



## The Messenger

### Pastor's Ponderings...

### *God Doesn't Make Junk!*

The Lord loves you. Christmas and Easter and another New Year proves it! Kevin Martineau shares one of his struggles over the years—one to which many of us can relate.

For many years, I struggled with my value and worth as a person. When I looked at myself, all I could see was failure. I could only see all the mistakes that I had made and continued to make. I could only see all the “junk” in my life. These thoughts continually tore me down, all day long.

I had to come to a point where I decided to fight back. I had to make a decision to fight the lies of the enemy. And the only way I could do this was with God's powerful and undeniable truth.

### **Here's the biggest truth of all: God loves us!**

It's an insult to Him when we put down the way He made us.

You and I are wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14). I know it's hard for us to imagine that we are “wonderfully” made but that's how God thinks about us. We are His creation and He loves His creation.

Our value in God's eyes is based upon His creation of you and me prior to our arrival into this world and NOT based upon the “damaged goods” that we may have become over the course of our life in this world.

As you look at yourself today, if you think of yourself as damaged goods, remind yourself that God doesn't make junk and that He is in the restoration business!

Your value in His eyes has not changed from the moment He created you.

He brings new life to our “junkyards.”

The apostle John said: “See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!” 1 John 3:1

God has made a payment for us that leaves no doubt about what we are worth. God made a payment for us with the life of His own Son. That's how much we were worth to Him! He took the junk of our life and He paid to remove it with the death of His Son!

Do you like you as you are? How does God's opinion change the way you think about yourself?

You are lovable and more precious than silver or gold. Let the Lord's love heal and comfort you.

What a gift! Let's share!

*My love to you all,  
Clyde*

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*"Happy New  
Year from the  
Church Staff"*

*Rev. Clyde Denny  
Angela Millsaps  
April Craven  
Tim Davidson  
Catie Briggs  
Jeff Brown*



## KIDS IN CHRIST

KIDS IN CHRIST will kick off the new year on Sunday, January 8 at 5 pm. We will meet from 5-6 pm twice a month in the KIDS IN CHRIST Room. Children, ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to join us for study, crafts and fellowship. During each meeting, we will learn about our Methodist roots and do fun projects for our church's bazaar in the fall. **Come join the fun!**

**Children's Council will meet on Sunday, January 29 at 5 pm. in the Seekers classroom. This will be a planning session for 2012 which will include Vacation Bible School and the summer.**

**Acolyte Training for 2012 will be held Sunday, January 8 at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary. If you are interested in serving as an Acolyte, please contact Dawn Murphy.**



## Make UMYF A Part of Your Life!

### Schedule for January

January 1: New Years Day  
No Meeting  
January 8: UMYF 5pm  
January 15: UMYF 5pm  
January 22: UMYF 5pm  
January 29: UMYF 5pm

**Pick up your copy of DEVOzine (a magazine for youth) in the Narthex or the UMYF room!**



**Our next event will be Hot Dogs and Bingo here at FUMC on Wednesday, January 25 at 12 noon.**



**Our Senior of the Month is Ruth Northington. Her address is 1005 Lake Drive, Siler City.**

**Take some time this month to visit and/or send a card.**

**SHARE  
WEDNESDAY, January 11 at 12 noon  
Come join us for good food, fun and fellowship.**



## Flower Ministries of First United Methodist

**Altar Guild Ministry:** Flowers placed in church on Sunday mornings are done so by church members and friends. They may be placed in honor and/or memory of a loved one or special event. The order and purchase of the flowers are left to the discretion of the donor. All flowers placed in the chancel area must be fresh flowers and/or a live plant. Flowers may also be placed in the church narthex as well. If you are interested in placing flowers in the church, please contact Eileen Williams, Altar Guild coordinator.

**Sympathy Flower Ministry:** The Sympathy Flower Ministry is an outreach ministry of First United Methodist Church to its members during times of grief. The following guidelines are used in the process of sending flowers when needed. Sympathy flowers are sent for any church member who passes away as well as for parents, children and spouses of church members.

If the funeral for a church member is held outside of Siler City/Chatham County, a comparable amount is spent on sympathy flowers. (Sending flowers out of town usually is more expensive.)

For funerals of church members and the above mentioned family members of church members in Siler City/Chatham County: A floral spray or basket will be sent to the designated funeral home.

For funerals of the above mentioned family members of church members outside Siler City/Chatham County: A green plant or floral arrangement will be sent to the church member within a few days of arrival back home.

The amount spent on flowers will be determined by the finance committee at the time of budget preparation each year. Unusual circumstances will be handled as needed. This ministry is done through the church office assisted by June Huddleston.

**Rosebud Ministry for Newborns of Members:** This ministry is sponsored by the Philathea Sunday School Class. The members place a rosebud in the chancel area as soon as possible after the birth of a child. One or both parents have to be members of the church. This ministry is over 40 years old and originated in the former Gladys Carroll Sunday School class.

**Rosebud Ministry for Other Newborns:** The United Methodist Men would like to express deepest appreciation for the continuing generosity of the Philathea Class in recognizing births to members of our church family with a rosebud placed on the altar in our sanctuary. United Methodist Men would additionally like to share in the joy of acknowledging the birth(s) of grandchildren or other relatives with the placement of a rosebud similarly. The birth of a newborn is a gift from God and the Methodist Men simply want to share in the joy of that most precious arrival. Simply contact the church office and give them the vital information so we can share in that joy and add a beautiful rosebud in recognition!

\*\*Please note that anyone may place a rosebud in the chancel area. It does not have to be done through one of these ministries. You only have to call the church office and give the wording for your dedication and then make arrangements with the florist of your choice.

**Seasonal Flowers:** At Easter, Mothers' and Fathers' Day and Christmas, flowers of the season are ordered through the church office. These flowers are placed in memory and/or honor of a loved one. A portion of the monies collected are used to support designated missions and ministries of FUMC. Order forms are made available in the newsletter and bulletin prior to these holidays.

### **Emergency Response Training Saturday, January 21**

This disaster training is for first responders. At the end of the course, badges will be issued in order that the responders can enter disaster areas. A background check is required for each responder. For more information, please contact Ronnie Boone.

### **Hearing Assistance**

The Sound Committee would like to remind the congregation about our Amplification devices for the Hearing Impaired. The devices are available for anyone who has difficulty hearing during worship service. The devices are very discreet. If you need this assistance on Sunday mornings, please see an Usher. The Usher and the Sound Technician will be sure to equip you with a device.

### **Intercessory Prayer Team**

If you are interested in being a part of the Intercessory Prayer Team or know of someone who would be blessed by receiving a prayer gram from the team, please contact Cindy Snipes, Intercessory Prayer Team Leader. Please email her at [cindy.snipes@chathamnc.org](mailto:cindy.snipes@chathamnc.org).

### **Sound and Video Ministry**

We need sound and video technicians to help with these ministries on Sundays and for special events. If you are interested in either ministry, please contact Sam Millsaps or the church office.

### **Music Ministry**

Come share your musical talents with us!  
Sanctuary Choir - Tuesdays, 7 pm.  
Hand Bell Choir - Tuesdays, 6 pm.  
Instrumental Ensemble - Tuesdays, 8 pm.  
Contact Tim Davidson, Director of Music, or the church office if you are interested.

### **Women's Bible Study**

#### **Beginning Wednesday, January 11 at 10:30 am**

Learn powerful lessons from the lives of more than 30 different Biblical women as wives, mothers, leaders, and working women.  
For more information, please contact Angela.

### **Threads of Faith**

Join Threads of Faith on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6:00 pm. This crafters' ministry team works together on prayer shawls as well as items for the Annual Bazaar. The prayer shawls are given to people in times of sickness, grief and other difficult times. The team also shares their many creative talents with one another. If you have questions, please contact Jane Butler or Angela. The first meeting in January will be Monday, January 9.

### **2011 Offering Envelopes**

Offering envelopes will not be ordered for 2012. Please do not discard any unused envelopes you may have at the end of this year. Instead, reuse them by simply changing the date. Unused envelopes can also be dropped off at the church office for recycling if you do not plan on using them in 2012. Members needing envelopes for the upcoming year should contact me at (919) 742-2722 or by email. We have unused boxes available in the office. Please note that members receive credit towards their contribution/offering number whether utilizing envelopes or not.

### **Year End Contributions: Important Dates**

Due to varying office hours over the Christmas holidays, please note these important dates for year-end contributions:

#### **Wednesday, December 28 by 3 pm:**

Deadline for contributions delivered to the church office.

**Saturday, December 31:** Contributions sent by mail must be postmarked by 12/31/11 to be counted for 2011.

Thank you, April Craven, Director of Finances

**God has given us many talents. If you have talents that you would like to share with the church family, but do not how to connect, please contact Clyde or Angela and we will find a place for you.**

## January Birthdays & Anniversaries

3 Jan Brewer	15 Spence Townsend	Dawn Murphy
4 Jeff Milholen	Le Greene	27 Kim Outland
5 Scott Graham	16 Jay Palmer	30 Betty Hughes
6 Mary Pat Wrenn	Josh Hudson	31 J. J. Daniel
7 Donald Maness	19 Kathy Grigg	<b>Anniversaries</b>
Ed Outland	Pam Scheetz	8 Bill & Sallie Milholen
Adam Fields	20 Jean Andrews	15 Richard & Diane Kirkman
8 Janice Andrews	21 Marti Greene	29 Bill & Barbara Elder
Ashley McManus	22 Jake Mitchell	30 Donald & Jane Maness
9 Elyssa Elliott	Matt Fry	
10 Eddie Freeman	23 Linda Culberson	
Connor Murphy	Mickey Pore	If you would like to be sure
Linda Justice	Gib Brooks	that the birthdays of you and
12 Allison Palmer	24 Michael Hudson	your family members are listed
13 Bill Elder	25 Steve Palmer	each month, please email
Diane Kirkman	Laurin Councilman	Angela at
Gladys Brewer	26 Patsy Hancock	<a href="mailto:amillsaps@fumcsilercity.org">amillsaps@fumcsilercity.org</a>

**The deadline for submission of information for next month's issue of The Messenger is the 15th of this month. Please note that due to space limitations and the desire to cover as much of our church's ministries as possible, all editing will be at the discretion of The Messenger Staff.**

## Our Loved Ones in Long Term Care Facilities

—*Ashton Place: Helen Burns*  
5533 Burlington Road, McLeansville 27301

—*Baptist Health Care Center: Margie Barker*  
700 Williams Ferry Rd., Room 29 B  
Lenoir City, TN 37771

—*Cambridge Hills of Pittsboro:*  
Amos and Alice Butler (Jane Butler's parents)  
140 Brookstone Lane., Pittsboro 27312

—*Coventry House: Dixie Brown, Mott Blair,*  
Marian McManus (mother of Keith McManus)  
Bessie Andrews (Terry Andrews' mother)  
260 Village Lake Road, Siler City 27344

—*Greensboro Retirement Center:*  
Sallie Dockery (mother of Brenda Dunn)  
3301 Garr Place, Greensboro 27406

—*Laurels of Chatham:*  
Doris Hart (sister of Louise Adcock)  
72 Chatham Business Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312

—*Penick Village: Farish Justice*  
PO Box 2001, Southern Pines, NC 28388

—*Siler City Care and Rehab:*  
Dr. Lois Crider, Rebecca McDaniel,  
Mary Ray (Faye McLaughlin's mother)  
900 W. Dolphin St. Siler City, 27344

—*The Arbor House at Galloway Ridge:*  
Zouline Machado  
300 Clynelish Close, Pittsboro, 27312

—*Universal Health Care: Maurice Tanner*  
7166 Jordan Rd., Ramseur, 27316

### Temporary Address:

Bob Helbert: 200 Hospice Circle, Raleigh, 27607  
Loveda Helbert: 911 Hughes St., Apex, 27502  
(919-363-6073)  
Ben Moody, c/o Lucinda Chreitzberg,  
16015 North Point Rd  
Huntersville, 28078  
(704-897-2839)

**Please take time to send a card or visit!**

**LOOKING AHEAD!  
WORSHIP AND ACTIVITY  
OPPORTUNITIES**

**January responsibility for West Chatham  
Food Pantry is Canned Fruit.**

**February 4: Scout Auction**

**February 5: UMYF**

**February 8: Church Council**

**February 11: Lions Pancake Breakfast**

**February 12: Scout Sunday**

**February 12: KIDS IN CHRIST and UMYF**

**February 19: UMYF**

**February 22: Ash Wednesday Service**

**February 26: KIDS IN CHRIST and UMYF**



**Military Families Away From Home**

**\*Alex Daniels, US Navy, Norfolk , Virginia**  
*(son of Le and Marti Greene)*

**\*Doug Sparrow, US Army, Iraq**  
*(son of Bernie and Sara Sparrow)*  
SARGEANT SPARROW DOUGLAS  
XVII ABC DCG-O PSD  
APO AE 09333

**\*Bray Harvey, Army National Guard**  
*(grandson of Lee and Beulah Harvey)*  
Fort Rucker, Alabama  
Helicopter Flight School



*Women's Voices Chorus presents*

***America the Beautiful Mosaic***

*Saturday, January 21 at 4:00 p.m.*  
*First Presbyterian Church*  
*Durham, NC*

*Sunday, January 22 at 3:00 p.m.*  
*University United Methodist Church*  
*Chapel Hill, NC*

***Tickets: Adults-\$15***  
***Student/Child-\$5***  
***Group Rates Available***

Brenda Dunn and Leigh Denny have tickets and can answer any questions. They are singing with this group.



**UNITED METHODIST MEN NEWS  
FAMILIES IN NEED MINISTRY**

During the month of **November, 2011**, the UMM Families in Need ministry aided **1** households. A total of **\$100.00** was spent to assist with utilities and rent. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please make your check out to the Church and earmarked "Families in Need".



## Stephen Ministry News - Stephen Leader Training

We have three church members attending Stephen Leader Training in January 2012. They are Carol Davidson, Leigh Denny and Bob Andrews. This experience will equip them with the knowledge, skills, vision, tools and enthusiasm to strengthen our Stephen Ministry program. The conference is a wonderful opportunity for personal, professional and spiritual growth of the hundreds of participants who will be attending! Having attended myself, I can attest to the fact that the agenda is packed and there is no free time for sight-seeing; however the entire training is productive and enjoyable.

Although we have budgeted a total of \$3000 for this anticipated one-time expense, that amount covers only about half of needed funds. I ask each of you to join me and prayerfully consider a donation to the Stephen Ministry account to offset expenses.

I have asked each to share a sentence or two of their spiritual goals and commitment to this ministry. Please offer your encouragement and support as they strive to meet these goals!

Blessings to each of you, Brenda Dunn, Stephen Leader

*During these days of tough times, we need strong leadership to enable and empower gifted lay people to support and extend emotional and spiritual care to those in need. Leadership is strengthened through training and I feel that God is leading me in this direction. May God bless you. Carol Davidson*

*I appreciate the opportunity to represent this congregation at the Stephen Ministry Leader's Training Course in Florida this January. Clyde has told me it was the best training he's ever received in twenty-five years of continuing education events. That makes me excited! I believe one of the important things we do in the Body of Christ is care for each other and I hope to be taught and inspired for that kind of ministry while in attendance. Thank you for sending me. Leigh Denny*

*Hello Everyone. Stephen Ministry training equips us to care for our neighbors as God's servants. We learn how to be God's hands and feet in the world. There is a great need for more of God's hands and feet in our world, in our community. For me, Stephen Ministry is a very personal, vital, fundamental, and rewarding way to serve our Lord. The Stephen Ministry Leadership Training Course will give me the needed training to help broaden this Ministry and bless more of our neighbors with God's caring touch. God Bless, Bob Andrews*



## Messages from our Church Family And Community

*To UMYF of FUMC: Thank you so much for the Reception for Military Veterans you held on Sunday, November 20, 2011. It was my pleasure to attend and be recognized for my past military service. Your display of photos and the booklet you made were much appreciated. Thank you for the refreshments and fellowship.*

*Love in Christ, Bill Milholen*

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*Thanks for naming me the Senior of the Month for December. The flowers, cards, visits and most of all your love and support at this special season of the year were most appreciated and treasured. With my love and blessings to my church family, Marjorie Stackhouse*

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*Thank you for honoring us as Seniors of the Month for November. We appreciate the prayers, cards, and gift. It is comforting to have such a caring Church Family.*

*Love, Baxter and Nancy Reitzel*

**The Church at Worship**

**January 1 (Epiphany Sunday)**

Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148  
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

**New Year's Day**

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8  
Revelation 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46

**January 6 (Epiphany)**

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14  
Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

**January 8 (1st Sunday after Epiphany)**

Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

**January 15 (2nd Sunday after Epiphany)**

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

**January 22 (3rd Sunday after Epiphany)**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

**January 29 (4th Sunday after Epiphany)**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

**Sunday Morning Schedule**

- 8:30 am Worship
- 9:30 am Intercessory Prayer Team in the Chapel
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship

Worship Service CD's are available, please contact the church office.

**Please see the enclosed insert for a calendar**

**Faithfulness in Stewardship**

	Christian Education	Worship 8:30	Worship 11:00
<b>Nov. 6</b>	76	no service	149
<b>13</b>	50	15	95
<b>20</b>	70	25	129
<b>27</b>	59	20	111
<b>Dec. 4</b>	54	34	92
<b>11</b>	83	15	159
<b>18</b>	37	no service	162

**Financial Statistics are as of December 18, 2011**

Building Fund Giving	\$ 13,700.00
General Budget Giving	\$317,703.72
General Budget Paid Expenses	\$323,652.56
Over/Under Obligations	(\$ 5,948.84)

Church Office hours:  
9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Monday – Thursday

Phone: 919-742-2722  
Fax: 919-663-5640

**www.fumcsilercity.org / Join us also on Facebook and Twitter!**

Reverend Clyde Denny Minister (cell - 910-512-5785) clyde@fumcsilercity.org  
 Reverend Travis Owen Pastor Emeritus  
 Angela Millsaps Director of Lay Ministries amillsaps@fumcsilercity.org  
 S. Timothy Davidson Director of Music ch4bubble@yahoo.com  
 April Craven Director of Finance acraven@fumcsilercity.org  
 Catie Briggs Director of Youth Ministries briggs.catie@gmail.com  
 Jeff Brown Custodian

Sanford District Web Page.....www.sanforddistrict@nccumc.org



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