

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009

Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:47-55; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

December 21, 2009

Dear Friends:

What moving times of worship we had on Sunday. I am so grateful to all who share your gifts with us as we gather as the FUMC community of faith. Thanks to the College & Youth Singers; Bob, Tina, Christi & Cat Majors; Todd, Sarah, Amelia, Logan & Abigail Yann; Bob, Danaille, Courtney, Bobby, & Joey Gustafson; David, Leslie, Andrew, & Anne Horn, Carol Poston, the Chancel Choir, Nancy Garrison, Jeri Bozeman, Jeff Darga, Sarah Evins, John Knorr, Jim McGinley, Daniel McGinley, "The Holy Tearer's," the bus drivers/assistants, and all who work so hard to make our worship times so meaningful. All of you are appreciated!

If you missed the Adult Choirs Cantata "The Voices of Christmas," you missed a true highlight of this holy season. The instrumental music was awesome and the vocal music was amazing. Thanks to each of you for reminding us in this season the real meaning of Christmas. We can so often get caught up in the materialistic side of this season that we are too busy or too exhausted to make room in our lives for the greatest gift of the Christ Child. Your musical gift to us was a moving reminder of God's love revealed in the Babe of Bethlehem.

I hope that you have the Christmas Eve services times on your calendar, but just in case you need to be reminded here they are: 4:00 - Historic Sanctuary & Sanctuary East, 5:30 - Historic Sanctuary & Sanctuary East, 7:00 - Historic Sanctuary & Sanctuary East, 9:00 - Historic Sanctuary & 11:00 - Historic Sanctuary. The sacrament of Holy Communion will be served at all services except the 4:00 service in Sanctuary East. Music in Sanctuary East will be blended and traditional in the Historic Sanctuary. The sermon will be simulcast at all services except the 4:00 Sanctuary East service. Everyone is invited to attend one of these services and to invite others to come with you.

The Columbia District Laity Connection 2010 workshop will be on January 10 starting at 2:00 p.m. at Franklin FUMC. The purpose of this workshop is to enhance the ministry of the laity in our district. All work area chairs are invited to attend. If you have any questions or would like to reserve a place for you, please let Vona or me know. Since we are hosting this event, let's have a good representation from FUMC.

Susan, Emily and I want to thank you for the cards, gifts, calls, and every expression of love that you have shown us this holy season. It is a joy to be in ministry with you. Since this will be that last newsletter for 2009, my prayer for you is that you will have a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. As we make our way to the manger to worship the new born King we know, the best is yet to be!!! Thanks be to God!!!

Grace and Peace,

Lynn



FIRST KIDS

Start off 2010 with a servant heart. Wednesday nights provide a great opportunity to help develop the faith of our children. Come join the fun at KABAM! (**K**ids **A**dventures through **B**ible and **M**issions). We are in need of teachers and shepherds to work with the pre-K thru 1st grade group, and shepherds for the 2nd thru 6th grade group! Contact Becky Peeler at bpeeler@franklinfumc.org or Sarah Carty at scarty@franklinfumc.org to volunteer or for additional information.

For more news about Children's Ministry, check out the children's page of the church's website, www.franklinfumc.org.



FELLOWSHIP

Enjoy Freedom from Financial Stress. Use budgeting and money-saving techniques to climb out of debt, live on one income, save for a rainy day, or have the ability to give more. Learn how to stretch a dollar and also how to stretch our faith so that we are closer to God and are better able to trust and know the true source of JOY. The class, led by Cathy Danner, starts Wednesday evening on January 6 and meets in B202 from 6:30-7:15.



Alumni and graduates are invited to join a special group of students who will provide anthem music, leadership, and participation in the 11:00 pm Christmas Eve service at FUMC. We can use all kinds of talents—ushers, singers, musicians, dancers, readers, etc. Call Jennifer Scoble (794-7449) or Jim Kimmel (519-4177) for details. Join us for this wonderful hour of worship on this very special night.

Youth High School and Middle School Confirmation starts in January! Look for our Confirmation booth in December in Fellowship Hall during fellowship time or pick up materials on the 3rd floor or at www.415youth.com. To register, a signed Confirmation Covenant must be turned in for the youth. Registration ends January 3, 2010. No registrations will be accepted after that date. Questions? Contact Jacob Fasig.



Registration is now open for the youth Warmth in Winter 2010 Retreat! The retreat will be in Murfreesboro and will be an amazing weekend of worship, workshops, lectures and more. For more information, cost, and to register for the event, please go to www.415youth.com. Registration ends January 4. Contact Helen Lombardo with questions.



The Columbia District Laity Connection 2010 is a workshop to enhance lay ministry in our district. The Columbia District is 14,000 strong in laity. It is important that we know each other and multiply our effectiveness as a district. This workshop is for chairs or reps of the SPRC, Church Council, Trustees and Finance Committees in addition to all lay speakers, lay leaders, our children's workers and witness ministries representatives. The workshop will be held on Sunday, January 10 at 2:00PM at Franklin First United Methodist. Please let your pastor know that you would like to register for this workshop.

SERVICE & GENEROSITY

Travel size toothpastes, toothbrushes, combs and chap sticks (travel size soaps not needed at this time), packages of t-shirts or tube socks are needed for toiletry bags we make for our Room in the Inn guests. If you can donate any of these items, please bring them to the church office. Thanks!

Year End Charitable Giving - When planning your year-end charitable giving, remember you can make a prepaid contribution to the 2010 Capital Campaign for our North Campus Development. Mark you check "Prepaid 2010 Capital Campaign." The prepaid amount will be applied to the commitment you make to the Capital Campaign in May or June of 2010. If you have questions, please contact La Verne Sweeney, Church Business Manager, at 794-2734



Year End Contributions - Donors must deliver or mail (and postmark) checks on or by December 31, 2009, in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2009. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2010 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2009 even if the check is predated to 2009 or was actually written in 2009. However, checks that are written, mailed, and postmarked in 2009 will be deductible in 2009 even if the church does not receive them until 2010. If you are giving stock to the church as a contribution for 2009, call the Church Office, 794-2734, for instructions or to let us know that the transfer has been made. Please transfer stock two weeks prior to year-end (Dec. 15, 2009).



The Church is in need of small, CLEAN, bud vases for the flower ministry. (Large vases are not needed at this time.) Vases may be dropped off at the Church office.

If you would like to help usher at the 4:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 7:00 pm or 9:00 pm Christmas Eve services in the Historic Sanctuary, please contact Bill Piper at 496-4787.

415 Student Ministries needs a new Synergy Sunday night food coordinator for the next semester, beginning January 2010 and beyond! Meals are served from 5:30 to 6:00 pm on the third floor. If there are any closet caterers out there who want to help feed hungry teenagers on Sunday nights, contact Helen@415youth.com for more details. We need you!



FIRST FAMILY MATTERS

as of December 21, 2009

At Williamson Medical: Charlie Smithson
(Lesa Piper's dad)

At Vanderbilt: Chuck Hendry

At Centennial: Bill Farmer

Just Gone Home from the Hospital: Barry Caveness, Alex Bond, Mark Lovan, Jeff VanNoy



RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS for December 13, 2009	
Sunday School Attendance	780
Worship Attendance (4 services)	1,040
Offering this week	\$40,016
YTD Offerings	\$2,114,227
YTD Operating Budget	\$2,402,400
YTD Operating Budget Spent	\$2,054,866
Loan Balance-December 3, 2009-Activity Center	\$1,742,955
Total Principal Paid YTD-Activity Center	\$238,537
Loan Balance-2/15/09 -North Campus	\$3,815,689
Legacy of Faith Gifts this week	\$6,195
Foundation gifts	\$0
Questions? Call LaVerne Sweeney, Business Manager, 794-2734	

WEEK AT A GLANCE

2009 CALENDAR FOR

FRANKLIN FIRST UMC:

Please complete an Event Form
(available at the office or online) 2 to

4 weeks in advance to reserve
dates for all meetings and

activities. Also, if you should

change a date, day, or time

after completing the initial Event

Form you must contact Pam

with the update as all of our

publications rely on the accurate

information supplied to the office

staff and recorded on the

church calendar. Contact Pam

at the church office (794-2734)

if you have any questions.

pgarland@franklinfumc.org

www.franklinfumc.org/pdf/EOF.pdf

MONDAY, December 21

12:00 noon Youth Caroling Party, 3rd floor

TUESDAY, December 22

6:00 pm Seekers Class to Opry Mills

WEDNESDAY, December 23

8:00 am Weekly Prayer Walk, North Campus

9:15 am Disciple II Bible Study

10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group, B214

5:30 pm Chancel Handbells, Historic Sanctuary

6:30 pm FirstSong Rehearsal, Historic Sanctuary

7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Historic Sanctuary

THURSDAY, December 24

9:00 am Older Adult Fitness, Sanctuary East

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Services, Sanctuary
East and Historic Sanctuary

5:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship Services, Sanctuary
East and Historic Sanctuary

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Services, Sanctuary
East and Historic Sanctuary

9:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service, Historic
Sanctuary

11:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service, Historic
Sanctuary

FRIDAY, December 25

Christmas Day - Office closed

SATURDAY, December 26

8:00 am Rehearsal Worship Team for 9:00 Service,
Sanctuary East

8:00 am Prayer Walk, North Campus

Franklin First United Methodist Church

143 5th Ave. South • Franklin, TN 37064 • www.franklinfumc.org

Office: (615) 794-2734 • Fax: 790-4926 • Parents' Day Out/Preschool: 794-5386

9:00 and 10:30 Worship Services (Blended Worship & Traditional Worship) • 9:00 and 10:30 Sunday School

Knowing Christ | Sharing Christ | Making Disciples



MEMBERSHIP CHANGES: It's **IMPORTANT** to keep your family and contact information up to date with the church office. Please contact Debbie Miller, your Membership Secretary, at the church office (dmiller@franklinfumc.org or 794-2734) with any changes or additions (i.e. name, address, e-mail, phone, births.) Thank you!

VIDEO SCREEN ANNOUNCEMENTS: New PowerPoint presentations are loaded each Sunday morning. If you have information for the week ahead, please let John Knorr know by the Friday before. *John Knorr*, jknorr@franklinfumc.org

NEWSLETTER AND/OR BULLETIN PUBLICATION REQUESTS: The deadline for submitting information for the Mission Menu, Franklin First UMC bulletin insert, and First Things First Newsletter is **Tuesday at noon**. Please submit to: secretary@franklinfumc.org. Thank you! *Due to limited space on printed publications, an article may not be able to run more than twice—consecutively. We will do our best to accommodate each request.*

Church Staff:

Dr. A. Lynn Hill, *Senior Minister*
Rev. Vona R. Wilson, *Associate Minister*
Rev. Mark Coursey, *Minister of Evangelism & Program*
Rev. John Williams, *Minister of Visitation*
Rev. Becky Peeler, *Minister to Children*
Sarah Carty, *Asst. Director of Children's Ministry*
Jacob Fasig, *Director of Youth Ministry*
Helen Lombardo, *Associate Youth Director*
Mary Phillips, *Organist*
Jim Kimmel, *Music Director—Historic Sanctuary*
Sarah Evins, *Music Director—Sanctuary East*
John Knorr, *Music/Media Asst.*
Brenda Kessell, *Preschool Director*

Office Staff:

LaVerne Sweeney, *Business Manager*
Pam Garland, *Office Manager-Financial Secretary*
Brooke Rainey, *Communications Director*
Debbie Miller, *Membership Secretary*
Laura Lindquist, *Church Secretary*
Carmen Greenwald, *Receptionist*
Amber Wakefield, *Childcare Coordinator*
Roy Reed, *Facilities Supervisor*
Juanita Hill, Bert Miller, Sid Bradley, Jr., Arthur Polk, *Custodians*

