

Opportunities To LEARN, To GROW, To SHARE, To SERVE

You are Invited. The First Methodist Childcare Board cordially invites you to a *floating retirement celebration to honor Diane Van Staalduinen on Monday, December 30, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.* in the *Fellowship Hall*. Come share your love, thankfulness, and best wishes for Diane who has served as our faithful director and Christian witness to hundreds of children and families within our church and community. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Shepherding Ministry. We will have an informational meeting for those who may be called to serve in this ministry and for our existing Shepherds on *Saturday, January 4, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.* in *Wesley Hall*. Please pray about your involvement in this ministry. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet your church family; it involves a limited amount of time and the blessings are amazing. For *questions or more information* you may contact *George (724-822-4749) or Bonnie (724-822-1529) Isovitsch, John (910-650-8263) or Janie (910-620-8720) Hauser.*

Family Night Dinner. Please *sign up* at the *Welcome Center* or *outside the Sanctuary* by *Noon* on *Monday, January 6,* or call the church office. The menu for *Wednesday, January 8, at 5:30 p.m.* includes *Chicken Pastry, Sweet Potatoes, Cabbage, Rolls, Dessert, Tea and/or Water.* *The cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12.*

Washington Women's Bible Study. Ladies, come join us for a Bible Study called *"Revelation: Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom"* by *Jen Wilkin.* We will meet in *Wesley Hall* from *9:30 a.m. –11:30 a.m.* on *Wednesdays, January 15-March 19.* *Registration forms* are at the *Welcome Center* in *Wesley Hall* and on the table outside the *Sanctuary.* *Call Laura Davis at 252-943-4711 with any questions.*



Welcome, Friends, as we worship God today. May the time we share together in this place be a blessing to you. If you are interested in learning more about or becoming a member of First Methodist Church Washington, contact the church office to speak with a pastor.

Weekly Calendar	
Sunday	December 29 First Sunday After Christmas Day
10:00 a.m.	Combined Worship Service— Lessons and Carols—Wesley Hall
Monday	December 30
1:00 p.m.	Matthew 25 Board Meeting—ACR
4:00 p.m.	Reception for Diane Van Staalduinen—FH
7:00 p.m.	Troop 99 Meeting—FH
Tuesday	December 31 New Year's Eve
Wednesday	January 1 New Year's Day
	Child Care Closed, Church Office Closed, Preschool Winter Break
Thursday	January 2
	Preschool Winter Break Ends
Friday	January 3
Saturday	January 4
Sunday	January 5 Epiphany Sunday
9:00 a.m.	Blended Worship Service/ Children's Church—WH/FH
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School (Children, Youth, and Adults (Regular Classrooms))
11:15 a.m.	Traditional Worship Service— Sanctuary

**God's Servants
Worship Services
~ December 29 ~**
Nursery: Morgan Bullard, Delaney O'Brien
Wesley Hall—10:00 a.m.
Altar Guild: Nancy Jessup,
Nancy Hemink, Sheila Tanner,
Joan Campbell, Bea Dillon
Holy Java: Stephen Bazan Family
Welcome Center: Jackie Monroe
Camera: Chris Stembridge
Sound: Jerry Cessna
Streaming: Ingrid Hall
Video: Seth Edwards

~ January 5 ~
Nursery: Brett O'Brien, Kim Sawyer
Wesley Hall—9:00 a.m.
Altar Guild: Katherine Davis,
Buffy Lich, Anne Baxter,
Sarah Purvis, Kim Sawyer
Communion
Servers: Tom and Paula Willey,
Lynn Bassett, Matt Sopher,
Keith and Gail Travis,
George and Bonnie Isovitsch,
Mary Toler (gluten-free)
Holy Java: ABC
Praise & Prayer: Judy Peede
Welcome Center: Judy Griffin
Camera: To be Determined
Sound: Steve Toler
Streaming: To be Determined
Video: To be Determined
Sanctuary—11:15 a.m.
Altar Guild: Gay Reames, Kay Smith,
Kaye Alligood, Jane Weaver
Sound: Charlie Moore

Legend
ACR Asbury Conference Room
FH Fellowship Hall
MYF Methodist Youth Fellowship
NEB/OEB New / Old Education Building
MM / MW Methodist Men / Methodist Women
WH Wesley Hall

NEB and ACR Classrooms
Adult Sunday School:
Friendship Upstairs
Joy ACR Downstairs
ABC Ruble Conference Room Downstairs
Children's Sunday School
Youth Room Upstairs



First Methodist Church Washington

First Sunday After Christmas Day December 29, 2024



Rev. Wm. Kenneth Hall, Jr., Senior Pastor
252-946-3311 / 336-263-6565 ~ khall@fmcwashington.com
Rev. Stephen Bazan, Associate Pastor of Missional Discipleship
252-946-3311 / 919-464-0264 ~ sbazan@fmcwashington.com
Sarah Beth Wood, Director of Family Ministries
252-946-3311 / 919-810-2054 ~ dfm@fmcwashington.com
Susan Crawford, Director of Traditional Music
crawfordsing58@gmail.com
Leigh Stanley, Pianist
Rev. Stephen Vaughn, Organist

P.O. Box 715, 304 West Second Street, Washington, NC 27889

Email: admin@fmcwashington.com | Website: www.fmcwashington.com | 252-946-3311

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

In 1880 E.W. Benson, then Anglican Bishop of Truro, England, composed a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, based on ancient sources, for Christmas Eve. In 1918 it was adopted for the chapel of King’s College, Cambridge, by its dean, Eric Milner-White, who also wrote The Bidding Prayer.

Today, on this fifth day of Christmas, we have adapted and modernized this service for our church family at First Methodist Church Washington. While the lessons were first conceived to be read aloud in a cathedral setting, we hope that through this contemporary version the eternal words of God may connect with our lives through the music shared. The carols or songs that are used today may be familiar to some of you, with some old favorites and new favorites. Our hope is that this festival today will revive the biblical story of the incarnation and birth of Jesus Christ in your lives, and rekindle the Christmas story in your spirit.



The Lord’s Prayer

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements *(Please sign and pass the attendance pad.)*

Greeting and Bidding Prayer Rev. Stephen Bazan

Lesson 1 Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19 Paige Davis
 “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Praise Band

Lesson 2 Genesis 22:15-28 Betty Jo Bradshaw
 “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” Praise Band

Lesson 3 Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 Allison Harris
 “Make Room” Praise Band

Lesson 4 Micah 5:2-5 Chris Bollow
 “Light of the World” Praise Band

Lesson 5 Luke 1:26-35, 38 Mark Reames
 “Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)” Praise Band

Lesson 6 Luke 2:1-7 Eleanor Davis

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Labor of Love” Praise Band

Lesson 7 Luke 2:8-16 Catherine Lich
 “The First Noel” Praise Band

Lesson 8 Matthew 2:1-11 Sullivan Howdy
 “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” Praise Band

Lesson 9 John 1:1-14 Sarabeth Franz
 “O Come All Ye Faithful” Praise Band

***Benediction and Sending Forth** Rev. Stephen Bazan

**Congregation standing as led.*

Our Mission | The Global Methodist Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness across the globe.

Our Vision | Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, the Global Methodist Church envisions multiplying disciples of Jesus Christ throughout the earth who flourish in scriptural holiness as we worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

Praise Band

Pam Carson, Neva Cashion, Jim McPherson, Bill Peele, Dale Peele, Les Sheridan, Nic Stembridge, Laurie Weston

Ushers

Ron Branch, Paige Davis, Alton Griffin, Walter Jessup, Richard Jones, Ken Matveia, Ray Peede

Vital Signs as of December 22, 2024

Worship Attendance (in person)	358
Worship Attendance (online).....	652
Sunday School Attendance	73
YTD Giving thru 11/30/2024	\$ 797,085
YTD Amount Needed to Meet Budget. \$	770,000
YTD Expenditures thru 11/30/2024	\$ 754,013
Monthly Giving thru 12/22/2024	\$ 59,871

Online Contributions

