

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 15

9:30 A.M. Adult Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Worship in the Sanctuary
12:30 – 5:00 P.M. Nativity Scene (Chapel)
4:00 P.M. Lancaster Concert

Tuesday, December 17

9:00 A.M. GED Class (2nd fl)
10:00 A.M. Tapestry (Bell Room)
7:30 P.M. SCB Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, December 19

9:00 A.M. GED Class (2nd fl)
6:00 P.M. Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Bell Room)
7:30 P.M. Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Friday, December 20

4:00 - 8:00 P.M. Nativity Scene (Chapel)

Saturday, December 21

12:00-8:00 P.M. Nativity Scene (Chapel)

Sunday, December 22

12:30- 5:00 P.M. Nativity Scene (Chapel)

Monday, Dec 23 thru Jan 1

Church Office Closed - Holiday

Prayer and Care List

Please pray for those who are homebound, sick and grieving:

At home: Chris Parker, Mary Snyder, Julia Spencer

Churchland House: Ed Heath

Lake Prince Woods: Dorothy Hill, Barrett Sr. and Nell Richardson,

Under doctor's care: Phil Lakes, Allyn Miller, Hugh Spivey,

Judy Woodard, Margaret Windley

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar today are to the glory of God and in loving memory of Thomas, Pauline and Carol Bradley. Given by Gail VanAalst.

Monumental

United Methodist Church



The Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2019
11:00 A.M.

ENTRANCE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joys and Concerns

PRELUDE

Joy is Come From God Above

E. Pettman

ENTER INTO WORSHIP

Pastor and Choir Call Us into Worship (all echo the leader)

Sing a new song to the Lord
Lift your hearts with gratitude
Sing a new song to the Lord
Lift your hearts with gratitude
and Joy, Unabashed Joy

Your steadfast love and faithfulness
Is ever present in our lives
Your steadfast love and faithfulness
Is ever present in our lives
with Joy, Unabashed Joy

We sing, We sing
Joy to the World
Heaven and nature sing
Joy to the World
Heaven and nature sing
With joy, Unabashed Joy

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Meet the Advent Wreath

OPENING PRAYER

Advent 3: Let us pray:

Holy God, you provide the source of our joy.
It runs deep and wide underneath all of life.
When we are tempted to depend on others for happiness,
draw us back to you, for you are the Light that shines for us always.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

Lancaster Memorial Concert

Today, December 15, 4:00 p.m. Monumental and Court Street Baptist Church Choirs.
Presenting excerpts from Handel's Messiah with professional soloists and instrumentalists.

Christmas Eve Worship

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight service with Communion is December 24 at 11 pm.

Poinsettias

Donations are now being received for Christmas poinsettias to be placed in the Sanctuary for Sunday, December 22 and Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24. All donations will be listed in Sunday December 22 bulletin. Donations are \$10 each. Please complete the form (insert) and mail it to the church office or put it in the offering plate on Sunday morning along with your check/cash made out to MUMC – memo:poinsettias.

Church Office Holiday Hours

The church office will be closed December 23 through January 1, 2020. *Happy Holidays!*

District Training Day

Saturday, January 18, 2020, at New Creation UMC. The theme for this year's Training Day will be "Equipping YOU (and your church for ministry.) The workshops will focus on providing the necessary tools and practical next steps for ministry. The Rev. Rachel Billups, senior pastor at Ginghamburg United Methodist in Tipp City, Ohio will be our keynote speaker!

Offering envelopes

Please pick up your offering envelopes for 2020 in the hallway outside the church office.

Joining Monumental

If you are interested in becoming a member at Monumental, or if you have questions about church membership, please contact Pastor Celeste.

THIS ALSO IS OUR WORSHIP

MISSIONS

Wesley Center Collection

Each week we collect food donations for the food pantry at The Wesley Community Center. Below is a list of needed items.

- December 15 – Any Christmas dinner item
- 22 – Peaches, pears, apple sauce
- 29 – Mac & cheese

Second Mile Mission Giving

The 3rd and 4th Quarter Second Mile Giving will go to local missions. Monumental is faithful in supporting the Wesley Community Center, PARC and Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless (PVH). Please give generously.

Angel Tree

We are partnering with Prison Fellowship Ministries' ANGEL TREE program again. You can participate by helping deliver packages during the week of December 15. Call Connie McCook (724-6441) with questions or to help deliver gifts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Love Gift

The Staff Parish Relations Committee would like to encourage Monumental members to consider making a Love Gift as a "Thank you" for the Monumental Staff members for the fine work during the past year. Our Staff had endured difficult months with the renovation process and the SPRC hopes a Love Gift will be considered to show our staff how much their work is appreciated. Donations can be sent to the church and designated as "Love Gift".

Help us to shine that light from within us through our own Unabashed Joy
Let us make your blessings known in our hearts this day.
Let us make your blessings known in our church this day.
Let us make your blessings known in the world this day...
in the name of Joy.
Amen.

[sung]

We sing, We sing
Joy to the World
Heaven and nature sing
Joy to the World
Heaven and nature sing
with joy, Unabashed joy

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*HYMN	<i>Hail to the Lord's Anointed</i>	HYMNAL #203
SCRIPTURE READING	Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 1:46b-55	Pew Bible Pgs.1111,1589
HYMN	<i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i> vs. 1 and 2	HYMNAL #216
OFFERTORY	<i>The Echo Carol: How Great Our Joy</i>	<i>arr. J. Mansfield</i>
DOXOLOGY		HYMNAL #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

ANTHEM

Calypso Noel
G. Krunnfusz

*Sing we Noel, sing we joyously Noel.
Joyously sing of the news we have to tell.
Born to us in the little village of Bethlehem on this day,
is the little Christ Child so pure and holy.
He's sleeping there in the hay.
Poor little baby, no other place was found
except in a manger with cows and sheep around.
Yet the glory of this wee baby was sung by angels so fair;
there were wise men and shepherds to give Him honor
and bring Him presents so rare.*

SERMON

Unabashed Joy

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

*How can we personally tap into the strength of ever-present,
God-given joy especially in the midst of difficulty?
How are we contributing to the oppression of others?
What are we doing to bring healing in our community
What is our “magnificat”—our song of prophetic joy?*

*HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

HYMNAL #238

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*We're gonna bring joy to the world, Hope to the people
We're gonna give love that's for everyone unconditionally
We're gonna make peace in our world, God's voice through us be heard
As we look to one another, A glimpse of holy we might see.*

POSTLUDE

*Please stand as you are able for this act of worship.

Congregational Offering- December 08, 2019

Received:\$1,217.00

Altar Guild	265.00
Faith Promise.....	124.83
Feed the Homeless.....	108.00
Love Gift	25.00
Misc. In & Out.....	2,564.00
Nativity Scene.....	92.00
Relief Fund	370.00
*Restoration and Revitalization Fund.....	350.00
Seasonal Offerings.....	20.00
Sunday School.....	67.00
<u>UMCOR</u>	<u>250.00</u>
* Memory – Lucky Stike, Collie Parker, Adams/Gum Class	
TOTAL GIVING FOR 12/08/19.....	\$5,452.83

Worship Attendance Sunday, December 8, 2019: 58

Serving in Worship Today
Scripture Reader: Lynn Wiggins

OneLicense.net number: A-720155

CLERGY AND STAFF

Rev. Dr. H. Celeste Heath, Pastor
Mr. Nicholas J. Steltzer, Lindauer Chair for Music and Fine Arts
Ms. Mitzi Cole, Director of Handbell Ministry
Ms. Dorothy Williams, Administrative Assistant

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 757-397-1297 Email: monumentalumc.office@gmail.com
450 Dinwiddie St., Portsmouth, VA 23704
Office Hours: Monday- Thursday 9:00am to 3pm., Friday 9am to 12pm

Registration of Attendance

Please register your attendance on the blue card (inserted in today’s bulletin). You may leave your completed card in the offering plate.