

Help4Kids Snack Paks Collection

Vienna Sausage & Beanie Weenies

CAP Food Items needed this week

Cereals, Jelly, and Mac & Cheese

Doing some online shopping?

What if you could buy the things you need online and give to your church at the same time? At no cost to you or your church? CHA-CHING!



You're going, "NO WAY!" But this isn't a too-good-to-be-true type of thing. This is the UMCmarket, a shopping portal that pays a commission of 1-9 percent to your church with zero effort on your church's part and no increased costs to you. Please visit UMCmarket.org and begin your Christmas online shopping!

Missions' Christmas Project

The Missions' Christmas Project this year will benefit the Waccamaw Youth Center and Help 4 Kids. **Our goal is \$3000.** The big ticket item for WYC is a \$1000 contribution to help complete the installation of the electrical work for the new building being constructed by volunteers. In addition, we will provide movie vouchers and/ or Walmart gift cards.

For Help 4 Kids we will provide chickens, turkeys and rice for families to be able to cook their Christmas dinners at home. Please mark your checks or donations "Christmas Project" and bring to church by Sunday, December 15.

Art Show in the Commons

The Art Show in the Commons in December will be photography of **Anna Saville Levy**. The art shows are sponsored by the music ministry of FUMC to showcase talented visual artists within our church. Anyone wishing to show original artwork may call the church office to be put on the schedule.




2013 Advent Luncheons

December 2 Host: First UMC Speaker: Rev. Rhett Talbert	December 16 Host: Kingston Presbyterian Speaker: Rev. Robert Guffy
December 9 Host: First Baptist Speaker: Rev. Kyle Randle	December 23 Host: Trinity UMC Speaker: Rev. Sandra Stevens Poirel

Candlelight Advent Concerts will be presented at FUMC on Sundays in Advent at 5:00 in the sanctuary. **December 1** will be a Brass Quintet; **December 8** will be a Woodwind Quintet; and **December 15** will be a Piano Trio. Performers will be members of Long Bay Symphony and members of Long Bay Symphony Youth Orchestra. These concerts are free events.



 **Holiday Concert** on Tuesday, December 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A choral concert with **Coastal Carolina University's Choirs** conducted by Dr. Terri Sinclair. The Chancel Choir will also sing two pieces with the university choirs. **Contact CCU for tickets.**

Wednesdays at 6:30, join us for a journey, "**Walking the Road to Bethlehem**" as we prepare for the upcoming Christmas season. The study/discussion will take place in the John McCutcheon classroom on the lower level of the Education Wing. Please see Rev. Kyle for more details.

Family Ornaments: Join us in the FLC next Sunday, **December 8** at 4:00 for a time of to make Christmas ornaments for your family or friends. Tim Whitten will lead us in making handmade pottery ornaments. A common meal will follow leading up to UMYF that evening. If you have questions, please see Tim or contact him at tim.whitten@fumcconway.org



Breakfast with Santa: All families, young and old, are invited to a special breakfast on Saturday, December 14 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall with Kris Kringle, himself. Make your list and check it twice and bring it with you not naughty but nice. Pancake Breakfast and fun for all!
* Santa will be available for pictures!

You are cordially invited to attend the 17th Annual **Goldfinch-Hillcrest Christmas Luminary Candlelight Service** on Saturday, **December 7** at 5:30 p.m. Please arrive early. Come and light candles that have been placed in the cemetery and the memory of your loved one. Refreshments will be served. Collection of non-perishable foods will be at each refreshment tent for CAP.

Monday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in the FLC Senior Room: "Coffee Talk, Come Fill Your Cup!" Great time of discussion and study! See Tim Whitten for more information!



Looking for a way to connect with and serve God's people? Want to get involved being the hands and feet of Jesus? Have a gift you can share?

For more information on a variety of mission opportunities for the whole congregation—from right here in Conway to far across the globe (El Salvador, Liberia, Alabama Rural Missions). Contact Rev. Kyle or Tim if you're interested in helping or going. A meeting will be held on **Monday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the FLC.**



FUMC Wonderful Wednesdays children adopted 3 children for Christmas from Fostering Hope. The W.W. children were able to purchase most of the requested items. They needed an additional \$200 to purchase bikes for their foster children. **Thank you, thank you church family!** We received enough in donations to purchase the bikes for the foster

Prayer Concerns

Assisted Living Facilities: Emeritus: Bobbie Davis; **Conway Manor:** Edith Lewis; **Kingston:** Ruth Coy; **Colfax, NC:** Carolyn Cox; **Cornelius, NC:** Helen Wakefield; **Mt. Prospect, IL:** Faye Perrault
At Home: Jane Gore, Wallace Singleton, Bobbie Tyler, Gwen Mishoe, Diana Rodwell, Tootsie Atkins, Frankie Hart, Tommy Jordan, Irene Calhoun, Ruth Thomas.



Christian sympathy is given to the family and friends of Genair Hutchinson who passed away on Friday, November 22. Please continue to keep his family in your prayers.

Christian sympathy is also given to Patty Taylor and her family. Her father, Dillard E. Adams passed away on Sunday, November 24. Please keep Patty and her family in your prayers.

Steeple Prints

Looking for a very special and unique gift? Mary Catherine Cecil has offered prints of her drawing of FUMC's steeple with proceeds going towards the building fund. Please visit the Commons to see what layouts are available. Then place your order. Suggested donations range from \$10 to \$40 dollars.



Parsonage Open House Sunday, December 15 2:30 to 4:30

Kyle, Nancy, Jonas, and Sara cordially invite you to join us at our home as we welcome the Christmas season with a holiday open

FRUIT BASKETS...

The Sonshine Class will be selling Fruit Baskets this year and the proceeds will help support ongoing projects within our church and our community. The fruit baskets will be available for **pickup** on **Sunday December 15th** in the Fellowship Hall. Please complete the form and drop it in the offering plate or by the church office. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Small (6 qt basket w/18 pieces of fruit)-----\$13.00/ea
Large (1/2 bushel basket w/42 pieces of fruit)-----\$24.00/ea

Number of Baskets:

Small _____ X \$13.00 = \$ _____
Large _____ X \$24.00 = \$ _____
Total - \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: The Sonshine Class



Birthdays This Week

December 1: Callie Timbes

December 2: Jan Kyzer

December 3: Mary Ward

December 4: Caroline Todd, Erin Todd, Ross Fallaw
Sara Randle

December 5: Lila Myers, Bobbie Davis

December 6: Sandra Ward,

December 8: Tucker Gore, Griffin Yenicek, Kathleen McCracken



**United Methodist Women
Bazaar & Bake Sale
Saturday, December 14, 2013
9:30 to Noon**

We are seeking talents from our Church Family. Perhaps you are one of those gifted individuals who has a craft or artistic item you have made and could donate – quilted pillows, pot holders, Christmas ornaments, small framed picture, knitted or crocheted item, bird house or etc. There is always a need for baked goods and since this is the morning of the Christmas Parade individual servings sell well.

Proceeds are for mission endeavors – in our community and reaching beyond. If you are able to contribute your talents, please call **Jan Gawith** @ 347-9274 home or 843-246-5764 cell.

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First View

Images of Advent

Today begins the season of Advent, the four Sunday's leading us to Christmas. Advent is a season of hoping, waiting, yearning and preparing as reflected in the blues of the paraments dressing the pulpit and banners. But for what or whom or how are we hoping and waiting. During these four weeks, the future and the past mingle together as we celebrate the Christ who came and is yet to come. Memories, inherited through scripture and tradition, are sparked in order to feed tomorrow's hope.

Though our culture has largely forgotten Advent in our need for instant gratification, we also have forgotten what it means to wait well. In all of this waiting, God is creating desire within us. And we trust it is worth the wait. Along the way, there are few things for which we're not yet ready, because when God comes close it's almost always accompanied by surprise or scandal. The readings this morning in worship are filled with apocalyptic imagery of the end of the world, like the flood sweeping all things away, echoes from the Old Testament into the preaching of Jesus. For Christians, fear about the end always come to rest in trust in the presence of God. When all is over, at our end, is God.

The scriptures we hear today expand on and challenge our society's welcome of God arriving as only baby Jesus, for God comes as a judge and calls us into a life of justice for all, evoking both anticipation and fear. In the end, we have hope for peace as our swords are turned into plowshares, a hope for which we pray to God. As we anticipate the coming of the Messiah, take a moment to hear the connections among the readings. It is quiet likely that in the buzz of the holiday season, each of us brings a mix of patience, faith, anxiety and uncertainty.

Salvation always comes as a surprise. It's what happens when God does for us what we could never do for ourselves. So when God comes close, it is always unimaginable, yet God asks us to expect it. Let us begin to put Christ at the center of it all as we journey through Advent.