



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT FRONT STREET UMC

"A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS"

DECEMBER 11 AT 10:45 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

Parents: please note there will be no children's message or Children's Church. Children are encouraged to stay in the sanctuary and enjoy the beautiful music. The nursery will be available to any children birth-first grade. Children's Sunday School will conclude at 10:30 a.m.

Note: Aldersgate's service worships as usual at 8:45 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

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

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

DECEMBER 25 AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY

Note: **ONE** service only and no nursery, childcare, or children's Sunday School

IT IS A MERRY CHRISTMAS! CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

you already know them. But I will name one thing that has not changed. Through it all you not only stayed strong in, but actually grew in your faith in God. With grace you have taken bold steps forward into God's plan for this church and community. By a fierce love you have pushed against the anger of the world and chose a better path. To all of which I again say thank you. Thank you for this example of Christian leadership, you people of salt and light!

I give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in my prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ! (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)

And all of this thanks has me thinking... what will we do together next year! I can't wait to find out!

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Stephan

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FRONTLINE

Focusing on the life and ministry
of Front Street UMC



December 8, 2022 Volume MMXXII No. 22

IT IS A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Brothers and Sisters of Front Street United Methodist Church, and friends and family connected to us, I want to take a moment to say thank you to each and every one of you! If you have participated in life with us, worshiped on Sundays (online and in person), helped build ramps, read scripture or led prayers, assisted the office staff like Tammy and Joanna and Pamela, volunteered for missions, organized projects, visited or brought flowers on behalf of the church, watched the At The Table series, shared the podcast from Aldersgate, told someone about our church, helped with Playschool or Afterschool with Becca and Katie, served on a leadership team, prayed for your church or your pastors, gave of your time and money to the youth and children programs with Chris and Melissa, pledged to give next year, sat in Bible studies, joined the prayer team, cheered for the beautiful music by Matt and Clay and all their people, invited your neighbors or friends, loved on our Eastlawn children, answered the phone when your pastor called, loved Ross as he retired and welcomed Ray and Jill as they joined, or connected with this church in anyway, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

If you ran out of breath while reading that list out loud, remember two things. First, that is only a small fraction of how you have participated in this community. Second, if it wasn't for you none of those things would happen at all. It's just the truth.

This last year has been full of change and transition for our church and our world. I don't need to name them, because continued

A LOOK AHEAD:

KNOWING CHRIST

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Join the Chancel Choir and Epworth Ringers on **Sunday, December 11 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. **Parents:** please note there will be no children's message or

Children's Church. Children are encouraged to stay in the sanctuary and enjoy the beautiful music. The nursery will be available to any children birth-first grade. Children's Sunday School will conclude at 10:30 a.m.

CHRIST OFFERING

On **Sunday, December 11**, 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".



GROWING IN CHRIST

AT THE TABLE ADVENT VIDEOS

We hope you have enjoyed our *At The Table* midweek videos over the past few months. Throughout Advent, our *At The Table* videos will focus on the season of Advent. Each week, Pastors Ray and Stephan will introduce the upcoming Sunday's message. The videos will premiere on YouTube and Facebook on **Saturday mornings at 6:00 a.m.** There will be no midweek video in December.



UPPER ROOM

The **January-February 2023** issue of the Upper Room is available. You will find copies in the Welcome Center and Narthex.

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 18**. Note: if you are donating money or gift cards, please return to the church office.



MEALS ON WHEELS

Our FSUMC Meals on Wheels group needs volunteers. The current vacancy is for a Monday, delivering every 8 weeks for Burlington Route 7, beginning in 2023. Most of our volunteers deliver in pairs, but some deliver alone—either way you will be glad you are providing meals for our homebound neighbors in Alamance County! For more information, contact Salley Bradford at 336-584-7401 or salleybradford@yahoo.com.



2022 CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE

A friendly reminder from the Church Office: in order for contributions to be included as a contribution towards your 2022 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 2023 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.

If you give a stock gift to the church, please call the church office and inform Tammy Page, Finance Manager, of your gift. When the church receives a stock gift, the donor name is not always provided. We want to ensure the correct individual is credited with the donation.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

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



Prayers

- **David Harrington** who is recovering from back surgery

Thank You

We collected \$390 for the United Methodist Student Day offering. Thank you for your generosity.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The **2023** 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 (email).



The church office will be closed December 23, 26, and 27 for Christmas, and January 2 for New Year's Day. Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year from all the staff at FSUMC!

FINANCIAL GIVING UPDATE FOR 12/1/2022

YTD Actual Giving - \$955,106.07

YTD Budgeted Giving - \$1,291,695.57

STAFF

Senior Pastor
Ray Warren

Pastor of Discipleship
Stephan Margeson

Children's Minister
Melissa Miller

Youth Minister
Chris Huneycutt

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
Hannah Lee
Joe Peloquin
Zach Mace

Afterschool Director
Katie Porter

Playschool/Babies Morning Out Director
Rebecca Hurdle

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