

**\*Indicates Congregation Standing as Able.** Hearing Aids, Large Print Bibles, Large Print Hymnals are available. If you need any of these, please see an usher or greeter. **Please silence all cell phones.**

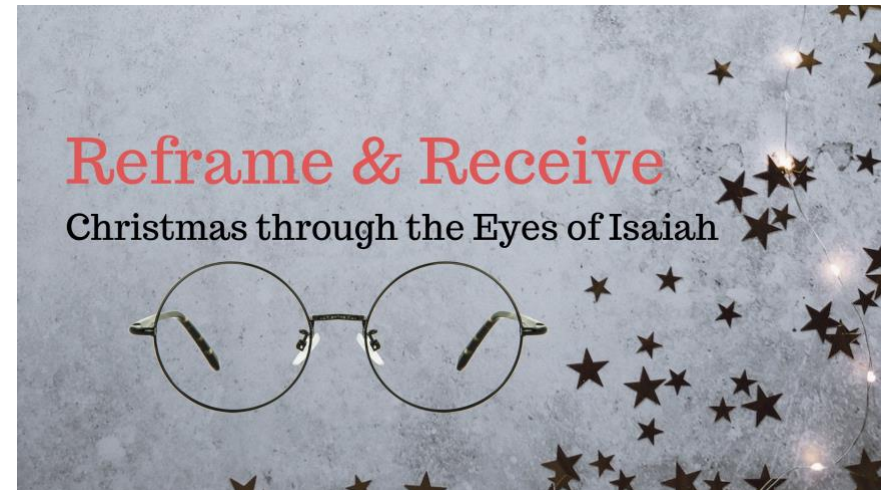
Membership in the United Methodist Church is open to all who confess Jesus Christ as Lord of their life. We recognize all former church memberships, baptisms or if you are uniting with a church family for the first time. If you desire to make Swansboro United Methodist Church your church family, please indicate so on the Connection Card provided in your pew, indicating the date and service you wish to be received. It makes a difference to have those you can call, "my church family."

Nursery available; see any of the Greeters to direct or accompany you. If your child attended Children's Church, they may be picked up in Room 125 in the lower level of Building 3.

## NOTES



*"Worship God, Love One Another, Serve the World"*



*Sunday      December 15, 2019      8:30 am*

665 W Corbett Avenue  
Swansboro, North Carolina 28584  
910-326-4822  
[www.SwansboroUMC.org](http://www.SwansboroUMC.org)

Pastor G. Kevin Baker: [pastorkevin@swansboroumc.org](mailto:pastorkevin@swansboroumc.org)  
Pastor Adam M. Barth: [pastoradam@swansboroumc.org](mailto:pastoradam@swansboroumc.org)  
Pastor Ron Gurganus: [visitationpastor@swansboroumc.org](mailto:visitationpastor@swansboroumc.org)  
Music Director: Merle Epperson: [music@swansboroumc.org](mailto:music@swansboroumc.org)  
Director of Contemporary Music: Leah Czanderna  
[beaconworship@swansboroumc.org](mailto:beaconworship@swansboroumc.org)



## Morning Worship on the Lord's Day

Gathering

Welcome

First Time Guests / Announcements and Connection Cards

Introit "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Ginger Garner & Jeff Jablonski

\*Call to Worship

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Come let us go up to the Lord's mountain so that we might receive God's good gifts!

**O come let us adore Him, who alone brings us light, hope, and life!**

\*Hymn UMH 245 "The First Noel"

\*Opening Prayer of Confession

**Coming God, you announce the advent of a new and exciting transformation where the hungry will eat their fill and the oppressed will dance in newfound freedom. We long for change in the world and our lives but confess that we find ourselves squirming as we acknowledge our participation in structures that oppress and marginalize. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we have left undone. Come into our parched world and shower us with your abundant water of life. Enter into our brokenness, and renew us with the strength of your love so that we might experience the everlasting joy that causes deserts to blossom and grieving hearts to rejoice. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

(all pray in silence)

\*Assurance of Pardon

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.**

\*Passing of the Peace

Reception of New Members

Dina Murray and Denise Baker

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 35:1-10

Lighting of Advent Candle

Signs and wonders begin to take place, and all creation begins to notice the changes. Deserts blossom, feeble knees are strengthened, eyes are opened, and good news begins to travel everywhere, even to those in prison. Today, we light this third advent candle as we join all creation in anticipating the job of God's coming reign and restoration of life.

Call to Prayer "Let There be Peace on Earth"

Ginger Garner

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

The 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.**

\*The Apostles Creed UMH 881

\*Gloria Patri UMH 71

The Children's Hymn UMH 230 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

The Children's Message

Layne Harpine

Anthem

"Cherry Tree Carol"

Finley Woolston & Ginger Garner

\*Gospel Reading Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon

"Disturbing Assurance"

Pastor Adam

Giving our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards

Offertory

"Mary Did You Know"

Ginger Garner & Jeff Jablonski

\*Doxology UMH 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God, the source of all our gifts;**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts;**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn 218 "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

\*Benediction

\*Postlude "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

Terri Boykin

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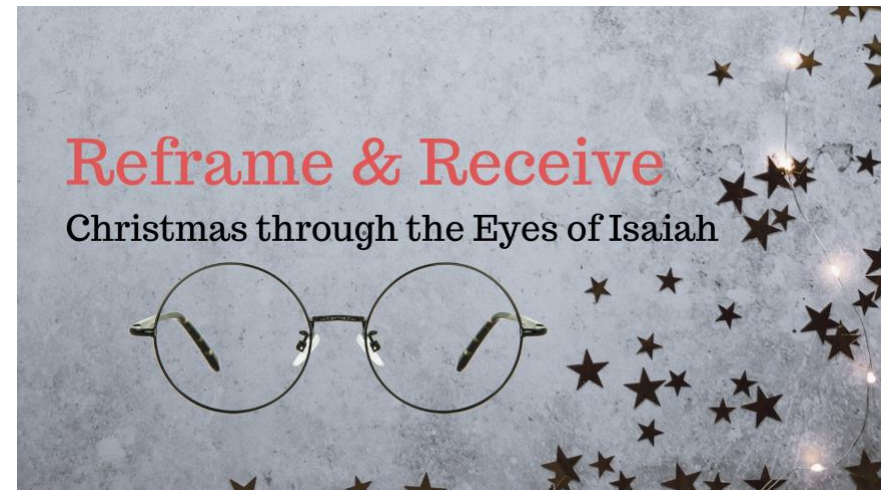
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## Morning Worship on the Lord's Day

Gathering

Welcome

First Time Guests / Announcements and Connection Cards

Introit "Away in a Manger"

UMKids Choir

\*Call to Worship

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Come let us go up to the Lord's mountain so that we might receive God's good gift!

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\*Passing of the Peace

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 35:1-10

Lighting of Advent Candle

Signs and wonders begin to take place, and all creation begins to notice the changes. Deserts blossom, feeble knees are strengthened, eyes are opened, and good news begins to travel everywhere, even to those in prison. Today, we light this third advent candle as we join all creation in anticipating the joy of God's coming reign and restoration of life.

Call to Prayer "Good King Wenceslas"

UMKids Handbell Choir

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer UMH 895

\*The Apostles Creed UMH 881

\*Gloria Patri UMH 71

The Children's Hymn UMH 230 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

The Children's Message

Layne Harpine

Anthem "Ding Dong! Merrily on High He is Born!"

Ding dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing. Ding dong! Verily the sky is riven with angel singing. Gloria. Hosanna in excelsis! He is born, the divine Christchild, play the oboe and bagpipes merrily! He is born, the divine Christchild, sing we all of the infant mild. Through long ages of the past prophets have foretold His coming! Now the time has come at last.

\*Gospel Reading Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon "Disturbing Assurance"

Pastor Kevin

Giving our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards

Offertory "Good Christian Men, Rejoice"  
Celebration

Good Christian men rejoice with heart and soul and voice! Give ye heed to what we say. Jesus Christ is born today! Man and beast before Him bow and He is in the manger now. Christ is born today. Now ye hear of endless bliss, Jesus Christ is born for this. He has opened heaven's door and man is blest forever more. Now ye need not fear the grave. Jesus Christ was born to save. Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall. Now ye need not fear the grave. Jesus Christ was born to save.

\*Doxology UMH 94

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn UMH 218 "It came Upon a Midnight Clear"

\*Benediction

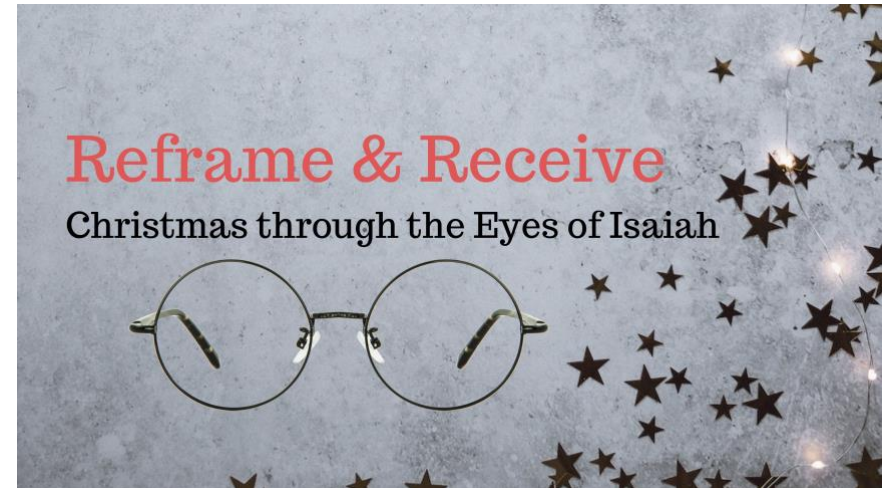
\*Choral Benediction "Gloria, In Excelsis Deo!"

\*Postlude "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"  
Terri Boykin

NOTES



*“Worship God, Love One Another, Serve the World”*



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*9:45 am and 11:15 am*

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# *Contemporary Worship*

## **Opening Song**

## **Welcome and Announcement**

### **Scripture Isaiah 35:1-10**

## **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

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## **Praise & Worship**

## **Congregation Prayer**

## **Offering and Prayer of Dedication**

### **Scripture Matthew 11:2-11**

### **Sermon “Disturbing Assurance”**

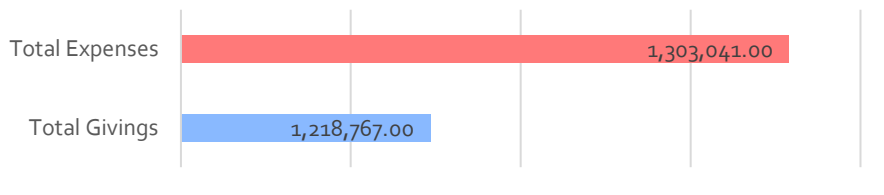
## **Song of Commitment/Sending Forth**

**Please pick up your children during the last song.**

Nursery and Sunday School available; see any of the Greeters to direct or accompany you.

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## Financial Status at a Glance Month ending - November 2019



<b>Financial</b>	<b>November Month End</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Tithing and Gift	\$ 83,490	\$ 857,955
\$20 Fellowship Fund & Building Gifts	\$ 15,289	\$ 141,682
Childcare Contribution	\$ 0	\$ 67,500
Transfer In for Parsonage Expenses, A/C Unit, and Fellowship Hall Carpet	\$ 0	\$ 47,936
Transfer From Hurricane Repair Funds	\$ 12,948	\$ 103,694
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$111,726</b>	<b>\$1,218,767</b>
<b>Less Operating Expenses:</b>	<b>\$107,506</b>	<b>\$1,136,085</b>
<b>Hurricane Repair Expense</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 103,694</b>
Net	\$ (780)	\$ (21,012)
*Apportionments not paid	\$ 0	\$ 63,262

### OUR PRESENCE

*Sunday, December 8, 2019*

**8:30 – 184 9:45 – 174 11:00 – 198 11:15 – 51**

### OUR SERVICE

#### Nursery

8:30 Susan Fulp    11:00 Tabitha Chadwick

#### Children's Church

8:30 Jeannie Guthrie    11:00 Stephanie Whitehead

#### Prayer Room

8:30 9:45 11:00 Helen Bosis

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



- **Moravian Lovefeast** is tonight at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. The service will include music by our Chancel Choir and musical accompaniment by our SUMC Instrumental Ensemble. The traditional sweetened coffee as well as the spicy-sweet Moravian buns will be served. The service will close with lighting the Moravian beeswax candles which are trimmed in red crepe paper... reminding us all that Christmas celebrates the love that Christ brought into the world and that we are "the light of the world." We extend a warm welcome to all in the community to this special seasonal observance.

- **All contributions received** in the church office by noon, Dec 31st **will be reflected on 2019 contribution statements.** Online contributions will need to be submitted no later than Dec 27, 2019. Any contributions received after this time will be reflected on the 2020 contribution statements. The church office will be open on Dec. 31st from 9-12 for anyone wanting to drop off contributions. 2019 contribution statements will be mailed by Jan. 15, 2020.

- **Starting January 2020** the church office will be closed on Fridays.

- **SUMW The 2020 Tea Among the Bible Stories** will be held in Building 3 on April 25 from 2:00-3:30. Mark your calendars and start thinking about hosting and decorating a table depicting a Bible verse of your choice. We invite all circles, individuals, and youth to participate. Please join us! We will have the building open for set-up Friday, April 24, and Saturday morning. Event coordinators are Patti Heller and Sara Bergazzi. More information to follow.

***The Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God.***

### OUR GIFTS

-In memory of Carol Prescott's friend, Evelyn given by Harold & Louise Fulp.

-In memory of Mary Bergazzi given by Carla Dean.



The season of Advent and Christmas holidays often bring joy and happiness to many, but it also means not everyone feels like being cheery, joyful, and upbeat. The season seems more like a time of despair and darkness instead of hope and light. Many are dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer, or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations that result in seasonal parties being painful instead of jovial. Many in our community are living through dark times this Christmas season, especially in the aftermath of Florence. Swansboro UMC on December 21, in the Assembly Hall of building 3, at 6:00 pm will have a Blue Christmas/Winter Solstice service. This will be a service of reflection, acceptance of where people really are, and a reiteration of the healing and hope in God; who overcomes the darkness people face. Come to reflect, recognize your pain, and know that an Almighty and Gracious God is with you!

## This Week at SUMC

### **Sunday**

8:30 am Blended Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
 9:45 am Beacon Worship Service (Assembly Hall)  
 9:45 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Traditional Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
 11:15 am Beacon Worship Service (Assembly Hall)  
 4:30 pm MOPS & MomsNext (Bldg 1, Rm 13)  
 4:30 pm Youth (Bldg 3, Youth Rooms)  
 7:30 pm Moravian Lovefeast (Sanctuary)

### **December 15, 2019**

### **Monday**

7:00 am Emmaus Reunion Group - Men (Bldg 1, Rm 27)  
 8:15 am Emmaus Reunion Group - Women (Bldg 1, Rm 29)  
 10:30 am Mission Monday (Bldg 1, Rm 10)

### **December 16, 2019**

### **Tuesday**

9:15 am Pastor's Planning Meeting (Bldg 1, Library)  
 10:00 am Church Staff Meeting (Bldg 1, Library)  
 10:00 am HandMade's (Bldg 1, Rm 29)

### **December 17, 2019**

### **Wednesday December 18, 2019**

7:15 am SUMM Bible Study (Bldg 1, Rm 13)  
 12:00 pm Advent Service & Luncheon:  
 Rev. Edgardo Colon-Emeric (Sanctuary)  
 1:30 pm Alpha Prayer Group (Bldg 1, Rm 29)  
 6:30 pm Beacon Band Rehearsal (Assembly Hall)

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

**Members:** Barbara Brown, Eleanor Cooper, Matthew Felipe, Jill Geelhard, John & Angie Hall, John Henderson, Don Henriksen, Dee Hoover, Shelton Kellum, Sheryle Kinney, Beth Lenthall, Bryant Smith, Larry Wicker (\*shut-in)

**Friends & Family:** Sara Bergazzi, Steven Butler, Gregory Davis, Tom Ericson, Ronnie Ernst, Ray Haga, Eric Hart, Bridget Marie Hodsdon, Al Kohler, Molly Mackey, Darla & Kenny Morton, Woody & Tammy Murphy, Kathy Nilsen, Deborah & Bob Nolan, Lee Orwat, Anna Rodriguez, Smith Family, Angela Ulin, Freddy Valez, Charlie Walker, Carolyn Willey,

**Deployed Military:** Jimmy Gainey, Dennis Grazios\*, Scott Harper Jr.\*, Lee Moffett, James Pidgeon III, Cooper Redfearn, Michael P. Smith, Jason Sullivan, Erik Werhner, Lance Young (\*Church Member)