

Welcome

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

- ☐ I am a Visitor
- ☐ I am interested in membership
- ☐ I would like to visit with the pastor
- ☐ Please note my change of address

PRAYER REQUEST

(Place in the Offering Plate or give to the Pastor.)

I ask your prayers for:

Prayer Request:

May we send this person a note of encouragement? ☐ yes ☐ no

If yes, please include their address:

May we include this in the prayer list for next week's bulletin and email prayer list? _____

Person making request _____

Phone _____

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Brenda & Bob Saunders, Debbie Propst, Bernice Allen & Family, Charles Whitener, Myntis Clark, Babies Brooks & Davis Laney (parents Kat & Taylor), Rob Rights, Amy Neel

Our Military: Scott Beal, Taylor Bean, Ethan Branton, Todd Houtz, Michael Howard, Tai Orange, David Parker, Camaron Sills, President Trump



Nursery:

For children up to 4 years
8:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (Level 1)

Sunday School:

For children 3 years - 5th Grade from
9:30 - 10:15 a.m. on Level 1

Children's Activity Bags:

Located at the entrances of the Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall.



Join the Youth of First Newton for worship and fun. All 6th -12th graders are welcome!

TODAY - Sunday, December 16

Youth Christmas Party 5-8:30 p.m.
(Bring \$5 dirty Santa gift)

For more info contact Deacon Shannon at: DeaconShannon@firstnewton.org

www.firstnewton.org



facebook.com/fumcnewtonnc



instagram.com/firstumc_newton

IMPORTANT YEAR-END GIVING INFORMATION

Contributions for 2018 must be submitted to the church office by 3 p.m. on Dec. 31. If a donation is mailed, we will use the postmark date on the envelope to determine whether it will be applied to 2018 or 2019. As a reminder, Online Giving is available. If the transaction is made by December 31, it will count toward your contributions for 2018. Visit: www.firstnewton.org/give

Tithe and offering envelopes for 2019 are available outside the Church Office.

FIRST CHURCH STAFF

Lara "Willis" Greene, Pastor

Shannon LeMaster-Smith, Minister of Discipleship - Children, Youth & Outreach

Brandy Burnette, Church Administrator

Sarah Luhrs, Choir Director

John Coffey, Organist

Michael Roberts, Praise Team

Kristi Spencer, Communications

Melissa Ervin, Nursery Director

Kristi Harvell, Preschool Director

PO Box 926 Newton, NC 28658

Phone: 828-464-8422

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

First Newton

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Becoming one diverse community
Worshipping Jesus passionately
Practicing unprecedented acts of hospitality

LOVING ALL PEOPLE INTO A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST

DECEMBER 16, 2018 • 10:30 A.M.

WE GATHER

Gathering Time - *We welcome everyone! Greet your neighbors with the peace of Christ and take a moment to get to know those around you.*

Prelude - *A time to transition from the outside world to a time of worship.*

Welcome & Opportunities for Ministry

*Call to Worship

Leader: Let our voices be lifted together in song and celebration!

People: **For what good news do we celebrate on this day?**

Leader: Let us join the angelic hosts in praising God, for Christ is born!

People: **Praise to God the Almighty for the gift of salvation.**

Leader: Let our hearts be joined in praise as we lift our voices in song!

People: **Blessed be the name of the Lord!**

*Hymn, No. 213 **LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES**

*Prayer of Invocation

Gracious God, we hear the promise of the coming of Jesus into a manger and into our hearts and homes. Bless our Advent waiting; fill our worship with anticipation of your love; and dedicate us to prepare your way by lifting up the valleys in our lives and making smooth the rough places of others. As we light Christmas trees, as we rush to shop and send our cards, keep us close to you, that the one whose coming we celebrate - Jesus Christ - may be honored by all we do. We are your people. Love through us. Let Christ be seen in us; for we pray in the name of Emmanuel - God with us. Amen.

Advent Wreath Lighting **PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD**

1st - Singer

2nd - Singer & Choir

3rd - Congregation

(Reverse singing order after the candle is lit.)

1st - Congregation

2nd - Singer & Choir

3rd - Singer

**Please stand in praise of God if you are able.*

WE HEAR & RESPOND TO THE WORD

Service of Giving *IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER*
“What can I give him? Give him my heart.”

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan. Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed, the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ

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.

Text by Christina Rossetti, Music by Gustav Holst, arr. Alvin Whitworth



COME TO SET THY PEOPLE FREE

TO BETHLEHEM

REJOICE, I SAY REJOICE!

ARISE, ARISE AND SHINE!

(Choir & Congregation: Please sing when directed)

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; seek the great
Desire of nations, you have seen the Infant’s star. Come and worship,
come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

LIGHT AND LIFE TO ALL!

(Choir & Congregation: Please sing when directed)

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child; Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.

**Please stand in praise of God if you are able.*

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright,
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore Your splendor see.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide.

Hail! the heaven-born Prince of peace! Hail! the Son of Righteousness! Light and
life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wings, Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die: Born to raise the son of earth, Born to give them
second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King !”

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*Benediction

*Chimes of the Trinity

CHANCEL CHOIR OF FIRST NEWTON

SOPRANOS

Leslie Benson, Janet Byrd, Leah Hayes,
Emily Kerley, Polly Pearson, Wadine Smith

ALTOS

Karol Akins, Judy Beaman, Teresa Fletcher,
Evie Johnson, Pat Simmons, Bev Underwood

READERS

Owen Sims
Diane Colletta

TENORS

Ben Benson, Joe Beaman, Tom Dixon,
Debbie Rights, Ken Simmons

BASS:

Bob Fowler, Frank Reinhardt,
Wayne Swofford

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Piano - John Coffey
Trumpet - Bethany Manning
Flute - Margaret Walters

*Follow the Star, Follow the King: Music by Lloyd Larson, Mary McDonald,
Larry Shackley, and Douglas E. Wagner; Orchestrated by Don Hart*



The roses in the Sanctuary are given in honor of
Frank & Susan Reinhardt’s 35th Wedding Anniversary
and to the Glory of God — with love and pride
from Brenda & Charles Gantt.



DECEMBER 23 (Fourth Sunday in Advent)
Christmas through the Eyes of Mary

DECEMBER 24 (Christmas Eve)
4 p.m. Children’s Candlelight Service



THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

How could a song with supposed
non-sensical words have anything to do
with the birth of Jesus? The significance
of this song will come to life during this
special worship experience for all ages!

6-7 p.m. Come and Go Communion

9 p.m. Candlelight Service & Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SHUT-INS

Today is the last day to drop off your Christmas
Cards for our homebound members. Please
leave them in the marked bags outside the
Church Office. If you would like to assist in the
delivery of the bags, please contact Brandy
Burnette in the Church Office at 828-464-6954.