

Important Days/Dates to Remember

Each Sunday:

9:15 a.m. *Light Breakfast Fellowship*

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

11:00 a.m. *Worship Service*

Each Wednesday:

4:30-5:45 p.m. *Children's Ministry*

6:00 p.m. *Adult Choir Rehearsal*

December 24, 2011 – Saturday:

6:00 & 11:30 p.m. – *Christmas Eve Communion Services*

December 25, 2011 – Sunday, Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. – *Worship Service*

(no breakfast or Sunday School)

January 1, 2012 – Sunday:

New Year's Day

January 4, 2012 – Sunday:

6:00 p.m. – *Administrative Council meeting*

January 12, 2012 – Thursday:

6:00 p.m. – *Annual CUMC Planning meeting*

January 16, 2012 – Monday:

6:00 p.m. – *PathFinders Fellowship*



The Church office will be closed from

Monday, December 26th

Through

Saturday, December 31st

*Cuthbert United Methodist Church
PO Box 449
Cuthbert, GA 39840*

CUTHBERT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

187 Lumpkin St. PO Box 449 Cuthbert, GA 39840-0449

229-732-2071 (Fax: 229-732-2704)

www.cuthbertumc.com

cuthbertumc@windstream.net

Chris Shoemaker, Pastor

Rev. Shane Green, District Superintendent

Rev. James R. King, Jr., Bishop

Jimmy Brownlee, Music Director and Business Administrator

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

By any account, it's been a difficult holiday season. Our joy and anticipation have been mingled with the tears and shock of death and sudden loss. We've experienced much sadness in the last few months.

We have been reminded of just how fragile our grasp on life really is.

Perhaps that is exactly why Christ came to us as a baby. Not an adult, a teenager, or even a hardy toddler, but an infant—helpless but for human care. Think about it: The Savior of all the world needed Joseph and Mary to care for his every need. The living God, for a while, needed humans to keep his little body alive. It just doesn't make sense that *He* would need *us*.

But He did. And He still does. No, not in the same way as He needed Joseph and Mary—but He needs us. Who He is and what He did (and does today) will be lost to so many if we don't continue His work. Having the chance to choose Christ instead of eternal separation from God in Hell is meaningless if you never know you have a choice to begin with.

The star, the stable, the mount, the bread and wine, the cross, and the empty tomb--all chapters in The Greatest Story Ever Told. But even the Greatest Book Ever Written says nothing until it is opened.

Merry Christmas!

**May God Bless You All,
Chris**

THE LORD'S DAY
Sunday, December 25, 2011
Christmas Day

PRELUDE Kathy Bantz
 CHIMING OF THE HOUR (Organist)
 LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
 THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP Chancel Choir
 *CONGREGATIONAL JOYFUL SINGING (Insert provided)
 WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Shoemaker
 *HYMN OF PRAISE **no. 246**
Joy to the World (Stz: 1, 2 & 4)
 *RESPONSIVE READING Ann Wood
Psalm 96 **no. 815**
 *THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Apostle's Creed*) **no. 881**
 *THE GLORIA PATRI **no. 70**
 *THE PEACE
 CHILDREN'S MOMENTS Jimmy Brownlee
 *THE LITANY OF THE CHRIST CANDLE
 Linda Meadows and Ann Wood
 HYMN OF PREPARATION **no. 234**
O Come, All Ye Faithful (Stz: 1, 3, & 6)
 MORNING PRAYER Chris Shoemaker
 THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Sung using inside back cover of hymnal*)
 BUDDY'S STEWARDSHIP MOMENT
 OFFERTORY *When This Child Is Born (Jay/Jay)* Jimmy Brownlee
 *DOXOLOGY **no. 95**
 SPECIAL MUSIC Chancel Choir
Christ Is Born, Nowell! (Choplin)
 SCRIPTURE LESSON: **Luke 2:1-20 (NT p. 54)**
 SERMON Chris Shoemaker

“The First Ribbon”

*CLOSING HYMN – *Open Altar*** **no. 251**
Go, Tell It on the Mountain
 *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.)

** (During the closing hymn, the altar is open for prayer)

≈≈ **GIFTS RECEIVED** ≈≈

from Shannon & Ann Marie Atkinson *in memory of:* Shea Barnett
 Chelsea Langford
 from Ann Bynum *in honor of:* Gerry & Patricia Goodman
 from Atlas & Evelyn Hester *in memory of:* Robert Lee & Louise Hester
 Sarah Anne Staples
 Gray & Evelyn Harbrough
 from Julie Melton *in memory of:* Bill & Gene Daniel
 from Anna Paul *in honor of:* Sarah Anne Staples
 from Echo Puckett *in honor of:* Ed & Ruth Patterson
 Alec Spoon
 from Buddy & Marsha Reid *in honor of:* Sarah Anne Staples

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

December 29 Teri Hilton Casey
December 30 Atlas & Evelyn Hester ♥
December 31 Becky Watts

This Sunday (12/25), Don't Forget:
Worship Service starts at 10:00 a.m.
and No Sunday School

COMMUNITY PRAYERFUL CONCERNS

Our friends and Members in nursing homes and assisted living facilities: Margaret Bridges, Ruth Nell Goodman, Ellen Hudson, Ella Pearl Mims, Irma Patrick, Dr. Marjorie Swanson, Elizabeth Wiggins
Other Prayer Concerns: Mae Bell, Kathryn Cadle, Jane Cartée, Patrick Childress, Geer Dubose, Brian Elkins, Perry Everson, Jerry Farrow, Bobby Faudree, Sgt Jim Fulford, III, Karl Gotshall, James (Jimmy) Hague, Katie Hoyle, Marshall Lindsey, Joyce Lumpkin, Drake Merritt, Leonard Messer, Evelyn Peak, Will Puckett, William Rogers, Ken Shoemaker, Jimmie Stanford, Carrie Turner, Buck Wall, Debi Wall, Eddie Wall, Lucy Wall, Dawn West, Carolyn Wood

Sympathy to the family and friends of Sarah Anne Staples

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY:

Breakfast
 NO BREAKFAST
Greeter
 Marsha Reid
Ushers
 Atlas Hester
 Walter McCrary
Worship Leader
 Ann Wood
Children's Moments
 Jimmy Brownlee
Nursery Helpers
 Grace Crittenden
 Patty Childress
Offering Stewards
 Jimmy Brownlee
 Dave Wallis

A RECORD OF OUR STEWARDSHIP as of December 18th:
GENERAL FUND

Contributions, 12/18
 \$3,733.70

Needed YTD (budget):
 \$134,357.82

Collected YTD:
 \$109,345.54

CURRENT BALANCES:
 (not part of GENERAL FUND)

Faithful Stewards: \$ 6.62
 Methodist Men's: \$1,222.89
 Mission Fund: \$ 532.63
 Organ Fund: \$ 964.00
 Parsonage Fund: \$ 40.58
 Youth Fund: \$1,143.00

Worship Attendance
December 18th: 47

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 (CUMC) and include the abbreviation **CP** (for **C**hristmas **P**oinsettia) in the check's *For/Memo* area.

From: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please reserve __ Poinsettia(s) at \$11.00 each = _____
 (Poinsettias may be claimed after the Christmas Service, Sunday, December 25th at 10:00 a.m. A final list of all donations will be included in December 25th's emailed and in-house bulletins.)