

# Announcements

December 2, 2018



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[www.UnityFortMill.org](http://www.UnityFortMill.org)

**TODAY IS PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY SUNDAY** for the Fort Mill Care Center. Collection bins are located in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.

**A SIX-WEEK STUDY CONTINUES THIS WEEK** for adults of all ages, entitled *Witness of Religion in an Age of Fear*, on Sunday mornings **at 10:00 a.m. in the church library, Room U212**. This study will continue through December 9<sup>th</sup>. We're grappling with why we as a culture allow fear to play such a large role in our lives. This discussion-based study engages participants in understanding the manipulative power of fear and how our Christian faith calls us to reject it.

**ADVENT BEGINS TODAY.** Devotion booklets with devotions written by youth and adults in our congregation, as well as pop-up Advent calendars for young children, are available today in the Narthex. The daily devotions written by our congregation members are also available on the church website and Facebook page. Be sure and share these with your friends and neighbors.

**NEXT SUNDAY** is the **FINAL** date for submitting **CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL & HONORARIUM** forms to the church office. Forms are available in the church office, are found in the Welcome Pads, or can be downloaded from the church website. Please make your check payable to Unity, and write 'Christmas Memorial/Honorarium' on the memo line. **The deadline for these gifts is Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**. A booklet listing these gifts will be available in the Narthex on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

**THE CHRISTMAS AUCTION** will be held **TOMORROW**. Plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall for a hot dog supper at 5:30 pm, followed by the silent and live auctions. All proceeds will be divided equally between the Nutrition Center and the Fort Mill Care Center.

**CARDS ARE A WONDERFUL WAY** to express our Christian love and care for each other. What better way to show someone you care than sending a Christmas greeting through Unity's own Christmas Post. You will find the mailboxes in the Narthex hallway. Guidelines are:

- Address your cards with first and last names of your Unity friends
- Place your Christmas cards to Unity members in the appropriate boxes.
- Place the money you would have used for postage in one of the boxes provided
- Check your box frequently to retrieve your mail, even if you didn't send your greetings through Unity Christmas Post

The postage money will go to our Pastors' Discretionary Fund for them to use to help those in need. If you write a check to Unity for your postage, please mark it "Unity Post". This will be tax deductible. Unity Christmas Post will be up **through January 6<sup>th</sup>**. Cards will be placed in a box in the Narthex **through January 13<sup>th</sup>**, and any left will then be recycled. Christmas blessings to all!

**ALL ADULTS ARE INVITED** to a Christmas Covered-Dish Dinner in the Fellowship Hall on **Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm**. Contact Joyce White at [murrayw@comporium.net](mailto:murrayw@comporium.net) for more information.

**RED DECEMBER YEAR OF THE BIBLE BOOKMARKS** are available on the Year of the Bible table in the Narthex Hallway. We have one month left! Finish strong! If you have fallen behind, take a few more weeks to finish your reading in January.

**NOMINATIONS ARE CURRENTLY BEING ACCEPTED** for the annual *Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership Award*. Nomination forms can be picked up in the Narthex, church office, or online. Completed nomination forms should be turned in to the church office **by December 8<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Ruth Boetsch ([grboetsch@comporium.net](mailto:grboetsch@comporium.net)) if you have any questions or need additional information.

**A “WELCOME TO UNITY” COFFEE** will be held **Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am** in the Hospitality Room, M201. This is a time for new folks and visitors to come together with members to learn more about Unity Presbyterian Church. You will hear about our church, its mission, service, and how God might be calling you here. You will have an opportunity to ask questions. Follow the hallway to the right as you leave the Narthex. Room M201 will be on the left. You are welcome to join us!

**INTERESTED IN A TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND?** There will be a short meeting on **December 9<sup>th</sup>** immediately after the 11:00 service in Room M210 to discuss possible plans for a group trip to the Holy Land in March of 2020. Anyone who may have an interest in joining others from Unity on this trip is welcome to attend this meeting. Optional trip itineraries and costs, etc. will be discussed. If you are unable to attend the meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>, contact Dan Rogers at 864-245-3122 for more information.

**THE LUNCH BUNCH** will have their annual covered dish luncheon on **Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Margaret Monroe will be with us for a Christmas sing-along. Bring your favorite dish and join us for good food and Christmas Spirit.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ANGELIC CELEBRATION** for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, at our *Birthday Party for Jesus*, on **Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to bring their young children to this family event, where we will celebrate through crafts, games, songs, and a snack. Birthday gifts will be donated to the Fort Mill Care Center. Diapers (size 3 and up), baby wipes, baby food, and Gerber baby formula are most needed at this time.

**ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK’S QUESTIONS** for *Year of the Bible*:

- John was on the island of Patmos when he received the message of Revelation. (Revelation 1:9)
- Psalm 139 affirms that the Lord knows all about us, wherever we go.

**THIS WEEK’S QUESTION:**

- What is John told when he weeps because no one is worthy to open the scroll sealed with seven seals?

**FROM THE FINANCIAL OFFICE – 2018 Contributions:** In order for your year-end contributions to be credited to 2018 giving, they must be delivered to the office or dropped in an offering plate by December 31, 2018. Online transactions must occur before January 1<sup>st</sup> and any contribution we receive via the U.S. Postal Service must be postmarked before January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**SIMILAR TO LAST YEAR, AN ANONYMOUS DONOR** is willing to **MATCH UP TO \$10,000** of donations to the Endowment Program **received by December 31<sup>st</sup>**. If we meet this challenge, the Endowment Board will be in a position, per their governing Policies and Procedures, to allow distributions after fiscal year end June 30, 2019. Thanks to the generosity of past donors, the Endowment Program met the distribution requirement for the first time to make distributions supporting five (5) Unity ministries in 2018: Children’s Sensory Room - \$3,000; All Church Read - \$2,000; Youth Triennium - \$750; Lunch Bunch - \$500; Creative Connections - \$200. Please help us meet this challenge in *Creating a Legacy Today for a Faithful Tomorrow*. For more information about the Endowment Program, visit our website under the Stewardship tab <http://unityfortmill.org/endowmentprogram>

**DO YOU KNOW THAT** there are two (2) ways to be added to **Unity's Prayer Chain**, or to ask for prayer for family, friends, or neighbors? Email requests to Dannie Vaughn ([vaughndl@comporium.net](mailto:vaughndl@comporium.net)) or call Jerry Brady (803-547-7411).

**REGISTER NOW FOR FAITH & SEXUALITY RETREAT AT BETHELWOODS** for 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents. The event is presented by Providence Presbytery's Education and Equipping Ministry Team and Bethelwoods. Led by Chaplain Nicole Newton, this overnight retreat is designed to open communication as your youth looks toward all the changes that are coming as she/he enters middle and high school. The goal is to help parents set these and future conversations around puberty, adolescence, and sexuality within the context of faith, and learn to share your values as you talk with your youth about these topics. The overnight retreat will be held **February 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**; cost is \$100 per youth. Register online at <https://www.ultracamp.com/info/sessionDetail.aspx?idCamp=465&idSession=198271&campCode=bcc> Kathryn McGregor is on the planning team for this event and will be one of the chaperones. Please speak to Kathryn McGregor or Rev. Lindsay White for more information.

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR PASSPORTkids! Camp for Summer 2019.** Unity will take a group to PASSPORTkids! Camp at Montreat Conference Center June 30 - July 3, 2019. This fun-filled four-day, three-night camp is for children and youth who are currently in 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Kathryn McGregor and other Unity adult chaperones will travel with the group to Montreat for camp. The cost is \$335. **A non-refundable registration deposit of \$100 is due by January 9<sup>th</sup>.** Register on the church website at: <http://unityfortmill.org/childrens-ministries>

### **Pastors:**

Rev. Mark Diehl  
Interim Senior Pastor  
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Rev. Jeannie Bickett  
Senior Associate Pastor  
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Rev. Lindsay White  
Associate Pastor for Youth  
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