



# The Loudon Lamp

Vol.55 Issue 48  
December 3, 2024

## THIS WEEK

- **Tuesday – Wednesday**  
Church Office open from 8 to 1:00
- **Wednesday evening –**
  - 5:30 Cumberland Kids
  - 6:00 Handbell Practice
  - 7:00 Choir practice
- **Next Sunday – Called**  
Session Meeting after  
Worship!



### ADVENT, December 8<sup>th</sup>

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

**9:30** – **Sunday School** for all ages in the classroom. Griffen Smith has the virtual class, and adults will study “God’s Promise,” 2 Samuel 7:4-17.

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

**10:30** – **Morning Worship**- Advent theme - **LIGHT!** Madison Masters will provide our Children’s Message. Suzanne McNabb will light the second candle of our Advent Wreath. Mark’s message on “Illumination into the path of peace” from Luke 1:76-79. Darrell Tuck and Beth Brakebill will bring two special music presentations. Our hymn favorites will be: *O Come All Ye Faithful, Angels We Have Heard on High, Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*. Our Hymn of the Month is *In the Bleak Mid-Winter*. We open and close with— *Away in a Manger*. Our Morning Scriptures will be Malachi 3:1-4, Philippians 1:3-11.

**11:30 Christmas Play Practice for Cumberland Kids**

**11:45 Called Session Meeting**

### 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.

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

will be Wednesday evening, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Please join us for a festive evening and we ask all to bring finger foods/sweets to share. Our kids have been working very hard and we know “Could It Be Any Better” will warm your hearts.

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Church Universal recognizes the first of Advent as beginning the church year. So, Happy New Year, Christians!

### PASTORAL CARE

Our thoughts and prayers this week are needed for: Ann Stafford, Addie Harrison, Carol Delaney, George Sweeney, Mary Tinker (Mother of Lori Everett), Charlie Helms, Sarah Bivens and the family of Pat Black.

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.

Congratulations to Susan Harrison on her retirement after 49 years in healthcare! We pray this next season will be delightful and relaxing!!

Beginning Dec 1st. 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.

## TITHES, OFFERINGS, & ATTENDANCE

12/1/24: \$3637.08	Building Fund: \$680.00	Loaves and Fishes Offering: \$968.00 current
November Online Giving	General Fund: \$2590.70	Building Fund: \$400.00

Church Attendance: 128	Online Viewers: 27
Sunday School: 67	Online Viewers: 13

Memorials given in memory of Mary Evelyn Chihasz from Kim Wilks, Mary Sue House, Greg and Suzanne McNabb, Tim and Suzanne Guider.

**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 6:00-7:00
- **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.
  - Pledge Committee Meeting

**OPERATION MERRY CHRISTMAS CARD**



“Operation Merry Christmas Card” is a church wide CPW sponsored giving of a Christmas Card to our shut-in families (10). Please bring your cards to the pew outside the church office by Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> as we will be delivering those to:

- Joy Delaney
- Bonnie Ferguson
- George Gettys
- Vann Gilbert
- Winnie Hein
- Carrie Newman
- John R. Newman
- Ann Stafford
- Kristi Stanford
- Kathy Waller

**HANDEL’S MESSIAH**

The Clinch Valley 24<sup>th</sup> annual performance is a free community event at 3:00 on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at Cokesbury UMC, 9908 Kingston Pike and at 3:00 on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at First Presbyterian 1051 Oak Ridge Turnpike. This is a sing-along for the Hallelujah Chorus. Our own, Ken Parkin and Mark Hester are part of the chorus.

**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, Jerry Forester, Helen Gaddis, Michelle Gaddis, Deena Monday, Winnie Hein, John R. and Carrie Newman, Addie Harrison, Charlie Helms, the family of Faye Randolph Clinton, the family of Kenneth Stevens, the family of Pat Black, and unspoken.

**STEWARDSHIP UPDATES**

Rugel Pew Co. should have under chair music racks for the choir and a hymn/communion rack on the back pew of the Sanctuary by the end of the month. We have not been given a date from Barger & Nix on the rebuild of the Organ, but we know they have ordered various parts and are in the process of repainting the pipes. With the Chrismon Tree in the organ alcove, I am hoping they will come in January, after Christmas. Remember to be in prayer for our pledge drive that begins January 5, 2025!

**THE NATIVITY PAGEANT of Knoxville**

Free Admission at the Civic Coliseum on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 3:00, Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3:00 and Monday, Dec. 16 at 7:00 p.m. Visit [www.KnoxvilleNativity.com](http://www.KnoxvilleNativity.com) for more information.

**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

**CONTACT US:**

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**Return Service Requested**