

Mount Hermon Baptist Church

Enewsletter – November 25, 2020

<http://www.mt-hermon.org/>



THE FRIAR'S FRAGMENT

Advent and Christmas Celebration

The Advent Season begins four Sundays before Christmas as a time of preparation for the coming of the Son of God to earth. Advent comes from the Latin word "adventus," meaning "coming." From the middle of the sixth century, Advent has marked the beginning of the church year.

Advent sometimes is spoken of as the "Little Lent." The liturgical color for both seasons is purple - symbolic of the royalty of Christ, of waiting, of watching, and of repentance. Both are seasons of preparation for festivals of celebration. Advent prepares us for celebrating Christ's birth, and Lent prepares us for celebrating Christ's resurrection.

By observing Advent, Christmas can mean much more to us. Preparation is essential for celebration. In a sense, we all prepare for Christmas during Advent. We make our Christmas list and rush to get our shopping done. We address and mail Christmas cards. We get out the lights and other trimmings to decorate the tree. All of this is a wonderful time of joy and festivity.

However, Advent calls us to prepare ourselves on a deeper level of existence - to ready ourselves for the coming of a King. How can this be done? One excellent way is through the corporate worship of the church. By participating in the services in our Advent Calendar, you can heighten the meaning of this sacred season as you prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth. I know that you will want to share in as many of these services as you possibly can.

Bill Tuck
Interim Pastor



Prayers appreciated for:

Sympathies to the family of **Shawn Morris** who died last week in Oklahoma. Shawn is the son of Danny Morris and grandson of John and Lottie Morris.

Sympathies to the family of **Vincent Russell** who died Sunday, November 22, at the age of 98. Graveside service Saturday, November 28, 2:00 p.m. at Mount Hermon.



Remember your MDBA Christmas Store items are due by **November 30** to the church office. Thanks to everyone who contributed financially or by purchasing gifts for the twelve children. There will be some incredibly happy children on Christmas morning because of your generosity.

November 22, attendance: 58
Contributed: \$ 2,965.00
Average weekly need: 3,686.00
Average needs to date: \$185,540.00
Given to date: \$184,906.00

To contribute electronically:

Go to www.mt-hermon.org and click the **Online Giving bar**. Register for an account, select method of payment, enter an amount, time frame, and click submit.

Happy Birthday!

November

29 Scarlett Szczesniak

December

1 Rick Corbitt

4 Debbie Ellison

4 Holden Summers

Worship Order – November 29, 2020 – 10:30 am

Prelude Karen Blankenship
Call to Worship “Carol of the Bells” Handbell Choir
Introduction to Advent Rev. Susan Prather

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

Family Member: Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who hope in the Lord!

People: Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plenteous redemption.

Family Member: (Light the first candle) The first candle of the Advent Wreath represents the light of HOPE, the hope of redemption.

People: We praise you, O God, for the redemption of our hope through your Son, Jesus Christ, the Hope of the World.

*Song “Here I Am to Worship” Praise Team
*Invocation Prayer John Meyerhoeffer
*Praise Song # 77 “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus,” vs. 1 & 2
Church Highlights Rev. Susan Prather
Pastoral Prayer Dr. Bill Tuck
God’s Word Isaiah 7:10-14 Rev. Susan Prather
*Offering Song #606 “I Gave My Life for Thee,” vs. 1 & 4
*Offering Statement & Prayer John Meyerhoeffer
Special Music “Come Thou Fount” Praise Team
Message “**It’s Hard to Wait for Christmas**” Dr. Bill Tuck
*Commitment Song # 76 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” vs. 1 & 2
*Parting Blessing Dr. Bill Tuck
Postlude Karen Blankenship

*Indicates to stand if you are able

COVID-19 is on the rise across our nation. Let us do our part to reduce the spread by following these simple guidelines when we gather to worship:

- Face mask or coverings required for all person’s age 5 and over while in the building. Mask should cover your mouth and nose.
- Continue to practice social distancing and refrain from physical contact & handshakes.