

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 23, 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 23-30*

Today	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
Monday	8:00	Language of the Heart Alcoholics Anonymous
Monday	5:00	Christmas Eve Worship
Tuesday		Church Office Closed
Wednesday		Church Office Closed
Thursday		Church Office Closed
	8:00	Al-Anon and Alateen
Sunday		No Small Group Bible Study
	9:15	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00	Worship and Fellowship
	8:00	Language of the Heart Alcoholics Anonymous

The altar flowers are from Billie Pierce in memory of Raymond and Pauline Martin.

All are Invited

The family of Bess Lamson invites you to enjoy cake and refreshments in the gathering space as a celebration of Bess' 95th birthday.

Join us at 5:00 p.m., tomorrow, for Christmas Eve Worship
On this holiest of nights, we sing and rejoice with candlelight and carols as we celebrate the good news that Jesus is born!

Holiday Office Schedule

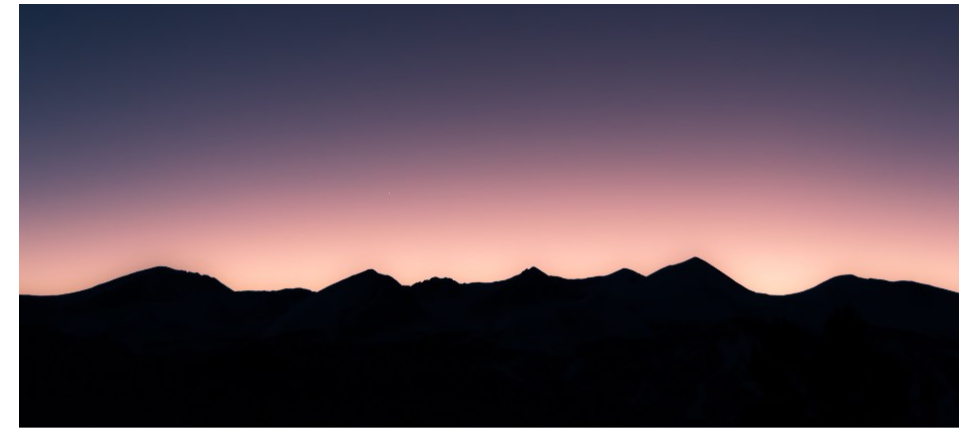
The church office will be closed December 25-27. The office will also be closed on Tuesday, January 1, in observance of the New Year's holiday.
As usual, you can reach Rev. Moses in an emergency at 336-587-6725.

Serving Next Sunday, *December 30*

Acolyte Izaak Myers **Elders** Mike Wildman and Eleanor Bray **Deacons** JoAnn Tucker, Anna Young, Kasey Bogan, Robertson Rcham, Ken Garner, and Les Rose
Worship Leader Bill Lund **Children's Moment** Mike Wildman
No Children's Church **Greeters** Jim and Laura Tebow
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 Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23, 2018

Chiming of the Hour

Gathering Music "Some Children See Him" African-American Spiritual
Arr. by W. Faulkner after Geo. Winston

Lighting of Candles and Processional

***Choral Call to Worship** No. 121
"Prepare the Way of the Lord" (choir sings once, then congregation joins in)
**Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.**

Proclamation Spencer Smith
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** No. 138
"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" REJOICE, REJOICE

***Invocation and Lord's Prayer** Spencer Smith
**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

Advent Wreath Lighting Matt, Laura, Rachel and Kathryn Murray
Response: "One Candle is Lit" (v. 4) No. 128
**Come, wander where lion and lamb gently play, where evil is banished
and faith takes the day, a babe in a manger to fool the world's eyes.
One candle is lit for God's loving surprise.**

Scripture Luke 1:39-55 Spencer Smith
One: The word of God for the people of God.
Many: Thanks be to God.

Children's Moment Lee Hull Moses
Children's Church will not meet today.

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 Lee Hull Moses

Sharing our Gifts
Call to Offering Laura Tebow
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.*

*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 Laura Tebow

Scripture Micah 5:2-5a Spencer Smith

Carols "Once in Royal David's City" No. 165
IRBY

"O Thou Joyful" No. 169
O SANCTISSIMA

Message "Something Important" People of God

Sharing the Feast No. 130
Communion Hymn MORNING SONG

Call to Communion Lee Hull Moses
"My Soul Gives Glory to My God"

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 Cliff Greaves

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.*

One: We eat the bread individually, because Christ meets us each where we
are. We drink the cup as one, because together we are the body of Christ.
The cup is shared.

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. 155
"Angels We Have Heard on High" GLORIA

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

***Benediction** Lee Hull Moses

***Postlude** "Good Christian Friends Rejoice!"
Tune - *In Dulci Jubilo*
Arr. by G. Martin

**Please stand as you are able.*

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

participate Let us know your plans.

- 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!)
- I am interested in a book discussion in the new year. Table Topics will read *Bipolar Faith* by Monica Coleman.
- I can contribute nonperishable food for the pantry and will bring items in the new year.
- I am interested in the Creative Aging series hosted by the Vintage Bunch. Part 2 of this series will be held January 9.
- I'm praying for our church and our world.
- Other: