

...AND I WILL SUPPORT THE CHURCH WITH MY PRAYERS,
MY PRESENCE, MY GIFTS AND MY SERVICE.

OUR PRAYERS: (Please put prayer requests in writing or call the office.)

For our ongoing ministries

For the sick and those in need:

Brenda Ammons, friend of Sheila Kyer	Luke Stewart, son of Becki Stewart
Don Furcillo, father of Joni Laurence	Ron Jones, friend of Jerry Bruce
Donald Pearson, father of Mark Pearson	Beth Neary, niece of Jackie Flynn
Akemi Nishida, friend of Terri Ruhter	Mary Jones
Valerie Jersey, friend of Marcia Twomey	Sean Veal, friend of Doug Worley
Brenda Andrews, sister of Cindy Keplinger	Evie Gibson
Debbie Gannoway, sister of Cindy Keplinger	Bob Sayre
Roger Ralay, friend of Nivo Robjhon	Bill Stacy
Shirl Peters, mother of Mary Peters	Guenther Koch, friend of Cyndi Jones
Betty Whitten, mother of Robin Patton	Brian, friend of Jelanda Quarles
Denise Tordella, friend of Margi McCarthy	Joan Tolle, friend of Bob Herbst
John Kieta, uncle of Debbie Strickland	Evelyn Thomas
Lisa Abney, sister of Theresa Bock	Lynn Duncan, friend of Dawn Perez
Don Furcillo, father of Joni Laurence	Zina, friend of Doug Worley
Martha Villanigro-Santiago, friend of Jay Morris	Susan Clarke
Adena Jarvis, mother of Becki Stewart	Doug, Heritage Drive client
Mitchell Alderton, friend of the Schnur family	Lori, Heritage Drive client
Joanie Millan, daughter of Elaine Hiner	Royce Garrett
Roxanne Goeltz, friend of Elaine Hiner	Sue, friend of Erin McKenney
Caroline Korves, cousin of Trish Bradley	Charles Cox
Gilbert Sours, friend of Charles Cox, Jr.	Lisa Webb Roudebush
Ron and Dorothy Spangenberg, parents of Laurie Scheible	Ed Oliver
Micah Martino, nephew of Patricia Martino-Shapiro	Charles George
Dean Lasher, brother-in-law of Emma George	Ruth Miller
Sylvia Hardewig, sister of Winnie Tegge	Betsy Clevenger
Denise Eades, sister of Michelle Prieto	Nilo Langreo
Barbara Duman, friend of Denny and Jennifer Stokes	Nancy Shaffer
Victoria Weyant, mother of Debbie Strickland	Janet Petty Sabo
Betty Chase, sister-in-law of Sandra Chase	Jim Lewis, friend of Bill Iwig
Cindi Beale, friend of Judy McConville	Donna Dye
Ravine Harmon, friend of Jenny Otto	WH Farley, friend of Cyndi Jones
Bethany Pope, friend of Rosemary Perdue	Betty Biney
Diane Goldstein, friend of Elaine Hiner	Betsy, friend of Dawn Perez
Stephanie Houston, mother of John Houston	Dan Pemberton
Caden, nephew of Debbie Strickland	Family of Mark Alexander Slough
Agnes Roberts, mother of Rohn Roberts	
Isabelle Brown, mother of Clarence Brown	
Delsa Hildebrandt, wife of Eldon Hildebrandt	Dan deSouza
Jacqueline Wilson, friend of Sandra Chase	
Matt McConville, brother of Jim McConville	
Serge and Sandy Kostun, cousins of Peter and Alice Snitzer	
Matthew McConville, nephew of Jim McConville	

For bereaved members and their families:

Helen Winter and family on the death of her husband of 70 years, William Winter
Family and friends of James Shepard
Jim Rodriguez and family on the death of his aunt Elaine

Hearing devices are available upon request from the ushers.

Presiding Bishop: Young Jin Cho, Richmond Area Virginia Conference

District Superintendent: Rev. Jeffrey P. Mickle

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Clarence R. Brown, Jr.

Associate Pastor: Rev. Eduardo Carrillo

Associate Pastor, Adult Discipleship: Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver, J.D.

Dir. of Christian Ed. for Children: Becki Stewart

Dir. of Youth Ministries: Trish Bradley

Dir. of Music Ministries: Patrick Vaughn

Seminary Intern: Jim Harrington

Dir. of Weekday Children's Programs: Maribeth Day



Academy of Discipleship
Annandale United Methodist Church

(Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver, cjohnsonoliver@annandale-umc.org)

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:45 a.m.

Alpha Course small group meets in Room 210.

Bible Fellowship is studying the Book of Proverbs in Room 111.

Brownies with Brown (New Members) resumes in February in Room 212C.

Exploring Faith in Life is studying **Advent Study 2015** in Room 303.

Immanuel is studying **Advent Study 2015** in Room 300.

In His Steps is studying **Advent Study 2015** in Room 302.

Issues in Christianity is studying the Lives of Great Christians in Room 307.

Parents and Promises is studying **Advent Study 2015** in Room 310.

Williams Bible Class is studying the Letters of Paul in Room 118.

Women in Search of Truth is studying *Daniel* by Beth Moore in Room 306.

Women of the Day is studying **Advent Study 2015** in the Parlor.

Dec. 20: Young Adults lunch and discussion, 12:30 p.m., room 210.

MID WEEK CLASSES – Visit www.annandale-umc.org/academyofdiscipleship.

THE GRID

(Director: Trish Bradley, tbradley@annandale-umc.org)

Youth Sunday School Classes meet in Youth Room.

Classes are combined in December.

Be sure to stop by the atrium today to purchase some baked goods from our Grid Bake Sale! Love offerings accepted - proceeds go toward Youth Missions.

Christmas Caroling today at Evergreen House. Meet at AUMC at 2 p.m. - event ends at 4 p.m. Light refreshments offered.

Reminder - no Sunday School classes next Sunday, Dec. 27.

Next Ramp will be Jan. 10!



Children's Ministries

(Director: Becki Stewart, bstewart@annandale-umc.org)

SUNDAY SCHOOL (3 year olds – 5th grade): 9:45 a.m.

Celebration Choir (K -5th grade): 9:15 a.m., room 311

Cherub Choir (3- 4 year old class; 2 year olds may attend with parent): 9:55 a.m. during Sunday School, room 311

CHAPEL (4 years-3rd grade): 11 a.m. service following Moments with Children, room 313

Thanks to everyone who made last Sunday's Christmas Pageant possible. Special thanks to Christi Schwarten, the producer, and Jenn Pagnard, the director. It takes many hands to raise faithful children.

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL – Congratulations to our older elementary children and especially to Bill Pemberton and team for making this important project possible. Your donations of \$2,613 provide animals to families so they can feed themselves and pass on the offspring to other families in their local area.

We are blessed to be a blessing!



Annandale United Methodist Church

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E-mail: office@annandale-umc.org
www.annandale-umc.org



THE CHURCH GATHERS FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

December 20, 2015, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

+GATHERING SONG "Shout to the North" On Screens

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+GREETING OUR NEIGHBORS IN PEACE

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" Hymnal No. 224

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We look for an extraordinary sign of hope for our world, but God's sign is the most ordinary of all.

People: A young woman is with child.

Leader: We look to power for strength in our world, but God points to the most vulnerable.

People: She gives birth.

Leader: We look far and wide for a key to God's mystery, but God points us home.

People: She calls this child Immanuel: God-with-us!

Leader: Let us rejoice, and worship our God in our ordinary, vulnerable lives.

All: Immanuel, Immanuel... God-with-us!

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" Hymnal No. 224

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

8:30 a.m. Bradley Family, 11 a.m. Jones Family

Reader: "In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David"

(Luke 2:1,3-4).

Reader: Today we remember Joseph, worn-out traveler and worried husband, doing what was necessary for the sake of his family, the burden of poverty stifling his hope in the promise of God. There was no room for him, yet he knows to whom he belongs.

People: Today we give thanks for the Josephs among us, migrating far from home when there is no choice, fiercely devoted to the ones they love, unwavering in their belief that there is room for all in the kingdom of God.

Reader: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Joseph, who knocks at the door, ready to take his place among royalty.

RESPONSE "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" Hymnal No. 204
Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
his name is called Emmanuel.

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN Becki Stewart
(11 a.m. – Children may leave for Children's Chapel after Moments.)

ANTHEM "Mary, Did You Know?" arr. Greer
Adult Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

LAY READING 8:30 a.m. Sara Miller, 11 a.m. Ed Jones 1st Samuel 2:1-10

+CHORUS "Give Thanks" *FWS No. 2036

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" arr. Hayes
Caroline Evans, piano

+DOXOLOGY Hymnal No. 94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOSPEL LESSON

Minister: The Word of God for the People of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Ordinary People, Grace-Full Response" Rev. Carrillo

SENDING FORTH

+RECESSIONAL HYMN "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" Hymnal No. 240

+BENEDICTION

+CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Star Child", vs. 4
*FWS Hymnal No. 2095

*Spared child, spoiled child, having, wanting more,
wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store,
This year, this year, let the day arrive when
Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!*

+POSTLUDE "Angels We Have Heard on High" French Carol, arr. Rouse
Caroline Evans, piano

+Please stand as you are able.

* Faith We Sing Supplementary Hymnal

...AND I WILL SUPPORT THE CHURCH WITH MY PRAYERS, MY PRESENCE, MY GIFTS AND MY SERVICE.

OUR PRESENCE: Dec. 13 Sunday Worship: 613 Sunday School: 75



Christmas Eve at AUMC!

Join us on Thursday in candlelight celebration of the birth of Christ.

Come at 4 p.m. for a service that's fun for all ages, including a nativity scene! Rev. Johnson-Oliver will preach.

Communion services will take place at **7 and 11 p.m.**
Rev. Carrillo will preach at 7 p.m.; Dr. Brown will preach at 11 p.m.
Childcare is available at 7 p.m.

Have a very merry Christmas!

Welcome to Annandale United Methodist Church! We extend a warm welcome to visitors and pray that something in our worship – the message, the music, the fellowship - will touch you, and we invite you to come back and worship with us again. Next Sunday, Dec. 27, one worship service will be held at 10:30 a.m. led by Rev. Carrillo and college students/young adults. Children and youth Sunday School classes will not meet. Some adult classes will gather at 9:30 a.m. (see details on back). Everyone is encouraged to dress casually next Sunday and wear an AUMC t-shirt. Join us immediately after the worship services today for fellowship and light refreshments in Wright Hall (fellowship hall).

Connect

Today: Chat and Chew-Young Adults will meet today and Dec. 27 at 12:30 p.m. in Room 210 (lunch provided).

Today: Come Christmas caroling with the youth at Evergreen from 2 – 4 p.m.! Everyone is invited. Meet in front of AUMC at 2 p.m.

Tonight: A Brethren Christmas Concert will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door and are available after today's worship services.

Poinsettia delivery: If you would like to deliver a poinsettia to a homebound member, the signup sheet is on a table in the Atrium. Poinsettias can be taken following the Christmas eve service for delivery in the next couple of days. Homebound members appreciate the visit as much as the gift!

Ushers are needed! Women, men, or youth are needed to serve as ushers for the 8:30 a.m. and 11 worship services once a month (or less frequently if more volunteer). The need is greatest for the 8:30 service. Please contact Randy Gordon, rgordon@ngfa.org or call the church office 703-256-8330.

Holiday hours: the church office will close early on Thursdays, Dec. 24 and 31, and be closed on Friday, **Dec. 25**, Monday, **Dec. 28** and Friday, **Jan. 1**.

Stay connected: Beginning in January, to save hundreds of dollars in postage and printing, the monthly Witness newsletter will no longer be automatically mailed to every member; instead it will be sent via email. However, if you do not have computer access and/or want to continue receiving the Witness via U.S. Mail, please let the church office know by calling 703-256-8330.

The annual AUMC Women's Retreat will be **April 29 - May 1**. Space is limited, so register early with a \$40 deposit. For details, stop by the Women's Retreat Table in Wright Hall after the service or email Cyra Doty at radu94@aol.com.



Mark Your Calendar

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve worship 4, 7 and 11 p.m.

Dec. 27 – One worship service, 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 17 – State of the Dream II

Jan. 22-23 – Holy Spirit Retreat



Grow

Pick up your copy of the Academy Spring 2016 Update. Learn about upcoming classes and discipleship events, including the State of the Dream, the Holy Spirit Retreat, and Lenten Study 2016.

Music theory classes: Starting **Jan. 6**, Matthew Irish, Assistant Director of AUMC's Music Ministries, will offer a six-week course in basic music theory. Learn about key signatures, rhythm, intervals and more. This class is open the entire congregation; you don't have to be involved in the music program at AUMC to participate. Email mattjirish@gmail.com to signup. There is no charge. Classes will be held on Wednesdays in the choir room from 6:30 – 7:10 p.m.

If you or a family member has been listed in the worship bulletin for several weeks and can be removed from the bulletin prayer list, please contact the church office drogerson@annandale-umc.org or call 703-256-8330.

Holy Spirit Retreat: Rekindle the Flame on **Jan. 22-23** at AUMC. Who is the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit do? How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit? Join AUMC pastors and staff as we explore these questions in a spirit-filled retreat. Based on the Alpha Course, this church-wide event for both youth and adults will inspire us for the new year! Retreat begins Friday at 6:30 p.m. and ends Saturday at 3:30 p.m. Registration fee: \$20 (includes meals and materials). Child care available. Register by Jan 17 in Wright Hall or at www.annandale-umc.org/holyspiritretreat.

Share your love for Annandale UMC with future generations. Leave a legacy gift through your will or estate plan to Annandale UMC. To discuss potential gifts to the AUMC Foundation, contact Bill Iwig at 301-365-7532.

Serve

Today: The Youth will conduct a Bake Sale in the Atrium after worship services. AUMC t-shirts and magnets will also be sold. Help support Youth Ministries activities!

Year-end reminders: All gifts to be credited for 2015 tax purposes must be received in the church office by 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, **Dec. 31**, or postmarked by Dec. 31. If you are considering making a stock offering to the church, please process it as soon as possible.

Feed the hungry: help distribute food to the hungry every Thursday, 5 – 7 p.m., Heritage campus, 7901 Heritage Dr. For more information call Betsy Clevenger, 703-425-6424. (Food distribution will not be offered Dec. 24 but WILL be on **Dec. 31**.)

Help tutor children: The AUMC tutoring program at the Heritage campus needs volunteers to serve as tutors and readers, or who enjoy being read to, provide snacks and general assistance. The program meets Wednesdays from 3:45 – 5:45 p.m. and helps 1st – 8th graders, with a focus on homework and reading. Contact Jerry Beyer, 703-399-1395, or the church office, 703-256-8330. The program will not meet **Dec. 23 or 30**.