



May Memorial Baptist Church
 Reaching...Teaching...Touching in the heart of Powhatan
 3922 Old Buckingham Road
 In the Heart of the Courthouse Village (804) 598-3098
Newsletter November 23, 2020



From the Pastor...Advent Blue

Advent is not Christmas. Christmas comes the Eve of December 25, and it lasts for twelve days. Advent is the season that begins four Sundays before Christmas, it actually is the beginning of the church year, a year-long telling of the story of God’s work of Redemption in Jesus Christ. (continued on next page)

Baby Shower Collection

The Rachael Circle wishes to thank everyone for their generous donations to the Baby Shower Collection, we more than filled the bassinet! These items will be delivered to the Pregnancy Resource Center in Richmond. The Rachael Circle’s next meeting by Zoom will be on December 8 at noon, more information will be in next week’s *Newsletter*.



*Advent and Christmas for the
 May Memorial Family*

Wednesday, December 2, we will have our first Advent Worship in the Sanctuary. On December 20, at 3:00 p.m. a video presentation of the Children’s Christmas Pageant will be shown in the sanctuary. Christmas Eve Worship will be at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Meanwhile, starting on November 30, there will be Advent Hospitality consisting of on-line “gifts” from the May Memorial family. See page



3 for all the details.

From the Pastor...



Advent is a season of slowing down, of waiting, and keeping hope that Christ is coming into our world. Christ came at Bethlehem and will come again at the end of the age in “power and great glory,” but He also comes again and again in this “in-between” time. Advent calls us to wake up, to be still and silent, to practice patience, and know that Christ is coming.

To mark this time of waiting, we light the candles of a wreath. One for each week, and as the candles are lit we see increasing light. Each of these candles have a significance for us. The first candle is a reminder of hope, the second points us to peace, the third, joy, and finally we light the candle that reminds us of love.

Every year the candles have been three purple and one pink. But this year, there is a little change. Rather than using purple this year, we will use dark blue. More and more churches are making this shift from purple to blue, and there are several reasons behind this. First, purple is a color often associated with the season of Lent. We put a purple cloth on the cross during Lent, and if we had paraments for the communion table and pulpit they would be purple during that pre-Easter season. Churches have desired to make a visual distinction, and many have chosen to go dark blue for Advent.

The reason this deep blue color has been chosen, at least in part, is that it is the color of the sky just before dawn. It is no longer the black of night, but there is just enough light to turn it a deep blue. When you see that color, you know that dawn is not too far away. There is reason to hope for a new day, because you see that light is coming.

The Light “that shines in the darkness” is needed in our world today. It seems that darkness is all around us. But we know that the night is nearly over. There is reason to hope. Christ has come, *Christ is coming*, and Christ will come again.

May the deep blue of this years (three) Advent Candles be to us a reminder that the night is soon past. Light is about to break on the horizon. It may be the darkest season of the year as we move toward the winter solstice, but it is when it is darkest that the light is most visible.

Happy Advent, let us wait in hope.

The children continue to meet for Extended Session each Sunday morning at
11:00 a.m. weather permitting.



Advent and Christmas for the May Memorial Family



Advent Hospitality: A Gift from the Home...
(of name)

November 30 – December 25

Consisting of artwork, music, Christmas symbols and decorations, and readings, these gifts will come from members of the May Memorial family and will be sent out each morning during Advent.

Advent Wednesdays,

Noon until 1:00 p.m., December 2, 9, 16, and 23

Come for a few minutes, or the entire hour. You will hear music from the May Memorial Carillon and guest musicians. This is not a concert, but a time to enjoy the peace and beauty of the May Memorial Sanctuary during the Advent Season. The Advent Wreath will be “re-lit” each Wednesday so those who gather can hear words of hope, joy, love, and peace as we wait for the Coming Messiah.

Sunday, December 20

YouTube Premiere Children’s Christmas Pageant

The pageant will premiere on YouTube and in our sanctuary (video presentation) at 3:00. The sanctuary premiere is offered for those who do not have access to YouTube, although anyone can attend.

Thursday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

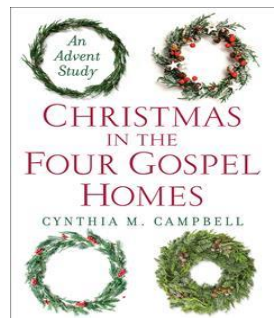
11:00 a.m., YouTube Premiere Service in the MMBC Sanctuary, made available especially for those without a computer or access to YouTube, although anyone can attend.

4:00 p.m., MMBC Christmas Eve Worship on YouTube Premiere

This will be an online worship service much like our worship services while in early pandemic weeks.

Join Us For Sunday School on Zoom

During the four Sundays of Advent this year, November 29 through December 20, travel with the Zoom Sunday School to some ‘houses’ decorated quite differently for the birth of Jesus—the four “Gospel homes” of Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John! Bob Kruschwitz and Juston Sanudo will be team teaching the study.



Our guide will be Cynthia M. Campbell, *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2019). Copies of this book are available in the church office and from online booksellers. “The purpose of our journey is to experience what Christmas means from [each Gospel’s] perspective and how Christmas is celebrated there,” Campbell writes. Each week’s study features a house drawing by architect Kevin Burns, who offers his own interpretation of how each Gospel welcomes us to “reflect on the mystery of Jesus, Son of God, born of Mary.” Please join in the Zoom Sunday School class each Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m., or view it afterwards online through the May Memorial YouTube channel.

To join by phone: Call (312) 626-6799 Enter: 871 7487 0259

Connecting to Each Other...Fellowship

Bible Study and Kingdom Kids will not meet this Wednesday

Handbell Choir and Adult Ensemble Choir Rehearsals!

Beginner handbell rehearsals will be on Mondays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Advanced handbell rehearsals will be on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Adult Choir Ensembles will meet on Monday's at 7:00 p.m. through December 22nd. There are 2 ensemble groups. Group A will practice on 11/23, 12/7 and 12/21. Group B will practice on 11/30 and 12/14.

Connecting to the World...Missions

Small Mission Projects

Sunday, November 29

We will collect the

Three Cents a Meal Offering



Christmas Mission Project

Standing Rock Indian Reservation—This year before Christmas we will be joining with Baptists across Virginia collecting gifts cards for children in the Cannon Ball on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota. WMU of Virginia staff (who are at Standing Rock) will shop for each child using the gift cards so the children there will receive what they need this Christmas. Please bring gift cards on our **collection date of December 13 during Worship** from Dollar Tree, Amazon, Walmart or Target. While any amount is appreciated, a \$25 gift card will sponsor one individual child at Standing Rock.

Prayer List 11/23/20

CHURCH FAMILY:

Barbara Barden
Susie Brock
Joann Cole
Bob Cosby
Bob Cox
Snead DeNoon
Lee Duncan
Nick Elam
Ester Fitch and Family
Bea Gallier
Rick Gallier
Bill Ketron
Bernice Koelzer
Paul Lindsey
Fran O'Donnell
Jim Pinkley
Shirley Stephens
David&Susan
Terry
Nancy Wilkinson
Earl Worsham
Janice Worsham

MILITARY:

Danny Myers, Brent Templeton, Quint Sutton, David Brizendine, Jeremiah Clift, Nelson Sutton, Justin Donnavon, Austin, Breeden, Caleb Hammer, Kris Curtis, Adam and Hunter Mitchell

HOMEBOUND PRAYER AND CONTACT LIST:

- Janice and Earl Worsham, Auburn Hill Senior Living, 5800 Harbour Ln, Midlothian, VA 23112
- Audrey Johnston, 3901 S. Fairway Drive, Powhatan, VA 23139
- Audrey Mann, The Laurels of Willow Oaks, 11611 Robious Road, Midlothian, 23113
- Jim Pinkley, Currently with Billy and Marlis Kruschwitz
- Jean Hall, 1748 Old Powhatan Estates

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Estelle Davis, Debbie Elam's mother
Lacie Baggett
Libby Gregg, daughter-in-law of Carol Gregg
Stuart Yeorge
Ben Spoon, Juli Spoon's son-in-law
Matthew Berger, friend of Joy & Juston Sanudo
Clyde Martin, brother of Esther Fitch
Jeff Crews, Susie Brock's brother-in-law
Sheri Sadie, Nancy Flower's Daughter
Sharon Baltimore, friend of the Bradbury's
Bill Casper, Bill Karnolt's brother-in-law
Justin Yancey, Grandson of Irma Alvis
Stephanie Hay, Karen and Ray's daughter-in-law
Janie Dean
Phyllis Lester, Ed Utt's sister
Shawn Neugent, friend of the Sheltons
Lennox Family
Helen Fitzgerald, friend of Diana and B.J. Smith
Chloe, granddaughter of Amy&Bill Karnolt
Nurses, Erin and Melissa, relatives of the Karnolt's
Logan Cook, grandson of Wilford and Linda Poore.
Pam Polk Mottley, Ed Mottley's sister
Randy Kope, grandson of Les and Dianne Miller
Brian Sullivan, nephew of Mike & Bernice Koelzer
Mary, Annie Sparrow's Aunt
Mary Ann David, Debbie Elam's sister-in-law
Teresa Fields
Brenden McMullan, the Cox's grandson
Patricia Vermillion, Jon Flower's sister
Emily, Gene & Sandy Parker's daughter
Chuck Karnolt
Kathy Kuhn, friend of Vicki and Bob Kruschwitz
Davin Ericson, friend of the Cox's
Stephanie Prentice, Nancy Flower's granddaughter
Stuart Howard and Bre
Sue Ellen Hresan, Nancy Richard's sister
Fred Boatwright, Amy Potter's father
Helen Dean
Mike Davidson
Family of James Kyle Wills, Sr., Kyle Wills' and Kelly Jarrell's father
Family of Frances Tilman, Maryvel Firda's mother

November/December Birthdays



24 - Debbie Howard
24 - Dot Wilkins IS 90!!!!
29 - Brooke Fredette
30 - Ashley Osborne

1 - Candy Wills
7 - Ray Crump
7 - Karen Hay
8 - Jeanan Krueger
16 - Nancy Gillespie

Poinsettias Announcement

the sanctuary during the Christmas Season. If you would like to purchase one in memory or in honor of a loved one, please sign up below. The cost is \$13.00 a plant. Payment is expected when ordering. Checks can be made out to May Memorial Baptist Church. You may place your order in the offering plate at church or mail to the church at P.O. Box 56, Powhatan, VA 23139. Order deadline is 12/6.

May Memorial places poinsettias in



Financial Information

Our Gifts to our Lord

Week of November 22, 2020

Regular Offering	\$ 7,354.00
Building Fund	200.00
Memorials	75.00
Scholarships	25.00
Special Offering	25.00
Total	\$ 7,679.00