



Sounds of the Season

Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome I've received as the new Director of Music Ministries. I am blessed to be here at FUPC and I look forward to getting to know each of you in the coming weeks and months.

Our Music Ministry has an exciting season of music planned for Advent and Christmas. For the First Sunday of Advent (December 1), our Chancel Choir will be singing "Let There Be Peace on Earth" which will be a wonderful tie-in to our theme for Advent which focuses on peace.

The Second Sunday of Advent (December 8), our Handbell Choir will ring "Unto Us a Child is Born" and our choir will sing an anthem entitled, "The Lord Emmanuel" composed by Bill Burrows and myself. (The anthem focuses on Jesus as the Prince of Peace.)

On the Third Sunday of Advent (December 15), we will have our choral cantata entitled, "Christmas Canticles" which will feature our Chancel Choir, youth, and children. The cantata will be intertwined within the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services.

For the Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 22), our Chancel Choir will sing a gorgeous arrangement of Craig Courtney's setting of "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" (which is usually based on G. F. Händel's arrangement of the tune). Craig Courtney decided to write a new melody to Nahum Tate's words. He writes in his composer's notes: "I want this anthem to transport listeners to the hills surrounding Bethlehem to join the shepherds under the night sky. The mood is dreamy, the tempo is elastic and the recurring motif high in the piano's keyboard is intended to evoke starlight. So this anthem essentially becomes a choral nocturne."

On Christmas Eve at 5:00 p.m., we will have Christmas music played in the Gathering Place by members of the worship band. Come early to prepare your hearts for worship! At 5:30 p.m., we will have our annual Candlelight Christmas Eve service. Our choir will sing the lovely anthem, "The Wexford Carol" arranged by Dale Warland. Our featured instrumental soloist for the anthem will be Haley Jackson (flutist).

Please join us as we invite the peace of Christ into our hearts this season.

Blessings,
Isaac Thomas
Director of Music Ministries



COME AND SING A SONG OF CHRISTMAS!

The children will be learning Celebration at the Manger and Christmas music from 10:15-10:30 a.m. every Sunday through December 22. Meet with Isaac Thomas, our brand new Director of Music Ministries, in Lower Knox as part of the Spiritual Growth hour. We'll have a lot of fun continuing the friendship we built through Stone Soup.

*Gospel
Generosity*



*Grateful
Giving*

2020 Stewardship Campaign

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to those who have chosen to pledge and turned in their pledge cards and time and talent forms. If you have not already turned in your pledge, please return it by December 1. If you are unable to attend worship, you may mail it to the Church Office or pledge online. Our goal for this year's pledge campaign is \$638,885, which is a 6.48% increase in pledged income. The increase includes funding for a new communications ministry, funding to increase the use of music and liturgical arts to enhance worship, a 5.5% increase in the outreach ministry budget, funding for more fellowship opportunities for new members, youth and young adults, an increase in camp and conference scholarships, and a cost of living increase for pastors and staff. After December 1, the Stewardship Ministry Team will begin reminder calls to those regular pledgers whose pledges have not yet been received. Session will make decisions about the actual 2020 budget based on the pledges received.

In 2015, the Trustees and Session voted to offer the congregation four focused opportunities for planned Giving: ministry, mission and outreach, properties and education. At the November meeting, Session took steps towards implementing this decision. A Mission and Outreach Restricted Fund has been established. The terms of the fund require the Outreach and Service Ministry to spend five percent of the value of the fund each year. Fifteen thousand dollars from the outreach portion of the Stalker gift will be placed in this fund as the initial gift. If you would like more information about planned giving opportunities, please contact Pastor Phil Butin, Trustees Jane Scroggs or Walt Manger, or Treasurer Tom Verdery.

Blessings,
Stewardship Ministry Team



(Adult Pledge Card)



(Adult Time and Talent Form)



(Children's Pledge Card)



(Children's Time and Talent Form)

EMERGENCY PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral
CARE

Our co-pastors, Phil and Jan Butin, will be away from the office November 24-29 to celebrate Thanksgiving with North Carolina friends. If you need a pastor during this time, two ministers who know the congregation well and frequently worship at FUPC have graciously offered to cover emergency care. You are welcome to contact them at the numbers below.

Sunday – Tuesday Rev. John King
Wednesday – Friday Rev. Susan Gray

479-409-3667-c
479-236-7588-c

479-521-5007-h