

Important Days/Dates to Remember

Each Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Light Breakfast Fellowship

9:45-10:30 a.m. Sunday Schools (for all ages)

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Each Wednesday:

6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

December 16, 2009 – Wednesday:

4:30 p.m. – Finance Committee meeting (Reid Home)

December 17, 2009 – Thursday:

6:00 p.m. – (Brief) Trustees meeting

December 20, 2009 – Sunday:

4:00 p.m. – Caroling Hayride (then over to the Temples' ☺)

December 21, 2009 – Monday:

6:00 p.m. – Pathfinders Christmas Sing-Along (and bring your favorite Christmas food dish!)

December 24, 2009 – Thursday:

12:00 noon & 6:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Communion Services



Christmas Poinsettia Reservation Form

If you wish to make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one, please complete the following form with your check payable to the Cuthbert United Methodist Church and include the abbreviation **CP** (Christmas Poinsettia) in the check's For/Memo area.

From: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please reserve ___ Poinsettia(s) at \$10.00 each = _____

(Poinsettias may be claimed after the last Christmas Eve Service, Thursday, December 24th at 6:00 p.m. A final list of all Donations will be included in December 20th's in-house bulletin.)

Cuthbert United Methodist Church
PO Box 449
Cuthbert, GA 39840

CUTHBERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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cuthbertumc@windstream.net

Scott Tucker, Pastor

Rev. Shane Green, District Superintendent

Rev. James R. King, Jr., Bishop

Jimmy Brownlee, Business Administrator

(11:00 a.m. Sunday services televised Mondays at 6:00 p.m., cable channel 17)

The old song *I'll Be Home for Christmas* can really pull at the heartstrings this time of year. Perhaps it reminds us of some particular someone we won't see this year, because the challenge of travel is too great.

In many ways, the Christmas story is about coming home.

In fact, Mary and Joseph left home, left the comfortable surroundings of Nazareth, and found themselves far from home, in Bethlehem, for the miraculous moment of birth.

But there's a bigger story there.

Jesus left home for Christmas. He left his eternal home with the Father, to experience human life in its weakest and most vulnerable form.

Jesus left home so that we could come home.

G. K. Chesterton's *Christmas Poem* concludes with this stanza:

To an open house in the evening

Home shall all men come,

To an older place than Eden

And a taller town than Rome.

To the end of the way of the wandering star,

To the things that cannot be and that are,

To the place where God was homeless

And all men are at home.

I know I'll be home for Christmas.

With joy,

Scott

The full poem can be found at
<http://www.cin.org/liter/chestxma.html>

THE LORD'S DAY
Sunday, December 20, 2009
Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* Eleanor Flathman
 WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Scott Tucker
 CHIMING OF THE HOUR
 LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
 THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP Chancel Choir
Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (Weissel/Winkworth)

***THE ADVENT CANDLE READING**
***HYMN OF PRAISE** no. 240
Hark the Herald Angels Sing
***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Nicene Creed) no. 880**
***THE GLORIA PATRI** no. 70

***THE PEACE**
 CHILDREN'S MOMENTS Patricia Goodman

HYMN OF PREPARATION no. 230
O Little Town of Bethlehem
 MORNING PRAYER Scott Tucker

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Back inside cover of hymnal)
 OFFERTORY *Silent Night, Holy Night (Mohr/Young/Gruber)*
***DOXOLOGY** no. 95
 SPECIAL MUSIC Chancel Choir
Noels of Christmas (Fetke)

SCRIPTURE LESSON
 SERMON Scott Tucker

***CLOSING HYMN** no. 246
Joy to the World
***PASTORAL BENEDICTION**
***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION**
*May the love of God be with us as we go our separate ways,
 Serving God by serving others; finding hope and joy each day.*

POSTLUDE

*(Those who are able, please stand.)

≈≈ GIFTS RECEIVED ≈≈

from Ann Bynum	in honor of:	The Cuthbert United Methodist Church
from Billy & Patty Childress	in memory of:	Roy Mercer
from Jimmy & Crispin Gilbert	in memory of:	Roy Mercer
from Atlas & Evelyn Hester	in memory of:	Mr & Mrs Gray Yarbrough
from Echo Puckett	in memory of:	Ruth & Er Patterson
from Mardelle O. Rockwell	in memory of:	Alec Spoon Roy Mercer

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

December 15 Joe Patterson
December 17 Chyrisse Moore
 Amelia Stanford

COMMUNITY PRAYERFUL CONCERNS

Our friends and Members in nursing homes and assisted living facilities:
 Elizabeth Brownlee, Louise Hester, Irma Patrick, Ruth Rainey, Sara Roberts, Dr. Marjorie Swanson, Elizabeth Wiggins
Servicemen Abroad: Chief Fred Patterson
Other Prayer Concerns:
 Jesse Bowles, Margaret Bridges, Bill Daniel, Pam Fulmar, Pedro Hernandez, Evelyn Hester, Mary Hester, Rob Hester, Katie Hoyle, Cheryl Koep, Heather Andrews Land, Charles ("Chuck") Lashley, Leonard Lane, Marshall Lindsey, Allene Nelson, Evelyn Peak, Barbara Sealy, Nevaeh Sloan, Jimmie Stanford, Florence ("Flo") Trunnell Sikula, Lucy Wall, Grayson Ward
Please call the church office to update our list of Community Prayerful Concerns.

Don't forget the PathFinders Christmas Sing-Along, Monday, 12/21 at 6:00 p.m.

And, bring your favorite Christmas food dish!

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY:

Breakfast
 Jimmy Brownlee

The Greeter
 Robbin Temples

Ushers
 Atlas Hester
 Buddy Reid
Children's Moments
 Patricia Goodman

The Offering Stewards
 Jimmy Bradley
 Jimmy Brownlee

**Worship Attendance
 December 13th: 99**

We are thankful for all God has done for us, for our great church and for our great country where we can serve the Lord with freedom. We have a chance to finish 2009 by expressing that thanks. Have you considered a special year-end gift? A total of \$15,000 would do two things. First, it would put us in a good position to start 2010 with a full range of ministries to our members and to our community. Second, it would help us fulfill our part of United Methodist mission and ministry—in South Georgia and all around the world—through our Conference apportionment. If God leads each of us to share a portion of this special offering, we'll all know his blessings.

Buddy Reid
 Finance/Stewardship Committee Chair

A RECORD OF OUR STEWARDSHIP as of December 13th:

GENERAL FUND Contributions, 12/13:
 \$2700.74
Needed YTD (budget):
 \$122,144.67
Collected YTD:
 \$106,571.23

CURRENT BALANCES:
 (not part of GENERAL FUND)
 Choir Fund: \$ 827.81
 Faithful Stewards: \$ 431.41
 Methodist Men's: \$1,086.14
 Mission Fund: \$1,097.57
 Organ Fund: \$ 421.00
 Parsonage Fund: \$ 250.67
 Youth Fund: \$1,118.00