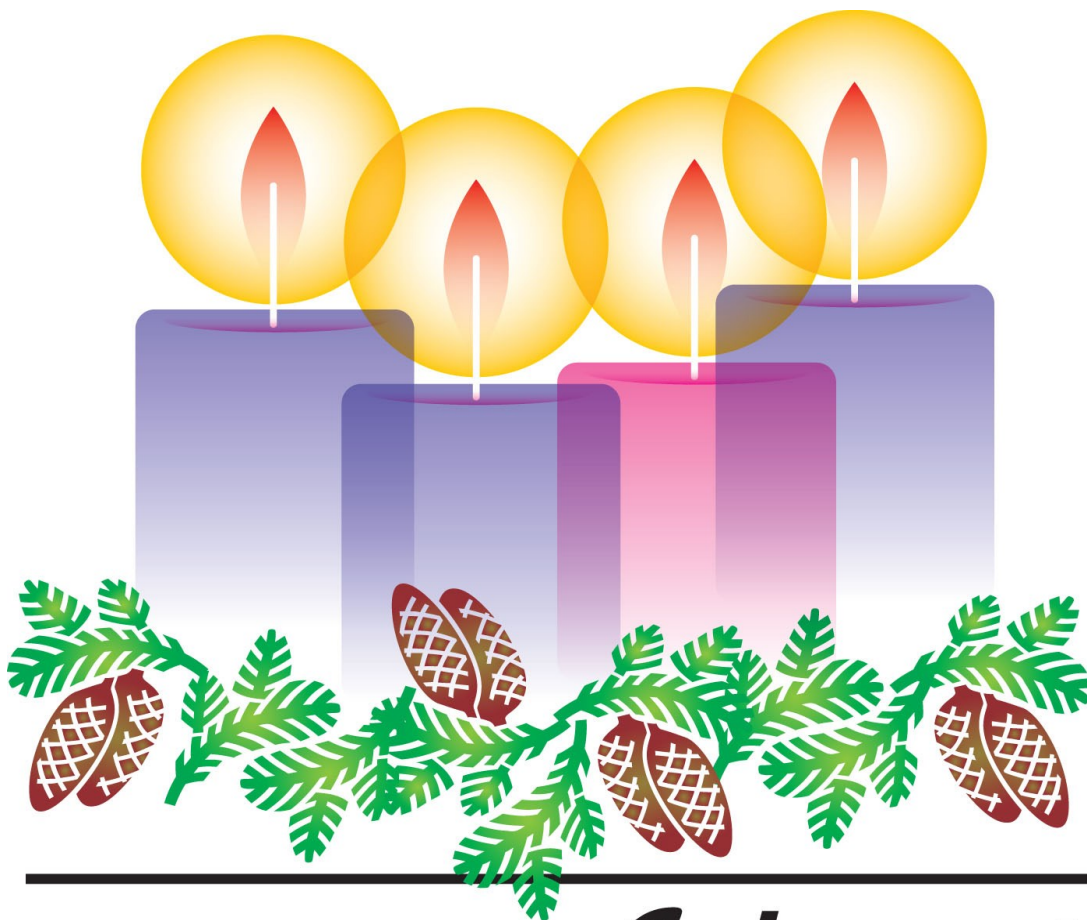




West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, Lead Pastor
300 North Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

December 18, 2016

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

OPEN

Prelude

"Rejoice, A Savior Comes"

Memory Bells
Arranged by Bill Ingram

Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Monica

*Please fill out the Friendship Register on the clipboard located on a chair in your row.
First-time guest or member, let us know you were here!*

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

Vernon Ramberger

One: Because God chose not a palace, but a tent. We bear witness to the light.

Many: Because God chose to be one of us, not apart from us. We bear witness to the light.

One: Because God chose the margins, not the center. We bear witness to the light.

Many: Because a woman said yes, when she could have said no. We bear witness to the light.

All: For nothing is impossible for God.

*Processional Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

UMH No. 234, Vv. 1,2,3,5

*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Vernon Ramberger

True God, we lift our praise to you this anticipatory morning.

**As we await the coming of Jesus,
we prepare our hearts for your kingdom.**

**Let the lights and decorations remind us of the true light of the world
through whom all hope comes.**

**Restore to us the sense of surprise that you came to us as a little baby,
unexpected, yet longed for.**

In the name of Christ, we pray, Amen.

*Passing of the peace

Vernon Ramberger

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

GROW

The Lighting of the Advent Candle: The Candle of Hope: Faith! Justice!

The Guepet Family

Page 8

Advent Song

"Light The Advent Candle"

TFWS, No. 2090, V. 4

Children's Choir

"Star of Bethlehem"

Joan Leaman, Director

Moment for All Ages

Joan Leaman

Old Testament Lesson

Psalms 146:5-10

Vernon Ramberger

*Gospel Lesson

Luke 1:67-79

Vernon Ramberger

***Response to the Lessons**

Vernon Ramberger

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Chancel Choir

Children from Age 4 through Grade 4 are dismissed to meet in room #10 for Children’s Worship.

Parents, please pick up your children immediately following the worship service in room #10.

Children ages birth to 3 are welcome to attend the nursery in room #15 to participate in a story and guided activities.

Sermon

“Decorations To Remind”

Pastor Monica

SERVE

Special Music

“Hope’s Sway”

Mel Leaman

Moment of Impact

Christmas Cards for Inmates

Pastor Monica

Offering

“Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

Memory Bells

Arranged by Douglas Wagner

Organ Accompanist, Joyce Flower

***Offertory Response**

“In The Bleak Midwinter”

UMH, 221, V.4

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

***Offertory Prayer (Unison)**

O God, you are generous beyond what we can understand. We thank you for the gift of Jesus at the heart of Christmas. We thank you for those who chose to say ‘Yes’ to you, stepping out from their security into lives they could never have imagined. Accept our gifts of money, given carefully or carelessly. Tentatively we ask for the wild generosity seen in your gift of Jesus. Help us to step out in faith, to give you more than a qualified ‘yes’; Help us in this season of light and joy, to dedicate ourselves to living our lives in ways which express your love, your faithfulness, your generosity to our world, and everyone in it, Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

Alexis Rae Winters

Pastor Monica

Baptism Song

“For Everyone Born”

Power Point

Gathered Prayer

Pastor Jim

The Lord’s Prayer

Pastor Jim

***Hymn of Sending Forth**

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

UMH No. 220

***Benediction**

Pastor Monica

Choral Benediction

“Christmas Peace”

Chancel Choir

***Postlude**

Old Testament Lesson: *Psalms 146:5-10*

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.
The Lord watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
The Lord will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the Lord!

Gospel Lesson: *Luke 1: 67-79*

Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.
Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his
holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness
before him all our days.
And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.
By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

OPEN ~ GROW ~ SERVE

At West Grove UMC, we love God by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing our faith and serving our community and world in His name.

Welcome to this gathering of God's people worshipping and praising God! May we continue to be moved by the Spirit to live as the body of Christ. If you have come as a guest, we hope that you'll leave as a friend and pray you'll be nourished in faith as you hear God's message for you today. We encourage you to join us again. Please honor us by signing the Friendship pad. Our Welcome Center, located in the lobby, is a place where guests and new attendees can seek information about our church.

Church Office: 610-869-9334—Our Website: www.westgroveumc.org

Please remember to mute your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary for worship.



Our Assisted Listening system is available to all who could benefit from additional amplification or assistance. Please see our soundboard operators for questions or to use a unit.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR WAYNE ACHUFF: Sunday, December 18th, 2:00 p.m. at Lima Estates, enter at main door to Auditorium. The family requests that in lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Radnor Hunt Races, P.O. Box 141, Chadds Ford, PA 19317

DO YOU LIKE TO WELCOME GUESTS? CAN YOU HELP OTHERS FEEL COMFORTABLE? USHERS AND GREETERS ARE NEEDED FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS.

For 8:30 worship, please contact Rain Catoia 302-420-8475 or raindowdy@aol.com.

For 11:00 worship, please contact Joan Saller 610-662-9807 or ssaller@comcast.net

WEST GROVE UMC CHURCH DIRECTORY: The new Church Directories are ready for you to pick up. The directories are published once a year. Be sure to pick up your copy in the lobby. Thank you.

CHURCH OFFICE: The office will be closed on Friday, December 23 at noon; closed Monday, December 26 for the full day; and closed Friday, December 30 at noon. Thank you..

FINANCE AND AD COUNCIL meetings previously scheduled for Tuesday, December 20, will meet on Wednesday, January 4, 2017



**YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY
TODAY!**

**THE LINDTNER'S HOUSE
5:30 - 7:45**

**I'LL MAKE SLOPPY JOE'S
YOU BRING A DRINK OR SNACK
OR DESSERT.**

BRING A \$5 GAG GIFT FOR A FUN YANKEE GIFT EXCHANGE

**RSVP TO JAMIE -
EMAIL: JAMIELINDTNER@GMAIL.COM
TEXT: 610-937-7932**

Church Office Holidays

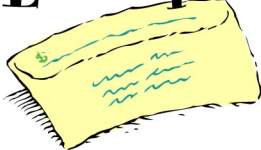
Friday, December 23 ~ office
closes at noon

Monday, December 26 ~ office
closed all day

Friday, December 30 ~ office
closes at noon

Monday, January 2 ~ office
closed all day

Offering Envelopes



2017 Giving Envelopes and Numbers

Be sure to pick up your envelope packet or your giving number card in the foyer. If your envelope packet or giving number is not available, please sign the list--it will be ready for you next week! Questions or concerns--contact Sara Ann Ramberger, Financial Secretary at 610-869-3863 or sar57ver@verizon.net.

Tena Family Donations

The Tena Family has, and will continue to incur expenses related to Fernando's kidney transplant. Maira and her husband, Baldazar, will lose considerable income over the next months. If you wish to make a donation through our Emergency Aid fund on behalf of the Tena Family, please note your intent in the memo section of your donation or on the envelope. Funds will assist the family to meet bills and other needs.



**FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE**

2016 Contributions to West Grove UMC



Contributions to be recorded on your 2016 Financial Statement must be in the church office by December 29th to be included in our final deposit for 2016. All contributions received after that date will be deposited in 2017 and be recorded on your 2017 Statement. Please contact Sara Ann Ramberger, Financial Secretary, with any concerns or questions.

God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship

Report December 11, 2016

General Offering: \$5,433.⁵⁰

Building Maintenance Fund: \$215.⁰⁰

Combined Worship Attendance: 182

Emergency Groceries YTD: 126 Bags

***It is your tithes, offerings,
and gifts that impact
and change lives for Christ!***

Moment of Impact

Christmas Cards for Inmates

Our Mission team and people all around our conference sent simple Christmas greetings to inmates around our state. These simple greetings expressed prayers and Christmas wishes to inmates who may not otherwise experience God's love and the kindness of God's people .



Worship With Us
Christmas Eve



Saturday, December 24th

12:00 p.m. ~ Wiggly, Giggly Children's Christmas Eve Service

**6:00 p.m. ~ Family Candlelight Service with Pickup Pagaent and
Memory Bells Handbell Choir**

8:30 p.m. ~ Contemporary Candlelight Service with PraiseWorks Band

**11:00 p.m. ~ Traditional Candlelight Service with Holy Communion
and Chancel Choir**

Sunday, December 25th – Christmas Day

Blended Service at 9:30 a.m.

Kids, come in your pajamas!



**Blue
Christmas**

Wednesday, December 21,

7:00 p.m.

As we prepare for Christmas, some of us might
not feel the joy of the season

Perhaps, this is a season of loss and pain – loss of loved one, loss of job,
loss of family, divorce, separation, or physical, emotional, spiritual pain.
Perhaps, the news that fills our media weighs heavily on your shoulders.
Anyone who feels that the holly and jolly of the season is not where they find
their hearts is welcome.

The service welcomes all with trust and understanding in what can be a
very painful time of the year. The service includes the lighting of candles,
meditative music, prayers, comforting scriptures, and the giving of prayer
shawls.

Join us as we offer a quiet and reflective service of light in the midst of
darkness.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle: The Candle of Hope: Faith! Justice!

Reader 1: A child is born to us, unto us a son is given! (Isaiah 9:6)

Congregation: The Christ child, Christ the King shall lead us!

Reader 2: Messiah calls us to live lives of faith and justice.

Reader 1: “The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It’s our handle on what we can’t see. The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors, set them above the crowd. By faith, we see the world called into existence by God’s word, what we see created by what we don’t see.” (adapted from Hebrews 11: 1-3)

Reader 2: The first is the candle of Patience, reminding us to watch and wait for what God is about to do. [Light the first candle – purple across from pink] The second candle of joy invites us to celebrate God’s faithfulness in song and worship. [The second candle is lighted – purple to the right of lit candle]

The third candle is the candle of perspective, enabling us to look at our lives, to get rid of all those things that keep us from God, to change our ways and love as God would have us love. Light the third candle – pink] The fourth candle is the candle of Faith through which we behold the love and mercy of God and believe in God’s presence with us.

Congregation: Come, see the light. Let its brightness fill you. Come, feel the warmth of the light. Let it give you comfort.

Reader 1: Come, draw near to the light, for it is God’s way of breaking through to you.

Reader 2: Come, rejoice in the light, for God is with us!

Please sing “Light The Advent Candle” TFWS, No. 2090, V. 4

THIS WEEK: December 18 through December 25, 2016

~~ Hours for the Church Office: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. ~~

Sunday:

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

BAPTISM SUNDAY

Children's Choir Sings

8:30 a.m.
9:45 a.m.
11:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship with the PraiseWorks Band
Faith Learning Academy: Sunday School for all ages
Traditional Worship with the Chancel Choir and
Memory Bells Handbell Choir

Youth Group Christmas Party at the Lindtner home

CMO Preschool Classes (#11, 13, 14, 15, 16)

CMO Music Program (Sanc.)

Knit Wits (#1)

Kitchen Inspection

SOS Ladies (#5)

Memory Bells Rehearsal (Sanc.)

CMO Preschool Classes (#11, 13, 14, 15, 16)

CMO Happy Birthday Jesus! (Sanc.)

Bi-Monthly Staff Meeting (#1)

Jr. Girl Scout Troop 447 (#8, 10)

Missions Meeting (#1)

Brownie Troop (#12)

Jr. Girl Scout Troop #41377 (#8, 10)

Yoga (Sanc.)

NO Finance meeting (Moved to Jan. 4)

NO Ad Council meeting (Moved to Jan. 4)

CMO Preschool (#9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)

CMO Happy Birthday Jesus! (Sanc.)

CMO Chapel Time (Sanc.)

Luther House Bible Study (Bldg. 1)

Blue Christmas Service (Sanc.)

Venture Crew Youth Meeting (#8, 10)

CMO Preschool (#9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)

CMO Chapel Time (Sanc.)

Jr. Girl Scout Troop #4317 (#12)

Choir Rehearsal (#6)

Boy Scout Troop #12 (#9, 11, 12, 13)

PraiseWorks Rehearsal (Sanc.)

Monday:

5:30 p.m.

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday:

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

4:45 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Wednesday:

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

11:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Thursday:

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

11:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

6:45 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Friday:

Church Offices closes at Noon.

10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Saturday:

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

7:15 p.m.

8:30 p.m.

11:00 p.m.

Advent Bible Study at Jenner's Pond

Daily Reflections Group (8 & 10)

Wiggly, Giggly Children's Christmas Eve Service

Family Candlelight Service with Pickup Pagaent and

Memory Bells Handbell Choir

Christmas Eve Service at Jenner's Pond

Contemporary Candlelight Service with PraiseWorks Band

Traditional Candlelight Service with Holy

Communion and Chancel Choir

Sunday:

CHRISTMAS DAY!

9:30 a.m.

Blended Worship Service (no Sunday School)

Note: Pastor Shirley is on vacation December 26 through January 2

Pastor Monica is on vacation December 27-28~ If you have pastoral needs, please contact the church office or Pastor Jim Mundell

Donna Fackler is on vacation December 29 through January 4 (The church office is open)

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Would you like to add someone to the Prayer Chain? Weekdays, please contact **Donna Fackler at the church office: office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334.** After office hours and on week-ends, please contact **Sara Ann Ramberger at sar57ver@verizon.net or 610-869-3863.** All prayer requests will remain in the bulletin for **four Sundays.** If you would like to have the prayer concern extended, **please update your request with Donna.** Thank you.

Community Prayer Focus December: Mission Possible Mission Prayer Focus in December: UMCOR

Family of Wayne Achuff
Cory Beattie (Shaub)
Joe Bonano (Hughes)
Kylee Brown (Wiwel)
Fran Bryan
Bonnie Collins (Deckard)
Jean Conklin (Pastor Jim)
Gary Cornette (Rubincan)
Shanna Cramner (Carlin)
Dee Crawford
Family of Bill Davis (Mullen)
Colin Delaney (McGinley)
Linda Eroh (Ramberger)
Tom Fagan
Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)
Richard Heacock
Carol Herb (Shiplet)
Jimmy Hunt (Kr. Boyd)
Lynn Jackson
Ruth Kuch
Rosemary MacCoun
Dave McClain
Margee Michaels
Lynn Morgan (McClain)



Bill Mowery (Shiplet)
Tim Mullen
Lola Nadolny (Hruz)
Ed O'Brien
Warren Payton (Hruz)
James Pollard (Yarbrough)
Jennifer Potter (Saller)
Ron Ritter (Chalmers)
Roann Schneider
Elaine Soutar & Family
(Mundell)
Ricky Spencer (K. Smith)
Lorrie Steele
Maureen Stickel (Fackler)
Jeannie Sullivan
Fernando Tena and family
Raymond Thompson (Adams)
Danny Tiderman (Hughes)
Zach Trexler (Lytle)
Family of Lee Wilson (Stuhrke)
Ron and Marliss Wilson
Melissa Withiam (Mullen)
Pete Zinner (Mullen)



Tom Fagan - USA (Whelan)
Allan Frost - S. Carolina (Frost)
Brian Kubo - Maryland (Mullen)
LTC Eric Maxwell,
Chesapeake, VA
(The Rambergers)
Dave Springer - Fort Bragg, NC
Jimmy Strawhecker - Kuwait
(Lynne Strawhecker)
Tyler Thompson—Kandahar,
Afghanistan (Margee Michaels)
Ed Tolmie—Afghanistan
Chris Weizman - Jordan (Miller)

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

This Sunday, December 18

Ushers—8:30 The Catoia Family
Greeters—8:30 The Catoia Family
Ushers—11:00 **OPEN**
Greeters—11:00 **OPEN**
Acolyte 8:30/11 Anna Castaldi / Matthew Rinehimer
Nursery 8:30/9:45/11 J. Lindtner/R. Catoia/A. Castaldi
C. Worship—8:30/11 Jamie Lindtner / **OPEN**
SS Roamers Maryanne Covington
Lay Reader—8:30 Carolyn Barrett
Liturgist—11:00 Vernon Ramberger
Moment All Ages Joan Leaman
Hospitality 8:30/11 The Covingtons / Scott Steele
Counters Dave Talley / Denise Byers
Sound Booth Various/K. Schneider

Next Sunday, December 25 (9:30)

The Delaneys
The Delaneys
N/A
N/A
Alisabeth Guepet
N/A
N/A
N/A
Janis Schrader
N/A
Pastor Monica
The Chalmers & Linda Peirson
Sara Ann & Vernon Ramberger
Various/K. Schneider

Meditations For Your Week

Sunday, December 18 ~ Saturday, December 25



Sunday: *"Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever" Psalm 146 :5-6. Where do you find your strength? Where do you find your help?*

Monday: *"who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free." Psalm 146: 7. Prayerfully remember those who are incarcerated this day. Pray for them and their families.*

Tuesday: *"The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin." Psalm 146:8-9. Faith and justice are intertwined. God's way is just and right. Prayerfully ask God how you can be an instrument of justice.*

Wednesday: *"The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord! Psalm 146: 10. On this longest day of year, praise God that even when you feel alone, God reigns and is with you.*

Thursday: *"Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy: 'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.'" Luke 1: 67-68. Where can you praise God today for looking favorably upon you? Where can you sing your story of redemption?*

Friday: *"He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old." Luke 1: 69-70. God promises last forever. Praise God for saving forever promises.*

Saturday: *"By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.' Luke 1: 78-79. Our light is Christ. For each light you see, give thanks to God for gift of Christ.*



Altar Flowers

The flowers gracing our altar space today are in
Celebration of Karen Underwood's birthday
With love from Linda, Kim, and Linda



8:30 Contemporary Worship Service

OPEN

***Opening Song** "Lord, I Lift Your Name On High" PraiseWorks Band

Welcome and Ministry Opportunities Pastor Monica

*Please fill out the Friendship Register on the clipboard located on a chair in your row.
First-time visitor or member, let us know you were here!*

***Celebration Set** "Do You Hear?" PraiseWorks Band
"O Come All Ye Faithful"

***Passing of the Peace**

GROW

The Lighting of the Advent Candle: The Candle of Hope: Faith! Justice!
The Youth Alumni Page 8

Advent Song "Light The Advent Candle" TFWS, No. 2090, V. 4

Children's Choir "Star of Bethlehem" Joan Leaman, Director

Moment For All Ages Joan Leaman

Old Testament Lesson *Psalm 146:5-10* Carolyn Barrett

***Gospel Lesson** *Luke 1: 67-79* Carolyn Barrett

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Sermon "Decorations to Remind" Pastor Monica

SERVE

Moment of Impact *Christmas Cards for Inmates* Pastor Monica

Offering "Hope's Sway" PraiseWorks Band

***Offertory Prayer (Unison)** Pastor Jim

Gathered Prayer Pastor Shirley

The Lord's Prayer Pastor Shirley

***Closing Song** "I Walk By Faith" PraiseWorks Band

***Benediction** Pastor Monica

***Postlude**

• = Please stand as you are able **Bold Print = Say in unison**

Page 12