children and giving back to the community. The Coles are expecting their first child next year and are excited to be a part of the Front Street family.



### ADVENT CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

will study war no more, where people will walk in the light, where joy will be found, and love will be the tie that binds us together. That's the home for which we long. That's the invitation this Advent season to you and the world: "Come home for Christmas."

The invitation is for you to share too! Sunday, December 19 is a perfect day to invite someone to worship. We will have fellowship and food following the services. So Come Home, and invite another to come with you.

Pastor Stephan

Periodical  
Postage Paid  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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# FRONTLINE

Focusing on the life and ministry  
of Front Street UMC



December 9, 2021 Volume MMXXI No. 22

## ADVENT

Advent is an invitation. For many, it is the invitation to get into that Christmas spirit, to count down the days to the grand celebration, and let the holiday transform everything around us.

But there is a deeper and more profound invitation being offered in the season of Advent. The invitation is to remember that we are heading for home. Or if we're not, if we've forgotten that there is a home toward which to head, it is the invitation to long for the home we call the kin-dom of God. It is where family resides, where peace resides, where justice abides, and hope will rise. Advent reminds us that we shouldn't be complacent about the way things are – not that we want to become angrily attuned to every perceived failing in those around us or the world at large; but that we want to be those who look forward to something greater, something more that is just on the horizon.

Advent is the call to come home. Yeah, we called it "Come Home for Christmas" not "Come Home for Advent." But that was only to catch your ear and the ears of those with whom you worship week by week in this glorious season. We're not all about Christmas, the holiday, about December 25 with all the jingle bells and tinsel. We are about Christmas, the Mass of Christ, the celebration of the Incarnate one who comes to remind us that we are not alone, and God is with us. We are about the longing for the coming kin-dom, where we continued

# A LOOK AHEAD:

## KNOWING CHRIST

### A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Join the Chancel Choir and Epworth Ringers on **Sunday, December 12 at 10:45 a.m.** for our annual service of Lessons and Carols. The service takes the form of the "Lessons and Carols" found in *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, which was drawn from sources ancient and modern by E. W. Benson, Bishop of Truro, in 1880. It tells the entire story of Christmas by weaving nine lessons with the singing of hymns and carols.



## CHRIST OFFERING

On **Sunday, December 12**, as has been our tradition, we will receive this year's Christ offering. This offering assures that we not only meet our obligations for the year, but that we testify to the light which is Jesus Christ our Lord. If you will not attend church in person that Sunday, please mail your gift to the church or send it by any electronic means you prefer. Just indicate "Christ Offering."

## MEMBER GUEST SUNDAY

The Advent/Christmas season is a great time to invite people to church. So, you are invited to bring a friend to church on **Sunday, December 19**. A covered dish lunch will follow the 11a.m. service.

## GROWING IN CHRIST

### CONFERENCE-WIDE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

On **Sunday, January 9** from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. the conference will offer leadership training by Zoom for Lay Leaders, Trustees, Finance, and S/PPRC Teams.

Whether you are starting a new leadership role, or have been serving in church leadership for years, this leadership training will prepare you for your much-needed ministry. Laity and clergy in partnership with one another is the key to a church's success in making disciples.

CONFERENCE-WIDE  
LEADERSHIP TRAINING

To register for this training, visit <https://nccumc.org/leadership/>

event/conference-wide-leadership-training/.

## SHARING CHRIST

### TREES OF LOVE

Thank you to everyone who has adorned our Trees of Love to share Christ with our neighbors this season. It's not too late to participate—please return all items (unwrapped) to the trees by **Sunday, December 19**. Note: if you are donating money or gift cards, please return to the church office.



## 2021 CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE

A friendly reminder from the Church Office: in order for contributions to be included as a contribution towards your 2021 statement, please have mail postmarked or dropped at the church office **NO LATER THAN December 30** (the office is closed on the 31st). All contributions received after December 31 will be applied to your 2022 statement. Please note: When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction.

## OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes are available for pick-up outside the church office. Please pick yours up before the end of December. Thank you.

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The **2022** flower calendar is available in the Welcome Center.



If you are interested in placing flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one, please write your name on the Sunday you wish to put flowers in the church. For more information, please contact Linda Paul at 336-543-5081 (cell) or [kpaul5@triad.rr.com](mailto:kpaul5@triad.rr.com) (email).

## GOLD ALTAR FLOWER VASE LINERS

If you have any of the **gold altar flower vase liners** at home, please return them as soon as possible. Our supply is running low. Thank you for your help in being good stewards of the church's resources.

## Prayers

- **Steve and Kathy Cecil** upon the death of her mother, Patricia McEwen-Long, on 11/20
- **Derusha Phillips** who is in rehab at Twins Lakes due to a recent fall

Continued prayers:

- **Jane Lee**
- **Tina Manning**
- **Cynthia Powell**

## Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed money to the C4C turkey meal project. The total amount collected was \$5,370—well over our goal of \$3,500! We are thankful for your generosity!



*The church office will be closed December 23, 24, and 27. for Christmas, and December 31 for New Year's Day. Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year from all the staff at FSUMC!*

## FINANCIAL GIVING UPDATE FOR 12/3/2021

YTD Actual Giving - \$1,017,074.26

YTD Budgeted Giving - \$1,259,153.70

## STAFF

Senior Pastor  
Ross Carter

Pastor of Discipleship  
Stephan Margeson

Youth Minister  
Chris Huneycutt

Children's Minister  
Melissa Miller

Minister of Visitation  
Leslie Peavy

Organist/Director of  
Music  
Matt Brittain

Choir Director  
Brad Logan

Director of Aldersgate  
Music  
Clay Stevenson

Finance Manager  
Tammy Page

Administrative Assistant  
Pamela Shields

Communications  
Coordinator  
Joanna Strelow

Building Superintendent  
Jackie Long

Maintenance  
Joe Peloquin  
Zach Mace

Afterschool Director  
Katie Porter

Playschool/Babies  
Morning Out Director  
Rebecca Hurdle



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