

STEWARDSHIP REPORT			
ATTENDANCE			
(11/24) 8:45 Service.....75	10:50am Service.....60		
<u>Operating Fund</u>		<u>Capital Improvements Fund</u>	
Contributions 11/24	\$11,005.26	Contributions 11/24	\$0.00
2019 Year-to-date		2019 Year-to-date	
Contributions	\$ 362,618.66	Contributions	\$3,155.06
<b>Worship Leaders</b>		<b>Additional Church Staff</b>	
<i>Pastor, Bruce Gwyn</i>		<i>Director of Youth &amp; Children's</i>	
<i>The Chancel Choir</i>		<i>Ministries, Gene Bragg</i>	
<i>Director of Music, Carlos Zamora</i>		<i>Hand Bell/Drama Director,</i>	
<i>Organist/Accompanist, Doug Parker</i>		Teresa Williams	
<i>Acolyte</i>		<i>Administrative Assistant,</i>	
		Candy Love	

**USHERS:**  
Jimmy Warren  
Joe Patterson

**GREETERS:**  
Helen Thombs

### The Story of the Chrismon Tree

*The Chrismon tree began as an offering to God. God blessed the offering and it became a song of praise and thanksgiving to Him. It continues as witness to His love and His glory, as a proclamation of His holy Name through His Son, Jesus, the Christ, our Lord.*

The story of the Chrismon tree began at The Lutheran Church of Ascension in Danville, Virginia in 1957 when Mrs. Frances Spencer volunteered to decorate the church's Christmas tree. She envisioned a tree different from the one with colored lights and balls that had previously adorned her church. Two important ideas soon emerged as she considered what would be the best way to decorate a Christmas tree that honored the birth of the Christ Child. First the decorations should bring out the real person for whom we celebrate this day of the year and second that this Christmas tree would be worthy of being placed in the Lord's house and would contribute to the spirit of worship during this holy season.

Over the years these ornaments have developed so that now a Chrismon may be a monogram, a sign, a symbol, a type, or a combination of any of these. Early Christians used these monograms to designate meeting places of the church, and, sometimes, to show unbelievers where they stood. These symbols of the early church have served to spread the faith and beliefs of Christians as they are shared and passed on.

All Chrismons are made in combinations of white and gold. White, the liturgical color for Christmas, refers to our Lord's purity and perfection; gold, to His majesty and glory. The tiny white lights on the tree point to the Christ as the Light of the world. Therefore, all symbols on the Chrismon tree must, first of all, point to our Lord and God.

It is our hope at Central United Methodist Church that this ministry will lay the foundation for the understanding of Chrismons for each of us since ***THE CHRISMON TREE IS COMPLETE ONLY WHEN THOSE WHO SEE IT UNDERSTAND ITS MEANING.***

# Central

United Methodist Church



*To Live and Love as Christ*

**Special Upcoming Services**  
**12/15/19 Early Service, 8:45am**  
**12/15/19 Christmas Cantata Service, 10:00am**  
**12/24/19 Candlelight Communion**  
**Christmas Eve Service, 7:00pm**

Pastor Bruce Gwyn  
704-291-0212 (cell)  
113 South Piedmont Ave.  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
704-739-2471 [www.cumckm.org](http://www.cumckm.org)

**A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 1, 2019**

**GATHERING**

**WELCOME**

**THE CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

**THE PRELUDE**

*Savior of the Nations, Come*.....ARR. WAGNER

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Children of God, have you heard? Do you see?

**Our ears are listening. Our eyes are open.**

Children of God, whom do you seek?

**We seek the One who is our hope.**

Our redemption! Our Savior! God-with-us!

**With hope, we await our God.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN, No. 211**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*.....VENI EMMANUEL

**\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, The Apostles' Creed, No. 881**

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 arose 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, No. 70**

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.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** .....MARY LOU & JIM WARE

**ANTHEM**

*People Look East*.....BEASANCON

**THE MORNING PRAYER**

**\*THE SCRIPTURE LESSON**.....LUKE 2:8-20

**LEADER:** This is the word of God for the people of God

**PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON, All Are Welcome, God's Guest List**..... BRUCE GWYN

**SERVICE OF THE WORD AND TABLE, No. 12**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**THE GIVING OF THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**THE OFFERTORY**

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*.....ARR. HAYES

**THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**\*THE DOXOLOGY, No. 94**.....LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP, No. 13**

**\*HYMN, No. 196**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*.....HYFRYDOL

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

**\*SENDING THE LIGHT**

THE ACOLYTE

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Voluntary on "Engelberg"*.....ARR. WAGNER

**NOTES:**

*\* Those who are able are invited to stand.*