

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS** Craig Strickland, Lay Leader

\*carol *Once in Royal David's City* **No. 250**

\*ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

\*BIDDING PRAYER

**FIRST LESSON** Genesis 3

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise,*

*and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*

**CAROL** *Of the Father's Love Begotten* **No. 184**

**SECOND LESSON** Genesis 22

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*

**CAROL** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vss. 1,3,6)* **No. 211**

**THIRD LESSON** Isaiah 9

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.*

\***CAROL** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* **No. 196**

**FOURTH LESSON** Isaiah 11

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreknown.*

**CAROL** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (vss. 1,3)* **No. 213**

**FIFTH LESSON** St. Luke 1

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

**CAROL** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* **No. 216**

**SIXTH LESSON** St. Luke 2

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

**CAROL** *Away in a Manger* **No. 217**

**SEVENTH LESSON** St. Luke 2

*The shepherds go to the manger.*



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THE FLOWERS are placed on the altar to the honor and glory of Almighty God and in celebration of their 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary and in honor of Effie on the occasion of her birthday by Mahlon Wright.

MEMORIALS for Ellen Sanders have been given by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Creel, Mr. and Mrs. Parks Brewer and Mr. and Mrs. Blount Whiteside.

A MEMORIAL for Dr. Thad Pope, brother of Polly Clapp, has been given by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Creel.

A MEMORIAL for Dr. Clarence Roberts has been given by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Creel.

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## **SUPPORTING THE CHURCH . . .**

### **BY OUR PRAYERS . . .**

*Remember with prayers, cards, calls, and visits those in the hospitals, nursing and rest homes, the sick and shut in. (If you know of anyone who should be on the prayer list please call Pat Brewer or the church office.)*

***Serving as EMT/Medic  
at US Embassy in Iraq:  
Chris Dragotta (son-in-law of  
Mary Lou Winchester)***

### ***Recuperating at home:***

Janice Medlin

### ***Keep in your prayers:***

Vivian Tart; Elizabeth Emory and family; Polly Clapp and family; Lindy Mace (*father of Chris Mace*); Susan Welch and children: Clarke, Carson, Gracie and Attie; Henry Dunbar (*father of Hank Dunbar*); Hank Dunbar and family; Rosalie Johnson; Marjorie Montague; Carlton Smith; Lou Allred; Sue Johnson; Frances Opperman; Bob Welch; Mahlon Wright; Janice Lever; Rochelle Pope; Glenn "Brother" Clifton; Betty Mac Wilson; Brandy Holleman.

**Lou Allred** will be with her son, Terry Allred, until after Christmas. The address: 1401 Constantine Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Loop Road, Florence SC 29505

**BY OUR SERVICE:**

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

**Dec.** 20<sup>th</sup> – Martha Smith

27<sup>th</sup> – Mahlon

Wright

**NURSERY HELPERS**

**Dec:** 20<sup>th</sup> – Debbie Wood

27<sup>th</sup> – Brenda Johnson

**ALTAR GUILD**

**Dec:** Joyce Draughon\*, Cherry Ennis

**Jan:** Joanne Taylor\*, Sharon Raynor

**USHERS**

**Dec:** Trey Apperson, James Best, Jim Schmidlin, John Snipes

**Jan:** Whit Brewer, Pete Bynum, Mike McLeod, Bill Creighton

**Feb:** Sherrell Taylor, Gordon Clapp, Harold Butts, Bob Johnson

**Mar:** Bob Johnson, Gary Ronnfeldt, Thomas West, Stacey Johnson

**BY OUR ATTENDANCE:**

**RECORD OF OUR FAITHFULNESS LAST WEEK:**

**Sunday School attendance: 49**

**Worship attendance: 133**

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**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:**

**Sunday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> –First Sunday after Christmas**

**9:45am Covered Dish Christmas Breakfast-**

**bring breakfast casseroles, sweet rolls, fruit, etc.**

**11:00am Worship Service**

**Monday, Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> – OFFICE CLOSED**

**Tuesday, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> – OFFICE CLOSED**

**Wednesday, Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> – NO DIVINE DINING OR PROGRAMS**

## OFFICE WILL BE OPEN

Thursday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> – OFFICE CLOSING AT NOON

Friday, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> – HAPPY NEW YEAR  
OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> –

Sunday, Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> – 9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Service-  
5:00pm UMYF

NOTICE: In order for donations to be posted to your 2009 statement they must be in the Church office or postmarked by Dec. 31. Anything received in the office or postmarked Jan. 1 or later will have to be posted to your 2010 statement. The office will be open on Dec. 30 regular hrs. and on Dec. 31 until 12:00n. If you have any questions about your pledge balance or your contribution totals please call the church office.

### Church Council - Leadership Training - Sat. Jan. 9 - 8:30 - 12:30

This is an important meeting to which church leaders, ministry coordinators, committee and team members are expected to attend. The ministry of church leadership is a team effort. Church members expect leaders to have a shared vision and plan for moving us all toward the horizon of God's purposes for our congregation. This annual workshop sets us all out on the right foot.

**NOTE:** While the workshop is designed especially for church leadership, **anyone** interested in learning more about how we will begin to implement the Master Plan, and/or join in working in and through the ministries of our congregation, **is welcome**

## BIBLE STUDY on the Book of Revelation begins on Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>.

Pastor Madison will lead a study on Tuesday evenings 6:45 – 8:00pm. While there will be a list of recommended readings, you simply need your Bible to participate.

### THE FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was first held on Christmas Eve 1918 at King's College Chapel, Cambridge University. It was planned by Eric Milner-White, then Dean of King's Chapel after experience as an army chaplain which had convinced him that the Church of England needed more

imaginative worship. A revision of the Order of Service was made in 1919, involving rearrangement of the lessons, and from that date the service has always begun with the hymn “Once in Royal David’s City”.

*“Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service, as Dean Milner-White pointed out derive from the lessons and not the music. ‘The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God...’ seen ‘through the windows and words of the Bible’. The center of the service is still found by those who go in heart and mind’ and who consent to follow where the story leads.”*

The “words from the Bible” in this Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols are taken directly from the Revised Standard Version. Thus the diction, the spelling, and the punctuation emanate indirectly from the translations of 1901, 1881-1885, and even the 1611 King James Version.

~ Gail Goodman ~

**Divine Street United Methodist Church**  
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