



KIMBALL COMMUNICATOR

Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church

101 Vance St. Kannapolis, NC 28081

Online at: www.kimballchurch.org

Phone 704-933-4101



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FROM THE PASTOR..... *This Is No Lullaby!*

I confess to loving the “old” hymns that I grew up with at my home church in Rockingham. But our two worship services and our hymnals, give me many newer hymns that are also able to powerfully convey God’s love and grace to me. One of those hymns is “The Cantic of the Turning” based on the Magnificat from Luke’s Gospel.

Although the Gospel of Luke begins with the narrative of Jesus’ birth, do not be misled. The first two chapters are more than a sentimental story about a baby or some collection of songs sung by an aging priest, Zechariah, and a young mother, Mary. Her canticle – the Magnificat – is a song of freedom and hope, as well as one of joy and celebration. As a prophet to the poor, Mary sings a song of liberation that envisions a transformed social order – where the lost are found, the stranger and enemy are called neighbor, the last are first, the unnamed are named, the rejected are honored and the poor and the hungry are filled with good things.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant...he has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty (St. Luke 1:46-48, 51-53).

In December of 1985, the apartheid government in Pretoria, South Africa, banned the lighting of candles and the singing of Christmas carols in the vast ghetto of Soweto. They knew that Mary’s song represents more than a sweet Christmas carol. It is certainly no lullaby! It is a raucous, defiant chant toward a world that can be oppressive and harsh, but a world that is still under God’s sovereign control. And it is a world that is changing!

I preached a few weeks ago about the world changing – this year, and since Covid, in ways many of us could never have imagined. And change – whether we perceive it for good or ill – is NEVER easy. Isn’t it good to know that amid all the changes and chances of this life, God is still in control and that His Will is being worked out in our world? May we trust God’s loving goodness and care in this Holiday Season, and in all the seasons of our life.

Merry Christmas...and may God’s Peace and Love be with each of us in this coming year of 2026.

Peace and Love,



8:30 am
Contemporary

11:00 am
Traditional

Online On YouTube

STAFF

Reverend John Futterer,
Senior Pastor

Liz Fisher, *Deacon*

Keith Sutton,
Parish Administrator

Brian Sevison,
Music Director

Howard Bentley,
Treasurer

Rev. Dr. David R. Keck,
Pastor Emeritus



Faith Formation

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE TABLE CLASS

You are invited to the Table Sunday School class as we explore our faith in a relaxed atmosphere. We meet in the far left corner upstairs in the education wing at 10:00 am.

THE JOE GRIBBLE CLASS

The Joe Gribble Sunday School class meets every Sunday in the Joe Gribble Classroom in the educational wing at 10:00 am.



December at Kimball Memorial

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given...”
— Isaiah 9:6



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

5:00–8:00 PM | Parent’s Night Out

8:00 pm–9:00 am | HS/MS Lock-In

Parents, enjoy a quiet night out (or maybe just a nap!) while our youth and leaders host a fun evening of games, crafts, and pizza for the younger kids! Once the little ones head home, the fun continues with an overnight High School & Middle School Lock-In. Expect late-night laughter, devotion time, snacks, and maybe even a few rounds of hide-and-seek in the dark.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Middle School Confirmation & Lunch

12:15 pm | First Lutheran, Albemarle

Our middle school confirmation students will gather with our friends at First Lutheran in Albemarle for a time of learning, fellowship, and food! These shared experiences help our youth see that the Church is much bigger than one building — it’s the whole Body of Christ.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

HS/MS Progressive Dinner & Gift Exchange

5:00–8:00 pm

Get ready for one of our most beloved Christmas traditions! We’ll travel from house to house, enjoying appetizers, dinner, and dessert at different host homes — with plenty of laughs (and maybe some Christmas karaoke) along the way. We’ll finish the night back at church for a White Elephant Gift Exchange — \$10 limit and maximum silliness encouraged!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

Kimball Lutheran Christmas Program

5:00 pm | Kimball Sanctuary

Join us as our children and youth present the Kimball Lutheran Christmas Program! This is always a joyful celebration of the season — full of smiles, scripture, and the sweet voices of our youngest members. Come early to grab a good seat and celebrate the true reason for the season!



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

HS/MS Lunch & Movie

12:00–3:00 pm

Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church

Before we ring in the New Year, we’ll gather for lunch and a movie day at church! A relaxing afternoon to unwind, share some popcorn, and look back on an amazing year of faith, fun, and friendship together.



JOY GROUP CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

2026 PLANNING MEETING

Thursday, December 11 | 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church

Our JOY (Just Older Youth) Group will gather for a Catered Christmas Luncheon at the church on Thursday, December 11th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Come hungry and ready to enjoy delicious food, great fellowship, and plenty of laughter as we celebrate the season together!

Please bring a \$5 gift to exchange — something fun, festive, or downright silly! (The more creative, the better!) We’ll also take a few minutes to dream and plan for our 2026 JOY Group calendar. Bring your ideas for outings, guest speakers, and special events — we’d love your input to make next year the best yet!



Our Worship Schedule for December is printed below. We'll keep you posted each week via phone trees, websites, bulletins, and Facebook...but here is a schedule you can refer to during the month:

- ◆ **December 7th, 14th, and 21st** – regular morning worship services at 8:30 & 11:00, with Sunday School for adults and Christmas Pageant practice for our children between the services.
- ◆ **Wednesday Night December 24th** – Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services at 5:00 pm (Family Service) and 11:00 pm (Special music for the season begins at 10:30 pm)
- ◆ **December 28th** – One morning service at 10:00 am. No Sunday School on this morning.
- ◆ **January 4th, 2026** – Regular Worship Services at 8:30 & 11:00, with Sunday School between Services. Faith Formation for Children resumes January 25th

We hope that all of our worship services are meaningful in these seasons of Advent and Christmas. If you have any questions about the schedules, please contact the Church Office. We'll look forward to seeing you in this Special Season!



Time, Talent and Treasure

TIME AND TALENT FORMS

Time and Talent Forms will be in the bulletin during the four Sundays of December. Please prayerfully consider how God may be calling you to serve at Kimball Memorial during the upcoming year. Completing the forms helps in scheduling and makes sure that we utilize your gifts in ministry. Thank you!



COMMITMENT CARDS

If you have not yet turned in your Commitment Card for 2026, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. Additional cards are available each Sunday from the Ushers or from the Church Office. **THANK YOU** for your support of Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church!

2026 FLOWER CALENDAR

The Flower Calendar for 2026 is up in the narthex for your use. Please use the chart to reserve flowers on Sundays for the upcoming year. Thank you!

WINTER WEATHER POLICY AT KIMBALL MEMORIAL



Please remember that in the case of snow and ice on Sunday mornings, we will make a decision as early as possible regarding the cancellation of morning worship. This information will be sent out on our Phone Tree, posted to Kimball's Facebook Page and Website, AND included on weather cancellations at WSOC – TV (Channel 9) in Charlotte. Please use your own good judgment before venturing out on "bad weather"



ANGEL TREE

We are excited to let you know that our Angel Tree is ready! This year, our Angel Tree will be done using Sign Up Genius. We will have the link available on the Church Website, announcements, and Facebook.

If you want an angel, but cannot access the sign-up website, please call the church office or Melissa Little (704) 320-6625 (after 5:00 pm) and she will assist you in signing up. Currently there are 31 angels but additional angels will be added soon.

Please return all gifts on or before **Thursday, December 4th**. See our website for more details.



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

DATE	COUPLE	YRS
12/02	Darian and Heather MILLER	8
12/04	Samantha and Darrell HELMS	4
12/07	Roger and Sharon SIZEMORE	7
12/11	Bryana and Garrett MCDONALD	4
12/14	Ben and Whitney HESLEY	12
12/19	Randy and Shannon RIGSBY	5
12/27	Ryan and Kara HARDISTER	17
12/29	Megan and Phillip KRATZCH	2
12/31	Jeff and Lelit POOLE	10

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

CAREMOOR Aileen Triage

MORNINGSIDE Betty Shaver

AVANTE OF CONCORD Dianne Marlin

PRAYER REQUESTS

MILITARY

- Rajeem Baptist (Washington)
- Robert Busted, Jr. (Virginia)
- Christopher Bame (Georgia)
- Sinatra Dreisbach (Nevada)
- Mason Hott (Georgia)
- Ben Kirchner (Georgia)
- Chris Kirchner (Missouri)
- Preston Mays (Maryland)
- Chris Overcash (North Carolina)
- Andrew Smith (Arizona)

KIMBALL MEMBERS

Sylvia Anderson, Robin Ballard, Rev. Susan Bame, Jerry and Pat Beam, Sherri Bennett, Howard and Diana Bentley, Silvia Binnon, Mickey and Paula Brande, Allen Brantley, Brad Brothers, Sharon and Doug Brothers, Florence Calandra, Lisa and Eddie Dunlow, Betsy Ellington-Boynton, Teresa Erwin, Shelly and Ava Farris, Liz Fisher, Sudie Foil, Pastor John and Anne Futterer, Fran and Keith Garver, John Glass, Todd Haley, Sarah Harmon, Susan and Jim Harris, Prebble Henrickson, Kathy and Mike Hunter, Tim and Huyla Jackson, Sherry Johnson, Eric and Jenny Jones, Tony and Paula Lippard, Steve and Peggy Lynch, Ed MacTaggart, Grace Marcus, Dianne Marlin, Sherri Matheny, Margaret McCombs, Miller Family, Pat Moser, Betty Ritchie, Blake Robinson, Lisa Robinson, Kip Russell, Juanene Savage, Kathy Scott, Betty Shaver, Roger Sizemore, David Sloan and Family, Mary Jo Snipes and Family, Bob and Jean Tatarka, David and Donna Taylor, Sarah Teumer, Debbie Troutman

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/01	Ligia LARSEN
12/02	Lisa STIREWALT
12/03	Georgann SAPP
12/05	Brian VOELKER
12/06	Zoya POLZIN
12/07	Hannah WIETHORN
12/11	Keith GARVER
12/15	Jim HARRIS
12/16	Susan BAME / Graham BENNET Steve LYNCH / Tanner SMALL
12/18	Helenita BELL
12/19	Preston MAYS
12/20	Bob HILL / Blake ROBINSON
12/25	Ryan HARDISTER
12/26	Jon STANWICK
12/28	Sydney BRADFORD / Charlie BUTTNER Nathan CARPENTER
12/30	Jerry BEAM / Knox CHRISTENSON

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



NOVEMBER 30 INFORMATIONAL MEETING 10:00 Combined Service

1. Council Nominating Committee report of nominees for church council.
 - Mary Lee Blackwelder
 - Sydney Bradford
 - Paula Brande
 - Emily Clamser
 - Kara Hardister
 - Melissa Little
 - Sally Peterson
 - Rob Roginski
2. Opportunity for additional nominations from the floor.
3. Distribution of the 2026 Budget for Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church.

DECEMBER 14 ANNUAL MEETING 10:00 am between services

1. Vote on nominations for Council
2. Approve the 2026 Budget.

DECEMBER SUNDAY MINISTERS

8:30	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	Communion Helper	SOUND	PROJECTION
7-Dec	Mary Lee Blackwelder	Ava Ramsey	Charlie Miller	TBD	Patrick Little	Nathan Carpenter
14-Dec	Lisa Robinson	Donna Taylor	Skylar Kempf	TBD	Jack Smith	Gus Miller
21-Dec	David Sloan	Tim Patterson	TJ Black	TBD	Andy Robinson	Andy Robinson

11:00	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	Communion Helper	SOUND	PROJECTION
7-Dec	Kim Kane	Michele Nichols	Maydin Kolheimer	Isalah Gregory	Gavin Carpenter	Gracie Matheny
14-Dec	Bob Boynton	Lindsay Daugherty	Lucas & Liam Hesley	TBD	TR Roland	Leam Neely
21-Dec	Huyia Jackson	Jerrold Smith	Karly Stanwick	Emma Messenger	Harrison Woodie	Gavin Carpenter

	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	Communion Helper	SOUND	PROJECTION
12/24/2025 5:00 pm			Anniston / Blaine Wheatley	Anniston / Blaine Wheatley	Rick Teumer	Nathan Carpenter
12/24/2025 11:00 pm			Liza Jane Lee	TBD	Gavin Carpenter	Nathan Carpenter
12/28/2025 10:00 am	Diana Bentley	Liz Fisher	Usher	TBD	Colby Miller	Gus Miller

	3-Dec	10-Dec	17-Dec
Wednesday Bible Study	Pastor John	Deacon Liz	Pastor Joe

FLOWER CALENDAR	
7-Dec	Hott
14-Dec	Hesley
21-Dec	Wiethorn
24-Dec	Liz Fisher
28-Dec	Bradford

	8:30	11:00
Greeters	Frankie Bogutsky/ Tammy Stearns	Tom Ramseur/ Joyce Mallernee
Council Assistants	Rick Teumer/ Todd Haley	Bob Boynton/ Bob Hill
Healing Prayer	Debbie Troutman	Anne Futterer
Communion Prep	Debbie & Jessica Troutman	Tony Lippard / Kathy Hunter
Tellers	David & Donna Taylor	
Slide Prep		Amy Black

OPERATION CHRISTMAS COOKIE

The moment has arrived to start gearing up for Operation Christmas Cookie, a heartwarming initiative where we share festive cookies with firefighters, police officers, first responders, and businesses working on Christmas Eve and Day.

We are looking for individuals to bake cookies or bring store-bought ones to the church for packaging on Tuesday, December 23rd, at 10:00 am. We also need help delivering them to various locations on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. This is a truly fulfilling opportunity to share Christ's love with those who have to work during the holiday season. We hope you will join us in this important Christmas tradition.



CHURCH COUNCIL



The Spring session of Faith Formation will kick off in January. There are several roles available for you to volunteer as a Bible Lesson Teacher, Craft Activity Leader, Support Volunteer, or Middle/High School Teacher. You can choose to sign up for one Sunday or multiple Sundays. All materials and lesson plans will be provided before the date you signed up for. The sign up link is available on the Kimball Facebook page. If you need assistance with signing up or have questions about the different roles, please reach out to Hannah Wiethorn or Deacon Liz.

The High School and Middle School youth will host a parent's night out on Friday, December 5th from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The cost is \$20 for 1 child and \$10 for each additional child.

The Children's Christmas Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 21st at 5 pm. Please come out and support the children as they bring the Christmas Story to life.

There will be an important Congregational Meeting in between the early service and late service on Sunday, December 14th. The meeting is to vote on new Council members and the 2026 Budget. It will begin at 10 am. It is very important that we have a quorum of 77 confirmed members to have the vote.

The Council is actively researching Hearing Assistance Systems to be used during worship service. We should have a solution in the coming weeks.

The general fund offerings for the month of October were \$39,885 against a budget of \$42,916 which created an income deficit for the month of \$3,031.

Thank you for your continued support of Kimball and all of our ministries.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

It's with great joy that we welcomed the following new members in November:

Tim and Lynette Hemler joined us by Profession of Faith. They are both natives of Pennsylvania, growing up in Catasauqua, a borough in Lehigh County. They both grew up Lutheran (although in different congregations) and moved to this area 30+ years ago. They have a grown son who is an officer in the United States Marine Corps. Tim is in Sales and Marketing with Acosta, while Lynette works as a Vice-President in Regulatory Compliance with Wells Fargo. They both enjoy following and watching the Panthers; while Tim enjoys motorcycles and the guitar and Lynette loves walking and travel. They are at home at 1706 Mooreland Wood Trace in Concord (704-491-5967) lynkhemler@gmail.com and were sponsored by Rob and Kathy Roginski.

Adriana Gayle Mazarro joined us via Holy Baptism. Addy is an eighth grader at Northwest Cabarrus Middle School. She is active in the Middle School Band, Gymnastics and Confirmation Classes at Kimball Memorial. She was sponsored by her family and the Schmitt family of our Church. Addy is at home at 216 Cliffside Drive in Kannapolis (704-425-0928).

Children's Christmas Program

The Children's Christmas Program will be on December 21st at 5:00 pm. Everyone is invited. Children of all ages are needed to participate. Practices will be during Faith Formation on the following Sundays: Dec. 7, 14.

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Contemporary 7:30p Chancel Choir	4 5:00p Samaritan's Table	5 5:00 – 8:00p Parent's Night Out 8:00p – 9:00a HS/MS Lock-in	6
Advent 2 8:30a Contemporary Worship 9:30a Youth Parent Meeting 10:00a Christmas Prog. Practice 10:00a Adult/ HS/MS Sun School 11:00a Traditional Worship 12:15p Handbells	8	9	10 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Contemporary 7:30p Chancel Choir	11 11:30a JOY Lunch 5:00p Samaritan's Table	12	13
Advent 3 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Christmas Prog. Practice 10:00a Congregational Meeting 11:00a Traditional Worship 12:15p Handbells 12:15p Confirmation & Lunch 5:00 – 8:00p HS/MS Progressive Dinner	15	16 10:00a Bingo- Coltrane Life Center 7:00p Church Council	17 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Contemporary 7:30p Chancel Choir	18 11:00a Preschool Christmas Party 5:00p Samaritan's Table	19 Treat Bag Assembly 12:00p – 5:00p Vet Clinic	20 9:00a Treat Bag Assembly 10:00a – 2:00p Vet Clinic
Advent 4 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Christmas Prog. Practice 10:00a Adult/ HS/MS Sun School 11:00a Traditional Worship 12:15p Handbells 5:00p Children's Christmas Play	22 10:30-11:30a Senior Food Program Distribution	23 10:00a Operation Christmas Cookie Packing	Christmas Eve 24 5:00p Family Worship 10:30p Special Music 11:00p Christmas Eve Worship	Christmas 25  Church Office Closed	26 Church Office Closed	27
Christmas 1 10:00a Combined Worship Confirmation	29 Church Office Closed	30 12:00 – 3:00p HS/MS Lunch & Movie	New Year's Eve 31	1 Church Office Closed		

PIEDMONT CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENTS
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR JOSEPH JUDGE

Christmas TIME IS HERE

Enjoy an enchanting hour of holiday choral favorites and timeless classics performed by our vibrant 80-voice choir with orchestra.

DECEMBER 5, 2025 AT 7:00PM
DECEMBER 7, 2025 AT 3:00PM

FREE EVENT
NO TICKETS REQUIRED
DONATIONS WELCOME!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
200 BRANCHVIEW DRIVE SE
CONCORD, NC

piedmontchoralsociety.org
pcskoncordnc@gmail.com / 704.699.6053

THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY A GRANT FROM THE GRASSROOTS ARTS PROGRAM OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ARTS COUNCIL AND THE CABARRUS ARTS COUNCIL.

North Carolina Arts Council 

Kimball Members: Bob Boynton, Matthew Bradford, Nick & Sabrina Bronson

PIEDMONT PLAYERS THEATRE
PRESENTS

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

THE MUSICAL

DECEMBER 5-14, 2025

MERONEY THEATER
213 S MAIN ST.
SALISBURY, NC 28144

ADULTS \$25
SENIORS / STUDENTS \$23

TICKETS at (704) 633-5471 or PIEDMONTPLAYERS.COM

SCAN FOR TICKETS


Skyla Louise Hardister, angel and member of ensemble



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