**\*\*\*Special Welcome to our Guests! There is a place for you at Stony Hill! Please register on the fellowship pads on the inside aisle of each pew\*\*\***

**STONY HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**28996 Stony Hill Rd. Albemarle, NC 28001 Phone: 704.982.7211**

**Pastor: “Lanny” Lancaster Ministers: The Whole Congregation**

**November 29, 2015 First Sunday in Advent**

Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

Christian Greeting: L: The Lord be with you! **P: And also with you!**

Welcome, Announcements, and Passing of the Pew Pads

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Call to Worship: #224 Good Christian Friends Rejoice

Reading for the First Sunday in Advent: Lay Readers: Bonnie Ward - Pat Mills

L: Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him. That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God’s love. That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin. That this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ.

**P: Loving God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.**

L: Isaiah 60.2-3: “See darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.”

**P: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way to salvation. “O come, O come, Emmanuel.”**

Ringing of the Bells

The Significance of Bells

The Significance of the Star

\*Hymn: #234 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

The Significance of Candles

Stewardship Scripture: **MATTHEW 6.33: “**But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

\*Doxology: #95 Praise God from whom all blessing flow

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9.6-7

The Significance of the Advent Wreath

\*Hymn: #196 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Scripture: Luke 1.1-7

The Significance of the Holly and the Ivy

\*Hymn: The Holly and the Ivy (words on the bulletin insert)

Scripture: Luke 2.8-17

Scripture Matthew 2.7-11

\*Hymn: #239 Silent Night (verses 1 & 4)

The Significance of Poinsettias

Scripture John 1.9-14

The Significance of the Chrismon Tree

\*Hymn: O Christmas Tree (words on the bulletin insert)

The Significance of the Angel, Christ in the Manger, the Descending Dove, the Fish, the Shepherd’s Staff, the Resurrection Cross, the Tau Cross with the Snake, the Celtic Cross

The Significance of Christ in our Lives

The Unity Prayer

\*Hymn: #234 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Ringing of the Bells

Benediction

Closing: #204 Emmanuel

Postlude

Greeter: 10:45 Donna Nicholas, Jane Burris Sound: Chad Parsons, Nolan Stamper

Ushers: 8:45 Jim Cranford, Guill Russell Projection: Drinda Hathcock, Levi Stamper

10:45 Dwell Cook, Bruce Smith Piano: Sid Fields

Counters: Jill Almond, Sid Fields Organ: Elaine Crawley

Acolytes: 8:45 Sarah Booth, William Booth Pastor: Michael “Lanny” Lancaster

10:45 Will Barfield, Caleb Lemons Assisted by: Marcie Lemons

**Food Pantry Collection for November: Peanut Butter and Jelly**

**\*Jesus & Java Host for today: Tump and Joanne Mills**

**Every Week at Stony Hill**

**“The Connection”** Sundays: 8:45am: Worship Service with Modern worship music and traditional hymns with praise band, “generations” **Jesus and Java** 9:30am: coffee time, Fellowship Hall 9:45am: Sunday School for all ages **“Traditions”** 10:45am: Worship Service with traditional hymns and the Stony Hill Choir

5:00pm (during school year): Youth Group meeting

Wednesdays: 7:00pm: Choir

**Prayer Concerns:** Our State and Nation, Community Schools, Ned Stallings, Sylvia Burris, Dave Eash, Cleo Carter, Gene Kirk, Gerald Janey and family, The Burgess Family, Wesley Morgan, Family of Tommie Efird, Trent Bowers, Family of Barbara Fincher, Elaine Crawley, Victoria Hutchins, Gayle Comer, Bobby Mills, Becky Troutman, Rev. Roger Thomas, Bobby Clodfelter, Jeremy Goldstein family, Ben Misenheimer family, Kent Medlin and family, Bobby Huneycutt and family, UMAR, Andria Bell, Lin Senter, Wanda Smith, Steve Blalock, Tom Mauldin, Tyler Holton, Tony Furr, Cynthia Hagewood, Jack Lilly, Lanny Smith, Nick Caldwell, Jacob Kime, Marcus Gaddy, Jonathan Myers and family, Jahala Burris, Barbara Hathcock, Darlene Owens family, Bill Scholl, Dale Dickens, Cantrell Miller, Stella Senter, Wayne Mauldin, Joshua Perez, Stephen McLean, Holden Rimmer, Michael McLean, David Lowder, Byron Starnes,“Sprinky” Burris, Grady James, Roger Hinson family, Faye Clodfelter, Stephen Beasley, Marcos Martinez, **Thomas Deschenes,** Dennis Buchanan, David Sanges, Daniel Hamilton, Brenda Baker, Pastor Lanny, Janet and family

Shut-ins: Ron & Loretta Allred, Gene Helms, Ruby Murray, Carolyn Terry, Gene Watkins

\*If you have a prayer concern that you would like added or deleted from the list, please call or email Pastor Lanny at the parsonage.

**The Holly and the Ivy**

Refrain:

The Holly and the Ivy, when they are both full grown

Of all the trees that are in the wood

The Holly bears the Crown

1. The Rising of the sun, and the running of the deer,

The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing the choir

Refrain

2. The Holly bears a blossom, as white as lilly flow’r

And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, To be our dear Savior

Refrain

3. The Holly bears a berry, as red as any blood,

And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, to do poor sinners good

Refrain

**O Christmas Tree**

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,

You stand in God-made beauty

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,

You stand in God made beauty

Your boughs are green in Summer’s glow

And do not fade in Winter’s snow

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,

You stand in God made beauty

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,

Much pleasure doth thou bring me!

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,

Much pleasure doth thou bring me!

For ev’ry year the Christmas tree,

Brings to us all both joy and glee!

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,

Much pleasure doth thou bring me!

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,

Thy candles shine out brightly!

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,

Thy candles shine out brightly!

Each bough doth hold its tiny light,

Reminding us of Jesus Christ!

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,

Thy candles shine out brightly!

**Announcements**

**\*Hanging of the Greens Services: Sunday, Nov. 29 at 8:45am and 10:45am! Come celebrate the beginning of the Season celebrating Jesus’ birth!**

**\*Church-Wide Christmas covered dish and program: Sunday, Dec. 6 at 6pm sponsored by the United Methodist Women.**

**\*Community Christmas Musical Celebration: Sunday, Dec. 13 at 7pm at Badin Baptist Church**

**\*Children’s Christmas Program: Sunday Dec. 20 at 7pm**

**\*Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion: Thursday, Dec. 24 at 7pm**

**\*STONY HILL YOUTH ARE MEETING ON SUNDAY NIGHTS AT 5PM. COME FOR FUN, FOLLOWING JESUS, AND FELLOWSHIP!**

**“Transform the World”** at Badin School:

**\*Reading Buddies** / assisting teachers. If you would like to volunteer to be a reading or math buddy or assist teachers at Badin, volunteer forms are available. A background check is required.

**\*Check out** our church website: [www.stonyhillumc.org](http://www.stonyhillumc.org) , like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter! Check them for upcoming worship experiences and activities at the Church!

**\*Did you know** that you could set up an electronic payment or bank draft to manage your giving to the church? For more information, contact your bank.

**Food Pantry Collection for December: Canned Beans & Dried Beans**

**\*Jesus & Java Host for December: 6–Tony &Frances Furr**

**1–Bobby & Kathy Johnson 20–Lee & Christine Smith**

**27–Pam Kiker & Lynne Terry**