

DECEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

	<u>5th</u>	<u>12th</u>
Infant Nursery SS Worship Children Worship K-2 Preschool Children's Time Flowers	W. & H. Shelton M. & P. Stone C. Cooke J. Hunter Bells	D. Dougherty N. Lemons & B. Beardsley Christmas Play Christmas Play J. Estep
Infant Nursery SS Worship Children Worship K-2 Preschool Children's Time Flowers	<u>19th</u> L. Allred L. Jee & S. Denny J. & T. Hughes J. & T. Hughes Pastor Sid	<u>26th</u> R. Walker A. Stewart & E. Beeson J. Hunter & M. Beeson J. Hunter & M. Beeson Youth

Acolytes: Rachel Kiger, Kelby Lemons, Matthew Love, Tanner Moore, Hadley Swink, William Swink

Safe Sanctuary Monitoring: Carolyn Cooke, Maxine Kiger, Mike Stone, Pat Stone, Davis Thompson

Wild Cards: Kristy Whitaker

Luke's Group: Gary Thomas

Ushers: Bill Kapp captain, Wade Gentry, Mark Moore, Jerry Holcomb, Gary Thomas, Ike Winebarger and John Warren

Bereavement: Maxine Kiger chair, Madeline Griggs, Lib Kiser, Jan Newsome Faye Ray, Laura Southern, Mame Verdinek and Lynn Boyles

Crisis Control Gift for December;
Cooking Oil

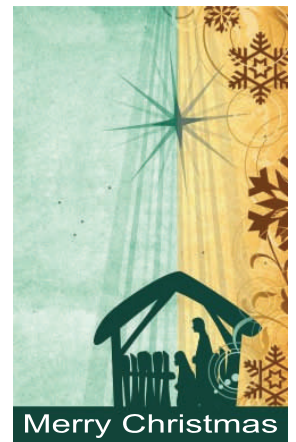
Samaritan Ministries Gift for December;
Bib Aprons & Dish Towels; Men's Warm Winter Gloves

Please place items on the table downstairs.

Kingswood United Methodist Church
Rev. Sidney Lanier, Pastor
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The Messenger

December, 2010



Celebrating Christmas at Kingswood

Advent Service

Sunday, November 28 is the First Sunday of Advent. Please join us for a special service and lighting of the Chrismon Tree at 5:00 pm.

Giving Tree

This is our opportunity to brighten Christmas for five of our Mineral Springs families. Ornaments on the tree list gifts to buy, wrap and put under the tree. Be sure to attach the gift tag to the package. The ornaments have dollar amounts as well. These will be used to buy food for the families. Place the checks, with the ornament, in the collection plate or in the church office. Your generosity provides the only Christmas these families will

Kingswood Christmas Cards

The Youth will provide mailboxes for members to send Christmas cards to each other. Baskets will be in the narthex on Sunday, November 28. Donations are accepted. Please leave your cards on the table and the youth will distribute them alphabetically. Be sure to check the baskets, they will remain up until January 9.

Children's Program December 12

Mark your calendar for Sunday, Dec. 12, at the 11:00 morning worship hour. This year's program will involve adults in speaking parts and the congregation in some of the songs. We have lots of parts for children in various Nativity scenes. Please plan to join us.

Choir Christmas Cantata

Our choir will present their Christmas Cantata, "And Glory Shone Around" on Sunday, December 19 during the 11:00 Worship Service. The choir will be accompanied by an instrumental ensemble. This musical presentation is the result of many weeks of practice by the choir, the director and the organist and is an inspiring highlight of the season.

Treat Bags

In a nod to Christmas past when children and adults were given treats of nuts, fruit and chocolate, Kingswood continues this tradition. Treat bags will be given out the morning of Dec. 19. The bags will be assembled Dec. 17 at 4:00 pm. We need volunteers to assemble the bags. If you are interested, contact LuAnn Winfrey, 924-5606.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

On the night of December 24 at 5:00 pm, we will be lighting the Chrismon Tree and celebrating the Christ Child in scripture, story, song and Holy Communion.

Dear Kingswood Family,

Thank you so very much for all the prayers, cards, notes of support and condolence, food and visits over the last several weeks. Our family has felt surrounded by your love and caring through this very difficult time.

Sharyn Chandler, Monica Potts & Erin Butki

2011 Giving Envelopes

Envelopes will be available in the narthex in December. Please do not begin using the new envelopes until January. Also, after the first of the year, please discard any unused 2010 envelopes.

In an effort to make our bookkeeping MUCH easier, please use your individualized envelopes whenever possible. Thank you.

Annual Fall Bazaar

Thanks to EVERYONE who participated in any way to the Bazaar this year! It was a great success because our Kingswood Family pulled together and worked hard!

Advent Schedule

1st Sunday of Advent, November 28

Advent Service 5:00 pm

2nd Sunday of Advent, December 5

Rural Hall Parade 2:00 pm

3rd Sunday of Advent, December 12

Children's Program 11:00 am

4th Sunday of Advent, December 19

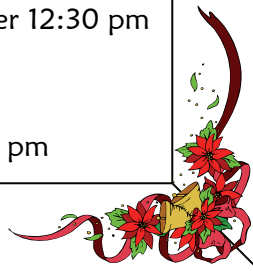
Christmas Cantata 11:00 am

Youth Progressive Dinner 12:30 pm

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24

Holy Communion 5:00 pm



December Birthdays

1 Kevin Southern	7 Laura Warren
1 John Griggs	10 Carol Kiser
2 Faye Ray	11 Mary Carter
2 Don Wilson	11 Marie Horn
2 Kathryn Boyles	12 Harvey Pardue
4 Shirley Moorefield	16 Mildred Ingram
5 Lib Kiser	18 Juanita Pardue
5 Brian Hansel	20 Courtney Winfrey
6 Jack Cooke	23 Jessica Rogers
6 Michael Schlotfeldt	24 Amanda Wright
6 Susan Denny	25 Tanner Moore
7 Janet Andrews	25 Laura Sheets
7 Sally Carpenter	25 Myra Hunter

Keep In Your Prayers

Doug Butler
Ava Ferguson—Julia Edgeworth's sister
Eva Kiger
Helen Lanier – Pastor Sid's mother
Ella Mae Myers—Dora Lee Shouse's sister
Tina Lehr – Redmond family friend
Nancy Plunkett
Gary Thomas
John Thomas – brother of Mary Carter & Mildred Ingram
Judy Wall
Carol Whitaker



Military

All those serving in the Military

Sergeant Mark Weavil, Afghanistan
Relative of Dot Kiger

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Advent is upon us and we are counting down the days before Christmas. The meaning of Advent comes from the word Adventure. We are going on an Adventure, heading toward Christmas. We are getting ready for the birth of Jesus.

The lessons will focus on Mary being told she is expecting the Messiah. When she learns of this she replies by "saying let it happen, I am ready."

How do we get ready for the birth of Jesus? I know we are already having practice for the Christmas Cantata. We are getting ready for the Rural Hall Christmas parade. We will get our homes ready and decorate for the season.

How do we prepare our hearts? Do we expect something special to happen in us and around us at this time of the year?

As we get ready for the season take time to read the Christmas stories found in Luke and Matthew. These stories are different in how they present the birth of Jesus. Ask God to speak to you as you read the story of the birth of His Son. Pay attention to the means of grace offered by Kingswood UMC during this season. The Cantata, Holy Communion on Christmas Eve, The Children's Christmas Play. Let these events speak to you about the birth of the Son of God.

Focus on Jesus' impending birth. Ask God to surprise you this season with something new and different in your life. It could be a new and refreshed attitude. It could be a re-born heart and mind. It could be renewed faith in Jesus. Let God work in you a miracle of new birth. Let God surprise you.

If God is going to do this you must, like Mary, say let it happen and let it happen in my life. We must be ready to receive what God has for us. May this season be a special time for you and your family. May God renew his spirit within you.

See you at the place where we will celebrate new birth and new life each week. See you at Kingswood UMC.

His Servant,
Pastor Sid

Youth News

The youth have caught the Christmas Spirit! We have decorated the Chrismon Tree, the Giving Tree and the Sanctuary. Several activities are planned for December, including making luminaries and our annual progressive dinner. Ho! Ho! Ho!

We are blessed to have so many youth that love God and love this church. The senior high youth have a "Catchup" group that meets every Wednesday evening where they share prayer concerns and also have a devotion.

We have a couple of missions planned during Christmas break. We welcome anyone who would like to come and share with your youth group on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm.

Thank you for all of your love and support to our youth.

In Christ,
LuAnn

PlaySchool Corner

Christmas is in the air! Picture Perfect will be here on December 2, 5:00-8:00 pm taking Christmas pictures. If you would like an appointment please call 969-2458. Please join us on December 9 and 10 at 10:00 am for our Christmas Programs. The children have worked very hard.

Thank you for your prayers and support. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Until next time,
LuAnn

Endowment Fund Makes \$1,000 Distribution

The Kingswood Endowment Fund continues making possible special ministries that touch lives within our congregation and beyond! How does it work? For 14 years now, Kingswood congregation members and others have made gifts to the Endowment Fund ... gifts that are invested so the income can provide an ongoing source of above-and-beyond outreach and support.

Yes, the investments are impacted when the economy is down, but they also benefit in strong economies. As a result, a distribution has been made each year, including this year, without invading the fund's principal, which remains intact and continues to grow as contributions are made and investment gains accumulate over time.

This year, a \$1,000 distribution was made from the Endowment Fund, and the Church Council has voted to designate \$500 of that amount to the church's Good Samaritan Fund, which goes to help local people in need. The remaining \$500 will be used to support our growing children's ministries.

Many thanks to those who give small amounts in honor of or in memory of loved ones ... and those who have designated the Endowment Fund in their will. If you have questions or would like additional information about the Fund, contact Darle Shouse.

CHILDREN'S DIVISION NEWS

Lots going on in December! Please mark these dates on your calendar:

Sunday, Dec. 5 – Bible Buddies. Bring your lunch and gather round as we continue learning about the Bible, make gifts and make sure we have our costumes all set for the Christmas play.

Sunday, Dec. 5 – Rural Hall Christmas Parade. We'll have a float this year and children, parents and other members of the congregation are invited to climb aboard. We'll leave Kingswood around 2:00 (watch for details) and will go down Broad Street and back to the church. Please bring a large bag of candy to toss to the folks who will line the streets to watch and wave.

Saturday, Dec. 11 – 10:00 a.m. Dress rehearsal for Christmas Play. There are parts for all children, so let Miss Deb (Pappalardo) know if you haven't received information about your role. Check with Miss Jo about your costume makings.

Sunday, Dec. 12 – Christmas Play during morning worship. Invite your grandparents and friends!

Sunday, Dec. 19 – We'll show a special movie during Children's Worship.

Sunday, Dec. 26 – We'll have a Birthday Party for Jesus during Children's Worship.

Hopefully all families received your **Advent book** for use throughout Dec.. Please find a few quiet minutes each night to help your children capture the deeper meaning of this very special time of year.

Hopefully you also received a family **Advent wreath** the children put together. Each Sunday, we hope you sit around the family table, light a candle, read the scripture and build a tradition that will stay with your children for life.

We will be using our offering to purchase Bibles for families through the Giving Tree. Thank you for helping your child develop the habit of bringing an offering to church each week.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU! Many thanks to Brett Beardsley, who led our November Bible Buddies program, helping Kingswood children have a ton of fun beating the drums as we continued learning the books of the Bible with Miss Erin. Great turnout, great together time!

Thanks to Miss Erin for preparing special **Thanksgiving Trees** for each family with children, providing a great way to remember the many ways God has blessed us. She also created a CD for each family with children's songs about being thankful.

INTRODUCING ERIN MOONEYHAM, OUR CHILDREN'S INTERN

Please provide a warm Kingswood welcome to Erin Mooneyham, a freshman at Wake Forest University, who will be working with Miss Jo and other members of our Children's Council to provide additional support for our children's program. A native of Raleigh, Erin is a member of North Raleigh UMC, and she worked extensively with children in her church and community throughout her high school years. We are thankful to the Wesley Foundation at WFU for helping us connect with Erin. (Note: Funding for this part-time internship was provided by an anonymous gift along with \$500 from this year's Endowment Fund distribution. Many thanks to all who contribute to the Endowment Fund, making possible this kind of above-and-beyond ministry.)