

Spruce Pine United Methodist Church

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January 5th, 2020

Epiphany of the Lord Sunday

Rick Schilling, Pastor

Kathey Hollifield, Music Director

Kathy Miller, Organist

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! THE WORD "WORSHIP" COMES FROM THE OLD ENGLISH WORD FOR "WORTHY." WHEN WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD, WE ARE DECLARING THAT GOD ALONE IS "WORTHY" OF OUR LIVES AND OUR PRAISE.

GATHERING OF THE CONGREGATION TO WORSHIP

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Tim Drum

Prelude

Instrumental Ensemble

Entry of the Light of Christ

*Please use this time to focus your whole self - mind, body, and spirit -
on Worshipping God, The Father, and The Son, and the Holy Spirit*

OFFERING OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

^Song of Praise

"We Three Kings"

UMH 254

^Call to Worship

From restless sleep and anxious dreams,

Walk toward the light.

From shadowy fears and gloomy thoughts,

Walk into the light.

From deep sadness and worried futures,

Walk in the light.

All: Light shines upon us. Let the light be renewed hope and promise for us.

^Opening Prayer

With enlightened lives, let us pray together...

O God, you made of one blood all nations, and by a star in the East, revealed to all people him whose name is Emmanuel. Enable us who know your presence with us to proclaim his unsearchable riches that all may come to his light and bow down before the brightness of his rising, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

^Sharing of the Peace of Christ

“The peace of Christ be with you”

“And also with you.”

(Through the gift of Jesus Christ, we have been granted forgiveness and peace with God and with one another. As a sign and celebration of the peace we have been given, we invite you to turn to your neighbors, extend your hand, and greet/bless them with the words, “The Peace of Christ be with you.”)

Children’s Message**Children’s Change Offering**

Sharon Drum

Mitchell County SafePlace

Prayers of the People**PROCLAIMING AND HEARING GOD’S WORD****Choral Anthem**

“Look-a That Star”

Chancel Choir

^Scripture Reading*Ephesians 3:1-12 (CEB)*

CEB 1425

Proclamation of the Word

“Who We Are: Our Epiphany to Others.”

Rev. Rick Schilling

RESPONSE TO THE WORD & HOLY COMMUNION**The Apostles’ Creed (Ecumenical Version)**

UMH 882

Offering our Gifts and Praises to God**Offertory**

Aaron & Grace Buchanan

Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 95

Preparation/Prayer/The Lord’s Prayer

1 Corinthians 11

Sharing of Holy Communion

The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the following hymns during Holy Communion:

“Once in Royal David’s City” - UMH 250

“Love Came Down at Christmas” - UMH 242

“That Boy-Child of Mary” - UMH 241

^Sending Hymn

“Jesus, Thine All-Victorious Love”

UMH 422

^Benediction**^Postlude**

(CEB) denotes Common English Bible

^If able, Please Stand

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU’RE NEW HERE . . . WELCOME! We’re glad you could join us, whether you’re new to the community, new to our church, or if you might be new to this whole “church” thing altogether. We hope you won’t be nervous: it doesn’t matter who you are, what you’ve done, what you’re wearing, what you believe, or what you don’t believe – you are welcome here. You are among friends, and we hope you feel at home in this place of grace.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO CHILDREN! Parents, we are so grateful that you and your children are here to worship with us! We believe that children have much to teach us about how to receive the Kingdom of God, so please don’t worry about your kids being a distraction in worship: the sounds that children make are music to our ears, and we are genuinely grateful that they are in our midst.

CHURCH NURSERY - If it is helpful, you are welcome to leave your child with the caring and trained volunteers in our church nursery, which is located in our Sunday School hallway; or, if you prefer, you can make use of the “family room” which we set up each Sunday in the blue-carpeted foyer at the back of the sanctuary: that way your child can play and roam freely while you can relax and listen in to the service.

JANUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMIT AND HILLTOPPERS - Summit & Hilltoppers resumes tonight- 5:30-7:30 at Spruce Pine UMC.

9AM SERVICE RESUMES – Weather permitting, the 9:00 service returns today. It was wonderful to have us come together for Advent and Christmas, and now we (re)welcome the 9:00 service for 2020. We will continue the 9:00 service throughout the winter, and will adjust if needed due to adverse weather.

NEW SERMON SERIES - Beginning January 12, we will discuss some of the tough questions of life - the "Why" questions. We'll ask: Why do bad things happen if God is good? Why doesn't God answer my prayers? Why am I here (What is my purpose in life)? Why does God leave things up to us? Invite those you know who are questioning or curious. Come and ask the tough questions with us.

AD COUNCIL MEETING – Sunday, January 12th from 2 – 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL – Wednesday, January 15th at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sponsored by the Care and Fellowship Committee. This is a potluck meal.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – Thursday, January 16th at 5:00 pm in the FaithLink Classroom.

SERMONS ON VIDEO! - We have started to video record the sermons, as of December 1. The current videos are online at the SPUMC website www.sprucepineumc.org. Simply click on the tab (at the top of the screen under our logo) marked "Sermons" to view the sermons. This is still a work in progress, so thank you for bearing with technical issues, like audio and/or video troubles. We are excited for the progress, as we continue to connect with all our worshippers and members - locally and beyond!

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONTACT PERSON – Mary Robinson is the contact person for the 4th quarter and may be calling if someone is in need of food, transportation, etc. Her phone numbers are 765-6301 (H) and 385-0473 (C).

CD'S AVAILABLE IN THE WELCOME CENTER –by Grant Sparks. Proceeds will benefit the Lamplighters.

SONS OF THE SON & BRIDGE OF HOPE HOMELESS MINISTRY - Needs: coats, gloves, hats, socks, blankets, sleeping bags, tarps, food, toiletries and your prayers. Thank you & God Bless, Phil White

LEFT BEHIND IN THE HIGH COUNTRY - SUPPORT GROUP FOR SUICIDE LOSS SURVIVORS - Meets at 6:30 pm the 1st Wednesday every month in the Oak Room, Sloop Medical Offices Building, Cannon Hospital, Linville, NC. Contact Sandy at 828-467-5379 or Jane at 828-504-0155.

WE INVITE EACH FAMILY TO BRING AT LEAST ONE CAN OF FOOD EACH WEEK for the Shepherd's Staff food assistance ministry. There is a box in the Welcome Center...let's fill it each week! Please check the "Best Used Before" date on the items you donate and make sure it is more than 30 days before expiration. Thank you.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE PEW REGISTRATION PADS by the windows at the end of each pew. **Pass them to the inside** and the ushers will pick them up after they receive the offering.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE:

(If you are unable to serve on the date scheduled, please exchange dates with someone and let the church office know.)

DATE	LECTOR	CHILDREN'S TIME	GREETERS	NURSERY	PRESCHOOL
1/12	Bruce Ikard	Kathey Hollifield	Glen & Jane Devos	Sherry Sherman	Brandi Miller
1/19	Marvin Walker	Ginny Downs	Phil White / Frank Baskin	Chelsea Thayer	Tracy Deyton
1/26	Jack Riley	Beverly Greene	Jack & Carolyn Burleson	Becky Nance	Maddie Landon
2/2	Sharon Drum	Melanie Murphy	Matt & Brandy Miller	Meredith Hoilman	Emree Hoilman

OUR COMMUNITY COVENANT

When a person becomes a professing member of the body of Christ at Spruce Pine United Methodist Church, he or she covenants to participate faithfully in the ministries of the congregation and in life in the world by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness.

GENERAL PRAYERS: For all who do not know the love of God in Christ Jesus the Lord; for the well-being of our community; for local, state, national, and world leaders

SUSTAINING PRAYERS: Our homebound members (*Shirley McManus*); Brian Center & Mitchell House Residents; Staff, and Families (*Mabel Whiton*, Barbara Day); *Beth Wyatt & Reg Bezzola*; June Wilson; David Hoepfner; *Bretta Walker*; *Charles Hale*; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2020; *Sandra Woodard*; Jan Hamilton's Mother Jo (healing), Weston Stout; *Tim Hollifield*; Muffy Dayton; Marcia Murphy; Rosemary Allen (*Stan Cook's sister*); Frank Henline; Wayne Lemzoni; Jacquelyn Taylor; Trevor Higgins; Jennifer Willett (*expecting*); Rick Aldridge; Mike McKinney; Chris Dobson & family; Kathy Baker; Faye Vickers family; Marcus Wood; Charlotte Clark; college students; Susan Hoeg, Virginia, Charlie & William; those with mental health issues; Hannah Blanton; Mike Lewis; Ron & Linda Cromarty; Dori Ann (Susan C. niece); Beth's pregnancy (Dwight's sister); Lynda Briggs; Bob & Glenn (*Glenna's cousins*); Lindsey—(new

daughter); Myra Haberneck Strube; Jessie Wray; Ann Butler & family; those alone on the holidays; *Maria Walker (pet needs surgery)*; *Michela Buchanan (New baby Lily)*; Larry & Laurie Haycom; Jo & Jon Lacy; Sam & Jenell Young

FOR THOSE WHO MOURN: the family of Gene Higgins; for the family of Lloyd McKinney; family of Christine Gortney; family of Harold & Mabel Lopeman (*Nancy's father & mother*); the family of Nancy Swann; family of Elizabeth Davenport; the family of Inez McRae; family of Claire Spurr, family of Cleve Jacobs, family of Trace Magner; the family of Lori Haythorn

FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY: Wayne Hoilman; Ozzie Hernandez; Mary Woodfrey (hip); Patti Morgan; Louie Smith (*Lila Baskin's brother*); Laura Moore (back surgery); Dean (Judy's cousin, heart & kidney transplant); Mary Shannon Perdue (on kidney transplant list); *John Campbell (recovery)*; Heather Walker (back in hospital); Heather's Mom (hospital); Bud Myers (hospital); Mary Ruth Webb (waiting on kidney transplant); Catherine Andre (hip replacement); Herman Buchanan (*Aaron's dad*); Carolyn Sproles; Neil Brown (recovery); Phil White (recovery & injury); Bill (*Beth Ziemba's brother – healing*); Paul Long (Margaret Troxler's dad – hospital); David Hoepfner; Jerry Douglass (*Maria's dad, surgery 12/4*); *Beverly Greene (recovery)*

FOR THOSE WITH CANCER: Judy Rinard; Diane Meatyard; Joyce Woody; Holly (brain tumor); Larry Metcalf (liver); Chase Ambrose; Ava Hollifield; Janet Ward Slaughter; Gloria Smith (lung); Claire Spence; Peggy Grantham (bladder); Eliza Bray (4 yr. old) and family; Marcia Murphy; Danny Gortney; Gary Graham; Erin (brain cancer); Todd Fleenor; Gloria (*Susan Curtis' friend – chemo/kidney failure*); Lawrence Glenn; Mike Willis (brain tumor); Marianna Jaeger (health worsening)

FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY: Wanda McClellan (lupus); Mary Kay Thompkins (MS); Sandra Glenn; *Danna Gibson*; Allison Street; Carol Woodward; Annette McKinney (ALS); *Dwight Willet's father (meniscus)*; Janice (friend of *Beth Ziemba*); Homer Cook (*Stan's dad*); Doris (*Eva's aunt*); Jeanette Dellinger; Benny (health); Charlene (fall); Louise Weeks (rehab-pt); Jane Daniels (health); Rosemary (Elaine Percival's granddaughter – auto accident); Mr. Long – (nearing end of life); Keith Renfro (accident); David DeVos (heart attack); Libby Miller (recovery); Shane Cox (health issues); *Janet & James Ouzts (recovery)*; *Melanie Jirka (ankle)*; Emma Johnson (stroke); Dave Houser (micro stroke)

FOR SURVIVORS OF INJUSTICE, DISASTER, OR TRAGEDY: Survivors of sexual abuse/harassment; Survivors of child abuse; Separated children & families; Victims of human trafficking; Samuel Oliver Bruno family; people of Venezuela; Clement & Mary of Colombo, Sri Lanka, their family & church family at St. Anthony's; solutions to gun violence; Bahamas residents; Houston flooding victims

FOR AREA CHURCHES & MINISTRIES: Toe Valley UMC Charge (Mt. Zion - Pine Grove); Bakersville UMC, Red Hill-Deyton Bend UMC; The Newdale UMC Charge (Celo-Martin's Chapel-Windham); SPUMC (Pastor, Staff & Members); M-Y Parish Food Bank; Lamplighters Children, Families and Staff; Shepherd's Staff; Peter Constantian

FOR THOSE TRAVELING, ON MISSION, OR IN THE MILITARY: Dallas Martin (Marines); Tucker McElrath; Lindsey Potter (Army National Guard); Ben Potter (Army); Josh Swindler (Navy); Ben Smith (Army); Karen (new teacher in Istanbul); *Tim Hollifields* sister (Pakistan); for all those traveling this holiday season; *Pat Paton*

We want to join with you in prayer for your concerns and needs. Simply contact Pastor Rick or the church office and tell us about your prayer concern. Please submit names to the church office by Thursday morning to be included on the weekly list.

BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK		ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK	
10 th – Theresa Conley		7 th – Framton & Danna Gibson	
PRESENCE:		December 29 th , 2019	11:00 – 102
GIFTS	December 29 th , 2019	General Fund - \$2,542.00	Weekly budget need - \$4,583.00
		Year to Date - \$225,611.73	YTD Budget Need – \$215,401.00
		Children's Offering - \$67.32 – Comm. Asst.	Directed Donations - \$100.00
		Community Assistance - \$351.00	Shepherd's Staff Food Donations -10

The Spruce Pine UMC is thankful for a Gift to the General Fund in Memory of Barbara Henline Gouge from Eddie Gouge.

SERVICE: Thanks to those who are serving in special ways throughout the past week and today ...

Lector: Tim Drum Greeters: Joe & Lorraine Campbell Children's Time: Sharon Drum
Head Usher: Vernon Coulter Nursery: Katie Willett Preschool: Kim Ledford Offertory: Aaron & Grace Buchanan

WITNESS: SOMETIMES IN LIFE, THE UNTHINKABLE HAPPENS. PEACE IN YOUR SPIRIT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE. ALL FEELS HOPELESS. GOD SEEMS FAR AWAY. WHY DO WE FACE CHALLENGES AND STRUGGLES? FROM JANUARY 12 – FEBRUARY 2, WE WILL ASK SOME TOUGH "WHY" QUESTIONS. HOW WE RESPOND TO LIFE'S HARD QUESTIONS WITNESSES TO OUR FAITH, AND HELPS TELL GOD'S STORY TO THE WORLD.

****Next Week's Scripture – January 12, 2020****

Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 29, Acts 10:34-43, Matthew 3: 13-17; Exodus 20.7; Genesis 1.27-28; John 14.26 CEB