

## NEXT WEEK AT HMPC

Acolyte – Andrew Sessions

Crucifer – Chris Brown

Children's Church – Katie Schultz

Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m. Breakfast with Mary & Joseph

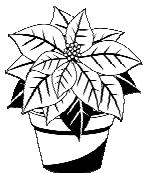
9:30 a.m. Youth Coffee House

5:30 p.m. Youth Shop for Needy Families

## BIBLE STUDIES

Tuesday	7:30 a.m.	Men's Morning Bible Study
Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Women's Morning Bible Study
Tuesday	2:30 p.m.	Women's Afternoon Bible Study
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study Fellowship (BSF)
Wednesday	9:15 a.m.	Women's Small Group

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Potted Poinsettias** will be available again this year for members of the congregation to give *In Memory Of and/or In Honor Of*. They will be \$9.00 per unit. The cost will be the same whether a double or single name.

**For example: Mr. & Mrs. John Smith - \$9.00 or Miss Jane Doe - \$9.00.** Please contact the church office by December 13<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in purchasing a poinsettia to be placed in the sanctuary and/or narthex during the Christmas season. We will be using sixty (60) white poinsettias. For your convenience, representatives from the Worship Committee will be outside in front of the church taking orders for the poinsettias from November 29<sup>th</sup> through December 13<sup>th</sup>.



## ADVENT WREATHS

Look at any picture of Howard Memorial taken during the Advent and Christmas seasons over the past 35 years and you'll see beautiful wreaths decorating the front doors.

That tradition was begun in the 1970's when the Reverend Bob Burns gathered a group of women together to make the wreaths. One of those original ladies was Geraldine 'Dene' Whitley. Even after the group stopped making the wreaths, Dene continued the tradition. Just as sure as the congregation would sing, "O Come All Ye Faithful" during the holidays, there would be two beautiful magnolia wreaths on the front door. Each year she dedicated them in memory of her husband Roger. This year Dene and Roger's daughter, Jerry Bobbitt, her husband Jack and their children's families are placing the wreaths on the front doors of Howard Memorial in memory of Dene and Roger who faithfully served HMPC for so many years.

## CHRISTMAS FUND MINISTRY

The HMPC Christmas Fund Ministry began over three decades ago. During that time, we have served many of those in need of assistance in our community. This year our church will again adopt families needing help. We are asking for monetary donations for these families. Please join us in reaching out to those in need. Also, if you can help by shopping for the families, please contact the church office at 823-4138.

## **HOWARD MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

303 East St. James Street  
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886  
Telephone: 252-823-4138/4139  
Website: [www.howardmemorial.org](http://www.howardmemorial.org)

### **THE SESSION**

Benjamin Kane, Moderator  
C.W. Mayo, IV, Clerk of Session (2015)

### **Committee Moderators of the Session**

<b>Christian Education</b> Lynn Taylor (2016)	<b>Membership Development</b> Betsy Davis (2016)
<b>Congregational Life</b> Ellen Clark (2015)	<b>Ellington Smoot (2017)</b>
<b>Facilities</b> June Cherry (2015)	<b>Mission and Christian Witness</b> Kelly Parker (2016)
<b>Finance and Stewardship</b> Greg Sessoms (2017)	<b>Stuart Sanderson (2016)</b>
Harry Doughtie (2017)	<b>Worship</b> Bill Clark (2017)  (Elder Class in parenthesis)

### **Staff**

#### **Rev. Benjamin E. E. Kane, Pastor**

Children's Education & Music Director.....Katie Schultz  
Director of Music/Organist.....Bill Hilderbrandt  
Finance Administrator.....Gail Hussey  
Office Administrator/Facilities.....Joy Acree  
Sexton.....Arthur Walker

### DID YOU KNOW?

The week of Dec. 7 - Dec. 11 there are several families who will be purchasing and packing the Backpacks. They will be packing on Thursday, Dec. 10, at 7:00pm. All are invited to join them in packing. Packing times for the week of Dec. 14 - Dec. 18 are regular packing times on Tuesday and Thursday. This will be our last packing until January due to the Christmas Break. We will resume packing on Tuesday, Jan. 6th at our regular times.

### **"Praying the Congregation Through the Year"**

We are a community of faith that seeks to share each other's joys and concerns. To that end, the worship committee and Rev. Kane decided to "Pray the Congregation Through the Year." During the Prayers of the People Ben will pray for five to seven members. We invite you to continue to pray for those individuals throughout the week. If you desire to be bold in your faith, ask those five to seven people if there are specific prayers you could offer during the week. As the Apostle Paul proclaimed, "We are to pray without ceasing."



# **HOWARD MEMORIAL** **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*"We are united in the belief that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior and in the transforming power of God's love and grace. We seek to follow the Word of God and remain committed to service and mission both locally and beyond."*

**November 29, 2015**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**  
**Rev. Benjamin E. E. Kane**

### **GATHERING**

*As we gather together to worship God, we invite you to please sign the maroon friendship pad. Please use these verses from Psalm 33:20-22 to prepare your heart and mind for worship.*

*Our soul waits for the Lord;  
he is our help and shield.  
Our heart is glad in him,  
because we trust in his holy name.  
Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you. (Psalm 33:20-22)*

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Lord be with you!  
And also with you!**

### **PRELUDE**

Lo How A Rose

G. Martin

**LIGHTING OF THE HOPE CANDLE IN THE ADVENT WREATH**

The Schultz Family

Something's coming.  
We're waiting. We're eager.  
It's more than presents.  
It's more than lights.  
We open the Book of Hope and read the promise.  
**God will be with us.**  
Our hearts are glad; we trust God's holy name.  
**God's never-ending love surrounds us.**  
Today we light the candle of Hope.  
(*Light the first candle.*)  
**Our hope is in the Lord.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

God of power,  
we want you to tear open the heavens and come down;  
to make mountains quake, water boil, and stars to fall  
until all nations tremble at your presence!  
But you will not perform according to our wants and whims.  
Instead you come like the sound of sheer silence:  
Instead you are born among us as an infant.  
Instead you show us how love is made perfect in weakness.  
So we will stay alert,  
or at least we will try,  
because we are your people  
and there is no other God besides you. Amen.

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #93** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

**CALL TO CONFESSON**

Like a faded, dry leaf that the wind blows away,  
**our sins dry us up; faded and brittle,**  
yet God loves us still and is able to restore and renew us  
with the water of life.  
Let us confess our sins.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSON**

God-with-us,  
we confess that you can seem far away.  
You are hidden when we need you near.  
In our hurt, doubt, and fear,  
we do not try to draw closer to you;  
instead, we lash out—  
against you, our neighbor, even those we love.  
Forgive us, we pray, and come to save us!  
Let your face shine until our tears are dried,  
our sins are faded, and our hope is restored.  
After all, we belong to you,  
and in your hands we can be made new.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**HYMN #288      *Spirit of the Living God***

*Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall a fresh on me.  
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.  
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.*

**DECLARATION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

The grace of God, given to us in Christ Jesus,  
strengthens us to the end  
so that we may be blameless when Christ comes again.  
**Thanks be to God, who is faithful**  
and has called us into the fellowship of the Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord!

**\*RESPONSE TO GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

Hymn #583

*Glory to God*

*Glory to God, Glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!*

**TIME WITH CHILDREN**

Katie Schultz

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Youth

**THE FIRST READING**

Mark 12: 1-3

(p. #48)

**ANTHEM**

Prepare the Way, O Zion

R. Lau

**THE SECOND READING**

Isaiah 5: 1-7, 11: 1-5

(p. #634,640)

**HOMILY**

"A Good, Old Fashion Revival" Rev. Benjamin E. E. Kane

**\*HYMN #83**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH***The Shorter Catechism*

What is the chief end of humans?

**Our chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy God forever.**

What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy God?

The word of God which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy God.

What do the Scriptures principally teach?

The Scriptures principally teach what humanity is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of humanity.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

**THE EUCHARIST****OFFERING****OFFERTORY**

Savior of the Nations, Come

P. Manz

**\*DOXOLOGY**

*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. Amen.*

Hymn #606

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

Cindy Brittain

Faithful God,  
we thank you that Christ is being revealed  
in every time and place  
until he comes again in the fullness of glory.  
Strengthen our testimony and spiritual gifts;  
increase generosity in us, we pray,  
as we wait for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**SENDING****\*HYMN #104**

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

**BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

Marche Religieuse

A. Guilmant

A warm and sincere welcome to one and all!  
It is a genuine pleasure to gather as God's people,  
to open ourselves to the presence of God  
and to praise God with loving hearts.

All late arrivals to worship will be seated during the first hymn,  
after the Time with Children or during the hymn following the Homily.

**THE USHERS FOR NOVEMBER ARE:**

Ellen Clark, Head Usher  
Steve & Cindy Brittain, Bill & Tiffany Clark,  
David & Debbie Gammons, Jim Marrow  
and Ben & Anne Mayo

**MORNING WORSHIP**

The Acolyte this morning – Carrisa Spruill  
The Crucifer this morning – Steven Spruill  
Children's Church – Lynn & Margaret Ann Taylor

**THIS WEEK**

<b>TODAY</b>	4:00-5:30 p.m. – Youth Ensemble Rehearsal No Youth Group tonight
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:00 p.m. – Church wide Christmas Dinner 7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir Rehearsal