

Clyde Scott, Pastor  
December 4, 2022  
2nd Sunday of Advent



Prelude	Organ:	Wesley Osborne
	Piano:	Brenda Townsend
Call to Worship		No. 211
Announcements		Pastor Clyde Scott
Advent Candle Lighting		
Choral Response	Choir	
*Hymn: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"	No. 203	
*Affirmation of Faith	No. 88	
*Gloria Patri	No. 70	
Call to Prayer		
Offertory		
*Doxology	No. 95	
*Prayer of Dedication		
Anthem	Choir	
Scripture: Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14		
Sermon: "Focus on The Future"		
Sacrament of Holy Communion	*Hymn: 216 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"	
*Benediction		
*Postlude	Organ:	Wesley Osborne
	Piano:	Brenda Townsend

**\*Please stand as you are able.**



Today's flowers are placed by the congregation to the Glory of God!

**Live Nativity will be on Friday, December 9 and Saturday, December 10 from 6:30 - 8:00 PM, weather permitting. Volunteer sign up sheets are available at both entrances. There will be a display area in the FLC for Nativity sets. If you have one and would like to put it on display, please bring it to the FLC Friday morning, December 9.**

Family Promise has an angel tree and each child has 3 wishes on their list. If you can, please go by and select an angel or two and help fulfill their Christmas wishlist!

We do have four angels at our adopted school, Ford Elementary, two girls and two boys. Look for additional information on these angels in next week's bulletin.

The "Kingdom Come" singers, Senator Danny Verdin's family, are going to perform at the First UMC Laurens, Tuesday, December 13, at 7:00 PM. donations will go to support their food pantry.

The Rose Hill Cemetery Committee would like to thank St. James for their generous contribution of \$210.00 to help offset the cost to maintain the cemetery. Thank you to all who contributed!

**Crisis Center needs for December: Cereal, Oatmeal, Grits, Toilet Paper**

**Please don't forget our friends at Memorial Home who are in need of snacks! Please place your donated snacks in the Memorial Home box in the Social Hall.**



## Brothers and Sisters in Need of Prayer



November 27, 2022 (removal date: December 4, 2022)

Tracie Addy  
 Isaac Adams  
 Virginia Bonner  
 Jimmy Brock  
 Anne Childress  
 Joey Childress  
 Tom Childress  
 Ed Coleman  
 Ainsley Crisp  
 Marion Davis  
 Sandy Gillespie's Mother  
 Tonya Jett

Bobbie Jean Johnson  
 Michelle Cook-Leopard  
 Tim and Kelly Mahon  
 Donna Miller  
 Christa Newman  
 Butch Pearson  
 Don Price  
 Helen, Dan and Diane Stewart  
 Krysta  
 Lisa Wood  
 Brooks (Pastor's grandson)

### \*Shut-Ins:

Barbara Abercrombie  
 Sylvia Brannon  
 Ed and Millie Darnell  
 Don Davis  
 Betty Kirby  
 Jimmy and Sharon Morton  
 Gerald and Myrna Self  
 Dan and Helen Stewart

Dan and Helen Stewart  
 Diane Stewart  
 Bobby Sumeral  
 Barbara Tuttle  
 Jimmy Woods



*"Dear Lord, please heal my broken heart. Fill me with the peace and joy I know can only come from You during this hard time. Walk closely beside me during my journey to healing and recovery that I know is possible through Your power alone. In Jesus' name, Amen."*



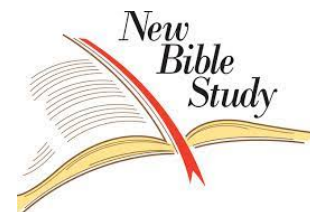
## YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

Join your friends or, bring some with you to Lou Ann Wakeland's Sunday School class each Sunday at 10:00 AM!

**This month's lesson: "The Screwtape Letters" by C. S. Lewis.**

Bible Study every Wednesday 6:00 PM to 6:45 PM in the Social Hall and includes a light supper! This month's lesson is on "The Story", an overview of the whole Bible.

**For more information, questions in general, call Lou Ann Wakeland!  
 864-871-4590**



**Pastor Clyde's "Light of the Word" Advent bible study is in full swing!! Thanks to all who attended the kick off on Monday, November 28, it was a wonderful turnout! It is not too late for you to attend! The next class will be on Monday, December 5 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary and will continue December 12 and Monday, December 19. Books are \$10.00 each. Leave money in the payment envelope in the foyer or pay Pastor Clyde directly. Please join us as we learn about Advent!!**



December 3	8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast - Lucas Ave. Facility
December 4	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Sunday School Worship Service with Communion
December 5	6:00 PM	Bible Study with Pastor Clyde in the Sanctuary
-		Light of the World: A Beginners Guide to Advent
December 7	6:00 PM	Youth Bible Study
December 9	6:30 PM	Live Nativity
December 10	9:00 AM	Breakfast at Taste of Home - All are welcomed to attend
	6:30 PM	Live Nativity
December 11	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Sunday School Worship Service
December 12	6:00 PM	Bible Study with Pastor Clyde in the Sanctuary
-		Light of the World: A Beginners Guide to Advent
December 14	6:00 PM	Youth Bible Study
December 15	11:00 AM	Seasoned Saints Holiday Luncheon and Musical Performance
December 18	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Sunday School Worship Service and Christmas Cantata
December 24	4:00 - 4:45 PM 5:00 PM	Walk-in Communion Christmas Eve Service
December 25		Christmas Day



**December Birthdays:**

4	Kim Penland	17	Myra Kirby
5	Wesley Osborne	18	Lily Lyda
6	Gail Abercrombie		Lizzie Lyda
8	Jimmy Wood	24	Martha Mayer
13	Rev. Bob Allen	27	Nathan Mayer
14	Chuck Kirby		



**December Anniversaries:**

4	Mark and Maggie Townsend
17	Karen and Ricky Knight



**December Greeters**

04	Caroline Vines	18	Shelia Childress
11	Doug Mayer	24	Caroline Vines

Pastor Clyde Scott

Phone or Text: (803) 360-3649 (Home)

864-984-0155 (Office)

To list something in the bulletin, please contact:

Janet Kennedy, Communications Coordinator

Phone: 864-923-4445

E-mail: [resalered@prtcnet.com](mailto:resalered@prtcnet.com)

To be added to the automated phone prayer list, please contact:

Paula Terhune, Community Prayer Coordinator:

Phone: 864-684-5772

**SPECIAL NOTE: Automated calls may vary in time according to Paula's work schedule and access to privacy to record the call. Your automated message will be announced!**

Find us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/stjamesumc.laurens>

*Welcome to Saint James United Methodist Church*

*If you are a first-time worshiper with us, you honor us with your presence. Please be sure to complete the Visitors Card and drop it in the offertory plate. We invite you to come and share in worship with us anytime that you*



**Love. Grow. Serve.**



Advent is a time of expectation and hope. “Advent” means “arrival” or “coming,” and it prompts us to pause each day during the 40 days of Advent and remember why Jesus came at Christmas. Traditions vary by country, but common ways of commemorating Jesus’ birth are through Advent calendars, wreaths, and candles. Ideally, any Advent tradition should involve families in a fun activity each day of December, helping them remember why we celebrate Christmas.

The Advent wreath first appeared in Germany in 1839. A Lutheran minister working at a mission for children created a wreath out of the wheel of a cart. He placed twenty small red candles and four large white candles inside the ring. The red candles were lit on weekdays and the four white candles were lit on Sundays.

Eventually, the Advent wreath was created out of evergreens, symbolizing everlasting life in the midst of winter and death. The circle reminds us of God’s unending love and the eternal life He makes possible. Advent candles are often nestled in the evergreen wreath. Additional decorations, like holly and berries, are sometimes added. Their red color points ahead to Jesus’ sacrifice and death. Pinecones can symbolize the new life that Jesus brings through His resurrection. Families begin lighting a candle on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, and they light another candle each subsequent Sunday.


Now, why the pink candle? In the earliest years of the church the only church season was Lent, the seven weeks prior to Easter. Lent was a season of fasting and prayer as the church commemorated the crucifixion of Jesus. The traditional color of banners in the church during this time was a deep purple, signifying royalty, repentance, and suffering. During Lent the church lit seven candles, one for each week of the solemn season.

However solemn the season, the story of Lent also has a twinge of hope and joy since the death of Christ prefigured the resurrection. So, on the third Sunday of Lent, the church was encouraged not to fast, but to feast. In ancient times on this particular Sunday the Pope would honor a citizen with a pink rose, and as time passed the priests wore pink vestments on this day as a reminder of the coming joy.

When the season of Advent was instituted the church viewed it as a mini-Lent, a time for reflection and repentance (thus the purple). In so doing, the church adopted the first four candles of Lent and changed the third candle of Advent to pink in honor of the Lenten tradition. This is why we have a pink candle in our Advent Wreaths.

A closing thought from your Pastor. More than anything else Advent should be a time of hope preparation for the Christ child's birth when we do things which we normally do not do the other 325 days of the year. As all of us know Christmas, not just in our country but across the globe has become more and more secularized. To help offset the secularization of Christ's birth this Advent season I encourage you to reflect on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth. It is a time for faith communities like St. James to remember through prayer, reflections, special music, and good deeds, what the true meaning of Jesus's birth is. Happy Advent to all, and I hope to see you in our Advent Bible Study on Monday evenings at 6:00 pm.





*You are invited to join  
St. James UMC "Seasoned Saints" (Older Adults)  
on  
Thursday, December 15, 2022  
in the  
Family Life Center*

*Musical Performance by:*

*Fleming Mill Bluegrass Band  
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (Lunch to follow)*

*Register at [st.jameslaurens@gmail.com](mailto:st.jameslaurens@gmail.com)  
or by calling:  
864-984-0155*

*Donations for lunch gladly accepted*

*301 Watts Avenue  
Laurens, SC 29360*