

Friendly reminder: if you are not able to gain access to the church via the connector door fingerprint scanner, you can use the key pad at each scanner to page someone in the church. Press 1 for the church office between 9 and noon; at other times or if no one answers, press 2 for an ELC staff person. If you need your finger scanned, or if your fingerprint is not working consistently, contact Kathie Battista (ELC director). Thanks. It's for safety. And please do not prop doors open or leave them unlocked.

Use this QR Code to access **online giving**.



Year-to-Date Operating Funds as of 11/30/17

Revenues	457,941
Operating Expenses	506,079
Surplus/(Deficit)	(48,138)

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 Christi Henn, Nursery
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SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS for TODAY:
USHERS: David Denny, Ben Peeples, Art Eckerson, Alan LeClair
GREETERS: Novice Gross, Katie Mahoney, Donna Robbins, Deborah & Marcus Grant
PRAYER: Karl Kapoor **CROSSBEARER:** Molly Huff
ACOLYTE: Zane Huff **BEADLE:** Sammi Uelhof
AUDIOVISUAL: Karl Kapoor

WEEKLY CALENDAR
DECEMBER 24-30, 2017
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
 9:15 Sunday School
 10:30 Worship Service
 4:30 Informal/Family Friendly Christmas Eve Service
 6:30 Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25
Christmas Day
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26
 5:00 Staff Meeting
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27
 7:30 Chancel Choir
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28
 6:00 Girl Scout Troop #978
 7:00 East TN Intl. Folk Dancers– gym



First United Methodist Church
 900 Spring Street Johnson City, TN 37604
 Worship Guide & Church Life Information Bulletin
 Welcome to 1st Church! We are glad you are here.
 Please sign the red registration pad at one end of each pew.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
December 24, 2017
Fourth Sunday of Advent
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING
PRELUDE "O Come All Ye Faithful" Arr. Emma Lou Diemer
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: LOVE
INVOCATION
***HYMN OF PRAISE** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" No. 213
***PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON**
 Leader: Lord, we confess that we have been rushing headlong into Christmas.
People: It has been a busy time, as we have tried to fit our Christmas activities in and around our daily responsibilities of work and family. Our minds are scattered, our bodies are tired, and we still have things to do. We confess that we have been so caught up in our preparations that we have spent little time pondering the profound meaning of this Christmas season.

Leader: In this place and on this day, God has called us together to offer words of encouragement, and to remind us that Love has come to dwell with us.

People: Open our hearts to Your loving presence, Lord. Remind us again of Your constant care. Help us to reach out to one another in joy and peace. 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: Lift up your heads faithful people, for our redemption is near. 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

GOSPEL READING Luke 1:26-38

MORNING PRAYER 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 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

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

OFFERTORY "The Coventry Carol" Arr. Joseph Martin

DOXOLOGY No. 94

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:46b-55

ANTHEM

"Call His Name Jesus"

*The angel came to Nazareth and said these words to Mary:
"The Lord is with you, blessed one." But Mary was afraid.
The Angel said, "Now do not fear for you have found God's favor.
Behold, you shall bring forth a son and call His name Jesus.*

*He shall be great and will be called the 'Son of the Most High.'
And God shall give to Him a throne; His kingdom shall not end."*

*Then Mary went from Nazareth with her new husband, Joseph,
Into the town of Bethlehem, and she was great with child.
While they were there, the hour came when she should be delivered.
She brought forth her firstborn Son and called His name Jesus.*

*She wrapped her child in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger.
She whispered as He fell asleep, "I'll call Your name Jesus."*

SERMON

"What to Expect"

Rev. Jane Taylor

***HYMN**

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"
Verses 1, 2, and 3

No. 230

***BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel!*

GO IN PEACE, GREET ONE ANOTHER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST, AND TAKE THE LOVE OF CHRIST WITH YOU THIS WEEK TO SHARE WITH ALL YOU MEET.

Regular Wednesday Night activities will resume January 10

Christmas Eve Offering

Our Christmas Eve offering this year will be given to Camp Bays Mountain to assist with the completion of Allison Lodge.

December 24, 2017 Prayer Requests

Publish in bulletin? Y ___ N ___

Requested by _____

Prayer list:

Betty & Aldon Speer	Tom Palmer
Mary McClellan	Carrol Waterbury
Kristy Hodge Pratt	Kevin Jones
Barbara Marrs	Carrie Denny
Elizabeth Bailey	Janie Peterson
Harold & Nannie Greene	Bob & Dee Lentz
Dot Woodby	Carolyn Wood
Mack Peterson	Joan Tansil
Ralph & Joan Garland	Bobby & Viola Seay
Nancy Jewell	Sue Speer
Bobbie Wells	Jo Cross
Marian Cocke	Our church
Elizabeth Wells	Our nation
Willie Hughes	Kim Church
Clare Warren & parents	LaMarr Talley
Howard Smith	Evelyn Moore
Catherine Cartus	Beth Woodby & family
	Steve Holmes
	Donna Royston
	Vicky Coffman

Christmas Eve Services

We will have two opportunities for Christmas Eve worship tonight. A more informal, family-friendly service will be offered at 4:30. A more traditional candlelight service will be offered at 6:30. Communion will be served at both services.