

As His disciples who receive him in the manger on the outskirts of Bethlehem, we are also to see the revelation of God's own self-giving, self-sacrificing love. This is a love borne witness to through Jesus' life and ministry, through his compassionate care of those on the fringes of society. His love continued to show even as he felt the death pangs on a Roman cross.

Today we re-light the candle of LOVE as a sign of the Bethlehem child who comes to rule our hearts, guide our words, and make way for his reign among us.

(Light the 4th candle of LOVE)

Thanks be to God for the Prince of Peace, the peace and reality of a Messiah in Jesus, the Bethlehem Child who is born to save his people.

UMH page 219
UMH page 230

What Child Is This?
O Little Town of Bethlehem

Offertory Prayer of Meditation

We offer our gifts to share in the mission of Christ's love. In truth, we are here to give ourselves away in the name of Christ so that his love may be released into the world. Let us give thanks to God through the offering of our lives.

Offertory Music

Pastor Donna

DOXOLOGY

THE CHRIST CANDLE

The final candle on our Advent Wreath represents Jesus, the Christ child. God in the flesh has come to dwell among us.

One candle remains, the central candle... and central it must be.

The history of God's people throughout the millennia reminds us that when God was pushed aside and the people relied only upon themselves, they lost sight of their identity and purpose. They wandered aimlessly as in a wilderness with no clear destination. **To light the Christ candle is to remind ourselves of the central role Jesus is willing to play in our lives. But we are the ones who choose whether or not to let Him play that central role. We must invite Him in. He does not come unless He is welcomed or invited.**

TFWS page 2100 Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Today as we conclude our service with this lighting of the Christ Candle, (light Christ candle now) we make a statement that Christ will be our center.

**HE will be our HOPE. HE will be our PEACE.
HE will be our JOY. HE will be the LOVE of our lives. This we must share. Thanks be to God for the Christ Light among us...a light that centers us, warms us, leads us, and grants us purpose. For Christ is born to save His people. Praise be to the name of the Lord!**

UMH page 251 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Benediction in Unison

We go forth to bear the light of Christ at work in us that all may know the Good News of God, and may the blessing of God be upon us to make us instruments of healing in our world today. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, Born to Save! Amen.

"A Festival of Carols" by Rev. Ted Newcomb,
Adapted for use by Rev. Donna S. Smith.

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bill Layton, by Bob and Katherine Layton.

We extend an extra special word of WELCOME to persons who are worshipping with us for the first time. We hope you will prayerfully consider making Hinshaw Church your church home.

PECANS

The Asbury Sunday School Class is selling pecans. The "new crop" of Georgia Pecans are priced at:
Plain halves—\$7.50/lb.
Dark Chocolate covered pecans—\$7.00/lb.
Amaretto Chocolate covered pecans—\$7.00/lb.
They can be purchased from any class member. All proceeds are used for missions. Thank you for your support.

OUR MINISTRY TEAM	
Ministers.....	The Congregation
Pastor.....	Rev. Donna Smith
Program/Youth Director.....	Mr. Jim Waynick
Choir Director.....	Ms. Lyn Koonce
Church Custodian.....	Mr. Steve Benoit



Hinshaw United Methodist Church
"Sharing the Love of Jesus Christ with All People"

4501 High Point Road - Greensboro, N.C. 27407
Church Office: (336) 299-6330 or (336) 299-2513
Parsonage: (336) 299-6339

A FESTIVAL OF CAROLS
The First Sunday
After Christmas
December 28, 2008



Sharing the Story
of
Jesus' Birth

December 28, 2008

Hinshaw
United Methodist Church
11:00 a.m.

(Meditate on these words as you prepare for worship)
*If Jesus is born anew in hearts that love, how do I reflect the
"Jesus-life" that is in me? Come Lord Jesus!
Reign in my life today! Amen.*

*Today's worship is highly participatory and follows the traditional
Christmas carols that are part of our Advent/Christmas/Epiphany
celebration. We will "share the story of Jesus' birth" through word
and song in our time together today. May our voices echo the excite-
ment of this Christmas birth which grants all of us identity as children
of God. Rejoice and sing!*

UMH-UM Hymnal TFWS-The Faith We Sing

Words of Welcome

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Prelude Pastor Donna

Lighting of the Altar Candles

THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Today we Re-light the candles of our Advent Wreath as a way
of retelling the Christmas story. The first candle represents
HOPE.

**The people of Israel waited a long time for their Messiah.
Centuries expanded to a millennium. Life had been hard.
Invasion upon invasion, fear from the outside. They had
hoped for a Messiah who would provide them safety.**

So the Candle of Hope reminds us of the tremendous longing of
God's people for one who would set them free.

(Light the candle of HOPE)

**Thanks be to God for hope. The hope and reality of a Mes-
siah in Jesus, the Bethlehem child who is born to save His
people.**

UMH page 245 The First Noel

UMH page 220 Angels, From the Realms of Glory
verses 1, 2, 4

Prayer: Holy God, for years your people awaited the dawn of your
presence. Now you have come. No longer do we wait. All we
need to do is open our hearts to receive your Holy Presence among
us. Come Lord Jesus! Shine in our lives today. Be our hope for the
eternally present moment of our living. Fill us with your Christ
Light and dispel the gloom of night. Then may we find the power,
compassion and the abiding hope to bear your light unto a world
that will benefit from the Good News and Glad Tidings that You
bring. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

THE CANDLE OF PEACE

We second candle in our Advent wreath is the candle of PEACE.
Warfare. Personal discord. A spiritual life dominated by rule-
keeping as opposed to a genuine affection and searching for God.
Peace...anything but peace ruled the day.

**What is it like to have armies invade your space decade after dec-
ade and century after century? What is it like to be deported to far
off lands as a means of quelling uprisings? What is it like to have
no sense of being rooted in one place among your people? It hap-
pened to Israel long ago.**

In more recent times the names might be Native Americans, Bos-
nians, Latvians, Cambodians, and so many more.

**Jesus came to be our peace. He grants us identity as his disciples.
He shows us a way. He bears the PEACE which passes all under-
standing. He leads us to become makers of His PEACE. He im-
parts to us the Spirit of PEACE who is our comforter and Guide.**

(Light the candle of PEACE)

Today the candle of PEACE burns as a sign of the Prince of Peace
who comes to rule our hearts, guide our words, and make way for
his reign among us.

**Thanks be to God for the Prince of Peace...the Peace and reality
of a Messiah in Jesus, the Bethlehem Child who is born to save
His people.**

UMH page 240 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing
(verses 1 and 3)

UMH page 217 Away In a Manger

A Time of Prayer
Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Pastor Donna**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy king-
dom 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.

THE CANDLE OF JOY

The fourth candle represents JOY. People jump up and down on
Christmas morning filled with exuberance and excitement, chil-
dren dance down steps and through hallways and overflow with
energy to discover the joy
of brightly covered presents.

**But those presents are really a symbol of a far greater gift we
would do well to remember. That gift is the gift of Jesus
Christ, the Holy One of God, our Savior.**

So perhaps it is possible to use these gifts as teaching opportuni-
ties. The joy we know in giving, the joy that is so apparent as col-
orful paper is tossed aside and boxes are opened, these are really
meant to point beyond themselves to something much more sig-
nificant.

**The gift of Jesus unleashes a joy that is everlasting, not merely
momentary. The gift of Jesus gives a joyful spirit that will last
a lifetime and beyond. It does not depend on conditions and
circumstances. It is a matter of the heart and will. Jesus' birth
provides a lens for us to view the world from a God-ly perspec-
tive where God's HOPE, PEACE and JOY are instruments of
redemption and reconciliation.**

Today we light the candle of JOY as a sign of the Bethlehem
child who comes to rule our hearts, guide our words, and make
way for his Reign among us.

(Light the candle of JOY)

**No wonder we speak of JOY this season. This JOY finds a
home in us. A JOY that unlike a flame may never be extin-
guished. Thanks be to God for the JOY of Jesus, the JOY that
Jesus, the Bethlehem Child is born to save his people.**

UMH page 249 There's A Song In The Air
UMH page 246 Joy to the World

THE CANDLE OF LOVE

The fourth candle in our Advent wreath is the candle of LOVE.

**How often do people feel unlovable? Probably more often than
we care to admit. Many people experience feelings of despair
and negativity. Many people sink to very low places emotion-
ally and spiritually. Still others lead lives of quiet desperation
in isolation, among the homeless, and in places where society
wishes to keep them hidden.**

Jesus has come to shed light in dark places. Jesus has come to
show a whole new way of being guided, not so much by rules for
every circumstance, but by a guiding principle of a love ethic.
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son. That's
how John put it.

WORSHIP ASSOCIATES

Hospitality Host

Howard Weast

Ushers

Bill Fowler, Jim Brentnell,
Tom Smith, Ray Ward

Nursery

Chuck & Shirley Walker

Nursery Next Week

Bright & Juliana Abonuhi

OUR FAITHFULNESS
December 21, 2008

Regular Offering

\$6,073.00

Building Fund

\$45.00

Poinsettias

\$18.00

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

\$100.00

ATTENDANCE

Worship 99
Study Groups 48
(includes Sunday School)

Through Sunday December 21st the 2008 budget deficit is now just over \$40,000. Your continued efforts are appreciated.

Bulletin Insert
Sunday December 28, 2008

Our Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital

Jack Rymer — Wesley Long

Health Care Facility

Frances Hartmann	Heritage Greens, 801 Meadowood. St. Room 128, Greensboro, N.C. 27409
Becky Johnson	Sunnybrook Health Care, 25 Sunnybrook Rd Rm 7A, Raleigh, NC 27610
Juanita Lundy	Loyalton of Greensboro, 3823 Lawndale Dr. #215, Greensboro, NC 27455
James Moody	Clapps Nursing Center, Room 701, 5229 Appomattox Rd. Pleasant Garden, NC 27313
Jessie Murphy	Evergreens Nursing Home, 4007 W. Wendover Av., Room 443, Greensboro, NC 27407
Yvonne Naim	811 Meade Dr, Gnbo, NC 27410
Kathleen Neal	4600 Laurel Run Dr., Gnbo, NC 27410, Tel# 286-0231
Joe Patrick	#PCW-248, 701 Plantation Estates Drive, Mathews, NC 28105
Christine Suits	Heritage Greens 801 Meadowood St., Rm.336, Gnbo, NC 27409
Charlotte Shepherd	5442 Pepperbush Ct, Sugar Hill, GA 30518
Marion Thomas	Heritage Greens 801 Meadowood St., Rm.307, Gnbo, NC 27409
Annie Laura Turner	Meadow View Terrace, Room 405, Clarksville, Va. 23927 Phone:434-374-3972
Steve Wyrick	Heartland Living and Rehab. Rm. 321A, 1131 N. Church St., Gnbo, NC 27401

Special Prayer Requests

Kylie Bean, Judy Bohrer, Blondell Bowman, Harriet Broden, Monica Butler, Bobby Coble, Mary Cook, Mark Garrett, Ray Grant, Lee Hammonds, Kay Holland, Christine Jones, Linda Jones, Jane Kerr, Gene & Sybil Larimore, Juanita Lundy, Jason Marshall, Michael Melvin Jr., James & Doris Moody, Cheryl Myers, Sharon & Steve Myers, Jerry Neal, Kathleen Neal, Ruth Nesbitt, Angela Olsen, Jeremy Page, Marietta Roberts, Jack Rymer, Dennis & Donna Smith, Winston Smith, Bob Simmons, Christine Suits, Eddie Taylor, Doris Warren, Jackie Wilson, Jewel Wilson, Lib Wyrick.

If you wish to submit a name for special prayer or to remove a name, please call the church office, 299-6330.

Many thanks to those of you who have given contributions to buy our Hymnal Supplements, "The Faith We Sing". We do get a discount when Ordering more than 20 at a time. After shipping, each book costs about \$10.00. We hope to buy 60 more and with your help, will be able to do so by the end of the year.

BRUNSWICK STEW

The UMW has Brunswick Stew in our freezers for sale.
Please contact Betty Reddick (299-4365) or
Vickie Gordon (292-9222) to purchase stew.