

Englewood United Methodist Church Newsletter

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DECEMBER 1, 2021

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SOUL PURPOSE - DECEMBER 2021

As I contemplated a column for this month's Soul Purpose, I could think of nothing more appropriate to share than Luke's account of the birth narrative of Jesus.

The simplicity in Luke's story is profound as it connects the dots between the Old and New Testaments and begins to reveal God's plan of salvation for us. But even more so, the birth of Jesus, the extraordinary son of God, who entered humanity to save the world, was very ordinary, precisely because he is Emmanuel, God IS with us.

God came to dwell not only with people from 2,000 years ago, but to be a part of us, too. Even the 4 babies being born in this very second; the 256 babies born every minute. God is with us ALL. God took something as ordinary as the specialness of human life and transformed it into holy avenues where grace abounds.

Through Emmanuel, God with us, the ordinary becomes the extraordinary, and is the very place where Jesus' chooses to deliver us and set us free.

Before Christmas Eve take a few moments and read the gospel account of the Christmas story. Grab a cup of coffee or a glass of eggnog, sit by a crèche and read Luke's story of the first Noel as you allow God to speak to you in this ordinary experience of life. Then consider the ways in which God's extraordinary plans are unfolding in you.

"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to

him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."



Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told."

Pastor Terry



Our Sympathy Is Expressed To:

Brenda Ellis and family upon the death of her niece, **Carol Barefoot Martinez** on October 26, 2021.


Carolyn Quigley and Sylvia Overton upon the death of their cousin, **Linda Arnold Edwards** on November 5, 2021.

The Family and friends of **Irene Cockrell Brantley** upon her death on November 15, 2021.

Terrie and Rod Buckner and family upon the death of Terrie's mother, **Beverly Brock Hatch** on November 23, 2021.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01	Tom Nichols	20	Ben Davis, Jr.
02	Alice Niece	20	Linda Pridgen
02	Landon Quigley	20	Ralph Snowden
02	Nathan Quigley	21	Neil Pridgen
04	Katherine Davis	21	David Redd
07	Margie Holt	21	Michael Redd
08	Sharon Dunn		
11	William Andersen IV	25	Jesus 
11	Leigh Boyette		
13	Susan Jackson	28	Margie Felton
14	Nancy Doughtie	29	Carrie Trull
14	Sylvia Gardner	30	Baeden Buckner
14	Jane Williams	30	David Pridgen
18	John Harwood, Jr.		

In Memoriam

IRENE COCKRELL BRANTLEY

November 15, 2021

Thank You

Many thanks for all of the calls, cards, food, flowers from the Flower Ministry, visits and prayers during my ongoing issues with the brain tumor. We are a part of a great church!

Jay Quigley

Thank You

To the Flower Ministry Ladies,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers delivered by Jo Wilson. What a great way to brighten our day! Thanks for all you do. Love and God bless you.

Allen & Nancy Mooring

Thank You

The Blanket Ministry will certainly touch the lives of many veterans in honor of Veterans Day. Thank you for your kind donation of lap blankets. My niece is a member of the Patriot Guard and works for Hospice. The goal of this group is to honor up to three hundred Hospice veteran patients and veteran patients in about fifteen assisted living and nursing homes in eight counties. The members of the Patriot Guard will present each veteran a lap blanket, veteran pin, and a personalized certificate.

Your contribution to this cause has put the group closer to reaching their goal. Thank you for your hard work, generosity, and kindness in making this possible.

May God bless each of you, your loved ones, and your church family.

Faye Nelson

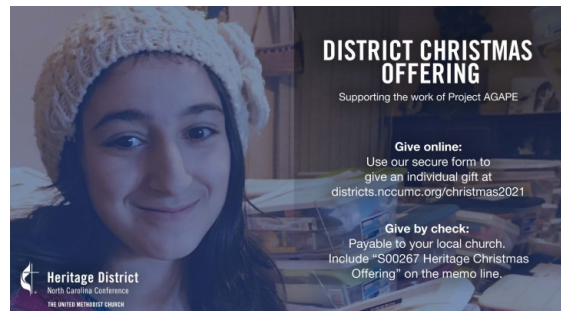
FAITH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES OF NASH COUNTY - DECEMBER NEEDS



Thank you for your faithfulness in continuing to support this mission project by donating food to the hungry in Nash County. Generally, we supply Faith Christian Ministries of Nash County with 2 to 2 1/2 boxes of food monthly. But in November, we asked you to donate Soap, Body Wash, and Shampoo. And as per usual, this generous congregation stepped forward. Several have asked why the change. The answer is twofold: 1. More churches have been donating food; 2. People have been asking for hygiene items that FCM doesn't have. So they asked EUMC to change their donations for November. This change will continue through December.

Starting Sunday, December 7th, the "Item of the Month" donation will be **Laundry Detergent**. Please place these items in the Love Can located in the area beneath the name tags in the church lobby, labeled "FCM MEALS OF THE MONTH". Please donate these items to help stock their pantry throughout the month of December. This is another wonderful opportunity for this generous congregation to help others who can't help themselves.

HERITAGE DISTRICT CHRISTMAS OFFERING



This year's Christmas offering will go toward supporting the work of Project AGAPE in Armenia. Project AGAPE is a collaborative effort of the North Carolina Conference and Western North Carolina Conference and the Armenian Apostolic Church. This offering will be received during the Christmas Eve Worship Service on December 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Please make your check payable to Englewood United Methodist Church and mark S00267Heritage Christmas Offering on the memo line. Thank you.



UMW NEWS

December 14 10:00 a.m.

Women of the Way / Circle of Joy Christmas Luncheon - Olive Garden

December 14 6:00 p.m.

Lydia's Sisters' Christmas Party - Fellowship Hall

Bring an appetizer to share and a \$5 ornament for the ornament exchange

Merry Christmas!



SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP

On Wednesday, December 1st and Wednesday, December 15th
Senior Adult Fellowship will meet at noon in the Fellowship Hall for Bingo.



Women of The Way

On November 16th, the Women of the Way Circle met with the Circle of Joy to listen to a program from Coastal Plains Hospital on Behavior Health and Substance Abuse. The speaker was Yolanda Outlaw. Other representatives from the hospital in attendance were Cassie Rogers and Omar McKnight. This facility has just received a new grant for community initiatives and will be working in Nash and Warren Counties. The speaker discussed the stigma of Behavior Health and held a group discussion on listening and support of others. In the substance abuse arena, she noted that it takes 7-8x for an intervention to take hold. She informed the group that both city and county law enforcement have CIT officers which should be requested on a 911 call for MH issues as these men/women are trained to deescalate situations. She also informed the group of a 988# to be used for BH issues and a 211# to obtain resources in the community.

After the program, we adjourned to separate rooms for the individual circle meetings. The Women of the Way welcomed two new members at this meeting: Judy Mesko and Nancy Johnston. The Bereavement Committee is being reactivated with Barbara Batts in charge. She discussed implementing a steering committee to develop new protocol for bereavement. The steering committee will be open to all church members to assist taking this committee in a new direction to serve our church families.

The Women of the Way continue to support Faith Christian Ministries with food products and The Lighthouse with paper products. Our holiday dinner for the women at the Lighthouse is scheduled for December 7th at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The circle will continue its ongoing sales of dishcloths. Please contact Janice Roberson for a purchase. The RADA Cutlery sales will once again be offered this holiday season and Sue McMillan or Glenda Hortman is to be contacted for orders.

Instead of having a Christmas meal in the Fellowship Hall, it was decided to meet at Olive Garden on December 14th at 11:00 a.m. and have fellowship there.

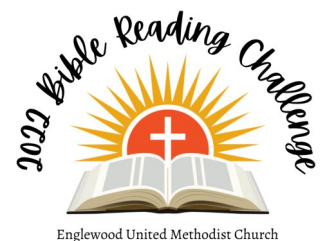
The UMW is open to all women of the church. Please come and join us on January 18th.

Bible Reading Program

Let's read through the Bible together in 2022! We're starting a Bible reading program in January that will allow us to journey through scripture together all year long. This program will be very flexible - you can do this independently or with an accountability partner or group. When you sign up to participate, you will receive:

- A notebook with wonderful resources to give you more information about the overview, background, and historical context of each biblical book.
- Reflection pages to help guide you through the journey.
- A reading schedule to keep you on track (to stay on schedule you will read about 5 chapters per day for 6 days each week, with one Sabbath day for reflection or catching up)

Let this be the year you choose to dive into God's Word and let it inspire, comfort, and uplift you every day of 2022! Contact Savanna to sign up and get your notebook. They will be ready before Christmas!



Englewood United Methodist Church



Attention Ladies of Englewood United Methodist Church



The Englewood United Methodist Men will be hosting Ladies Night this year on Sunday, December 5th at 6:00 pm. in the Fellowship Hall. The celebration of Ladies Night is a long standing tradition for us that we suspended last year because of COVID. This year we will come together again to show our love, respect, and appreciation for the women of the church and for all they do in ministry to the people of the church and to the people of the community around us.

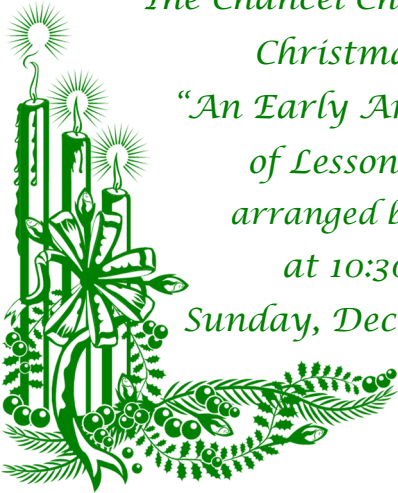
Earl Overton and his helpers will prepare a wonderful meal for us. We will have poinsettias for all of our guests. The Jay Stone Singers will be back again with music that will launch us into the Advent Season.

So mark your calendar and plan to join us for Ladies Night at Englewood United Methodist Church.

-Peter Varney



*The Chancel Choir will present a
Christmas Cantata
"An Early American Service
of Lessons & Carols"
arranged by Tim Sharp
at 10:30 a.m. on
Sunday, December 12, 2021.*



The deadline for receiving
information to be included in the
JANUARY Newsletter
is Wednesday, December 16th!

OUR YEAR-TO-DATE RECORD (Thru November 30, 2021)

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Ministry Needs

	<i>Monthly Actual</i>	<i>YTD</i>
Receipts	\$30,953.72	\$393,458.02
Goal	\$35,260.00	\$387,860.00

Our 2021 General Budget includes our Missional Giving

ARMENIAN CATTLE / CHICKEN PROJECT



This year, the EUMW is sponsoring the Armenian Cattle / Chicken Project. You may honor or memorialize someone special by giving a donation to purchase a share of a cow, a chicken or a flock of chickens sent in your name to deserving families in Armenia. The animal(s) you select will be used by families to provide a means of supporting themselves and their communities.



The cost of a chicken is \$10, a flock of chickens is \$20, and a share of a cow is \$10.

EUMW members will be available in the church lobby on November 28th, December 5th, and December 12th to collect your completed forms and receive donations. The forms will be available in the worship bulletin on each of those Sundays and in the church office during the week. Memorial and Honorarium cards will be available for you to send to friends and loved ones to let them know of your contribution in their name. **The deadline for placing your order is December 13th.** A special bulletin listing the donors and recipients will be available at the Christmas Eve Service.

*Please make your checks payable to Englewood United Methodist Church and put
"Armenian Cattle / Chicken Project" on the memo line.
All donations are tax deductible and all proceeds go directly to the Armenian Cattle Project.*



ANGEL TREE MINISTRY

Angel Tree Ministry is a ministry that supports children of persons incarcerated in our prisons. We have chosen to participate in this program for the third year now and have opted to take 10 children with the virtual participation method. The gifts will be purchased and sent by Angel Tree to each child. So we just need 10 people to contribute \$25 toward the gift purchase. Just think of the joy you will provide for these children come Christmas morning. Please contact Patsy Smith to participate in this Outreach project or send your donation to the church office and note "Angel Tree" on the memo line. The deadline for participating is November 30th. Once again, thank you for being the Arms of Jesus in providing Outreach to others in need.

Patsy Smith 252-937-8984 or dsmith123@suddenlink.net

"Undie Sunday"



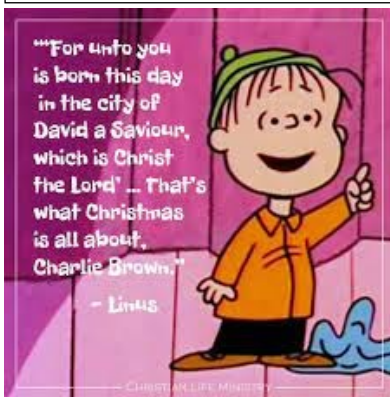
We are collecting Underwear, Socks, Bath Towels and Wash Cloths for children at the Bassett Center.

The sizes needed are:

Boys (ages 1-5) Underwear sizes 3T, 4T, 5 & 6; Sock sizes (based on shoe sizes of 5,7, 10, & 11).

Girls (ages 3-14) Underwear sizes 4T, 6, 14, 16 children and 8 Ladies); Sock sizes (based on shoe sizes of 8 & 12 child and 7.5 & 12 Ladies).

Please bring the items to the church and leave in the lobby area container marked "Undie Sunday". The deadline for participating is December 12th. This is another way we can be the arms of Jesus reaching out to help children in our community. Thank you for your continued support of our Outreach Ministry.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 2022

Yes, it is almost Souper Bowl of Caring 2022!!!

This year we will be helping My Sisters' House!

Stay tuned for more details!



2022 FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2022 Flower Calendar is now available for your use in reserving that special Sunday to place flowers in the sanctuary in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special event in your family. The 2022 Flower Calendar is now online on the church website (www.inglewood-umc.com). Under the Worship heading click on Flowers. Scroll down for instructions to use the calendar to reserve a date. Click on the Sunday you would like to provide flowers. If the date is available, provide your name, email and the message you would like placed in the bulletin regarding the person(s) or event being honored by the flowers. Click 'Submit'. You should get an email confirmation that your date has been reserved.



If you have questions or are unable to make your reservation, call the church office (252-443-2926) and we will be happy to help you. If the Sunday you would like to reserve has already been scheduled and you would like to place flowers in the narthex, please call the church office. As in the past you will receive an email or phone call reminder the week before your scheduled Sunday. **Please Note: Flowers placed in the sanctuary should be no more than 36" wide and 25" high.**

CONFERENCE-WIDE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

JANUARY LAITY LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The January Laity Leadership training will be January 9th from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

It will virtual again this year and the following areas will be covered:
Finance, S/PPRC, Trustee, and Lay Leader.

Please use the following link to register for the training:
<https://nccuc.org/leadership/training/>

PILGRIMAGE

On November 12th—14th, our EUMC Youth participated in our annual Pilgrimage event. This annual retreat includes youth from across the North Carolina Conference, and this year it was hosted right here in Rocky Mount! The speakers and musicians were fantastic, and we learned a lot about the story of Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well. We also connected with other youth groups, ate a lot of good food, and enjoyed fun activities at EUMC and NC Wesleyan College. Our group had an amazing weekend together! Thank you to everyone who helped with this event and to those who have contributed to our Youth Fund which makes activities like this possible for us!



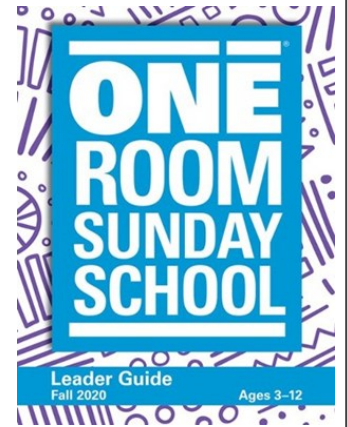
Children's Sunday School

Children 5th grade and younger are invited to join us on the children's hall for a time of learning, fellowship, and fun on Sunday mornings! Our younger children will have a special lesson and activity in our nursery, while our older children journey through the Bible one week at a time. Sunday School will meet from 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Our theme for December is ADVENT.

Here's what we'll be learning about each week:

Date	Topic	Helper
• December 5	Mary's Good News [Luke 1:26-38]	Gary Green
• December 12	Mary and Elizabeth [Luke 1:39-66]	Rita Vickers
• December 19	Jesus' Birth [Luke 2:1-20]	Jeannie Gibbs
• December 26	Simeon and Anna [Luke 2:21-38]	Debbie High



Children's Church



Our children and adult leaders are having such a wonderful time learning about God's Word in Children's Church during worship on Sunday mornings! Children are invited to join us in worship with their families at 10:30 a.m. After a special children's message just for them, our children can go back to the children's hall for more awesome activities! Parents can pick up children on the children's hall after worship ends.

Children's Church Schedule

Our Children's Church theme for December is "Amazing Christmas". Together we'll learn about the miraculous events of the first Christmas and be reminded that if we are willing, God can do great things through us too!

December 5	Amazing Choice [Luke 1:26-38]	Beth Ezzell
December 12	Amazing Night [Luke 2:1-20]	Phyllis Woodley & Kenan Mills
December 19	Amazing Future [Luke 2:21-40]	Savanna Becker
December 26	Amazing Gift [Matthew 2:1-12]	Jessica Ezzell

Bears Christmas Gifting



On Thursday, December 16th, our After-School Bears Club will have our annual Christmas Party! On this day we invite the children to choose and wrap Christmas gifts for their family members, with the help of our volunteers. For some children, this is their only chance to give presents to their loved ones, and it is always a very special occasion for our group.

We have a good number of gifts that would be appropriate for female family members. These are some items we could still use help with:

- Gently used items that for the children to give as presents to their **male relatives or siblings (children's items)**
- Gift bags and tissue
- Gift boxes
- Gift tags

If you would like to donate any of these items, please contact Savanna or bring them by the church sometime before December 16th. Thank you for helping make this Christmas special for our Bears!



UMYF DECEMBER SCHEDULE

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>December 5</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Ladies Night Dinner - Youth Serve Meal
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>December 12</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth Christmas Party
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>December 19</i>	9:30 am 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Sunday School & Worship Youth & Children's Christmas Program & Luminary Prep
<i>Friday</i>	<i>December 24</i>	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Luminary Setup & Christmas Eve Service
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>December 26</i>	9:30 am	Sunday School & Worship <i>No Youth Group Meeting Today</i>

UMYF Dinner Signups

Our UMYF meets on Sundays from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. for dinner, Bible study, games, and fellowship. If you are able to provide a meal for our UMYF one Sunday evening, our group would really appreciate your help! You can either bring the meal or donate financially toward our meal fund. The sign-up list is in the church lobby. Thank you for your ongoing support of our UMYF!

*Note: Our youth won't need any meals provided during December, but we'd love for you to sign up for a night in January! See the available dates below.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Provided By</u>
January 2	Mexican Food	_____
January 9	Comfort Food	_____
January 16	Breakfast for Dinner	_____
January 23	Sandwiches	_____
January 30	Pasta	_____

Christmas Eve Luminaries

The UMYF is having their luminary sale again this year. A form will be included in the worship bulletin on November 28th, December 5th, and December 12th. You may dedicate luminaries in memory or honor of your loved ones. Luminaries are \$1.00 per candle / person. Please place completed forms and payment in the offering plate. You may also place your order in the church office during the week and online at www.inglewood-umc.com/luminaries.

The deadline for placing orders is December 13th.



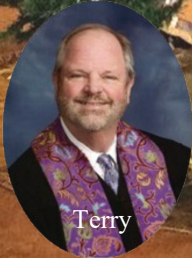
The King's Birthday A Christmas Program by Our EUMC Children & Youth

Join us on Sunday, December 19th at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall as we remember the true meaning of Christmas together! Experience the Christmas story with fresh eyes as our children and youth describe and act out these holy events from the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. Join in as we sing praises to God for this act of incredible love through the gift of his Son, Jesus Christ!





Sharon



Terry



Savanna



Melissa



Christian

Merry
Christmas
From Your
EUMC Staff 2021



Nancy