



# The Spirit



Pastors: James E. Whedbee, Melissa R. Smith, Daniel M. Ogle

## Join Us for Worship on the Second Sunday of Advent at FCUMC

This Sunday, December 4, we will light the second Advent candle, representing love, on the Advent wreath in all our worship services. This is a beautiful visible reminder of God's love for us through the gift of Jesus. As we continue our series on "The Road to . . ." we will be considering how Joseph's obedience can be an example for us in our lives of faith.

We will also be responding obediently to the Lord by bringing our financial commitment cards. As we plan for ministry for 2012, it is essential for us to know how we can count on you to enable the church to do its work through your gifts. You should have received by now two commitment cards in the mail asking for your support of our 2012 ministry and our effort to erase our remaining \$1.8 million debt. In our worship services you will be given the opportunity to present your cards. If you do not choose to make such a commitment (which can be changed at any time), please indicate that on the cards so we will not be sending you follow-up letters.

We look forward to seeing you in worship throughout the Advent season. Thank you for the many ways in which you help us to help others "love God, experience Christ and serve people."



### Christmas Music Program

Sunday, December 11, 4:00 p.m.  
 Monday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.



### Christmas Eve Services

5:00 p.m. - Family Communion & Traditional Nativity  
 6:30 p.m. - Contemporary with Communion  
 11:00 p.m. - Traditional Candlelight with Communion

### Celebrate the Birth of Christ on Christmas Day

One Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
 (Sunday school will not meet)

## Worship With Us!

### Traditional Services

(8:30 & 11:00)

#### *December 4, 2011*

"The Road to ..  
 Obedience" (Joseph)  
 Matthew 1:18-24  
 Sermon by Jim Whedbee

#### *December 11, 2011*

"The Road to ...  
 Blessing" (Elizabeth)  
 Luke 1:39-45  
 Sermon by Daniel Ogle



### Contemporary Service

(11:00)

#### *December 4, 2011*

"The Road to ..  
 Obedience" (Joseph)  
 Matthew 1:18-24  
 Sermon by Melissa Smith

#### *December 11, 2011*

"The Road to ...  
 Blessing" (Elizabeth)  
 Luke 1:39-45  
 Sermon by Melissa Smith

*The next print of the Spirit will be December 14. This will be the last print of the Spirit until after the first of the year. All articles must be submitted by noon on Monday, December 12.*

Raise your hand if you were planning to go to the Tennessee vs. ?? bowl game that is not to be for me and thee. Okay, I see several hands! Keep them up for a few seconds. Now figure the cost of tickets, food, motel, gas and other entertainment in Nashville (or Memphis or wherever). I'm not sure what the tab for that would be, but it wouldn't be cheap. Not to mention the time it saves you, just look at the money Tennessee's football team just gave you this past Saturday.

Now, what about considering this for those of you with your hands still up? John Meade, our illustrious stewardship team chair, has suggested that he will be donating that saved money to the capital campaign. I am sure this is in addition to the pledge he was planning to make anyway. What if all of you with your hands up (oops, I just saw some go down) would do the same thing? That would probably cover a considerable amount of the \$1.8 million we are seeking to raise in order to pay off our debt over the next three years. Okay, you can take your hands down now.

Kentucky waited 26 or 27 or 267 years for this victory. When Kentucky fans gloat, I just tell them it's like my 12-year-old grandson bragging that he is almost as tall as I am – not a lot to brag about. However, I admit: it is something to celebrate temporarily.

It pales in comparison to what we celebrate at Advent, which is more than temporary! First of all, we celebrate the season of Advent, a time of preparing

ourselves for the celebration of God coming into the world in the flesh! It is a beautiful season, but we must be careful to remember that it is God's grace we are celebrating, not Black Friday or Cyber Monday or anything else! There are many worship opportunities. Please "please God" by making time to worship.

Secondly, we are celebrating that in response to God's grace, our congregation will make generous financial commitments on December 4 for the work of the church in 2012. Our gifts will enable us to serve Christ in many different ways and places. We also celebrate that in three years we will have our remaining debt erased because of the generous commitments made on December 4 to the capital campaign. We are already enjoying the capital improvements to our building. Now we are called upon to erase that debt so we can continue to move forward in ministry.

I ask you to join me in prayer for our Advent season that we will glorify God through everything we do.

— Jim

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## Mexico Medical Mission, 2012

The Mexico Medical Mission in 2012 will be Saturday, March 24, through Sunday, April 1. Each year about 45 physicians, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, translators, and other helpers conduct a four-day medical clinic in the Sierra Nevada of the state of Puebla. We go to two villages in this mountainous, picturesque area and serve about 2,000 persons.

We plan to buy tickets on January 20, so please call for more information. Contact Jim Dougherty, 687-6073, 603-1280, or [dougherty\\_j@comcast.net](mailto:dougherty_j@comcast.net).

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## Retirees' Christmas, December 9

Candles aglow, the aroma of hot cider, and music by Stephanie Wayland will greet retirees as they gather for a Christmas fellowship on December 9 at 11:00 a.m. The group will be joined by Bill Kilday, former FCUMC pastor, who will give the Christmas devotion. Christmas is the time to enjoy the fellowship of friends who light our lives and fill our hearts with love. Chef Doug will feed us well, as always, following the devotion. All retirees are encouraged to join in this special time. Please call Jean Payne, 688-4165, for a reservation. Lunch is \$6.

### December Drivers

Morning: Brent Eldridge  
After Church:

**Intercessory Prayer:** Mary Bolton, Tom Harrington

### Emergency On Call

December 2-4: Daniel Ogle  
December 9-11: Jim Whedbee

**Medical Transportation:** Jean Payne

**Stephen Ministry:** Gail Clift

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## CHURCH HAPPENINGS

### Fountain City Christmas Parade!

**Saturday, December 3**

Join us in the Fountain City Christmas Parade as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We will gather in the CiCi's Pizza parking lot at 9:00 a.m. to line up for the parade. The parade begins at 10:00 a.m.

Everyone is invited, adults and children! Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

### Early Childhood Ministry Christmas Party

**Saturday, December 10, 10:00 a.m.**

All preschool-age children and their families are invited to join us at the ECM Christmas party on Saturday, December 10. We will gather in the gym at 10:00 a.m. for preschool-age activities, cookies and milk, and a special Christmas story.

### Commitment Cards for Kids

This week we will give our children an opportunity to put into practice the spiritual discipline of giving back to God, not only during our stewardship campaign, but throughout the year. Stewardship Commitment cards will be mailed to families for your child to complete and bring as an offering on Sunday, December 4. If you do not receive your child's card by mail, additional cards will be available in the pews on Sunday. Thank you for your help in preparing your child and encouraging him or her in establishing habits of a good steward.

Sherri Smith, Director of Children's Ministry

### Children's Stewardship Art Show and Auction

Thank you to our artists who shared their gifts and talents to glorify God! Thank you to all who planned, organized, painted, and washed little hands. Thank you all for supporting our efforts with 'oohs and ahhs', encouraging our kids, and purchasing art to benefit the ministry of our church. We look forward to sharing our financial contribution to the capital campaign on December 11 - First Fruits Sunday. If you were not able to attend the art show, please check the Welcome Center on Sunday morning to purchase and pick up your child's artwork. All proceeds will go to the capital campaign.

### Bring out the mittens!

*Help decorate the Necessi-tree*

*With gifts for the families at Jubilee.*

*Hats, socks, mittens to stay warm;*

*Underwear and panties, all new not worn.*

*Honor your teachers with gifts on the tree.*

*Everything will go to our friends at Jubilee.*

The tree will be located in the main hallway outside of Wesley Hall beginning December 1. Everyone is encouraged to honor their teachers with gifts on the tree. Place hats, socks, and mittens on the tree and underwear in the giant Christmas boxes.



### Birthday Party for Jesus!

**Sunday, December 18, 9:45 a.m.**

All children are invited to come celebrate Jesus' birthday on Sunday, December 18. Children should meet at 9:45 a.m. in their regular classrooms and The Gathering (1st-5th grade). We will share a time of worship in the sanctuary. All children's groups will return to their classrooms for a snack and dismissal. If you are new to our church, or have children who are not attending Sunday school, they are welcome to join us for this special celebration. (Moms and Dads may also attend if this will make your child more comfortable.) Honor this special baby by bringing a baby item (diapers, wipes, clothes, toiletries, pacifiers) to be donated to the Hope Resource Center.

### December UMW News

Our UMW day circles will meet as scheduled on Tuesday, December 13, at 10:00 a.m. Dottie Loy will lead us in our pledge service and will install our new officers for 2012. Please come and bring a covered dish for our luncheon that will follow our program.

### UMW News

The United Methodist Women of FCUMC will soon be distributing monies from several fundraising projects completed during 2011. To be considered for a disbursement, please send a request with the following information by December 31, 2011:

Name of your project or mission; Address where funds should be sent; Name of contact; Amount requested; How the funds will be used; You may also choose to appear before the disbursement committee. If you would like to do that, in your request for funds, ask to be notified so you may appear before the committee.

Thank you,

Carol Sewell, President, UMW  
caroljosewell@comcast.net

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## IN MEMORY AND HONOR

**Capital Campaign: In Memory Of: *Anna Mae Bellamy, Evelyn Shipman*** by Harry & Ruthie McLeod  
***Mary Catherine Gentry*** by Jennie Ritchie; Margaret Goodman

***Ken Cassell*** by Buzzy & Carol Lytle

**Choir Fund: In Honor Of: *Bill Miller*** by Jay & Arlene Garrison

***Leslie Graves*** by Bill, Martha, & Carol Ann Routh

**In Memory Of: *Mary Catherine Gentry*** by Clarence Cate  
***Gwen Sprouse*** by Ernest Sprouse

**Fountain City Ministry Center: In Memory Of: *Mary Catherine Gentry*** by Tom Harrington

**GED: In Memory Of: *Nancy Bassett*** by Discovery Class

**General Fund: In Memory Of: *Mary Catherine Gentry*** by John & Justine McTeer

**Scholarship Fund: In Memory Of: *Evelyn Shipman*** by Virginia Frye

***Betsy Henry*** by Ruth Sloan

**Sound & Light Fund: In Memory Of: *Gerald & Anna Mae Bellamy*** by Tony & Leah Cross

**The Net: In Memory Of: *Max Hardin*** by 21st Century Class

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## SYMPATHY



We extend our sympathy to Charles and Marie Perelman on the death of Charles' mother, ***Libbye Perelman***, on November 26, 2011.

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## Scroggie Mission Endowment Fund Now Taking Applications

Applications for 2012 funds from the Scroggie Mission Endowment Fund are now being accepted thru January 31. You may stop by the church office to pick up an application, download the application, or apply online.

For more information, please check the church website.

## End of Year Giving Reminder

Thanks for your contributions to the Fountain City United Methodist Church. Please remember that if you want your contributions for the remainder of 2011 to count towards your 2011 giving, we must receive it in the church office by 4:00 p.m. December 30, or it must be postmarked by December 31.

## Cookies on Christmas Eve 2011

Help us spread the joy of God's love with our community this Christmas. Members of FCUMC will be delivering homemade cookies to people who are working at local businesses and hospitals on Christmas Eve.

We need volunteers to **BAKE** cookies and bring them to the church office by 1:00 p.m. on December 23 or to the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. Cookies should be bagged by the dozen or put into plastic containers. Volunteers are also needed to **DELIVER** them during the day on December 24 or after the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Contact Donna Daller at 776-9640 for more information.

### Help Our Youth

Many of our youth will be selling homemade baked goods or will be taking orders for t-shirts and other items they have designed. If you see them around the church selling their items, your support of our youth and the church is greatly appreciated. The proceeds will benefit the capital campaign.

## CHURCH CALENDAR DECEMBER 3 - 16

### Regular Weekly Activities

#### Sundays

- 8:30 AM Worship (Sanctuary)+  
9:30 AM Coffee & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)  
9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages (Church-wide)  
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)+  
*The Journey* Contemporary Worship (Gym)+  
4:00 PM OffeRing Handbells (Handbell Room)  
Disciple III (208)  
5:00 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal  
6:00 PM High School Growth Groups  
7:00 PM College Bible Study (Offsite)

#### Mondays

- 8:30 AM Preschool (M-F)  
9:00 AM Aerobics (M, W, F) (Gym)  
3:15 PM The NET (M-F)  
4:00 PM Dance For Joy (Fellowship Hall)  
6:00 PM GED (106)\*  
7:00 PM Cub Scout Den Meeting (Various)  
Boy Scouts (Various)  
8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (M, W, Th, F, Sa)  
8:30 PM Men's 40+ Basketball (Gym)

#### Tuesdays

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study (137)  
9:00 AM Staff Meeting (202)  
10:00 AM UMW (Wesley Hall)  
4:00 PM GPS4Kids Music (Choir Room)  
4:30 PM Dance for Joy (Fellowship Hall)  
7:00 PM Young Adult Bible Study (Offsite)

#### Wednesdays

- 5:00 PM Genesis Handbells (Handbell Room)  
5:30 PM Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal (Gym)  
6:00 PM GED (106)\*  
Financial Peace University (202)\*  
6:30 PM Middle School Youth Group (135)  
High School Youth Group (NET)  
The Good and Beautiful God (138)  
Pastor's Bible Study (137)  
Wednesday Night Live (Children's Hallway)  
Caregivers (112)  
Common Grounds (208)  
Tollers (Handbell Room)  
7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)\*  
*The Journey* Rehearsal (136)\*

#### Thursdays

- 7:45 AM Young Men's Bible Study (137)  
6:00 PM Yoga - Adults (Gym)  
Adult Yoga Class (Gym)  
6:30 PM Disciple I (202)  
Personally Experiencing Prayer (102)  
6:30 PM Men's Evening Bible Study (106)  
7:30 PM Volleyball (Gym)

### Scheduled Activities

#### Friday, December 2

- 9:00 AM Church Women United (Sanctuary)

#### Saturday, December 3

- 9:00 AM Fountain City Christmas Parade (Offsite)

#### Monday, December 5

- 6:00 PM Women's Bible Study (111)\*  
Children's Ministry Team  
Christmas Party (Wesley Hall)

#### Tuesday, December 6

- 10:00 AM Bridge (135)  
6:30 PM Stephen Ministry (138)

#### Friday, December 9

- 11:00 AM Retirees Program (Wesley Hall)

#### Saturday, December 10

- 9:00 AM Christmas Music Program  
Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
10:00 AM ECM Christmas Party (Gym)

#### Sunday, December 11

- 4:00 PM Christmas Music Program (Sanctuary)\*

#### Monday, December 12

- 7:30 PM Christmas Music Program (Sanctuary)\*

#### Tuesday, December 13

- 10:00 AM UMW (Wesley Hall)\*  
6:00 PM Finance Committee (137)  
7:00 PM Thinking Positively (Choir Room)

#### Wednesday, December 14

- 10:30 AM Singles to Partridge and Pear  
*No Chancel Choir Rehearsal*

#### Thursday, December 15

- 6:00 PM Staff Parish Relations Committee (137)  
7:00 PM Bariatric Support Group (Choir Room)

#### Saturday, December 17

- 2:00 PM Youth to Volunteer Ministry Center  
Fa La La La Party (Gym)\*

\* Childcare provided for children from birth to fifth grade if previously arranged

+Activities provided for children from birth through 3-year-old Sunday school

### Let's Sing Christmas Songs!

#### Fa La La La La La

Saturday, December 17, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Bring two dozen cookies  
One dozen to share and  
One dozen to send to Wesley House  
(please, no nuts or peanut butter in  
cookies)

Sponsored by the Women's Ministry

## THE SPIRIT

Fountain City United Methodist Church  
212 Hotel Road  
Knoxville, TN 37918-3296  
(865) 689-5175/FAX (865) 689-4693  
Web: www.fountaincityumc.org  
Email: fcumc@fountaincityumc.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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## OUR PRAYERS

**Recently Discharged from the Hospital:**  
*Removed for privacy*

## OUR PRESENCE

### ***Sunday, November 20, 2011***

Sunday School	472
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship	176
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship	322
11:00 a.m. The Journey	98
WEE Worship (8:30 & 11:00)	42
<b>Total Morning Worship</b>	<b>638</b>

### ***Sunday, November 27, 2011***

Sunday School	437
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship	183
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship	251
11:00 a.m. The Journey	107
WEE Worship (8:30 & 11:00)	38
<b>Total Morning Worship</b>	<b>579</b>

## OUR GIFTS

WEEKLY OFFERINGS (GENERAL FUND)

November 15-21	\$29,033
November 22-28	\$21,188
YTD Receipts	\$1,224,582
YTD Expenses	\$1,186,487
Difference	\$38,095
Salt & Light (November)	\$35

## OUR SERVICE

### **December Ushers:**

**8:30 Traditional Service:** Charles & Celia Thompson,  
Head Ushers; Lee & Susan Iglehart, Ed & Joanne Owens

**11:00 Traditional Service:** Al Debusk, John Shipman -  
Head Ushers; Melissa Shipman, Paul Koontz, Neal Cook,  
John McTeer, Rachael Hedgepeth, Bob Chandler, Bill  
Reseigh, Tyler Slack, Jimmy Villarreal

**The Journey:** Pam Stewart, Missy Adams

**December Greeters:** Mary Simpson; Chris, Anne Marie,  
& Maria Hurst; Jerry & Joan Griffey; Lili Holbert; Betty  
Hicks

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