



# KIMBALL COMMUNICATOR

Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church

101 Vance Ave. Kannapolis, NC 28081

Online at: [www.kimballchurch.org](http://www.kimballchurch.org) Phone 704-933-4101

Office Hours: Mon. - Thur. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Fri. 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

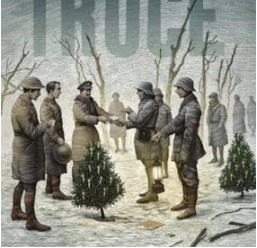


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Christmas of 1914

## From the Pastor... The Christmas Truce



One hundred and ten years ago, on the first Christmas Day of World War I, British and German troops put down their guns and celebrated peacefully together in the no-man's land between the trenches. The war, briefly, came to a halt.

In some places, festivities began when German troops lit candles on Christmas trees on their parapets so the British sentries a few hundred yards away could see them. Elsewhere, the British acted first, starting bonfires and letting off rockets.

Pvt. Oswald Tilley of the London Rifle Brigade wrote to his parents: "Just you think that while you were eating your turkey, I was out talking and shaking hands with the very men I had been trying to kill a few hours before!! It was astounding."

Both armies had received lots of comforts from home and felt generous and well-disposed toward their enemies in the first winter of the war, before the vast battles of attrition began in 1915, eventually claiming 10 million lives.

All along the line that Christmas Day, soldiers found their enemies were much like them, and began asking why they should be trying to kill each other. The generals were shocked. High Command diaries and statements express anxiety that if that sort of thing spread it could sap the troops' will to fight.

The soldiers in khaki and gray sang carols to each other, exchanged gifts of tobacco, jam, sausage, chocolate and liquor, traded names and addresses and played soccer between the shell holes and barbed wire. They even paid mutual trench visits. This day is called the "most famous truce in military history" by British television producer Malcolm Brown and researcher Shirley Seaton in their book, "Christmas Truce".

Sadly, here at Christmas 2024, our world is still wracked with violence and bloodshed during the holiest time of the year. Let it be our prayer in this season of Peace and Goodwill that soon and very soon, God's children will lay down their weapons and anger...and practice war no more. The words of the old Lutheran Prayer are certainly appropriate:

*"Merciful God, grant that the spirit of Jesus may dwell and reign in our hearts, that we may enjoy your peace and know the power of your Spirit, bearing witness with our lives that we are indeed your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.*

Peace and love,

Pastor John

## SERVICE TIMES

COME AND WORSHIP WITH US

**8:30 am**  
**Contemporary**

**11:00 am**  
**Traditional**

**Online On YouTube**  
[@kimballethurch6062](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkimballethurch6062)

## STAFF

Reverend John Futterer,  
Senior Pastor

Liz Fisher, Deacon

Keith Sutton,  
Parish Administrator

Brian Sevison,  
Music Director

Rev. Dr. David R. Keck,  
Pastor Emeritus

# Advent and Christmas Service Schedule



## DECEMBER WORSHIP/CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SCHEDULES

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

- **December 1st , 8th, 15th, and 22nd** - Regular Morning Worship Services at 8:30 & 11:00, with Sunday School and Faith Formation between the Services.
- **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 29th** – One Morning Service at 10:00, with a Christmas Brunch in the Commons (preceding the Service) at 9:00 am, sponsored by the Table Sunday School Class.
- **January 5th** – Regular Worship Services at 8:30 & 11:00, with Sunday School and Faith Formation between the Services. Our Epiphany Service and Celebration will be this evening at 6:00 pm.

We hope that all of our worship services are meaningful in this Season of Christmas. If you have any questions about these services, please contact the Church Office.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS COOKIE

It's time again to begin preparation for *Operation Christmas Cookie* – where we deliver Christmas cookies to police, fire, emergency responders and those businesses and that are open on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

We need people to make cookies or bring store bought cookies, to come to the church and package them on Monday, December 23rd at 10:00 am, and to deliver them to various locations on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. This truly is a rewarding experience as we are showing Christ's love to those people who must work over the holidays.

Beginning Sunday, December 8th and continuing for the next two Sundays, there will be an insert in the bulletin for you to sign up for the areas where you can help. You can also sign up with the link on our webpage or by scanning the QR code below.

Thank you in advance for your support of this outreach. Who knows what delivery of Christmas cookies might mean to someone who is working and away from their families. In some cases, it may be the only Christmas experience they have to enjoy. We hope you will join us in this important Christmas tradition.



## KIMBALL BOOK CLUBS

### Tuesday Book Club

**Date:** Tuesday, December 3rd - 10:00 am  
**Location:** Church Parlor



# Faith Formation

## HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASS

We have a new Sunday School Class for our High School/Middle School Youth Group. The class begins each Sunday at 10:00 am, and will meet in the Library. Pastor John will be the primary teacher.

## 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.

## WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Please join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am in the Church Parlor for our weekly Bible Study. All are welcome for this informal time of study and discussion - each Wednesday at 10:00 am. For more information please call the Church Office.

**December Facilitators:**  
12/04 Deacon Liz Fisher  
12/11 Pastor Joe Tallent  
12/18 Pastor John Futterer



## HS/MS Youth

- December 6th— Parents Night Out / Lock-In**  
 Our HS/MS Youth will be hosting a Parent's Night Out on Friday December 6th from 5:30-8:30pm. This is both a Service Project and Fundraiser, we need all HS/MS School youth at the church no later than 5:00 pm to go over our timeline for the evening. After Parents Night Out we will host our annual Lock-In for all 6-12th Graders. You will need to bring a sleeping bag, pillow, drink, and snacks to share and anything you will need for the night. Our lock-in will conclude at 8:30 am Saturday morning.
- December 15th— HS/MS Progressive Dinner / Gift Exchange**  
 Our HS/MS groups will have our annual progressive dinner and gift exchange on Sunday Dec. 15th. We will meet at the church at 4:45 pm. Please bring a wrapped \$10 gift to exchange. Thank you to all those who are hosting this year, Todd Haley (appetizers) Debbie Troutman and her family (main course) and Eric and Jenny Jones (dessert.) This is one of our youth group's favorite events and we are super thankful for those who host us each year.
- December 8th—MS Confirmation 2:30 - 4:00 pm**  
 MS Confirmation will be Sunday December 8th from 2:30pm-4:00 pm and we will meet here at Kimball. Please let Deacon Liz or Pastor John know if you aren't able to be here.
- December 6th—Kingdom Kids, 3-5th grades and PreK Families Parent's Night Out**  
 Our Kingdom Kids, 3-5th grades and Pre-K families are invited to a Parent's Night out Friday, December 6th from 5:30-8:30pm. We will have pizza, crafts, games, watch a Christmas movie with popcorn, and take pictures around the Chrismon Tree. The cost is \$25 per child and \$10 for additional children. Make sure to wear your Christmas pajamas. You can sign up through jotform.



**December 6th  
5:30—8:30**

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

DATE	COUPLE	YEARS
12/02	Darian & Heather MILLER	7
12/04	Samantha & Darrell HELMS	3
12/07	Roger & Sharon SIZEMORE	6
12/11	Bryana MCDONALD	3
12/14	Ben & Whitney HESLEY	11
12/19	Randy & Shannon RIGSBY	4
12/27	Allen & Becky BRANTLEY	60
12/27	Ryan & Kara HARDISTER	16
12/31	Jeff & Lelit POOLE	9

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### MILITARY

- Christopher Bame (California)
- Rajeem Baptist (Washington)
- Robert Busteed, Jr. (Virginia)
- Ben Kirchner (Georgia)
- Chris Kirchner (Utah)
- Preston Mays (Maryland)
- Chris Overcash (NC)
- Andrew Smith (Arizona)

### KIMBALL MEMBERS

Sylvia Anderson, Robin Ballard, Jerry and Pat Beam, Sylvia Binion, Mary Lee Blackwelder, Becky Brantley, Brad Brothers, Sharon and Doug Brothers, Brenda Brown, Florence Calandra, Emily Clamser, Jean Davis, Mary Dorton, Lisa and Eddie Dunlow, Teresa Erwin, Shelly and Ava Farris, Liz Fisher, Pastor John and Anne Futterer, Fran and Keith Garver, Leigh and John Glass, Todd Haley, Prebble Henrickson, Kathy and Mike Hunter, Eric and Jenny Jones, Pr. David and Diana Keck, Wilma Keller, Steve and Peggy Lynch, Ed MacTaggart, Dianne Marlin, Margaret McCombs, Nathan and Kathryn Murph, Taylor and Kaylee Murph, Peggy Pergola, Louise Propst, Betty Ritchie, Blake Robinson, Lisa Robinson, Kip Russell, Juanene Savage, Kathy and Cliff Scott, Betty Shaver, Roger Sizemore, Mary Jo Snipes and Family, Gaye St. John, David and Donna Taylor, Sarah Teumer, Debbie Troutman

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

## KIMBALL MEMORIAL FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund	October	Year to Date
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$42,034</b>	<b>\$434,127</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$38,856</b>	<b>\$432,753</b>

# DECEMBER SUNDAY MINISTERS

8:30	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	SOUND	CAMERA/ PROJECTION
1-Dec	Shane Little	Jodi Hott	Riley Dodson	Hope Russel	Nathan Carpenter
8-Dec	Lauren Nichols	David Sloan	Anniston Wheatley	Keith Garver	Nathan Carpenter
15-Dec	Ava Ramsey	Donna Taylor	Lucy Miller	Rick Teumer	Nathan Carpenter
22-Dec	Diana Bentley	Cooper Hinson	Palmer Russell	Tim Patterson	Nathan Carpenter

11:00	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	SOUND	CAMERA/ PROJECTION
1-Dec	Huyla Jackson	Ben Hesley	Hunter Murph	Bo Phongsa	Nathan Carpenter
8-Dec	Michelle Nichols	Bob Boynton	Skyla Hardister	Milton Matheny	Nathan Carpenter
15-Dec	Sally Peterson	Lindsay Daugherty	Knox Christenson	Terry Steinert	Nathan Carpenter
22-Dec	Scott Harmon	Alexis Nichols	Liza Jane Lee	Ryan Hardister	Nathan Carpenter

10:00	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	SOUND	CAMERA/ PROJECTION
29-Dec	Todd Haley	Jodie Hott	Alyssa Nichols	Gavin Carpenter	Nathan Carpenter

<b>Greeters</b>	Frankie Bogutsky/ Tammy Stearns	Tim / Huyla Jackson
<b>Council Assistants</b>	Paula Brandle / Todd Haley	Sally Peterson / Terry Steinert
<b>Healing Prayer</b>	Scott Harmon	Anne Futterer
<b>Communion Prep</b>	David/Judy Sloan	Tony Lippard / Anne Futterer

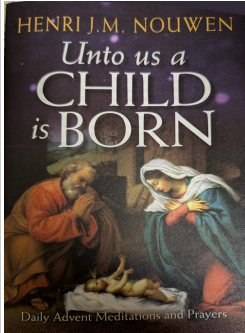
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	
<b>04-Dec</b>	Deacon Liz
<b>11-Dec</b>	Pastor Joe
<b>18-Dec</b>	Pastor John

FLOWER CALENDAR	
<b>1-Dec</b>	Jon Todd/Jodie Hott
<b>8-Dec</b>	Mickey/Paula Brandle
<b>15-Dec</b>	Hesley
<b>22-Dec</b>	Liz Fisher
<b>29-Dec</b>	Steve/Peggy Lynch

<b>Tellers</b>	Donna / David Taylor
<b>Slide Prep</b>	Amy Black

## GIFT CARDS

\$20 Grocery Store/Fast Food gift cards are needed for Samaritan's Table to hand out during the Christmas Season. You may bring these gift cards by the Church Office during regular business hours, or give them to an usher at a Sunday morning worship service.



## ADVENT PRINTED DEVOTIONALS

Advent devotionals are available in the narthex on the credenza. Please take copies for your family to use during Advent which begins today.

## FREE ONLINE ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

The season of Advent invites us into the tension of 'already' and 'not yet,' where we hold the fragile hope that everything broken will be made whole and that every deep longing will be filled with love. It's finding a way to sit with the messiness of life while holding on to the promise of what's to come. Kate Bowler invites you to embrace the Advent and Christmas season as it truly is—imperfect, beautiful, and real—in free guides, "The Weary World Rejoices."



<https://shorturl.at/F0oPe>



## COMMITMENT CARDS

If you have not yet turned in your Commitment Card for 2025, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. Additional cards are available from the ushers. THANK YOU in advance for your support of Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church!

## TIME AND TALENT 2025

Time and Talent cards for 2025 are included in today's bulletin. Please prayerfully consider how God is calling you to serve at Kimball next year. Completing the cards helps in scheduling and making sure that we utilize your gifts in ministry.



## CARVER ANGEL TREE

Please go to Kimball's Website [www.kimballchurch.org](http://www.kimballchurch.org) for information and to sign up for gifts to make the holidays special for one of the children at Carver Elementary School.

The angels are being "gathered in" quickly in anticipation of the holidays, and your help is needed to make Christmas merry and bright for some of our friends at our neighborhood elementary school. We're asking that gifts be returned to the Church by Sunday, December 8th if possible, but certainly no later than Wednesday, December 11th. If you have any questions about this wonderful program, please contact the Church Office or Melissa Little (704-320-6625). Thank you in advance for your help in this important matter!

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY

DEC. 22 —5:00 PM

We will host an all youth and children's Christmas Pageant on Sunday December 22nd at 5:00 pm with light refreshments at 4:30 pm. We hope you will join us for this wonderful play along with Christmas carols for the congregation to sing with us.

We are very thankful for Emily Clamser who is heading this year's pageant up along with Mary Lee Blackwelder and Shannon Rigsby.

Practices for our play will be on Sunday mornings during faith formation along with Wednesday evening practices for all those that have speaking parts, we will gather from 5:00 pm-6:00 pm.

Kimball Lutheran Church  
J.O.Y. Group



Joy Group will have a Christmas lunch on Thursday, December 19th from 11:30-1:00 pm. Bring a wrapped \$10 gift to exchange. Lunch will be soup and sandwiches along with a short Christmas devotion. If you would like to help set-up please let Deacon Liz know, we would love the help.



## BLESSING BOX NEEDS

*Please place your items in the back Youth Room at the end of the hall near the back door.*

- Water\*
- Canned Food: Veggies, Fruit, Beans, Tuna
- Soup
- Rice Krispie Treats\*
- Granola and Nutri-grain bars
- Shelf Stable Milk\*
- Small cans of spaghetti sauce
- Pop-Tarts
- Soap\* / Deodorant\* / Lotion
- Wipes / Diapers

Now that the weather is in transition we are in great need of gently used blankets, sleeping bags and coats. Please place them on the couch in the blessing box room.



## LASTING LEGACY ENDOWMENT

As we draw near the end of The Year of the Endowment, we hope you have considered a gift to Kimball's Lasting Legacy Endowment Fund. There's no better time to set up your gift than during our stewardship appeal. Feel free to contact any member of our committee for assistance in setting up your legacy gift that can change lives.

## HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

**CAREMOOR** Aileen Triece / Bettie Overcash

**MORNINGSIDE OF CONCORD** Gaye St. John

**SPRING ARBOR OF ALBEMARLE** Mary Dorton

**AVANTE OF CONCORD** Dianne Marlin

**AT HOME** Jean Davis / Louise Propst

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

It's with great joy that we welcomed Franklin Ian Myrick and Rosalea Isla Myrick into membership on December 2nd, via the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. These twins are the children of Cody and Maryn Myrick, and they were born on February 5th, 2023. Carter Myrick is the helpful and supportive big brother! We rejoice to receive these two children – already very active in worship and in our nursery – into membership, and welcome them into our Fellowship.

## COUNCIL COMMUNICATOR



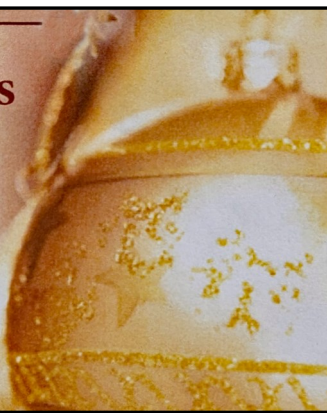
- Thank you to all those who helped decorate the church for Advent. It looks beautiful!
- Thank you to Deacon Liz, the youth, and parents who sponsored and served the Thanks and Thanksgiving meal last week. The food and fellowship were fabulous. We are truly blessed to have so many young people in our church.
- The Table Sunday School Class will be hosting a **continental breakfast** on December 29th to raise funds for the MS/HS youth programs. This will be held at 9:00 a.m. (before the one 10:00 service).
- The Table Sunday School will be hosting the **Epiphany Soup Supper** on January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.
- The elevator has been repaired and is now working again.
- Offerings through October are \$15,000 less than budgeted. Please prayerfully consider your gifts through December to help make up this difference.
- The Annual Congregational Meeting will be on December 8th at 10:00 a.m. to review/approve the 2025 proposed budget, Council Nominees and revised Endowment Bylaws. We will need a quorum to conduct the church's business, so please make an effort to be in attendance.
- Lutheran Men will be hosting breakfast as an added enticement to stay after the 8:30 or come early before the 11:00 am services.

Piedmont Choral Society  
**Christmas Concerts**

*Beautiful Choral and Orchestral Arrangements  
Familiar Carols and Seasonal Favorites*

Friday - December 6, 2024 | 7 pm  
Saturday - December 7, 2024 | 3 pm

Calvary Lutheran Church  
950 Bradley Street NE  
Concord, NC



**Kimball Members Singing:** Sabrina Bennett, Bob Boynton, Matt Bradford, Nick Bronson, Darla Steinert

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**



**December 8 Congregational Annual Meeting**

**10:00 am between services**

1. Vote on nominations for Council
2. Approve the 2025 Budget.
3. Adopt revised Endowment Bylaws

Men's Breakfast has been moved to December 8th. The Lutheran Men have graciously offered to serve breakfast to anyone staying after the 8:30 service or coming early to the 11:00 service to attend the Congregational Meeting at 10:00.

*Poinsettias*



*General Fund Gifts*

Red Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary again this year at Christmas. Cost is \$12 per plant. Also, donations to the General Fund can be made in honor/memory of someone. All orders must be received by Monday, December 9th. Order forms will be in the bulletins on Sunday.

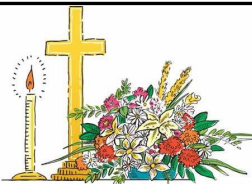
**EPIPHANY SUPPER  
AND CELEBRATION**

**6:00 pm on Sunday,  
January 5th**



**Epiphany**

Please join us for an evening of good fun and fellowship as we gather together with our Church Family on Sunday evening, January 5th at 6:00 pm, for a supper and celebration of Epiphany. In addition to the meal, we'll "put away the carols" for another year AND enjoy a "Three Kings Cake" for Dessert - with prizes given to the "Royalty who bring forth the Gold" included in this traditional cake. It will NOT be a late evening, so we hope you will join us for an evening of food, fun, celebration, and joy as we usher in the eight week Season of Epiphany! This event is sponsored by our Table Young Adult Sunday School Class.



**Altar Flowers**

**2025 FLOWER  
CALENDAR**


The Flower Calendar for 2025 is up in the narthex for your use. Please use this chart to reserve flowers on Sundays during the upcoming year. Thank you!

**IMPORTANT—SUNDAY MINISTERS**

We deeply appreciate your commitment to serving at Kimball, and we understand that life can bring unexpected challenges, especially on Sunday mornings. If you find out ahead of time that you are unable to fulfill your scheduled service, please reach out to the church office at your earliest convenience. Your proactive communication is invaluable to us, as it helps ensure a smooth and uplifting worship experience for everyone involved. To keep you informed, we will send multiple emails regarding your schedule, and you can always find the current and next Sunday's schedule included in the Take-Home-Announcements, on the website or in the monthly newsletter. Thank you for your dedication and service here at Kimball.



# DECEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Advent 1</b> 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Adult Sunday School 10:00a Christmas Play Practice 10:00a HS/MS Sunday School 11:00a Traditional Worship 12:15p Handbell Rehearsal	<b>2</b> 10:00a Book Club in Parlor	<b>3</b> 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Contemporary Ensemble 7:30p Chancel Choir	<b>4</b> 5:00p Samaritan's Table	<b>5</b> 5:30 – 8:30p Parent's Night Out 8:30p Lock-In	<b>6</b> 12:00-2:00p LSC Holiday Party	<b>7</b> --8:30a Lock-In
<b>Advent 2</b> 7:15a Men's Breakfast 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Congregational Meeting 10:00a Christmas Play Practice 11:00a Traditional Worship 12:15p Handbell Rehearsal 2:30-4:00p Confirmation	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Contemporary Ensemble 7:30p Chancel Choir	<b>12</b> 5:00p Samaritan's Table	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Advent 3</b> 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Adult Sunday School 10:00a Children's Christmas Play 11:00a Traditional Worship 12:15p Handbell Rehearsal 4:45p HS/MS Progressive Dinner	<b>16</b> 6:30p Preschool Board Meeting	<b>17</b> 10:00a Bingo-Coltrane Life Center	<b>18</b> 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p Contemporary Ensemble 7:30p Chancel Choir	<b>19</b> 11:30a JOY Lunch 5:00p Samaritan's Table 7:00p Church Council	<b>20</b> 11:00a Preschool Christmas 12:00p – 5:00p CVP	<b>21</b> 10:00p – 2:00p CVP
<b>Advent 4</b> 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:00a Adult Sunday School 10:00a HS/MS Sunday School 11:00a Traditional Worship 12:15p Handbell Rehearsal 5:00p Children's Christmas Play	<b>23</b> 10:00a Cookie Packaging	<b>Christmas Eve 24</b> 5:00p Family Christmas Eve 10:30p Special Music Begins 11:00 Christmas Eve Worship	<b>Christmas Day 25</b>  Office Closed	<b>26</b> 5:00p Samaritan's Table Office Closed	<b>27</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b>
<b>Christmas 1</b> 9:00a Continental Breakfast by Adult Table Class 10:00a Combined Worship	<b>30</b>	<b>New Year's Eve 31</b>	<b>New Year's Day 1</b> Office Closed			



**Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church**  
**Kimball Communicator-Newsletter**

at The North Carolina Research Campus  
101 Vance Street | Kannapolis, NC | 28081

## LOOKING FOR GOOD GIFTS THIS YEAR?

Shop [ELCA Good Gifts](#) and choose from more than 50 unique charitable gifts to give in honor of friends and family. They'll get a card to let them know about what you've done, and you'll get the joy that comes with making the world a better place.

God's love is a gift, given through Christ. This Christmas, let us celebrate that gift by sharing God's love with others. <https://goodgifts.elca.org/>

**SHOP NOW**

