

December 2018  
Greene Memorial  
NEWSLETTER

Join us this Advent Season:

*Hope.*  
*Joy.*  
*Peace.*



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# MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

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What would this violent world look like if no one hurt or destroyed another? What unlikely groups of persons would finally be able to dwell with one another? And perhaps most captivating, what would it be like if the world's children lived in safety? Is that not a vision we could share?

**The child** in Yemen, rib cage protruding through sun baked skin.  
**The child** who cannot play unsupervised in her front yard because the frequency of gunfire makes her home an unsafe place.

**The child** who does not know if he will make it through another day without bruises on his skin from a frustrated parent who finds the pressures of living in an unjust and unkind world too much to bear.

**The child** who cowers in the corner of her bedroom not knowing that molestation is not part of every child's life.

**The child** in a war torn country, torn from the loving arms of a parent, or where crushing poverty is a generational reality sent away by a mother who hopes and prays that somewhere else, the child may find a better life.

What if all the children of the world had a song to sing, or could walk safely and comfortably through the field and could play anywhere? What if, for all the children of the world, nightmares were not a daily reality? What a dream! What a vision—where children are safe and where the most likely of enemies live life beside one another, where none will be hurt or destroyed because the whole world will be filled with the knowledge of God.

“Then the wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion will feed together, with a little child to tend them. The cow and the bear will be friends, and their young will lie down together; and the lion will eat straw like cattle. The infant will play over the cobra's hole, and the young child dance over the viper's nest. There will be neither hurt nor harm on my holy mountain; for the land will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.” (Isaiah 11: 6-9).



The prophet Isaiah reminds us that occasionally we need to stop and allow ourselves the wonder privilege of seeing life, not how it is, but how it can be. Isaiah offers us a new word—a vision—an acknowledgment that life will be different. He offers the good news that “a shoot will come from the stump of Jesse and a branch will grow from the roots.” A new king shall arise who will bring peace—not simply among human, it is a peace that affects all of creation. Harmony among all of God’s creation will be stored.

The Prince of Peace who arises, and will bring about a kingdom that reflects Isaiah’s prophecy is the one whose birth we celebrate on December 25—Jesus Christ. Our Lord calls each of us to have a single-minded devotion to such a community and to justice—a devotion that necessitates an abandonment of many of the values of our culture. We all long for a better place, a better way. As we gather to celebrate that holy night when peace broke out into the world and a better way was revealed to the whole creation, may we embrace Isaiah’s vision and heed Christ’s call. Merry Christmas! May Christ’s peace with you throughout these holidays.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil" or "Philip", written in a cursive style.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Poinsettias

We are now taking orders for Christmas Eve Poinsettias. Fill out an order form (available at the Volunteer Desk) and place that, along with a check in Sarah's box by Monday, December 3rd.



Amy and Lib Catering wants to make your life easier this holiday season! Don't have time to whip up a whole meal? Order your favorite dishes and desserts using your own recipes! Free up your time without sacrificing your traditional holiday meal. Order today: 540-309-1808.

Please consider supporting United Methodist Family Services this Christmas. The UMFS mission is to be unwavering champions for high-risk children and families, collaborating with communities to help them reach their full potential.



Envelopes are available in the Welcome Center under the TV if you would like to mail in a check.

Behold ★ is an Advent study that will prayerfully prepare us for the coming of Jesus. Let us take time out each week to settle ourselves in prayer, music, silence, and reading for His coming. We will explore the themes of Expectancy, Preparation, Faith, and Promise. Keeping Christ at the front of our Christmas planning and preparation will add to a jubilant celebration of God-with-us this season. Join us in room 211 beginning Sunday December 2 for this four week study.

# Ornaments for Christmas Tree at the Hotel Roanoke

We have decorated our fourth tree for the “Fashions for Evergreens” at the Hotel Roanoke! What a great way to showcase the true meaning of Christmas and to remind the community of our significant presence in the downtown area. Last year it was estimated that over 12,000 people visited the trees, as well as related social media posts with impressions estimated at upwards of 250,000!



Now YOU can be part of GMUMC’s 2018 Hotel tree! The Hotel Christmas Tree Committee has ordered extra Greene Memorial Christmas tree ornaments that we have used on our tree, for you, your friends and family. There are two different wooden designs.(See below)



The cost of the ornaments are:

**1 ornament for \$10; 2 ornaments for \$18.**

All proceeds will go toward the Evangelism Ministry for the Hotel Tree Decorating Committee to help with funding for this project. Sales will begin on Sunday, November the 25th, between the two services in the Welcome Center. Some will also be available in the office during the week! You can visit and vote for our tree anytime after, November 20th. More information will be coming soon about the Festival of Trees.

## Communion to Community Advent series

Thursdays: 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20

This series is centered around the theme of the Advent candles: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. We are excited about our continued growth in new relationships as several other churches are wanting to join the discussions. We look forward to your continued support and participation. We will meet at Highland Park School from 6pm-8pm.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Financial Snapshot

1st & 2nd Quarter Giving: \$146,688.50

3rd Quarter Giving: \$78,583.70

4th Quarter Giving (To Date): \$51,330.50

Where we are: \$276,602.70

**Where we should be: \$298,138.39**



Greene Memorial gratefully acknowledges  
the following gifts:

**Given by Stan Byrd in memory of:**  
Jean Hensley and Bonnie Matthews

**Given by The Powell Family in memory of:**  
Charlie Lemon

**Given by Mary Ellen Campbell in memory of:**  
Rick Ellison

**Given by Chris and Betsy Bohannon:**  
**in memory of:** Howie Burns and Toni Shawver Roberts  
**In honor of:** Eddie and Carolyn Barnes

**Anonymous donation was made in honor of**  
**Stan Byrd and his late wife Evelyn Byrd.**

# DISCIPLESHIP

## Dickens of a Christmas Downtown Roanoke

We are so excited to announce that not only will we sing at Dickens of a Christmas on December 21st, we will also have a booth on all 3 Friday nights of the event. Our booth will feature YOUR home baked goodies! Yes, we need your delicious goodies of cookies, mini cakes, candy, party mix to sale at our booth.

All proceeds from the sale of the goodies will go to our local missions. We will have a hand-out listing our local missions so everyone will see what we do for the community!

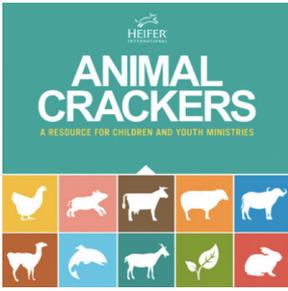
### How you can be involved!

- JoeAnn Sprigings and Emily Mayhew are co-chairing our event. Simply, contact one of them and let them know which Friday you plan to bake some goodies. (December 7, 14, 21) you can also sign up with me.
- We will package the goodies every Friday morning, so your goodies will need to be brought to church by the Friday morning you signed up to baked We can also freeze your goodies if you need to bring them early, just let us know and we will make sure they are labeled.

This is a wonderful outreach for Greene Memorial so let your friends and family know about our booth and that your special treats are for sale. To sign up to bake: JoeAnn Sprigings (761-1493 or [jasprigings@gmail.com](mailto:jasprigings@gmail.com)) Emily Mayhew (206-2130 or [mayhew3@cox.net](mailto:mayhew3@cox.net))



Our young adult group and a couple of not so young adults took part in REACH of Roanoke on Sunday afternoon, November 11. We spent time working on clearing the yard of bushes, cleaning out basement, measuring rooms. This is part of the Southeast revitalization for REACH. This group plans to have several more work days with REACH.



## HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL “ANIMAL CRACKERS”

Our children will be collecting for the “Animal Cracker” project during the month of December. They want to buy a pig!!! This project, part of the heifer project International, helps to feed families by giving them an animal to raise which in turn will bring food to their table. The children love seeing the animals they can possibly buy and with your support, they can buy a pig for a family and maybe event more animals for more families. We will have a collection area in the welcome Center the month of December and you can also mail in your donation to church please note Heifer project on check.

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Munch & Mingle will not take place on Thanksgiving Thursday  
We will have as our guest speaker for November 29:  
Joe Cobb, Vice Mayor, City of Roanoke

December is a busy month so Munch & Mingle will start back up in January 2019 We have revised our schedule so beginning in January, we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month. Mark January 10 now!



A Service of Remembrance and Hope  
Wednesday, December 19, 2018 | 11:00am  
Greene Memorial United Methodist Church  
402 Second Street, Roanoke, VA

Greene Memorial has served as the host site for the Homeless Memorial Service for several years. This is a time for our community to come together and remember those in our neighborhoods that had no home, in shelters, some on the street, some without family that passed away this past year. Please join us for this service.



You can order our new t-shirt and/or polo shirt.

We will have a examples of the t-shirt and polo shirt so you can determine your size. Payment is requested when you order your shirts! We will place orders as our quantity is met. This is a great way to promote the church in the community!



Prices:

T-shirts: \$12.00

Polos: \$25.00



# FINE ARTS & WORSHIP

**Friday, December 7th**

Concert at 11am (Lunch to Follow)

Cave Spring United Methodist Church

Ronn Lowe and Karen Jones Harwood, Organist

Brandon Mock, Saxophone, Julee Hickcox, Flute

**Friday, December 21st - Dickens of a Christmas**

Concert at 9pm on the Community Stage at Market St.

Join us for a 30 minute program of holiday classics and

Christmas favorites

**Sunday, February 10th - Voices of Lee**

Concert at 4pm

Voices of Lee, from Cleveland, Tennessee and Lee University. This very religious co-ed group of 15 is characterized by their unique variety of vocal harmonies, high-energy numbers, fun-filled audience participation, and heart-felt gospel and Contemporary Christian favorites.

The group debuted in September 1994 and has since appeared on Good Morning America, The Sing-Off, Bill Gaither's Familyfest, and Praise Gathering.



# CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Prayer for Advent: *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. -*

*Isaiah 9:2*

Almighty God, as we begin this season of Advent remind us again that in the midst of our darkness you bring us your peace; a peace to calm our anxious spirits and hectic lives. Turn our hearts again toward you. Make us ready to receive your Son our Savior. Slow our pace. Open our eyes to those around us who long for the peace of this season. Help us to share the love you have brought to us in the birth of your son. May we hold tight to the gift and cherish it in our hearts. Help us bring your light into the shadows of lonely lives and hungry spirits. And in the spirit of your abiding hope, we pray for the healing of the nations and for the mending of broken hearts. We ask this in Jesus' precious Name. Amen.

— based on a prayer by Nancy C. Townley,  
Ministry Matters website.

## December Birthdays

Aaron Chase - December 1st	Noah Hastings - December 22nd
Kirby Evett - December 4th	Cynthia Landeweer - Dec. 22nd
Virginia Powell - December 5th	Renee Lynch - December 22nd
Alleyne Goyette - December 6th	Kay Smith - December 24th
Judith Budner - December 13th	Kim Irvin - December 25th
Bill Evans - December 15th	Larry Williams - December 25th
Bernard Via - December 16th	JoAnn Kevorkian - December 27th
Kay Duffy - December 16th	Randy Corbin - December 29th
Ann Seddon - December 17th	Lucinda Smith - December 29th
Tracy Lax - December 17th	Bob Snead - December 29th
Julie Satterwhite - December 18th	Ed Morgan - December 30th
Melody Jessee - December 19th	Franklin Swann - December 30th
Greg Baker - December 22nd	Sherri Greene - December 31st

# SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

	Dec 2	Dec 9	Dec 16	Dec 23	Dec 30
<b>Ushers 9am</b>	Larry and Donna Musselwhite	Larry and Donna Musselwhite	Larry and Donna Musselwhite	Larry and Donna Musselwhite	Larry and Donna Musselwhite
<b>Ushers 11am</b>	Vince and Robin Reynolds, George Fischer, Kay Jester	Tom and Ann Seddon, Pat Quillen, Vicki Long	George Devlin, Kay Jester, Shirley Evans	Eddie and Carolyn Barnes, Mitzi Willingham, Pat Quillen	Chris and Betsy Bohannon, Vince and Robin Reynolds
<b>Crucifer</b>	Madeline Hippeard	Ayden Causey	John Stockstill	Jonathon Halferty	Ayden Causey
<b>Acolytes</b>	Abbie Hippeard	McKenzie Causey, Nick Campbell	Chase Lemon	JR Cooper	Nick Campbell
<b>Communion Stewards 9am</b>	Joe Ann Sprigings and Emily Mayhew	Betsy and Chris Bohannon	Sherri Greene and JoAnn Kevorkian	Eddie and Carolyn Barnes	Jeep Anthis and Tim Krohe
<b>Communion Steward 11am</b>	Sean Cooper				
<b>Fellowship Time</b>	Need Volunteers	Need Volunteers	Need Volunteers	Need Volunteers	Need Volunteers
<b>Bus Driver</b>	Sean Cooper	Chris Bohannon	Kurt Stockstill	Gary Morris	Larry Lance
<b>Car Driver</b>	Barbara Devlin	Barbara Devlin	Barbara Devlin	Barbara Devlin	Barbara Devlin

# DECE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p><b>9 &amp; 11am</b> Worship Service  <b>10am</b> Sunday Morning Classes  <b>10am</b> J.O.Y. Dinner Theatre</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p><b>10:30am</b> Prayer Group  <b>5:30pm</b> Candlelight Dinner  <b>7pm</b> Christmas Concert</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p><b>10am</b> For Fun Instruments  <b>12pm</b> Rooster's Luncheon, The Roanoker</p>	<p><b>6pm</b> Final Meeting  <b>6:45pm</b> Choir Rehearsal  <b>7:30pm</b> Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p><b>9am</b> Worship Service  <b>10am</b> Sunday Morning Classes  <b>11am</b> Worship Service</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p><b>10:30am</b> Prayer Group  <b>11:45am</b> Congregational Care  <b>6pm</b> Missions Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p><b>10am</b> For Fun Instruments  <b>12pm</b> Rooster's Luncheon  <b>6pm</b> Evelyn Byrd Christmas Party</p>	<p><b>6:45pm</b> Choir Rehearsal  <b>7:30pm</b> Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p><b>9 &amp; 11am</b> Worship Service  <b>10am</b> Sunday Morning Classes  <b>5:30pm</b> Youth Christmas Party</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p><b>10:30am</b> Prayer Group  <b>6pm</b> Fellowship Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p><b>10am</b> Instruments  <b>12pm</b> Staff Reception  <b>12pm</b> Rooster's Luncheon  <b>6pm</b> PAC Meeting</p>	<p>Newsletter  <b>6:45pm</b> Choir Rehearsal  <b>7:30pm</b> Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p><b>9am</b> Worship Service  <b>10am</b> Sunday Morning Classes  <b>11am</b> Worship Service</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p><b>Church Office Closed for Christmas Eve</b>  <b>5pm</b> Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p><b>Church Office Closed for Christmas Day</b></p>	<p><b>Church Office Closed</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p><b>9am</b> Worship Service  <b>10am</b> Sunday Morning Classes  <b>11am</b> Worship Service</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p><b>Church Office Closed for New Year's Eve</b></p>		

# MBER

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5 ance Handbell ehearsal Chancel ehearsal	6 <b>6pm</b> Communing to Community Advent Series	7	1 <hr/> 8
12 Handbell ehearsal Chancel ehearsal	13 <b>6pm</b> Communing to Community Advent Series	14	15
19 <b>Prayer Deadline</b> Handbell ehearsal Chancel ehearsal	20 <b>6pm</b> Communing to Community Advent Series	21 <b>12pm</b> Church Office Closes	22
26 <b>Office</b>	27	28 <b>10pm</b> Caregiver Support Group <b>12pm</b> Church Office Closes	29

GREENE MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

THE CHAPEL IS OPEN FOR  
PRAYER AND MEDITATION  
DURING OFFICE HOURS.