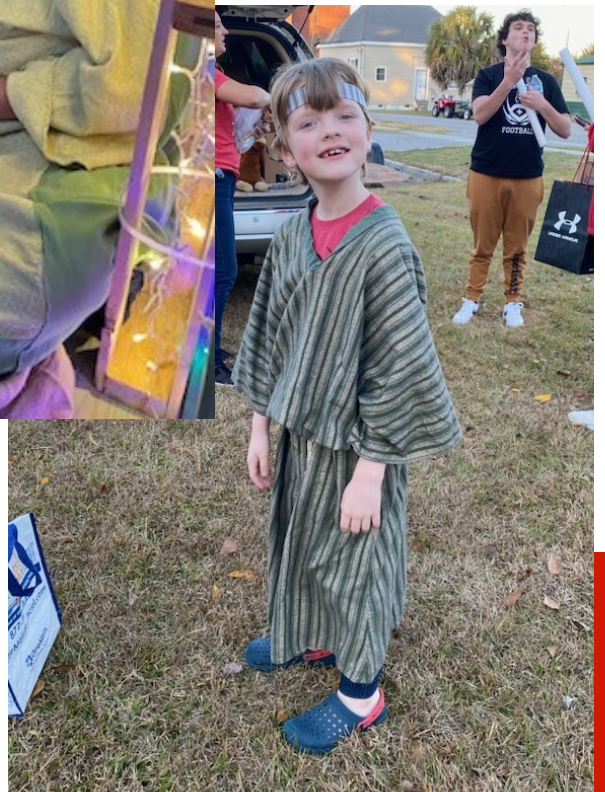




# MONTHLY

December 2022

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## From the Pastor



Dear ones, I am excited about December. This month of worship will be very special.

On **December 4<sup>th</sup>**, Our Chancel Choir will present their Cantata.

On **December 11<sup>th</sup>**, the Children in Action will be singing and we will celebrate a joyous new beginning.

On **December 18<sup>th</sup>**, we will celebrate as a young one is baptized into new life in Christ, a new beginning.

On **December 24<sup>th</sup>**, we will celebrate the birth of Christ with song, the Word, the Holy Sacrament, and candles- one of my very favorite worship services.

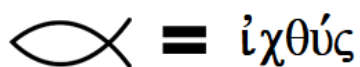
On **December 25<sup>th</sup>**, we get to be in worship together on Christmas Day. We won't have this opportunity again until the year 2033.

Many of you will likely have guests this Christmas Eve and Day and this can indeed make it difficult to come to worship. But consider this: what better witness could you make, and what better way could there possibly be to begin your (and your guests') celebration of the birth of the Son of God than by worshiping God? Being a pastor and having to make my family's Christmas Eve celebrations second to that of the churches I have served was very difficult at first. But worshiping prior to my family's celebration has made the experience richer. I think you will find the same to be true for you.

### The Chrismon Tree and the Jesus Fish

I want to share some information on Chrismons (tree decorations) and the ichthus (the Jesus fish) which adorns some of our Chrismons. The word "Chrismon" is the result of merging the words "Christ" and "Monogram." These decorations were first used at Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia, in 1957. They were created by Mrs. Frances Kipps Spencer. The designs are monograms which means signs of identity. They represent our Lord Jesus Christ in various aspects of his birth, life, and reign. These monograms have been used since as early as the 300's, particularly the one known as the "chi-rho" and is shown in the upper right corner.

The Jesus fish is another favorite monogram.



Early Christians used it to identify themselves to one another. The Greek word for fish can be read as an acronym. Written in Greek, the word for fish is: ἰχθύς. The first letter (ι) is *iota* which is the first letter of the name *Jesus* which looks like this: Ἰησοῦς. The second letter is *chi* (χ) which is the first letter of the Greek word for *Christ* which looks like this: Χριστός (this is the source of the abbreviation *Xmas*, not *atheists*). The third letter is *theta* (θ) which is the first letter of the Greek word for *God* and looks like this: θεός. The fourth letter is "upsilon" (υ) which is the first letter of the Greek word for *son* which looks like this: υἱός. The last letter is "sigma" (ς or σ) which is the first letter of the Greek word for *savior* which looks like this: σωτήρ. The acronym and the fish symbol stand for "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior."

I'd like to think this is why the risen Jesus served fish to His disciples, but the monogram is really a later reflection by the early Church that loved her Lord.

The Peace of Christ be with you all,

FRANK DAVID

# DECEMBER




December Anniversaries  
 12/02-Jody and Amanda Taylor  
 12/12 Rock and Vicki Ouzts  
 12/30- Joe and Katherine Coffey

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 <b>2nd Advent Sunday</b> <b>Christmas Cantata</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm UMYF	5 8-12 MUMC Day School 11:00 am Prayer Team	6 8-12 MUMC Day School 1:00 pm Jane Craft Circle Party (FH) 3:00 pm CIA	7 8-12 MUMC Day School 10:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir	8 8-12 MUMC Day School	9 8-12 MUMC Day School	10
11 <b>3rd Advent Sunday</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm UMYF Fellowship Hall Rented	12 8-12 MUMC Day School 11:00 am Prayer Team 6:30 pm United Methodist Men's Christmas Banquet	13 8-12 MUMC Day School 3:00 pm CIA 6:00 pm Myrtle Strange Circle Party @ Sue Jordan's	14 8-12 MUMC Day School 10:00 am Bible Study <b>6pm-Trustee Meeting (L)</b> 6pm Choir	15 8-12 MUMC Day School	16 8-12 MUMC Day School	17
18 <b>4th Advent Sunday</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm UMYF	19 Blood Drive (FH) 10-3pm	20 10:00 am Bible Study	21 <b>6pm Finance Com.</b>	22	23	24 <b>6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service</b>
25 10:30 am Worship (No Sunday School)  <b>Christmas Day</b>	26 <b>Church Office Closed</b>	27	28	29	30	31

**December Birthdays**

- 12/01-Glenn Wells
- 12/03-Louis Griffith
- 12/04-Francis Brown King
- 12/05-Rachel Gainey
- 12/07-Elaine Buddin, Neal Mahoney, Julien Weinberg
- 12/08-Woody Haynes, Len Mathis
- 12/10-Don Andrews, Lee Anderson
- 12/11-Cona Tyson, Joan Barber, Lewis Martin
- 12/12-Katherine Fickling
- 12/13-Hugh Bozard
- 12/15- Gail Burris, Isabelle Brown, Laini Kosinski
- 12/16-Kewpie Sprott, Rob Little, John Mathis
- 12/18-Carolyn Meistrell, Sandra Brewer
- 12/19-Carolyn Coffey, Terry McCabe
- 12/21-Marian Norris
- 12/22- Nick Meistrell
- 12/26-Brittany Odom
- 12/27-Betty Coffey, Susan Elmore, Kim Jordan, Jay Weinberg
- 12/29- Deedee Clark

**Our Prayer List** Please remember the people below in your prayers. This list is in continuous rotation, if you do not see your loved one on this list please call the church office and update us on their health.

Benson Atkinson	Alice Dupont	Nick Meistrell
Mary Ashley Barbot	Bill Flynt	Henry McFadden
Bill & Jane Bowers	Lindsay Furse	Jean Prothro
Branson Bruce	Susan Hayne & Will Furse	Randy Repak
Chuck Buddin	Mike Horan	Linda Rogers
Paul Butler	Spencer Jordan	Tim Russ
Michael Cramer	Lamar Kennedy	Renee Russell
Ann Cutter	John Lesemann	Bill Vanscoy
Matthew David	Donnie Mahoney	Wayne Vincent
		Karen Wood

Please remember to Pray for our members who are living away from home, in the **military**, or who have limited mobility:

Don & Nancy Andrews	Bettye Johnson
Joyce Bowers	Kay Kirkpatrick
Dedee Clark	Margaret Lee
Rosella Daniels	<b>Wilson Lepp</b>
June Davis	Neal Mahoney
Nita & Liz Denny	Joan Odom
<b>Jared Dube`</b>	Jean Schmelzle
William Gamble	Cliff Toner
Anne Haley	Cona & Sam Tyson
Woody Haynes	

Attendance	Worship Attendance	FB Live
<b>Oct. 30</b>	<b>9:30 am Sunday School—58 Worship 10:30 am — 80</b>	<b>Views Unavailable</b>
<b>Nov. 6 All Saints</b>	<b>9:30 am Sunday School—66 Worship 10:30 am — 109</b>	<b>Views 204</b>
<b>Nov. 13</b>	<b>9:30 am Sunday School— 96 Worship 10:30 am — 84</b>	<b>Views 198</b>
<b>Nov. 20</b>	<b>9:30 am Sunday School— 57 Worship 10:30 am — 112 Thanksgiving Joint Service— 153</b>	<b>Views 138 179</b>
<b>Nov. 27th</b>	<b>9:30 am Sunday School— 54 Worship 10:30 am — 86</b>	<b>Views 239</b>

New address for  
Brenda Clark (Deedee)  
1920 Ebenezer, Rd Rock Hill, SC 29732

2023 Flower Calendar					
January	1	8	15	22	29
February	5	12	19	26	
March	5	12	19	26	
April	2	9	16	23	30
May	7	14	21	28	
June	4	11	18	25	
July	2	9	16	23	30
August	6	13	20	27	
September	3	10	17	24	
October	1	8	15	22	29
November	5	12	19	26	
December	3	10	17	24	31

All the yellow highlighted days are open for arrangements.

If you wish to have flowers on any of these Sunday's please call or email the church office.



2022 Tithes & Offering		
Needed Each Week	\$ 9,829.85	
	Received Weekly	
Oct. 30	\$ 8,703.27	
Nov. 6	\$ 13,922.02	
Nov. 13	\$ 5,549.61	
Nov. 20	\$ 12,909.38	
Nov. 27	\$ 7,688.00	
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$ 48,772.28</b>	
Needed Year to Date		<b>\$ 479,801.92</b>
<b>Total Received YTD</b>		<b>\$ 390,098.46</b>
Overage or (Deficit)		<b>( \$ 89,703.46 )</b>

**Memorial Gifts:**

**Debbie Lee Tucker**

Given By:  
Annette Browder  
Genie & Winston Hodge  
Robby & Susan Elmore  
Bill & Betty Coffey  
Jake & Elaine Buddin  
Rock & Vicki Ouzts  
Gene & Joan Barber  
Jan & Cliff Toner  
Sandra Brewer  
Dianne & Buck Sprott  
Mitch & Cathy Gardner

**Buddy Gamble**

Given By:  
Robby & Susan Elmore  
Sandra Brewer  
Jan & Cliff Toner  
Callie Rose & Bryce Gamble  
Rock & Vicki Ouzts  
Charlie & Carol Gavin

**Laura Perez**

Given By:  
Robby & Susan Elmore  
Sandra Brewer  
Billy & Betty Coffey  
Tommy & Jane Benton  
Gene & Joan Barber  
Mitch & Cathy Gardner

**April Harrison**

Given By:  
Jan & Cliff Toner  
Neal & Donnie Mahoney  
Gene & Joan Barber

**Doug Nelson**

Given By:  
Jan & Cliff Toner  
Gene & Joan Barber

**Taylor Flowers**

Given By:  
Jan & Cliff Toner

**David Kidwell**

Given By:  
Jan & Cliff Toner  
Neal & Donnie Mahoney  
Gene & Joan Barber

**Delmer Younts**

Given By:  
Jan & Cliff Toner  
Gene & Joan Barber  
Sandra Brewer

**Kerrie Cribb**

Given By:  
Stan & Lu Nickell

**Maurice Kirkpatrick**

Given By:  
Stan & Lu Nickell

**Kinsey Black Jones**

Given By:  
Tommy & Jane Benton

**John Milton Odum**

Given By:  
Genie & Winston Hodge  
Annette Browder  
Sandra Brewer  
Lloyd & Nancy Roberson  
Tommy & Jane Benton,  
Camille Daniel,  
Bobby & Dot Stewart  
Jeri & Leroy Phillips  
Robby & Susan Elmore  
Billy & Betty Coffey  
Jake & Elaine Buddin  
AB & Sue Jordan  
Sam & Linda Gamble  
Aubrey & Janie Ard  
John & Marie Land  
Rock & Vicki Ouzts  
Gene & Joan Barber  
Jan & Cliff Toner  
Dianne & Buck Sprott  
Bo & Amy Bozard  
Carol & Charlie Gavin  
Mitch & Cathy Gardner  
Harriet & Jimmy Holladay  
Bill & Shelia Vanscoy  
Will & Rachel Gainey  
Michael & Lisa Burns  
Hugh & Patricia Hodge  
J.C. Witherspoon  
Jeff & Stephanie Black  
The Bank of Clarendon  
Robert & Sara Aycock  
Cynthia Kennedy  
Andrew & Deborah Harris  
Dawn & Rhett Still  
Randy & Julie Ivey  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Buyck  
Marie Davis Buyck  
Ted & Barbara Johnson  
June Brailsford  
Donnie & Neal Mahoney

**Wallace Hodge**

Given By:  
Genie & Winston Hodge,  
Jake & Elaine Buddin

**Donnie McCord**

Given By:  
Neal & Donnie Mahoney

**Joan Harrington**

Given By:  
Neal & Donnie Mahoney

**Regina Lee**

Given By:  
Neal & Donnie Mahoney

**Mary Kozickowski**

Given By:  
Donnie & Neal Mahoney

**Linda McDaniel**

Given By:  
Donnie & Neal Mahoney

**Tripp Lowder**

Given By:  
Donnie & Neal Mahoney

**Honorarium Gifts:**

**Charlotte Haygreen**

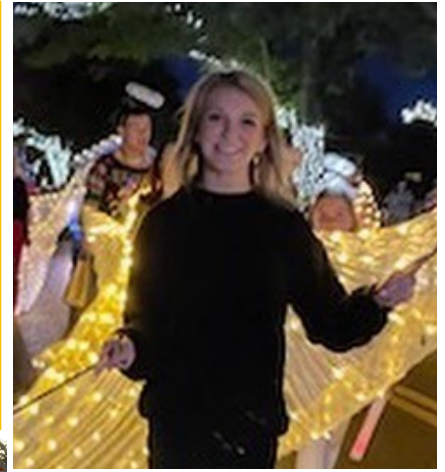
Given By:  
Tommy & Jane Benton

**Linsy Wells**

Given By:  
Stan & Lu Nickell

**George Cutter**

**John Evans**  
**Will Williamson**  
Given By:  
Mitch & Cathy Gardner



**Thank you MUMC:** The Odom family would like to express our deepest gratitude to the Manning United Methodist Church community for the love and support that you gave us during the difficult days surrounding our Daddy O's passing and memorial service. John Milton Odom loved this church and loved all of you, and it would have meant so much to him to know that his family was so cared for by his extended church family. In the midst of our grief, we also feel exceptional joy knowing that Daddy O is in the presence of the Savior he loved and followed his whole life. We are thankful for the many decades of learning and growing he did here at MUMC, and we are thankful for the legacy he left here. We rest in the promise of Christ in the 14th chapter of John's gospel that Daddy O also rested in hours before he went Home: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also."

**The Back Porch Players:** Will be performing Dec. 11th at 6:00pm at New Covenant Presbyterian Church. Call 473-3677 to Reserve Tickets.

**United Methodist Men's Ladies Night Christmas Banquet:** Monday, December 12th at 6:30pm with Special Music by the Cross Anchor Quartet. See Bo Bozard or the church office for tickets.

**Sumter Community Concert Series: (Free)**

December 4, 2022 7:00 pm Patriot Hall

March 5, 2023 3:00 pm Patriot Hall

May 7, 2023 pm Patriot Hall

**Angel Tree For the Special Needs and Disabilities Group:** The CCDSNB is in need of our help this year. We have been asked to sponsor the MEN only this year. Normally if you choose an angel from the angel tree, you do the shopping. This year I am asking for monetary donations and we will take care of the shopping. We want everyone to have a safe and happy Christmas.

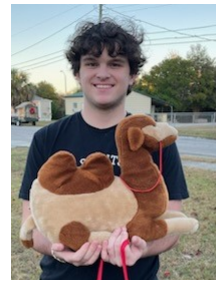
**United Ministries Toy Drive:** Looking for ways to give this Christmas? United Ministries is asking for new toys (for children under the age of 12) or monetary donations. Please have toys and donations turned in by Dec. 13th. Your help is greatly appreciated during this Christmas season.

**Epworth Moment:** Thank you to all the members, Sunday School Classes, and Circles who donated to the EPWORTH SANTA FUND. Your donations totaled \$1050.00 which will help Epworth Children's Home make many children happy this Christmas. These children will feel the JOY of Christmas and each of you will also feel the JOY of Christmas with your donations. MUMC is a giving and caring congregation.

**Epworth Moment:** MUMC has donated \$4800.00 to the FOSTER FAMILY PROGRAM at Epworth Children's Home. Epworth licenses individuals and married couples across the state of SC for Family Foster Care and Therapeutic Foster Care. Foster families benefit from proven, research-based training and around-the-clock support from Epworth Foster Care staff members. There are 150 licensed families in SC serving 225 children and teenagers. 'NOT ALL OF US CAN DO GREAT THINGS, BUT WE CAN DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE.' Mother Teresa. With this donation, MUMC has become a Foster Care Church. MUMC continues to help children and teenagers through Epworth to grow spiritually, and to have opportunities for a better life.



# The Back Page December 2022



We love our new table!

One of our most popular games is Rumikub



## Upcoming Events:

Blood Drive December 19 10am-3



Revolution January 27-29

