

Sunday, December 25th. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

As we gather for worship, prepare your heart by focusing on God and offering this prayer: **“Living God, as we gather to worship you today, help me to encounter you, to truly worship you, to hear from you and to have my life changed by you. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”**

Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

Prayer List

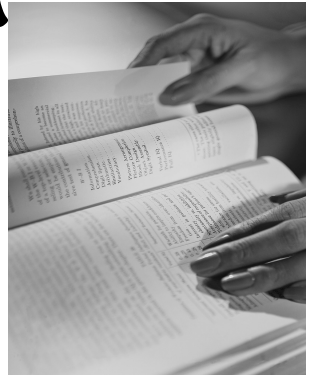
Please note the names of people needing prayer who were named in church this Sunday:

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Dorothy McHugh | Anne and Woody | Scott Carter |
| Alicia Clary | Hudson | Carri Stostetter |
| Lee Cundiff | Dorothy Driskill | Otha Wilkins |
| Lisa Honeswezki | Dennis Chumney | Michelle Honeycutt |
| Renee Barnes West | Ruth Hathcock | Jo Ann Vansickle |
| Elaine Wright | Willie Hite | Edith Hite |
| Harrison Samford | Gayle Grant | Grace Marshall |
| The family of the slain | Ashley Grant | Hazel Taylor |
| Virginia Tech police officer | Katherine Morgan | Hilda Ozlin |
| The family of “Big Dad” Brennan | Louise Hurt | The family of Frank Turner |
| Edith Tanner | Charlie Pearce | Virginia and Vernon Gee |
| Bertha Arthur | Edna Bagley | David Jones and family |
| Junior McHenry | The family of Parvin Koker | Allen Alcock and family |
| JoAnne Parsons | Tom Tanner | Brad and Laurie Morris |
| Harold Springer | Jerry Davidson | Helen Daniel |
| Lisa Alley | Charlotte and Lawrence Webb | Katherine Morgan |
| Virginia Overby | Agnes Thompson | Louise Ogburn |
| | Betty Thompson | Anthony Verra |

Others I would like to pray for:

Transformation Journal

December 18, 2011



Inviting you to daily time with God.

Every day the Transformation Journal will offer you a scripture passage and a question or two for reflection. Take a few minutes each day, and see what God has for you! The prayer list is also on the back, so please take time to pray for those we have lifted up on Sunday.

Sunday, December 18th

Sermon Notes:

Read Luke 1:26-45. Imagine yourself in Mary’s position: an angel appears to you with an outrageous story about what God is going to do in your life. How would you respond? Would you be able to say “let it be according to your word?” What can we learn from Mary?
Prayer focus: Pray that our church will be guided by the word of God to be the church that God wants us to be.

Monday, December 19th

Read Luke 1:46-55. Read through Mary’s song and notice why God chose Mary. Does God see humility in you? What value do you give humility in your life? How can you practice humility?

Prayer focus: Pray for Pastor Andrew and his family, that they would be filled with Godly humility.

Tuesday, December 20th

Read Matthew 1:18-24. Envision yourself in Joseph’s position—engaged to a woman who you discover to be pregnant. How do you react? Would a dream with an angel change your plans?

Prayer focus: Pray for church plants, Journey UMC and the Stand UMC, to be those who proclaim the Good News of great Joy.

Wednesday, December 21st

Read Isaiah 9:2-7. How has Jesus brought light into your life? What areas of your life are still in darkness that need to be illuminated by Christ’s light?

Prayer focus: Pray for the worldwide church, that we would be powerful witnesses of the Joy of Christmas to those around us.

Thursday, December 22nd

Read John 1:1-18. This is John’s version of the Christmas story! Why did God send Jesus to the earth? Read the passage again and focus in on whatever section catches your eye. Why do those verses matter?

Prayer focus: Pray for Charis Storms that she would be filled with the Joy of Christmas and share that Joy with others.

Friday, December 23rd

Read Luke 2:1-20. In your mind’s eye, imagine this story unfolding with you in the story. What do you hear? What do you see? What do you smell? How are Mary and Joseph reacting to the situation?

Prayer focus: Pray for the people of Syria as the country continues in a time of unrest as the government arrests and kills protestors.

Saturday, December 24th

Read Psalm 96. As you celebrate Christmas Eve today and prepare for Christmas Day, take time to read this psalm a few times and praise God for sending Jesus to live among us.

Prayer focus: Pray that the people of Ghana and Nigeria would know the joy of Christmas this year.
