

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

Central

United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 8, 2019
8:45 am Worship Service

* “Joy to the World”

* **Passing of the Peace**

* **Gathering Praise Chorus** “Here I Am to Worship”

Welcome/Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle-Mark & Amy Dixon

Praises and Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Unison

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering— “You Won’t Relent ”

Offertory Prayer

* **Scripture Lesson** Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 3:1-6

Sermon— “Joy in the Journey”

* “For Unto Us/Open The Eyes”

***Dismissal**

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

ATTENDANCE

(12/1) 8:45 Service.....59 10:50am Service.....69

Operating Fund

Contributions 12/1 \$10,835.13

2019 Year-to-date

Contributions \$373,453.79

Capital Improvements Fund

Contributions 12/1 \$5,150.00

2019 Year-to-date

Contributions \$8,305.06

This Week 8:45 am Service Nursery: Faye Kerns

Next Week 8:45 am Service Nursery: Elaine Dixon

Notes: