



# The Loudon Lamp

## THIS WEEK

- **Tuesday – Wednesday**  
Church Office open from 8 to 1:00
- **Wednesday evening** - optional choir practice at 5:00 p.m.  
No other activities this week – Thanksgiving Eve.
- **Thursday** – Happy Thanksgiving! *Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
- **Next Sunday** – Called Session Meeting after Worship!



## ADVENT, December 1<sup>st</sup>

### Return Angel Tree Gifts Today

9 – Gather for **Fellowship** with coffee, donuts and conversation.

**9:30 – Sunday School** for all ages in the classroom. Mark Hester has the virtual class, and adults will study “Jesus’ Ancestry,” Ruth 4:9-17, Luke 3:23,31b-32

**10:25 – Welcome & Announcements** scrolling before Worship.

**10:30 – Morning Worship-** Advent - **LIGHT!** Ella Brakebill will provide our Children’s Message. Mark Wisham will light the first candle of our Advent Wreath. Griffen Smith has the Message on “Listening to the Names of God” from Luke 1:25-38. The Pastor will be serving the Lord’s Supper. The Choir will present *Do you hear what I hear?* Our hymn favorites will be: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus, O Come, O Come Emmanuel, Once in David’s Royal City* and *Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming*. Our Hymn of the Month is *In the Bleak Mid-Winter*. Our Introit for December – *Away in a Manger*. The decorations in the Sanctuary look great!

**11:30 Children’s Christmas Play Practice**

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Seeker’s Sunday School Class is having a Christmas Party on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Luann and Dean, 420 Ward Road. RSVP by Sunday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> to 865.803.4801.

## PASTORAL CARE

Congratulations to Russ and Stephaine Newman and John and Carrie Newman on two additions to their family!! Porter Reid and Conrad Quade Finnegan, born Nov. 12th to Taylor and Dan Finnegan.

## PASTORAL CARE (CONT.)

We are so happy for these new little lives.

Our hearts are heavy with the loss of Mary Evelyn Chihasz, but we rejoice that she is at peace and at the feet of Jesus. Please hold this family extra close in thought and prayer.

Our thoughts and prayers this week are needed for: Ann Stafford, Carol Delaney, George Sweeney, MaryAnn Palmieri (Mother of Jennifer Masters), the Family of Mary Evelyn Chihasz, the Family of Joey Foxx, the Family of Faye Randolph Clinton, John R. and Carrie Newman.

We are sharing in a hymn challenge where we all listen to and learn one hymn a month. At the end of the year, we will have 12 hymns embedded in our hearts and souls. For the month of December, we are doing “In The Bleak Midwinter.” You can Google this hymn and find many options for listening. Listen at least once a day for the month of December. I will post one on our Facebook page or I will be happy to get you a copy of the words/music. Absorb the truth of the words and the comfort of the melody!!

We invite you to join us on an Advent Journey through the book of Luke. Read one chapter a day beginning December 1st and you will complete the whole Book on Christmas Eve.

Beginning Dec 1<sup>st</sup> our children will stay after Sunday Worship to run through our Christmas Program. We will start right away, run through quickly and get you home by lunch time. Please have all children 2 and up on the Fellowship Hall stage ASAP, after church.

Many Thanks to the Flower Guild and all who stayed to help prepare our church for the Christmas Season. It is truly beautiful.

## TITHES, OFFERINGS, & ATTENDANCE

**11/24/24:** \$13,836.71      **Building Fund:** \$425.00

**Loaves and Fishes-**if you still have a box to bring on Sunday, please place on the railing by the pulpit.

**Church Attendance:** 129      **Online Viewers:** 22      **Mary Evelyn Memorial Service:** 200  
**Sunday School:** 74      **Online Viewers:** 12

**Memorials given in memory of Mary Evelyn Chihasz** from Graduating Class of 1953, Gary and Martha Carolyn Ward, Dr. Paul and Jane Brakebill.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

- **Missions & Outreach** Committee after Worship, December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- **Christmas Program** and Reception on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00
- **Live Nativity**, Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00
- **Christmas Eve** Communion at 6:00
- **New Year's Sunday**, January 5<sup>th</sup> in Morning Worship at 10:30
  - Return your Building Fund Pledges for 2025-2027
  - Installation and Ordination of new Elders
  - Taking down the Greens after Worship on January 5.

**OPERATION MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**CARD** CPW is once again launching "Operation Merry Christmas Card" for our Shut-Ins. This is a church wide project to send Christmas cards to those in our church who are mobility challenged. Cards can be delivered on the giving pew outside of the church office or look for the box in the Fellowship Hall or Sanctuary Narthex. Thank you for bringing your cards by Sunday, Dec. 15. Joy Delaney, Bonnie Ferguson, George Gettys, Vann Gilbert, Winnie Hein, Carrie Newman, Ann Stafford, Kristi Stanford, and Kathy Waller.

**SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

The Elders met November 19. Minutes of two previous meetings were approved. Communications were heard without action. The pastor and elders shared pastoral concerns for the church and had special prayer for the people. A "Safe Sanctuary" policy was reviewed and adopted. Received reports from Presbytery, and Worship & Music and Stewardship & Finance committees and from the Director of Christian Education, Treasurer and Pastor. Authorized \$15,000 from the "manse" fund to apply toward the Organ bill. We noted that the church doors need to be double checked when anyone leaves to make certain they are locked. We cancelled the scheduled December 17 meeting and set a Called Meeting for Sunday, December 8th after Morning Worship.

**PRAYER LIST**

Paul and Jane Brakebill, Jeff Pipes, Ann Stafford, Bonnie Ferguson, Deb Handy, Helen Jarnagin, Arthur Kelso, Carol Delaney, Eden Shockley and her family, Evelyn Howard, George Sweeney, Steve Brown, Roger Gasper, Rich Gasper, Jerry Forester, Helen Gaddis, Michelle Gaddis, Deena Monday, Winnie Hein, May Ann Palmieri, John R. and Carrie Newman, the Family of Faye Randolph Clinton, the Family of Kenneth Shockley, the Family of Kenneth Stevens, the Family of Joey Foxx, the Family of Mary Evelyn Chihasz, and unspoken.

**STEWARDSHIP UPDATES**

Everyone should be receiving a letter inviting you to pray for and be thinking about a pledge that you want to make to our retiring of the Sanctuary debt. We ask that you return your pledges no later than with the Offerings in Morning Worship on Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Last Sunday, new elders were nominated and elected by acclamation on Sunday to begin service in 2025 for a three-year term were Richter (Rick) Wiggall, Ted (Teddy) Smallen and Paula Smallen. Congratulations to them and we are grateful for their service. Ordination and Installation will be in the morning worship on January 5<sup>th</sup>.

**OUR STAFF:**

- Rev. Mark Hester: Pastor
- Beth Brakebill: Director of Music, Education, & Pastoral Care
- Claire Pinkston: Accompanist
- Kimberly Wilks: Administrative Assistant
- Rich and Rhonda Gasper: Building and Maintenance
- Katie Parkin: IT Support
- Griffen Smith: Pastoral Asst., Dir. of Children/Youth Activities

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**Return Service Requested**