

# First United Methodist Church of Hampton

110 E Queen St Hampton VA 23669

(757) 723-6577

**January 6, 2019 10:00 a.m.**

**Epiphany of the Lord**



**In the name of Christ WELCOME!**

**Although you may be a stranger to us, you are no stranger to God, who knows you and loves you, and whose heart is glad at your presence here. We sincerely hope this time of worship will bless your life.**

**As you are able, please stand for acts of worship indicated by an asterisk (\*).**

**UMH indicates The United Methodist Hymnal (red book in pew rack)**

**TFWS indicates The Faith We Sing (thin black book in pew rack)**

**Help us sustain God's creation by placing used worship bulletins in the basket on the credenza in the back of the sanctuary for recycling.**

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

\*INTROIT

*Sing Joy!*

The Chancel Choir

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

*The magi came from afar, following a star.*

**We come to worship, and the star sheds light on our lives.**

*The magi brought gifts to offer the Child.*

**We too bring gifts – ourselves, our hopes, our dreams,  
our holy imaginations.**

*Shepherds and magi – the meek and the mighty –  
all were welcome in Bethlehem.*

**We too come to Bethlehem  
and then return to our homes rejoicing.**

\*HYMN

*The First Noel*

UMH 245

\*OPENING PRAYER

**God of the winter sky, place a star on our horizon, for we need to lift our eyes and weary souls from the multitude of tasks and lists. Raise us to glimpse your wonder, to be struck in awe and to marvel at your love. God of the winter sky, place a star on our horizon and a song in our hearts. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE      ISAIAH 60:1-6 (NRSV)

<sup>60</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you, the

young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

## GOSPEL LESSON                      MATTHEW 2:1-12 (NRSV)

*In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"*

*<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising,<sup>[f]</sup> until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped,<sup>[g]</sup> they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.*

*The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***

## GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY PRAYER (In Unison)

**O Holy One, may we, like the magi when they saw the Christ child, open our hearts and give of our abundance. Bless our gifts that they may serve your mission in this world and bless our giving that it will enlarge our reach in Jesus' name. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

\*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS *In the Bleak Midwinter (V 4)* UMH 221

**What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.**

\*HYMN *We Three Kings* UMH 254

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM *Sing Joy to All the World* The Chancel Choir

SERMON *Looking Farther Than You Can See* Rev. Candee Martin

HYMN *Sing We Now of Christmas* UMH 237 (Vs 4 & 5)

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*Welcome to this sacred place we call sanctuary and to the table of Jesus Christ. In the United Methodist tradition, we believe in an open communion where all are welcome. We place our trust in the unconditional love of God and the unlimited welcome of Jesus Christ. I invite you to join with me as we lift our voices in this humble confession to God.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

**God of perfect light lead us as we proceed through life. Forgive us when, like Herod, selfish ambition makes us willing to hurt others or stand by while others are hurt. Forgive us when, unlike the magi, we refuse to follow the light you give us. Shine in our lives through the light of your Christ. Amen.**

*[A Time of Quiet Reflection]*

*In our resolve to trust God and change our ways, God encourages us. As we set out again to live faithfully, God journeys with us. Pardon and peace are gifts to us.*

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

THE SHARING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*[Gluten-free communion elements are available. Please ask Pastor Candee.]  
[As you come to the communion rail,  
you may leave an offering for those in need in the basket.]*

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING (In Unison)

**God of Love, do not let us grow weary of living our lives according to the example of your child, Jesus. Loving one another is a great challenge and a high calling. We do not want to fail our friend and brother. Pour out upon us your Spirit who reminds us that we bear Jesus' love and life within our very being—a powerful gift for our world. Out of this gift, may we bear the fruit of love. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN                      *The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy*                      TFWS 2098

\*COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

*May all your journeys be led by the brightness of God. May you be generous with your time and gifts. May you have the courage to trust the inner voices and find new ways to the heart of God. May the holy imagination of Christ living in you enlarge the scope of your vision for your life that you may look farther than you can see. Amen.*

\*POSTLUDE

# Imagination Space



# Reminders, Announcements, and Other News



## Sun Jan 6 – Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 am Fellowship (FH)  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship w/ communion (S)

## Mon Jan 7

6:00 pm UMW Circle 10 (FH)  
7:00 pm UMW Circle 2 (Carol Gardner's)

## Tue Jan 8

10:00 am Nifty Crafters (CFR)  
6:00 pm Fitness Yoga (FH)

## Wed Jan 9

10:00 am Circle 1 (Meg Moore's)  
11:30 am UMW Circle 4 (Vancosta's)  
6:30 pm SPRC (P)

## Thu Jan 10

10:00 am Gentle Yoga (FH)  
6:00 pm Sine Nomine Ringers (CR)  
6:15 pm Handbell Choir (CR)  
7:15 pm Chancel Choir (S)

## Fri Jan 11

No scheduled activities

## Sat Jan 12

8:00 am Breakfast and Bible Study (FH)  
8:00 am UMW Circle 9 (Bea Ashley's)

## Sun Jan 13

8:30 am Fellowship (FH)  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship (S)  
12:00 pm Parking Lot Reserved for HPO



**1/6**

Rich Foley  
Rachel Lehner

**1/7**

Sue Campbell  
Greg Lawson

**1/8**

Allen Langford

**1/9**

Laura Crocker

**1/10**

**1/11**

**1/12**

Lynn Chandler  
Ed Guldner  
Allen Kilgore  
Kaitlyn Mundie  
Trey Palomo

**1/13**

Marty Baker  
Bob Basford  
Jo White

The Pastor and staff wish everyone a happy birthday and pray God's blessings upon you.

FH-Fellowship Hall	HP-Happy People's Class	CR –Choir Room
S-Sanctuary	CFR-Craft Room	Kit-Kitchen
C-Crouse Room	P-Parlor	

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS  
TODAY, SUNDAY, JAN 6**

LITURGIST: Ann Gordon Evans  
 FINANCE: Vesta Wallio  
 BUS DRIVERS: Judy Rushton  
 COUNTERS: Donna Robinson  
 Ann Gordon Evans

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS  
NEXT SUNDAY, JAN 13**

LITURGIST: William Milholen  
 FINANCE: Wayne Barfoot  
 BUS DRIVER: Gary Bergtholdt  
 COUNTERS: Bob Allsbrook  
 Ralph White

**Chancel Flowers**

***The flowers on the chancel  
were given by Lynn Chandler  
in memory of her mother,  
Ruby K Wiles.***

Next week:  
?

**Thank you** to all who have so generously donated so that we have had flowers on the chancel in 2018. 2019 is right around the corner and we have quite a few dates including the following that are available for donation/dedication:

Jan 13, 20, 27;  
Feb 3, 10, 17, 24; March 3

**Stewardship Corner – Dec 30**

**Attendance:** Worship Total: 66 Sunday school: 39

**Offering Received last week:**

Christmas Eve 1,554.00  
 General Fund 7,576.00  
 Designated Funds 185.38

**2018 Budget Status**

Total Budget: \$348,175

Date	Offering	Need each week	Amt Ovr/(Udr)	Given to date	Needed to date	Amt Ovr/(Udr)
23-Dec	6,511.00	9,077.62	(2,566.62)	64,886.38	108,931.44	(44,045.06)
30-Dec	7,576.00	9,077.62	(1,501.62)	72,462.38	118,009.06	(45,546.68)





**Please remember in prayer  
those from our congregation:**

Lil' Bit Brown  
Nell Writtenberry  
Jane Roberts  
Eleanor Woodward  
Ed Kilgore  
Allen Langford  
Barbara Cabbage  
Marty Baker  
Candee Martin and family  
Aggie Hogge  
Lenny Yarrington  
Robin Welch  
Marianne Prentiss  
Beth Nystrom  
Tami Langford  
Adam Shlyk  
Earl Lawson  
Tami Pollard

**Sympathies to Vesta Wallio**  
and family on the loss of her  
sister.

**Is there someone for whom you  
would like us to pray?  
Please contact the church office.**

**Our friends and family in need of prayer:**

**Lyle** (Wilson's grandson);  
**Lenny** (Carol Gardner's friend);  
**Clyde Castle**;  
**Chad Sayers** (Winnie Barnes' grandson);  
**Jimmy Parker** (friend of Carol Gardner);  
**Deborah Hudson** (friend of Vince  
Mundie);  
**Gerald E. Burks** (friend of Vince Mundie);  
**Maddie Davis** (student at Armstrong);  
**Howard family**;  
**Vernon Kruger** (friend of the Rumsey's);  
**Tim** (friend of the Milholen's)  
**Ralph White's sister**;  
**Dick Baughan** (friend of Vince Mundie);  
**Patsy G. Maney** (friend of Vince Mundie);  
**Linda Lowry** (Linda Marushi's cousin);  
**Nancey** (friend of Jane Miller)  
**Earl Gibson** (friend of Buddy Marushi)  
**Aunt Carrie** (Bernice Wiggins' aunt)  
**Peggy McLean** (friend of Linda Minetree  
**Aaron 'Bird' Martin** (friend of Rich Foley)  
**Vicki Pogozelski** (Judy Rushton's  
daughter)  
**Abdul Fattah Kourtiche** (father of Sarah  
and Hannah Kourtiche)

**And many others...**



## Too busy to serve?

These days, it seems nearly impossible for some people to commit their time and talents to church. They juggle heavy workloads and family responsibilities. Long commutes and frequent travel eat into their schedules. They struggle to squeeze in even a little time for fun or fitness. It's tempting for church leaders to just throw up their hands and say, "That's just how life is these days. How can we possibly expect overly busy people to take on even more?"

**A question of priorities** ~ But what if you asked someone to make a financial offering to the church, and they said, "Sorry! I can't. I've already spent all my money?" You'd quickly realize the need to educate that person about the importance of honoring God through their offerings and prioritizing generosity. Faithful giving requires that we adjust our spending patterns and reprioritize our budgets. Yet we rarely challenge people to apply that same logic to how they spend their time.

**First fruits** ~ This is, of course, exactly how people who don't think they can afford to give become sacrificial givers or tithers. Rather than giving what is left over after all other possible claims on their resources are satisfied, they give to God "off the top" and adjust their other spending priorities in light of that commitment. Asking people to make a first fruits commitment of their time is more than a way for the church to meet its volunteer needs. It's an invitation to really consider how they spend the gift of time God has given them. Learning to steward this precious resource is every bit as important as learning to steward the material and financial resources God entrusts to us.

**Putting things in perspective** ~ When we prioritize giving — whether it's of our time or our treasure — we learn to put our own wants and needs into perspective. It can lead us to discover that we really don't need to spend \$5 or \$6 dollars a day on coffeehouse beverages or yield to the temptation of yet another online purchase. And we might also learn that we don't need to be spending so much time going to and from that coffee shop, shopping online, monitoring social media, watching sports or cable news ... or whatever other hidden time thieves steal your life away.

People who don't know better might imagine that tithing and first fruits giving are merely clever gimmicks for funding the church. But when you adopt these disciplines, you discover they are instruments God gives us to reign in our tendency toward selfishness and overconsumption. Learning to steward our time can free us from the tyranny of endless societal time pressures. When we help people put into proper perspective how they spend their time, we help them step away from a self-destructive pattern of chronic busyness and experience the joy of serving God and others.

~ **Lewis Center for Church Leadership**

**Weathering winter with virtual worship** ~ When weather makes it unsafe to have services or Bible study at your church, you don't have to forgo the fellowship, worship and opportunity for your people to give. Think through four questions to take your worship online—with options for every budget and technical ability.

Which livestreaming service will you use?

How will you capture the video?

How will you capture the audio?

How will you collect the offering?

Find your answers to these questions by visiting the United Methodist Communications website ([www.umcom.org](http://www.umcom.org)) and typing the words “weathering winter” into the search feature.

**Pose questions to General Conference 2019 delegation** ~ A reminder that you can share your thoughts, prayers and questions with members of the Virginia delegation to General Conference 2019. All information about the upcoming denominational gathering and ways to contact the delegation can be found on the conference website (<https://vaumc.org/GC2019>).

**2019 Bible Reading Challenge released** ~ Bishop Sharma D. Lewis shared that her 2019 Bible Reading Challenge will be read in a blended style with readings from the Old and New Testament each day. Bishop Lewis will be sharing a video about the challenge soon. Information about the challenge and monthly readings are now on the conference website (<https://vaumc.org/pages/bishop-lewis/2019biblechallenge>).

**Watch conference center chapel services** ~ The conference Communications office has started showing the sermons of the Wednesday chapel services on Facebook Live from the United Methodist Center located in Glen Allen. Tune in by going to the conference Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/vaumconf/](http://www.facebook.com/vaumconf/)).

**United Methodist Day at General Assembly** ~ Register today for United Methodist Day (Jan. 31, 2019) at the General Assembly! Cost is \$40. Registration ends Jan. 11. Contact the Rev. Barbara Lewis, registrar, with questions at [BarbaraLewis@vaumc.org](mailto:BarbaraLewis@vaumc.org).

**Thought for a New Year** ~ *“Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.”*  
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Published weekly, the electronic Sunday Advocate summarizes news events affecting Virginia United Methodists and serves as a link to the in-depth reporting of the Virginia United Methodist Advocate, the official magazine of the Virginia Conference. To subscribe to the monthly Virginia Advocate magazine, call (804) 521-1110 or 1-800-768-6040, ext. 110; or e-mail [Advocate@vaumc.org](mailto:Advocate@vaumc.org). Unless indicated, all news compiled courtesy of the Virginia Advocate, the weekly e-Advocate or United Methodist News Service.

# Visitor Center

## **TO REACH THE REST ROOMS OR THE NURSERY:**

Enter through the canopied entrance on the side of the building. Rest rooms are down the hall to the left. The Nursery is up the steps and down the hall to the right. Greeters and ushers are available to guide you.

**REGISTRATION PADS** are located in each pew near the center aisle. Please use these to record your presence, and to pass along information for the pastor or the church office.

**PRAYER REQUEST CARDS** are available in the pews and in the foyer atop the Prayer Box. Deposit them in the box or drop them in the offering plates.

**WE PRACTICE "OPEN" COMMUNION.** We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month, and at other special times. All are welcome at the table of the Lord, regardless of church membership, age, or feelings of worthiness. If you wish to come into relationship with Christ, deepen or renew that relationship, there is a place for you here.

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER OF FIRST UMC,** please indicate so on the registration pad, or contact the pastor.

## **OUR SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:**

FELLOWSHIP 8:30 AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM  
WORSHIP: 10:00 AM

There is a place for you and your family on Sunday mornings here at First UMC Hampton

# How to Reach Us

## **Office**

[office@firstumchampton.org](mailto:office@firstumchampton.org)  
**757.723.6577**

## **Pastor**

Rev. Candee Martin  
[candeemartin@vaumc.org](mailto:candeemartin@vaumc.org)

## **Office Manager/Finance**

Laura Harris  
[office@firstumchampton.org](mailto:office@firstumchampton.org)

## **Director of Music Ministries**

Dean Shinn  
[deanshinn@aol.com](mailto:deanshinn@aol.com)

## **Nursery Director**

Jenny Hamm  
[jennynichole@outlook.com](mailto:jennynichole@outlook.com)



**THANK YOU**  
**& HAVE A BLESSED WEEK**