

Sunday Morning Worship Service

December 2, 2018

11:00 A.M.

Announcements

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Call to Worship

"Little Drummer Boy"

"Away In a Manger"

Cherubs and Larks

Advent Reading

Bill and Brenda Merritt

Greetings and Welcoming Visitors – Fellowship Moments

Opening Hymn 216

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Affirm Our Faith 881

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen!

Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Anthem

"Advent Glory and Joy"

Chancel Choir

Hymn 218

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

Tithe and Offering

Handbell Choir

Offertory

"Carol of the Bells"

Doxology (Hymn 95)

Scripture Reading

Romans 15:4, 12-13, New Testament, pg. 163

Sermon

"All I Want for Christmas is **HOPE**"

Rev. Jim Smith

Hymn 368

"My Hope Is Built"

Benediction



The Messenger

First United Methodist Church
209 Church Street / PO Box 150
Vidalia, Georgia 30475
(912) 537-3068

www.vidaliafumc.org

December 2, 2018
VOLUME 55, NO. 48

ADVENT

The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent.

Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, of anticipation, of preparation, of longing. There is a yearning for deliverance from the evils of the world, first expressed by Israelite slaves in Egypt as they cried out from their bitter oppression. It is the cry of those who have experienced the tyranny of injustice in a world under the curse of sin, and yet who have hope of deliverance by a God who has heard the cries of the oppressed. We today, live in this blessed hope that Jesus the King is returning to rule with truth, justice and righteousness over His people and all of His creation.

(adapted from a longer article by Dennis Bratcher, published at <http://www.cresourcei.org/cyadvent.html>)

Advent/Christmas Sermon Series – "All I Want for Christmas is..."

Dec. 2, 2018

Scripture- Romans 15:4, 12-13

Sermon- "All I Want for Christmas is **HOPE**"

Dec. 9, 2018

Scripture- Romans 5:1-2; 12:18

Sermon- "All I Want for Christmas is **PEACE**"

Dec. 16, 2018

Scripture- Philippians 4:4-7

Sermon- "All I Want for Christmas is **JOY**"

Dec. 23, 2018

Scripture- Luke 2:8-11

Sermon- "All I Want for Christmas is a **SAVIOR**"

Dec. 24, 2018

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
4:00 and 5:30 pm

Make plans to come and invite friends, neighbors, and family members to join you, as we experience inspiring worship services together, during this Advent/Christmas season!

Jim

Congregational Prayer Concerns

Adrian Collins, Kim Clift, Janie Torrance (grandmother of Sarah Beck & Michael Torrance), Caroline Blocker (sister of Wes Kicklighter), Terry Whigham, Don Betts, Heather Overstreet (daughter in law of Bill & Diane Meeks), Bill Dyke (father of Patti Feimster), Jessie Conley (friend of Deanna Glisson), Elvin Wrenn (brother of Janice Butler), Bob Bays, Jim Pitchford (father of Leslie Hodges), Robert Miles (brother of Barbara Miller), Aubryen Clemens, William Phillips (father of Angela Combs), Paula Powell (sister of Joan Hutcheson), Sue Jackson (pastor of Grace UMC), Cathy Salter Brandenburg, Claire Johnson

Bethany Home

1309 E. North St., PO Box 668, Hwy. 292,
Vidalia, GA
Steven Bostwick
Nell Hodges

Bethany Assisted Living

1400 Main St. NE, Vidalia, GA
Nell Yancey

Oxley Park

181 Oxley Drive, Lyons, GA
Nell Hopkins
Derotha Rocker

Summer's Landing

311 Jerriel Street, Vidalia, GA
Thornton & Mary Ellen Dixon

Meadows Park Health & Rehab.

Anne Wolfe

Renaissance Marquis

3126 Cedartown Hwy. SW Suite 3116
Rome, GA 30161
Frances Moore

ATTENDANCE & STEWARDSHIP	November 25
Sunday School	153
Morning Worship Total	289
9:00 AM	189
11:00 AM	100
Online Viewers	7
BUDGET NEEDS	November 25
Total Receipts	8,077.84
Actual Receipts YTD	734,682.44
Actual Exp. Paid YTD	717,179.18
Apportionments Not Paid	41,507.50
BUILDING FUND	November 25
Total Building Receipts	420.00
Building Loan Balance	825,970.72



Our church is selling beautiful red poinsettias for \$15. All proceeds will go

to "Love and Mercy Fund". Make checks payable to VFUMC marked "Poinsettia." Money is due upon ordering.

Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary December 16, and may be picked up after church on Sunday, December 23.

Please note In Honor/In Memory information below and return to the church office by Mon., December 10.

Please include the following information as you wish it to appear in the bulletin:

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Number of Poinsettias: _____

Given by: _____

OLDER ADULTS

On our recent Older Adult survey, several of you said you are interested in an exercise class. If you are, please fill in form and turn in to the church office or place in the offering plate.

NAME: _____

YOUTH NEWS

Sunday, December 2nd
 10am "Now What"?
 5pm Bingo

Wednesday, December 5th
 6pm Youth Worship

UPDATE ON OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Our Operation Christmas Child Packing Party was a huge success! I want to say a big THANK YOU to all of you who gave financially, donated items, packed boxes, and helped with set-up and breakdown to make this event such a wonderful night. I am excited to say that we crushed our goal of 200 boxes/100+ volunteers/\$1800. We packed 281 boxes, had almost 200 volunteers, and over \$3,000 was given!!! Because of the work that was done right here in our church, 281 kids across the world will receive a box packed with gifts, hygiene items, school supplies, and most importantly, the Gospel Message. Thank you again for using your resources to be a blessing to others. It's an honor to do God's work with you all!

-Sean Sasser

STAFF APPRECIATION

As the Advent and Christmas season approaches, we would like to show our staff here at VFUMC how much they are appreciated. There are several ways you can do this: you can write them an encouraging note, email them or give some other expression of thanks and love. Please give your token of appreciation to the staff member.

Merry Christmas,
 Staff Parish Relations Committee

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

We wish to express our Christian Sympathy to Jesslyn Phillips on the death of her grandfather, Elbert Phillips of Glenwood.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

December 10 – Church Council, 5:30 PM, Small Dining Room.
 December 17 – Finance, 5:30 PM, Era Alexander Classroom.
 December 18 – Missions, 5:30 PM, Prayer/Conference Room.

FOOD MISSION PROJECT

The Mission Committee prepares monthly food boxes for those who may come by the office in need of groceries. Each month a different item will be collected in marked bins around the church. We are asking each family to bring 1 jar of peanut butter and 1 jar of grape jelly in December.



SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLE SIGN UP

If you are interested in ringing the bell for Salvation Army this year on Mondays, contact Connie in the church office to sign up. Two hour increments.



BULLETIN VIA EMAIL

Please subscribe on our website:
<http://vidaliafumc.org/Home/Sub/Connect/Subscribe>.

ADULT CHRISTMAS CANTATA

December 16th, 6 PM

Members in Ministry

- Ushers 9 A.M. - Josh Owen, Josh Beck
 11 A.M. - Joey Herndon, Trip Thompson, Chan Patel, Matt Oxley, Tim Medford, John Blewett
- Greeters 9 A.M. - Jana Owen, Sara Beck, Ginny Anne Lipscomb, Allison Osborne
 Children's Church Leader 9 A.M. - Stephanie Jones, Michelle Menard (Pre K & K)
 11 A.M. - Ashley Crump (Pre K)
- Video Team - Anna Marie Tyson, Diane Meeks
- Audio Technician - John Tyson

Welcome to FUEL Worship at Vidalia First UMC!

- Opening Songs of Praise
- Welcome and Greeting
- Song of Praise
- Tithe and Offering
- Prayer
- Scripture Lesson Romans 15:4, 12-13, New Testament
- Message "All I Want for Christmas is Hope" Rev. Jim Smith
- Song of Praise