



Central

United Methodist Church

Vol. 19, Issue 12

Live and Love as Christ

December 2019

Candlelight Communion CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

DECEMBER 24 7:00PM

Childcare will be provided.



Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 15, 2019

10:00AM

Central
United Methodist Church

There will also be a Contemporary Service Sunday December 15 at 8:45am



**Kings Mountain Crisis
Ministry Holiday
Food Drive**

Now through 12/31/19

Grab a tag off
the Donation Tree located
in CAC hallway to help restock
the KM Crisis Ministry Food Pantry.



Sunday, December 15, 2019
Come join us at Central at 3:00pm to go visit our
shut-ins to bring them some
Christmas Cheer!

December Family Fellowship Night

Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6:15 pm
The Handbells will be playing a Christmas Concert and
the meal will be covered dish. Bring a dish to
share with your church family.

Please RSVP to the church office by 12/9/19.



KID Central—Sunday Mornings (Birth-5th grade) at 8:45 am

A History Minute by Libby Putnam



ADVENT WREATH MAKING- David and Marie Brinkley, Carrie, Kristie and David Brinkley, around table, Deana Bell, Ruth Saunders, Denese Stallings, Kenny Houston, Jackie Houston and Dr. Martin Stallings, right, make Advent wreaths from pine branches during a Christmas Advent Festival at Central United Methodist Church.

The Season of Advent is here and families in our church and around our community are beginning to celebrate traditions that are special to them. In 1990, Central held an Advent Festival during which church families experienced the season with a variety of "hands on" activities. This photo is taken from a December issue of the *Kings Mountain Herald* showing families enjoying decorating Advent wreaths, one of the activities at the festival. The Advent wreaths were to be used in family worship services during the holidays. Like the Advent wreaths we use during services in the Sanctuary and CAC, the wreaths the families made had three purple candles and one pink candle. The lighting of a candle each Sunday in Advent proclaims the coming of the Messiah, the fulfillment of the Old and New Testament prophesy and a time of preparations for the celebration of the birthday of the Christ Child.

Music/Education Director Linda Dixon and Rev. Bob Little, pastor, led various Christmas crafts at the 1990 Advent Festival. They were assisted by Sudie and Clarence Peele, Diana and Kim Little, and Edna Ruth Saunders' homemade Christmas cookies were served between activities. There is no doubt that many of the activities those families shared many years ago have become a part of the traditions that they still share during the Advent season today.

A Thank You Note

Dear Central UMC,
Thank you for all the food that you brought to the house during the death of Dan Trull.
Love, The Trull Family

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.***

The Chrismon trees and Christmas decorations will be going up soon!

Central United Methodist Church of Kings Mountain
113 S. Piedmont Ave. Kings Mountain, NC 28086
central@cumckm.org www.cumckm.org 704-739-2471
Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30am —12:30pm;1:00pm—4:30pm
Staff:

Pastor, Bruce Gwyn

Administrative Assistant, Candy Love

Director of Youth & Children's Ministries, Gene Bragg

Music Director, Carlos Zamora

Handbell/Drama Director, Teresa Williams

Preschool Director, Lindsay Romesberg

Organist, Doug Parker

Operation Christmas Child Donations



2019 Collection for Operation Christmas Child

A SPECIAL THANKS to all that participated in the 2019 Operation Christmas Child! It was a success with a total of 94 boxes collected. Audrey Brooks along with help from church volunteers did an outstanding job of coordinating, packing and delivering the boxes. Our goal next year is to make it to 100 boxes! Thank you for your support.

*Top photo: Kalin Brooks
Bottom photo: Melissa & Kalin Brooks*

The Church Office will be closed on December 25 & 26.



We welcome all youth between from 6th-12th to come join us on Sunday nights from 5:30pm-7:30pm provides a time of gathering for youth to support one another, to have fun, to develop service projects, and to grow deeper in Christ. Any questions, please contact Gene Bragg at gene@cumckm.org or 336-404-8673.

UMYF Meeting Dates:
12/14 (Tubing at Crowders),
12/15 (Going Caroling at 3:00pm)
No meetings on 12/22 & 12/29

The Costa Rica Mission Trip Team Members are gearing up for their upcoming trip from January 14—23, 2020. They are currently accepting donations for the Costa Rica Mission Trip Uniform Fund of \$75. The children of Costa Rica must have a complete uniform outfit to attend school. Your contribution to this fund helps make their future a little brighter.

UMW'S

ANNUAL PARADE

OF TABLES 1/25/20

If you would like to decorate a table, please contact Marie Brinkley or the church office.

Scouting News

Girl Scouts
Meeting Dates:
12/6/19 and 12/20 at 6:00pm

Boy Scouts meet Mondays at 6:00pm
Cub Scouts meet Tuesdays at 6:30pm

For more information about the Scouts, please contact the church office at 704-739-2471.



Kings Mountain
Community Chorus Concert
AT THE JOY THEATRE
Tuesday December 3
7:30pm



VOLUNTEER BELL RINGERS
**NEEDED FOR KM
CRISIS MINISTRY ON
12/10 AND 12/17.**
Contact Andrea Larson for
information at
407-334-9556.



FAMILY
Fellowship Night
December 11 at 6:15pm
Handbell Concert
and Covered Dish
RSVP by 12/9/19



THE BRIDGE
20s and 30s
SMALL GROUP
Please see Clyde Kerns for details.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
*The Church Office will be opened until 5:00pm
on New Year's Eve, Tuesday, 12/31/19 to accept year end donations.*

Central United Methodist Church
113 South Piedmont Ave.
Kings Mountain NC 28086