

Get Connected *Stay Connected*

Your presence here matters.

connect

Fill out this Connection Card and include it in today's offering. New around here? Address changes? Fill out what's relevant.

Today's Date: December 16, 2018

Your Name(s)

Address

City State Zip

Telephone Number

Email

give

Many of us give in ways other than putting money in the offering plate each week. Some of us give online at the church's website, or use our bank's online bill pay. Some of us make one large annual gift, or we fulfill our pledge by making a gift once a month. We give our time and our talents because all of our gifts make a difference. Note ways to participate on the reverse side.

Gold envelopes are available in the pews for any financial gifts you would like to give today. Place this card in the offering as a symbol of a gift you've made in another way.

Opportunities for the Week of December 16-23

Today	9:00	Small Group Bible Study
	9:15	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00	Worship and Fellowship
	11:15	Board Meeting
	11:15	Choir Luncheon in Fellowship Hall
	5:30	NYP: Neighborhood Youth Project at Congregational
	5:00	Parents Night Out at FCC
	8:00	Language of the Heart Alcoholics Anonymous
Monday	6:00	Piedmont Global Preschool Staff Meeting Friendship Classroom
	6:30	Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting at Lee's Home
Tuesday	7:00	Table Topics
Wednesday	10:00	Fold and Label Newsletter
	7:00	The Longest Night Service at Congregational, 300 W. Radiance
Thursday	6:30	Table Talk Christmas Party at the Home of the Greaves
	8:00	Al-Anon and Alateen
Sunday	9:00	Small Group Bible Study
	9:15	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00	Worship and Fellowship
	11:15	Congregational Meeting
	11:30	95th Birthday Celebration for Bess Lamson in Gathering Space
	8:00	Language of the Heart Alcoholics Anonymous

Many thanks to our guest musicians: Eve Hubbard, violin; Theresa Fox, violin; Katie Costello-Graham, violin; and Diane Bonds, cello.

Plan to attend the **Congregational Meeting** next Sunday, Dec. 23, following worship, to approve a budget and elect leaders for 2019.

Make an additional gift this holiday season. See insert about the Christmas Offering. **Staff Gifts:** If you would like to make a contribution toward gifts for the staff, please give your gift to Bill Inmon, John Flynt, Stan Ward, or place in the offering marked "staff gifts." **Honorariums:** Give to the operating fund of First Christian in memory or in honor of a loved one. We'll list all the honorees in the December 23rd and 24th bulletins. Please use the gold envelopes and be sure to note "Christmas honor gift."

Serving Next Sunday, December 23

Acolyte Jack Wildman **Elders** Laura Tebow and Cliff Greaves **Deacons** Brad Light, Debbie Light, Olivia Steadman, Bill Wiley, Larry Collins, and Meredith Cooper

Worship Leader Spencer Smith **Children's Moment** Mike Wildman

No Children's Church Greeters Sam and JoAnn Tucker

Coffee Hour Host Marsha Rose **Building Responsibilities** Jim Tebow

Contact Us

Phone 336.273.4725 **Email** info@fccgreensboro.org **Web** fccgreensboro.org

Staff Rev. Lee Hull Moses, Senior Minister – pastor@fccgreensboro.org

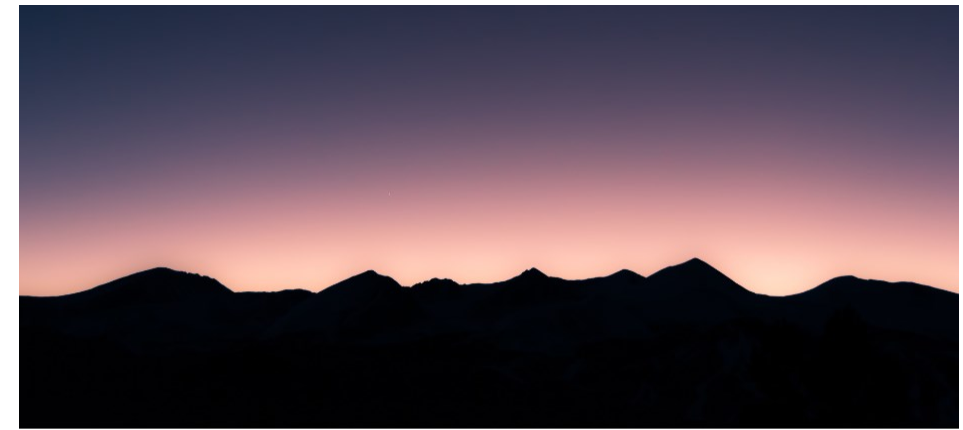
Rev. Melissa Guthrie Loy, Director of Congregational Life – admin@fccgreensboro.org

Woodson Faulkner, Music Director and Organist – woody@fccgreensboro.org

Pam Reese, Bookkeeper – bookkeeper@fccgreensboro.org

Leslie Gooding, Laura Hutchens, Chassidy Crump, Nursery

Amanda Desselles, Children's Church Leader Holly Lail, PYF Teacher



The Light Between

Advent is a time between times.

We watch and wait and pray for the coming of light into the world.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

The Third Sunday of Advent, December 16, 2018

Chiming of the Hour

Gathering Music "Overture" from *Messiah* G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Lighting of Candles and Processional Charlie Manley

Ministry Moment Baylee Smith

Choral Call to Worship "Before the Paling of the Stars" Roland E. Martin
Text by Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Proclamation Babs Gordon
In the season of Advent, we are here to watch and wait and pray for the coming of light into the world. We rejoice that God is with us, and we long for the day when the things of darkness will be no more. In this in between time, we trust that the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness will not overcome it. Come, let us stand and sing to the Lord.

***Hymn of Praise** "Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates" No. 129 TRURO

***Invocation and Lord's Prayer** Babs Gordon
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. Lead us not into
temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Response in Praise** "Angels We Have Heard on High" (chorus)
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Words of Welcome Lee Hull Moses

Ministry Moment Bill Inmon

Advent Wreath Lighting Paul and Kaitlyn Snyder
Response: "One Candle is Lit" (v. 3) No. 128
Come, festively sing while awaiting the birth, join angels in dancing from
heaven to earth. Wave banners of good news, lift high thankful praise.
One candle is lit for the joy of these days.

Scripture Luke 1:68-79 Babs Gordon
One: The word of God for the people of God.
Many: Thanks be to God.

Children's Moment Lee Hull Moses
Following the Children's Moment, children age 3 through 2nd grade
are invited to gather at the back of the sanctuary for Children's Church.
Children's Church leaders: Amanda Desselles and Emily Viverette

Prayers of the People
Preparation for Prayer No. 132
"When God is a Child" (refrain only) MOON BEAMS
When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first
and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.
Pastoral Prayer Ellen Smith

Sharing our Gifts
Call to Offering Cliff Greaves
Offertory *Our gifts support the ministry of this congregation,*
here in our community and around the world. The gold envelopes in the pews can
be used for general gifts to First Christian. The connection card in
this bulletin can also symbolize gifts made electronically.
Offertory Anthems "What Can I Give Him?" Sue & Terry Barham
Text by Rossetti
"Pastorale" from *Messiah* Handel

***Response** "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"
(sung to "O Come, O Come Emmanuel") VENI EMMANUEL
Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here
below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts, Creator, Christ, and Holy
Ghost. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
Dedication of Gifts Cliff Greaves

Scripture Luke 1:26-33 Lee Hull Moses

Anthems "Enchanted by Candles" Sally Ann Morris
"Mary Did You Know?" Buddy Greene
Setting by Jack Schrader
"On Christmas Night" Trad. English Carol
Setting by Jodi W. Lindh

Message "Music and Candles" Lee Hull Moses

Sharing the Feast
Communion Hymn No. 124
"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" PICARDY
Call to Communion Lee Hull Moses

One: In this season of waiting and watching,
Many: the light of this feast shines in the darkness.
One: We come to the table in need of God's grace.
Many: We find God's forgiveness here.
One: Christ is with us.
Many: We are not alone.

Words of Institution Lee Hull Moses
Prayer for the Bread and Cup Laura Tebow
One: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, share in the feast.
All who seek to follow Jesus are invited to share in communion.
Eat the bread as it is passed; hold the cup to drink in unison.
Prayer of Thanksgiving Lee Hull Moses
One: We give you thanks, O God, for the light that shines from this table.
May the mystery of this ordinary feast bless us now and always.
Many: Amen.

Invitation to Discipleship Lee Hull Moses

***Hymn of Dedication** No. 142
"People Look East" BESANCON

***Taking the Light of Christ into the World** Charlie Manley

Choral Blessing "Night of Silence" Daniel Kantor

***Benediction** Lee Hull Moses

***Postlude** "Lift Up Your Heads"
*Please stand as you are able. Arr. by David Paxton

Get Connected Stay Connected
praying Feel free to share your Joys
and Concerns:

participate Let us know your plans.

- We plan to drop the kids off tonight at 5:00 for Parents Night Out.
- I'm in middle or high school and will be at tonight's NYP Christmas Party at 5:30 p.m., at Congregational.
- I'll be at Table Topics on Tuesday at 7.
- I will help fold and label the newsletter Wednesday at 10 a.m.
- Ho ho ho...I plan to go to the Table Talk Christmas Party Thursday, Dec. 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of the Greaves.
- I am interested in The Longest Night worship service Wednesday, at 7 p.m., at Congregational, 300 W. Radiance Dr.
- I'll be at small group next Sunday at 9.
- I will be at the Congregational Meeting next Sunday, Dec. 23, following worship.
- I will be at worship Christmas Eve at 5.
- I can help with the January 5 Habitat for Humanity Build. (David Barnette will be in touch with specifics!)
- Other: