

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 20

Sunday, December 20	Fourth Sunday of Advent		
	Newsletter Deadline		
	9:30 am	Contemporary Service	143 Broad
	11:00 am	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary
	5:00 pm	MS PYF	143 Broad
Monday, December 21	7:00 pm	HS PYF	Fellowship Hall
	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
	7:00 am	Men’s Bible Study	143 Broad
	Preschool Closed- Holiday Break		
	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
Tuesday, December 22	Christmas Eve –Office Closed at noon		
	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
	5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
	7:30 pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
	Christmas Day		
Wednesday, December 23	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
Thursday, December 24	Christmas Eve –Office Closed at noon		
	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
	5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
	7:30 pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
	Christmas Day		
Friday, December 25	Preschool Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
Saturday, December 26	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
Sunday, December 27	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
Monday, December 28	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
Tuesday, December 29	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
Wednesday, December 30	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
Thursday, December 31	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		
	Office Closed – Holiday Break		

LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH
SESSION

David Rockness, Moderator		Mark Auten, Clerk
<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Mike Campbell	Phil Heilman	Mark Auten
Brent Curtis	Zach Miller	Chris Creech
Tom Morrow	Trent Newell	Ross Culp
Mike Toma	Bill Omohundro	Scott Mauney
Gene Vaughan	Mickey Russell	Sue Stevens

DIACONATE

Andrew Coates, Moderator		Liz Rader, Associate Moderator
<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Beverly Chappell	Carolyn Brawley	Chet Carpenter
Andrew Coates	Pat King	Laura Christman
Hillary Cole	Liz Rader	Lucy Hastings
Angie Copeland	Kendall Reid	Cathy Irwin
Debbie Lackey	Ginny Swedenberg	
Jane Peterson		
Teresa Trimble		

PASTOR

The Rev. Dr. David Rockness, Pastor, Head of Staff	dave@moorevillefpc.org
The Rev. Jason Sentas, Associate Pastor	jason@moorevillefpc.org

PASTOR EMERITI

The Rev. Dr. S. Edwin Lewis	The Rev. Dr. Frederick A. H. Coates
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PROGRAM AND SUPPORT STAFF

Marian Dillingham, Business Administrator	marian@moorevillefpc.org
Ellen Auten, Director of Christian Education	ellen@moorevillefpc.org
Lori Stewart, Director of Preschool	lori@moorevillefpc.org
Rose MacDonald, Office Assistant	rose@moorevillefpc.org
Greg Thompson, Organist	greg@moorevillefpc.org
Brent Lawrence, Interim Contemporary Worship Leader	brent@moorevillefpc.org
Jerilyn Fair, Hostess	jerilyn@moorevillefpc.org



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

249 West McLelland Avenue
Mooresville, North Carolina 28115
704-664-5275 www.moorevillefpc.org

Loving God, Loving People, and Making Disciples
December 20, 2020 ♦ 11:00 A.M.

Please complete the Friendship Pad and pass it down your pew for all to sign.

*Please stand as you are able.

Please turn off your cell phones or place them on “vibrate.”

Words printed in **bold** are said by the congregation.

PRELUDE Greg Thompson, Organist

WELCOME Jason Sentas

CALL TO WORSHIP

INVOCATION

*HYMN OF PRAISE: “*Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates*”
Lift up your heads, O mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits!
The King of Kings is drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heaven’s employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to you here, Lord, abide!
Let me your inner presence feel: your grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin!
Your Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost;
born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE Mark, Ellen, and Rebecca Auten

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT CONFESSION, AND LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SONG OF WORSHIP “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming as saints of old have sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior
When half-spent was the night.

This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
And lightens every load.

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 7:15-20

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will know them by their fruits.”

SERMON *“A Tree and its Fruit”* Dave Rockness

*HYMN: *“We Are All In One Mission”*

We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single, great commission compels us from above
To plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

We all are called for service to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are different, our purpose is the same:
To touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,
So every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

We all behold one vision, a stark reality:
The author of salvation was nailed upon a tree.
Yet resurrected Justice gives rise that we may share
Free reconciliation and hope amid despair.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard,
Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

*INVITATION

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE Greg Thompson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's Messages: There will be a Children's Message posted on the church website (moorestownepc.org) at the end of each week. Click on Ministries tab, then Children tab.

Small Groups and Classes - We have a number of offerings for you to grow as a disciple here at the church. To register or to find out more information, please go to the website or call the office. moorevillefpc.org/small-groups-and-classes.

- Circle 1 - 2nd Monday of the month at 2 p.m.
- Circle 3 – 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
- Circle 4 - 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m.
- Circle 5 - 2nd Tuesday of the month at Noon.
- College Study – Thursdays at 8:30 p.m.
- Lost and Found Bible Study – (Women) The group meets on Mondays at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Winter session has ended and will restart in the new year.
- Men's Bible Study - Monday Mornings at 7 a.m.
- Sermon Study with Dave - Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
- Men's Bible Study with Dave - Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Holiday Food Gift Baskets: Consider giving a \$50 "virtual" gift basket of food which the Christian Mission will provide for those in need. You may simply send a check to FPC (249 West McLelland Ave., Mooresville, NC 28115) with the memo line "Angel Tree Food Basket" to give a food basket. Thank you for helping us love our community together!

PYF Groups Meeting Schedule:

The MS PYF groups meet on Sundays from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

The HS PYF groups meet on Sundays from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Flowers: Please contact the church office (704-664-5275) if you would like to provide flowers for worship services, in honor or memory of loved ones.

Photo Directory: The Church Directory is finally complete. Please stop into the church parlor to pick up the envelope with your name on it. Otherwise, they will be mailed to your home at the end of next week.

Contributions for 2020: In order for all donations to be credited to your giving statement in 2020, they must be received no later than December 28, 2020. If you are planning to donate stock, in lieu of monetary donations, please call or email Marian to let her know to expect it. You may reach her at the office at 704-664-5275 or by email at marian@moorevillepc.org.

The church office will be closed on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, at noon as well as Friday, December 25 and Monday, December 28 in observance of the Christmas holiday. The office will also be closed at noon on Thursday, December 31 as well as Friday, January 1 for the New Year's holiday.

PRAAYER CONCERNS

Please contact the church if you, a family member, or a friend faces illness, hospitalization, bereavement, or some other concern. Please do not assume the church office knows. **Prayer concerns will remain for six weeks. If you wish people to remain longer, please contact the church office and ask to have the period extended.** If the concern is confidential, please let us know and we will honor your wish for privacy. Names in **bold** indicate new concerns.

Members in Hospitals, Care Facilities, or Homebound

Joan Gibson	Billie Brawley	John Westmoreland
Lecie Miller	Mary Mason	Kathleen Bates
Pat Hunter	Dot Nelson	Christy Floyd
Peggy Rogers		

Bereavement – Rusty LaBarre, in the death of his wife, Rosemary LaBarre

Members of the Church

Al Culp	Bill Harris	Amy Williams
Gene Harris	Glyn Powell	Tom Trosuk
Carol McClure & Family	Sheri Mack	Sheryl Davis

Friends of the Church

Baxley Hoover	Jacki Rullman	Hudson Hitchcock
Dianne Haynes	Barry Davis	Tom Castilano
Patti McNeely Beamish	Pastor Brian Miles	Floyd Dinkins
Lola Ahlquist	Margie Overcash	

Armed Forces

LTC David Dennison, Army Sgt. Adam R. Loftin, USMC LT Dylan Powell, USN
Major Ben Peacock, USAF Maj. William Matheny, Army LTC Rodney Tatum