

Long Memorial UMC

December 2010

REMEMBER: Deadline for our January newsletter is Monday, December 20th at 5:00 P.M. You may bring any articles to the church office or e-mail your articles to: pwade@esinc.net – Thank you!

PRAYER CHAIN: Members of the prayer chain are offering daily prayers for those on our prayer list. If you, or someone you love, would like daily prayers for a special need, please call either Tania Edwards (599-3863) or Martha Butler (597-3946).

Worship With Us Every Sunday

8:45 AM - Early Service - Chapel

9:45 AM - Sunday School

11:00 AM - Worship - Sanctuary

OUR INFORMATION

Long Memorial United Methodist Church

226 North Main Street

P.O. Box 310 Roxboro, NC 27573

336-599-1193 (Telephone)

336-599-1194 (Fax)

Rev. Bruce Allen Contact Information:

508 Clayton Avenue, Roxboro, NC 27573

Home: 336-599-2284

Cell: 336-504-1240

E-mail: fallen@nccumc.org

MEDICAL CONCERNS: Bobby Long – At home

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

“And she will bear a Son; and you will call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21 NIV Bible)

Preparation. Athletes prepare their bodies for the game, the race, the big event. Coaches prepare the teams so that they might work together to beat the other team. We prepare meals, or prepare presentations for work. Parents prepare children to grow up and be an asset to society. Likewise Christians prepare their hearts as well as their homes and churches for the birth of the Christ Child.

We have just begun the season of Advent. Advent means “Coming” and during this season we prepare our hearts and minds as we look forward to Christmas day, and the celebration of the birth of Jesus. The season of Advent has four Sundays, each building upon one another as the day of His birth draws closer. During this journey to Christmas, we see the liturgical colors change to purple. We hear readings from Scripture which tell of the birth of the Savior. We sing Advent songs which for some reason frustrate many of us, for many of them are foreign to us. And that is part of the discipline of Advent.

You see, Advent is a journey. We begin from a distance, knowing what lies at the end, but knowing it is a long way away. Things seem unfamiliar at the beginning, the hymns, the Scriptures, the gist of the messages. But as we grow closer to Christmas day, the messages, music and Scriptures become more familiar.

Beloved, some things are worth the journey. As you decorate your house, as you see the community of Roxboro aglow with the red and green of Christmas, may we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child. May we sweep out the dust and debris collected through the year, and cry out to God, “O Come, O Come Emmanuel!”

Bruce

ALPHA COURSE 2011

The ALPHA course will begin on Sunday night, January 2, 2011 at 6:00 in the evening in the Lewis fellowship hall. This fifteen week course will touch on many topics of the Christian faith, including; *“Who is Jesus? Why did Jesus Die? How can I be sure of my faith? What about the church? Does God heal today? How and why should I read the Bible?”* as well as others.

This fifteen week course will be open to the first fifteen people, so it is imperative to contact the pastor soon so that you might be guaranteed a spot. The cost will be only for the student handbook, which costs \$5.00. There will be a meal shared each Sunday night, then a DVD is shown and then there is a time of discussion where the participants discuss either what they just saw on the DVD or something else they may have had laid on their hearts. One of the rules of the ALPHA course states that there are not questions too simple or hostile to ask.

Please consider participating in the ALPHA course! These weeks can change the rest of your life!

GROWING HAND IN HAND!

We felt very fortunate to have 14 tutors from Long Memorial begin working with the students from South Elementary this school year, which were 3 more than when we began in 2007. And now we're being blessed with 8 more tutors, for a total of 22! And for that we can thank our friends at Brookland and Brooksdale UMC's.

PUMP (Person United Methodist Parishes) has expressed a strong interest in its churches developing programs like Hand in Hand, with the thought that this would encourage other denominations to develop similar programs so Person could be considered a Communities in Schools county. And Brookland and Brooksdale have stepped forward as the first among those who are interested.

Since they are small churches and haven't enough volunteers yet to run their own program, they asked if they could join our team, and we readily agreed. Since their volunteer tutors include their pastor, Rev. Ismael Ruiz-Millan and his wife, we now also have two additional persons who can serve as Spanish translators. They are all just waiting for their paperwork to be completed to begin working with students.

Our only problem now is to decide upon a new name for our Hand in Hand program, since "Brookland, Brooksdale with Long Memorial UMC Hand in Hand with South Elementary" is quite a mouthful. Any suggestions?

God is truly blessing our endeavor!

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy is extended to:

...C.L. & Arthur Oakley in the death of their aunt, Sudie Oakley Bowling;

...Tom Andrews in the death of his brother, Alfred Andrews.

Budget Pledges for 2011

Pledges Received 84

Amount Pledged \$243,122

Please turn in your pledge cards as soon as possible.

CHRISTIAN HELP CENTER NEEDS : canned fruits and canned vegetables. A basket is in the Narthex for you to place your donations in. Thank you!

DECEMBER ACOLYTES:

December 5 – Carly Allen
December 12 – Cole Strickland
December 12: Lovefeast – Katie Pleasant
December 19 – Wyatt Kimbrough
December 26 – Ashley Stewart

DECEMBER NURSERY SCHEDULE FOR 11:00 A.M.

December 5 – Sherry Deal
December 12 – Christy King
December 19 – Emily Humphries
December 26 – Janet Clayton

DECEMBER LAY READERS:

December 5 – 9 A.M. – **Alan Hicks**
11 A.M. – **Tom Loftis**
December 12 – 9 A.M. – **Gene Alston**
11 A.M. – **Ralph Lewis**
December 19 – 9 A.M. – **Stephen Saunders**
11 A.M. – **Jan Kerr**
December 26 – 9 A.M. – **Terry Allen**
11 A.M. – **Ralph Lewis**

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

December 04 – Patti Morgan
December 08 – George Gentry
December 11 – Mackenzie Clayton
December 12 – Fran Westmoreland, Dolly Denton
December 14 – Caroline Cates
December 15 – Becky Brann
December 16 – Daphne Crumpton, Brian Lowery
December 18 – Ed Harvey
December 19 – Mark Allen
December 20 – Charlie Stewart
December 21 – Clay Tuck
December 22 – Ron Johnson
December 23 – Huldah Berryhill, Marion Tillett
December 25 – Bob Blanks
December 27 – Harvey Ellis
December 28 – Cathy Lowery, Karla Peed, Susan Claire Bailey
December 29 – Nannette Carver
December 30 – Will Carver, Claiborne Tuck, Carol Silbaugh

UNITED METHODIST MEN INVITE YOU

On Sunday, December 19th, the United Methodist Men will have their annual church wide December breakfast. Everyone is invited at 8:00 A.M. to the Harris Fellowship Hall for this time of Christmas fellowship!

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Please plan to worship on Christmas Eve at our 7:00 P.M. worship service in the church sanctuary.

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE LONG MEMORIAL MEMBERS WHO ARE LIVING IN VARIOUS FACILITIES WITH A NOTE OF CHRISTMAS CHEER!

Canterbury House - P.O. Box 1851; Roxboro, NC 27573

Marion Tillett

Betty Garrett

Becky Clayton

PCMH Extended Care - 615 Ridge Road; Roxboro, NC 27573

Rose Paradis

Vergie Clayton

Norma Burnett

Cambridge Hills - 5660 Durham Road; Roxboro, NC 27574

Ed Harvey

Otha Day

Roxboro Nursing Center – 901 Ridge Road; Roxboro, NC 27573

Bob Kirby

Elizabeth Humphries

Nell Williams

UMYF...

EVENING YOUTH THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Dinner Provided. Bring \$3.00.

ALL YOUTH HELPING WITH THE LOVE FEAST MUST BE HERE at 5:00 p.m. this Sunday!

SHEILA MITCHNER WILL BE GOING OVER WHAT YOU WILL BE DOING!

Thank you for helping with this Special Service.

Our annual Youth Christmas Dinner will be at The Allen's House on Crestwood Drive.

Sunday, December 12

Bring a \$10.00 wrapped gift!

We will gather in the Church Parking Lot immediately following the Love Feast.

Dress Warm..... We will be Carolling down Crestwood and Gordon Streets!

Senior High Youth – 9th-12th grades...

It is time to be thinking about our mission trip to the Hinton Rural Life Center in Hayesville, NC.

The Date is JULY 17 -22, 2011. Let me know if you are interested. They only offer a few weeks and they fill up very fast. I need to send in the deposit. Go ahead and mark your calendar and let me know this

Sunday at Youth.

Calendar:

Dec. 5 – Youth 5-7

Dec. 12 – Love Feast and Dinner at The Allen's

Dec. 19 – No evening youth.

Dec. 26 – No evening youth. Make this a special time with your Family and Friends.

"We all are given the gifts of hope, joy, and life. The gifts we give to one another are our Way of sharing God's gifts to us---- reminding one another of the goodness of our Savior. Joy to the World!"

Preschool News

Preschool News

If you were to stop by the church on any given morning during the first two weeks of December you will find memories that are being made.....

- Sounds of Christmas Carols ringing from Classroom to Classroom...
- Wonderful smells of baking...
- Beautiful Christmas decorations created by the children and displayed in the classrooms and hallways for all to see and enjoy...
- Listening to the Christmas Story and learning that LOVE was born at Christmas...
- Excited young children playing with completely unbreakable and touchable manger scenes... Telling and retelling the Christmas Story...
- Decorating classroom Christmas trees...
- Celebrating Christmas in Story and Music presented by the Long Memorial 4's On Friday, December 10th 7:00 p.m. Church Sanctuary.
- "Jesus Cake" to be shared by ALL.

"The Joy of Giving"

*For Somehow not only at Christmas,
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others
Is the joy that comes back to you.*

*And the more you spend in blessing
The poor and lonely and sad
The more of your heart's possessing
Returns to make you glad.*

By: John Greenleaf Whittier

**Long Memorial Preschool will be closed December 13 and reopen on January 3!
Merry Christmas!**

Lovefeast

December 12 at 5:00 p.m.

Don't forget the beauty and solemnity of the Christmas Lovefeast worship service on Sunday, December 12 at 5:00 p.m. Certainly this is an important event in the life of our church, but it is so much more. In many ways the Lovefeast is our church's gift to the community to help remind everyone that is hurried with Christmas shopping, busy baking Christmas goodies, and pre-occupied with cleaning up the house for company the real meaning of this season. As you make plans to attend this service, please invite some of your friends to come as well. *A nursery will be provided for this service.* Please bring an unwrapped gift or two to place under the Chrismom Tree. These presents will be given to Santa's Helpers and shared with families who are in need this Christmas season.

THE 2011 FLOWER CALENDAR IS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE HALLWAY - PLEASE STOP BY AND SIGN UP FOR A SUNDAY TO PLACE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY.

