

**LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2009**

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; I Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

November 30, 2009

Dear Friends:

What an amazing blessing we have to be able to gather each Sunday for some incredible times of worship here at FUMC. God never ceases to take our imperfect human efforts and magnify them far beyond anything we could ever achieve on our own. If you have not been with us in awhile, Advent is a wonderful time to come back home. There is a place waiting for YOU! Thanks to Reggie & Jenny Young, Michael Drake, Roger & Judy, Thomas, Marjory and Jacob Day, the Chancel Choir, The Amazing Grace Liturgical Dance Group, Mike & Cindy, Jonathan and Olivia Bellini, Bruce, Kim, & Shanda Ciemiecki, John Knorr, Todd Yann, George McLaughlin, Keith Graves, Sarah Evins, & Glenn Atamaniuk for making our worship times so special.

We also express thanks to Michael Jones, Steve Fulton, Summer Sheldon, and Chris Turvy for setting up our Nativity Scene outside of the Historic Sanctuary. We also thank everyone for spending their Sunday afternoon decorating both the Historic Sanctuary and Sanctuary East. Both sanctuaries look beautiful and will add much to our services as we continue through the holy days of Advent making our way to Christmas to welcome the Christ Child. Thanks to Connie Clark, Sr., Connie Clark, Jr., Bill & Lulu Clark, and Cathy & Loy Hardcastle along with grandchildren and great-grandchildren for decorating our Chrismon tree in the Narthex of the Historic sanctuary. This tree is in memory of Connie's mother, Mildred Ewin, and her friend Louise White who began the Chrismon tree tradition at FUMC by making all the ornaments from 1968-1971. We are blessed by so many willing to give so much of themselves to others. All of you are appreciated.

When Jesus came among us the first time he and his family were homeless and in need of a place to stay. A kind inn keeper gave them the use of his stable. Two thousand years later there are still homeless looking for a place to stay. It will be our privilege to welcome some of these as our guests on Christmas Eve in our Room In The Inn ministry. We are in need of persons who will serve as their hosts for the night. Can you be one? If so, please contact Frances Bozeman at 599-3490. You will be glad and so will our guests for that night.

Don't forget our new small group study "Advent Conspiracy" which began on November 29. This study will help keep us focused on the real meaning of this holy season. Small groups will be offered Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Monday night. For more information or to reserve your place, please contact Mark Coursey at 794-2734. This study will make a difference in your life. I strongly encourage your participation.

Let me remind you of the Christmas Eve Worship schedule. At 4:00, 5:30, and 7:00 there will be a Blended Service with Holy Communion in Sanctuary East and a Traditional Service with Holy Communion in the Historic Sanctuary. Then at 9:00 and 11:00 there will be a Traditional Service with Holy Communion in the Historic Sanctuary. I hope to see you at one of these services. It is a wonderful time to invite those we know who do not have a church home to come with us. "O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord."

There is much to do in these days of Advent and Christmas, but let us not get so busy that we miss the priceless gift of the Christ Child given to us. If this Gift stays the focus of all that we do then we will know, the best is yet to be!!! Thanks be to God!!!

Grace and Peace,

A. Lynn Hill

## FIRST KIDS

**Calling all 3rd Graders!!** There will be a December SonShine Kids Club Meeting on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at 4:30 pm in A210. All 3rd graders are invited to the next SonShine Kids event to benefit Room in the Inn! Every Thursday night from November to March, our church provides 12 homeless people with a meal, a place to spend the night, and breakfast the next morning. We will meet to learn more about the Room in the Inn ministry, make special gifts for the guests, and help set up the beds and the tables along with the adult Sunday School that is hosting for the evening. The SonShine Kids have also been asked for donations of travel size lotion, toothpaste, and toothbrushes and packs of disposable razors because these supplies are used most often by the Room in the Inn guests. Parent help is needed before and/or during the event. Please contact Camille O'Donnell to RSVP or for more information at 661-6215 or [camilleodonnell@comcast.net](mailto:camilleodonnell@comcast.net).



## FELLOWSHIP

The Evangelism Ministry Team is sponsoring a Newcomers Lunch and Orientation class on Sunday, December 13 in the Fellowship Hall from 11:45 - 1:45. A meal will be served at 11:45 and a program for adults and a separate program for children will begin around 12:30. The Nursery will also be open following the meal for children ages three and under. Please contact the church office to make a reservation @ 794-2734, or sign up on the Mission Menu. When making your reservation, please let us know the number and ages of your children. The purpose of the class is to share the story of First United Methodist, discover how to get connected to the ministries of the church, understand how to “live out” the membership vows and share information about joining our congregation. The Newcomers’ Lunch and Orientation class, offered every other month, is required for church membership.

*For more news about Children’s Ministry, check out the children’s page of the church’s website, [www.franklinfumc.org](http://www.franklinfumc.org).*

**The Primetimer's** will meet on Tuesday, December 8 at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall for their Christmas dinner. A dinner of ham, sweet potato casserole, green beans, Christmas crunch salad, rolls and cherry crunch dessert is being prepared by Anita Pringle. Cost is \$6.00. Sign up on this week's Mission Menu or call the church office by noon, December 4. Entertainment will be provided by the FHS jazz ensemble and the FHS chorus.



**An Invitation** — You're invited to join the adult choirs of FUMC for the preparation of the Christmas Vespers

musical, 'The Voices of Christmas.' Rehearsals take place on Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm in the Historic Sanctuary. We'd love to make it the best Christmas Vespers ever. Please come and enjoy the music of the seasons. Contact Jim Kimmel at 519-4177 with questions.

**The Dining Out Group** will go to Chef Paul's, located at 4091 Mallory Lane, on Tuesday, December 1 at 5:30 for their November/December meal. Sign up on the mission Menu. Call Kitty Pingston for more information at 791-0898.

**Hold the Date!! Tuesday, December 2**, pastors and laity are invited to attend a special gathering in order to discern God's call in how to continue Christ's ministry of supporting programs offering HIV/AIDS education, prevention, and care services in the United States and around the world. This event will be led by Dr. Donald W. Messer, Chair of the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Committee. The event takes place at the United Methodist Publishing House at 1:00 pm.

**The UMW Sisters Circle** will meet at the home of Dennie Pickard on Monday evening, December 7 from 6:30-8:00 pm. It will be a potluck event with a special UMW Christmas program. Please bring a teen gift to donate to the 61st Avenue Last Minute Toy Store. Call Kay Matthews at 790-6579 or email Dennie at [pickdmp@aol.com](mailto:pickdmp@aol.com) for more information. All women are invited.



**You are cordially invited to attend** the Stephen Minister Open House on December 1 at 7:00 pm. Learn how you can be a part of Stephen Ministry and God's love in action. Join us for food and fellowship in the youth café (3rd floor) of the education building. Hear from practicing Stephen Ministers as they share the impact of this vital church ministry in their own lives. For more information, contact Vona Wilson at 794-2734 or Cindy Hood at 794-0212.



**This year our church will be hosting** a Christmas party for the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division and their families prior to their deployment to Afghanistan. Santa will pass out gifts to the children with dinner provided. If you're attending Dickens of a Christmas on December 12 at 6:00 pm, come in and wish these families your best.

**On December 6 at 11:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall there will be a Christmas luncheon honoring the Daly Thompson Class, given by the Good News Class.

## **SERVICE & GENEROSITY**

**Volunteers are needed to spend the night** at the church with our Room in the Inn guests on Thursday night, December 10 and Thursday night, December 24. Contact Frances Bozeman at [francesbozeman@yahoo.com](mailto:francesbozeman@yahoo.com) or 599-3490 if available.

**Our partner church, 61st Avenue UMC,** needs our help once again for the Last Minute Toy Store, Friday, December 18 thru Monday, December 21. Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks. Also, new unwrapped toys and gifts are needed, especially for ages 0-4 and for teens. To volunteer or to deliver gifts, please call 61st Avenue UMC at 292-7184. For more information, please visit [www.lastminutetoystore.com](http://www.lastminutetoystore.com).

**Thanks to all who participated in the Blood Drive** for the American Red Cross. Together, we contributed 41 units of blood during a critical time of need. THANK YOU. Mark your calendars for our next blood drive on May 9, 2010.

## FIRST FAMILY MATTERS

as of November 30, 2009

**At NHC:** Evelyn Miller, Ed Ladd

**Just Gone Home from the Hospital:** Don Wingfield

**Condolences to** Doris Henderson and family on the death of her son, Jack Edward Camp, on November 21, 2009.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE MENU  
December 2, 2009

Herbed Baked Chicken, Seasoned Green Beans, Buttered Corn, Strawberry Short Cake, Rolls, Salad Bar

### RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS for NOVEMBER 22, 2009

Sunday School Attendance	728
Worship Attendance (4 services)	864
Offering this week	\$56,092
YTD Offerings	\$1,981,665
YTD Operating Budget	\$2,258,256
YTD Operating Budget Spent	\$1,943,170
Loan Balance-October 2, 2009-Activity Center	\$1,766,355
Total Principal Paid YTD-Activity Center	\$215,137
Loan Balance-2/15/09 -North Campus	\$3,815,689
Legacy of Faith Gifts this week	\$14,347
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](mailto:pgarland@franklinfumc.org)  
[www.franklinfumc.org/pdf/EOF.pdf](http://www.franklinfumc.org/pdf/EOF.pdf)

### MONDAY, November 30

6:30 pm Advent Study, B214

### TUESDAY, December 1

6:00 am Men of Momentum, Café  
7:00 am Women's Bible Study, B101  
9:00 am Older Adult Fitness, Sanctuary East  
10:00 am Women's Bible Study, B101  
7:00 pm Stephen Ministry, 3rd floor

### WEDNESDAY, December 2

8:00 am Weekly Prayer Walk, North Campus  
9:15 am Disciple II Bible Study  
10:00 am Prayer Shawl Group, B214  
5:00 pm Cherub Disciple Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary East  
5:30 pm Chancel Handbells, Historic Sanctuary  
6:15 pm Cherub Disciples Choir, B209  
6:15 pm Claim His Name Music Ensemble, B101  
6:15 pm Heavenly Sonshine Choir, A208  
6:15 pm KA-BAM, A202, A205, A206  
6:15 pm Disciple V—Jesus in the Gospels, B205  
6:30 pm Disciple I, B201, B203  
6:30 pm Disciple IV, B214  
6:30 pm WNL Foundations, Middle School, A301  
6:30 pm WNL Foundations, High School, A303  
6:30 pm Advent Study, B204  
6:30 pm Men's Bible Study, B202  
6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study, A210  
6:30 pm Women's Bible Study, B211, B212  
6:30 pm FirstSong Rehearsal, Historic Sanctuary  
7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Historic Sanctuary

### THURSDAY, December 3

9:00 am Older Adult Fitness, Sanctuary East  
6:00 pm Building Committee Meeting, B101

### SATURDAY, December 5

6:30 am Franklin Civitan Pancake Breakfast, Fellowship Hall  
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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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*

