

**Wednesday Night Fellowship
Dinner and Program will begin
again on January 6, 2016**
(No meal/program on Dec 23 or 30)

Wi-Fi News



The Technology Committee extends a tremendous thank you to Andy Nelson for orchestrating an upgrade to our wireless internet system. For two years most of the education building and part of the main church building have had wireless connection but it required a different password for different areas and was difficult for some to access. Thank you for your patience. The committee made progress but also aimed to be very mindful of expenditures.

The new equipment and program provides church-wide service and requires no password for the guest access.

When you look for Wi-Fi on your phone, tablet or other device, please choose FUMC - JC Guest.

Please let us know if you find an area which still does not have good service.

Year-to-Date	11/30/15
<u>Operating Funds</u>	
Revenues	648,252
Operating Expenses	463,579
Reduction In Loan Principal	208,152
Surplus /(Deficit)	(23,479)
Restoration Loan Bal	0.00



**ELECTRONIC GIVING
AVAILABLE**

Scan this QR code

WELCOME 1ST CHURCH GUESTS !

*"We hope you find worship here to be a way to experience the love of Jesus Christ."
--from pastor Jane Taylor speaking for all in the congregation*

For Your Information:

Restrooms are located directly behind the sanctuary. There is a **nursery** for children (infant to 4 yrs of age). Our ushers or greeters can lead or direct you there **if you desire**.

If you would like to consider **becoming a member** of our church family, we invite you to do so. Please speak to the pastor or indicate so on the attendance slip.

An **AED** is located in the **CONNECTOR; TOP FLOOR**; go through door at the front and to the right side of sanctuary.

Church Staff:

Rev. Jane Taylor, Pastor
Email: jane.taylor@1stchurchjc.org
Billy Walker, Dir. of Worship & Music
Lisa Reis, Dir. Youth Ministries
Kathie Battista, ELC Director
Steve Reis, Dir. Community Outreach/ Discipleship
Bree Nelson, Dir. of Children's Ministries
Susan Dove Fields, Organist
Rhonda Simmons, Treasurer
David Gbaa, Custodian
Joshua Gbaa, Custodian
Finley Cook, Wednesday Night Chef
Christi Henn, Tabitha Cox, Nursery
Website: www.1stChurchJC.org
Phone: (423) 928-9222

WEEKLY CALENDAR SUMMARY DEC 20 - 26

SUNDAY, DEC 20

9:15a Sunday School
10:30a Worship Service
5:30p Youth/Children Snack Supper
6:15p Evening Worship Service

or Program
7:30p Chancel Choir Practice

THURSDAY, DEC 24

Church Office Closed
4:30p **Christmas Eve Service** -
Family Friendly; Informal;
Music, Communion, Candle
light
6:30p **Christmas Eve Traditional
Service:** Music, Message,
Communion, Candlelight

MONDAY, DEC 21

7:00p Boy Scouts - Troop #36
7:00p South Side Neighborhood Mtg.
8:00p College/Young Adult Group

TUESDAY, DEC 22

4:00p Program Staff Meeting

FRIDAY, DEC 25

Church Office Closed

MERRY CHRISTMAS



WEDNESDAY, DEC 23

No Wednesday Night Meal

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS for TODAY 12/20:

USHERS: David Denny, Ernie Walker,
Ken Talley, Dale Schmitt

GREETERS: Joanne Peterson, Barbara LeClair, Bob Peebles

PRAYER: Nancy Campbell **CROSSBEARER:** Molly Huff

ACOLYTE: Claudia Davidson **BEADLE:** Zane Huff

AUDIOVISUAL: Ethan Morelock



900 Spring Street
Johnson City, TN 37604
423-928-9222
www.1stChurchJC.org
Reverend Jane Taylor, Pastor

HOPE PEACE JOY LOVE

Fourth Sunday of **Advent**, Dec. 20, 2015 10:30 am



GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Rosa Mystica" setting by Kenton Coe

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: LOVE

INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Lord, we confess that we are rushing headlong into Christmas.

People: We have cluttered our lives with schedules so busy we barely have time to breathe.

Leader: We have planned, prepared, cooked, cleaned, partied, and in the process, wound up scattered and exhausted.

People: We confess that we have been so caught up in our own plans, that we have spent little time pondering the profound meaning of this Christmas season.

Leader: In this place and on this day, You have called us together to hear Your words of encouragement, and to remind us that You are with us.

People: Open our hearts to Your presence. Help us to reach out to one another in joy and peace. Remind us again that You hold each and every one of us gently and lovingly in Your constant care. Forgive us, we pray. Make us truly ready to receive Your love and the gift of the Christ Child.

(a time for personal confession)

Leader: In Christ, the light of God's love shines into the darkness of our lives. Rejoice! You are loved by God, now and forever.

People: Let us give thanks that Jesus, Emmanuel, loves us, forgives us, and is with us. Glory to God in the highest! AMEN.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

MORNING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Which 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Amos 5:18; 21-24

***HYMN OF REFLECTION** "Love Has Come" **Supplement No. 3059**

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child" arr. by McDonald/Wood
Rhonda Simmons

***DOXOLOGY** **No. 94**

***GOSPEL LESSON** Luke 21:25-36

ANTHEM "When Will the Little King Come?"

When will the little King come? When will we see God's Son?
We will sing and shout for joy, greet the precious baby boy.

Will He come like a breath of spring while the flowers are blossoming?
Will He come on a summer day while the children are at play?

Will He come when the air grows cold, while the leaves turn to red and gold?
Will He come on a winter night while the stars are shining bright?

When will Emmanuel come? When will the little King come?

SERMON "Gentle Mary, Meek and Mild" Rev. Jane Taylor

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT** "Joy to the World" (vs 1, 2, & 3) **No. 246**

***BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

*He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness
and wonders of His love.*

***A TIME FOR GREETING ONE ANOTHER**



The Flower Arrangement at the Chancel last week was presented to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Tony Woodall with loving care for Judy Story, her daughter, Heather and her grandchildren, Austin & Tyler by the Chancel Choir.

A Note From Stewardship:

The Stewardship Committee commends our congregation for paying off our remaining RESTORATION debt of 208K this year! This pay-off was "over and above" our REGULAR BUDGET. We also thank you for your recent pledges toward our 2016 budget. Over 50% of our budget has been pledged, which is about "normal". It would be extremely helpful (and less stressful) if this percentage could be increased. We encourage you, if you have not done so, to make your pledge for 2016.

Thank you for your gifts and service to our church and towards God's work.

Jim Heaton, Scott Huff, Calvin Robinson, Jerry Rust, Judy Rust, Bonnie Sampson

So You Can Know:

Bree and Lisa (Children's and Youth Dept. Directors) prepare a monthly newsletter of announcements and activities. If you would like to receive this by email please let them or the church office know.



**Christmas Eve Services:
Thursday, December 24
4:30 pm and 6:30 pm:**

Whether you have been before, or would be present for the first time, all are welcome to join this church family in a celebration of God's love as He continues to send Light into the darkness. We will share together through music, word, communion and a candlelight service. As busy as this time of year seems, there are many who are alone, facing a darkness which cannot be filled with activity. Invite someone to join us for Christmas Eve this year. There are two services - 4:30 pm and 6:30 pm. And although the 6:30 service is a more traditional service, it is open to all; families with little children are welcome and casual dress is fine. **Come adore the newborn King.**

Youth Dept. Announcement:

Chaperones needed for the youth lock in on New Year's Eve. If you can do a four hour shift, 8-12, 12-4, or 4-8 that would be very helpful! Contact Lisa!

Dec 20, 2015 Prayer Requests
Publish in bulletin? __Y __N

Requested by:

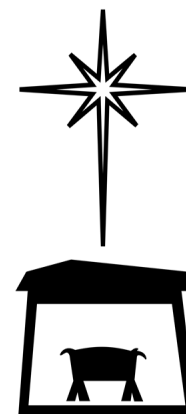
A Reminder from our Treasurer:

- Please keep in mind that December 31 is the deadline for 2015 giving. Last-minute gifts will be credited toward 2015 if one of the following criteria is met:
- Mailed gifts must be postmarked on or before December 31.
- Gifts through bill payment services must have payment dates on or before December 31.
- Gifts through online giving must have donation date of December 31 or earlier.

*The First Church Family extends sympathy and prayers for comfort to
Friends and Family
in the recent loss of Martha Hauff*

PRAYER CONCERNS

Clare Warren & family	Vivian Eckerson	Capt. Chris Carin, US Army
Jane Eddy and her parents	Judy Cook	Jerry Elliot
Bonnie and Clay Marrs	Tom and Shirley Palmer	Darrell Wayne Tilson
Amy Dryburgh	Carroll Waterbury	Helen Tilson
Bobbie Wells	Mark Dollar	Jim Brant
Aldon and Betty Speer	Mary McClellan	Nancy Jewell
Chuck Short and family	Barbara Marrs	Jessica Higginbotham
Sue McGaha	Sue Zabala	
Jaimee Norman	Linda Stanley	



Bringing you
Good Tidings of
Great Joy for All
People; To you a
Child is Born; A
Savior, Christ,
the Lord!

- Luke 2

Merry Christmas!
From Your Church Staff