

Sparta United Methodist Church

Church office hours: Mon-Thurs (8 am-3:30 pm)

Office Telephone: 372-4441 Fax: 372-1534 Parsonage: 372-4799

190 N. Main Street, P. O. Box 697, Sparta, NC 28675

Church Office: office@umcsparta.com

Pastor Bob: pastor@umcsparta.com

Director of Music: music@umcsparta.com

Church Website: www.umcsparta.com



Church Staff

Pastor
Youth Director
Administrative Assistant
Director of Music
Accompanists at 9:00 am
Nursery

Rev. Bob Miller
Casey McKenna
Charlotte Gascho
Cheri and Jay Galbraith
Charles Rudy, Mintie Saintsing
Sarah Leys, Chance Wyatt

LITURGIST Debbie Edwards
CHILDREN'S CHURCH Martha Thompson & Helpers
OFFERING COUNTERS December Mary Setzer—Martha Thompson
TRUSTEE LIGHT & LOCK Tommy Thompson
USHERS & GREETERS December 9 am
December 11 am John and Wrenn Kilmartin

Serving Next Week

LITURGIST Allen Reinhardt
CHILDREN'S CHURCH Martha Thompson & Helpers

Serving Next Month

OFFERING COUNTERS January Walt Green—Larry Prince
COMMUNION SERVERS January 9 am
January 11 am
USHERS & GREETERS January 9 am
January 11 am



Congregational Needs to support our Church Budget

Weekly Needs	Last week's Offering	YTD Needs	YTD Offering
\$4,125	\$2,460	\$182,800	\$162,200

One birth changed history;
One sacrifice changed our destiny.
Thou shalt call his name

JESUS:



for he shall save his people
from their sins.

MATTHEW 1:21

Our Church Mission Statement

Sparta UMC is a family of those
who proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and
serve all God's people in our community and around the world.

The Order of Worship

9:00 am 19 DECEMBER 2010 11:00 am

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE (9 am) Charles Rudy
(11 am) Cheri Galbraith

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

LIGHTING THE Jim and Mintie Saintsing—9:00 a.m.
ADVENT CANDLE Mike and Linda DeHart—11:00 a.m.

ADVENT SONG (11 am) Choir

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE
Welcome others by saying, "The Peace of Christ Be With You."

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
P: *You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!*
L: Restore us, O God;
P: *Let your face shine, that we may be saved!*
Psalm 80:1,3

*HYMN No. 240 "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

*THE APOSTLES CREED No. 881

*THE GLORIA PATRI

CHILDREN'S SERMON (11:00 am)
A nursery is available for children under 4. Children's Church, ages 4-3rd grade.

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYERS

ANTHEM (11 am)

PROCLAMATION

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 7:10-14

SERMON "The Greatest Gift of All" Rev. Bob Miller

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN No. 230 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE
The Congregation:
*"I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God;
I've been washed in the fountain.
Cleansed by His blood!
Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod.
For I'm part of the family the family of God."*

POSTLUDE (9 am) Charles Rudy
(11 am) Cheri Galbraith

***Standing as you are able.
Please remain in the pews until acolytes have left the sanctuary.*

WELCOME! We hope you are blessed by our service.
Please be sure to sign the attendance pad in the pews and
return the pad back to the aisle; we want to know you by name!



MISSION MEAL TODAY

Donations received for the Mission meal today will go to **Alleghany Lives!** Please see the insert for more information on this ministry. Please join us for our meal and a chance to catch up on all the news after our two weeks of snow cancellations.

Did You Know?



- ⇒ WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS should be submitted to the office by Tuesday at 3:30 pm and NEWSLETTER ARTICLES submitted by the 20th of each month by 3:30 pm.
- ⇒ Contact the church office to arrange the use of the CHURCH BUS for church activities and to check out the bus key on the date.
- ⇒ Contact the church office to RESERVE ROOMS for activities to be added to the church calendar (please do not add events to the calendar on the wall by the office without checking with the office). You must complete a reservation form, make arrangements for deposit and room fees, building and safe sanctuary policies and a key (person making reservation is responsible for building cleanup and lockup). Direct questions to Tommy Thompson, Trustees.
- ⇒ Please let the church office know of name, phone, address UPDATES and information corrections. *Note: There is a 6-week delay for processing changes for Offering Envelopes.*
- ⇒ To place flowers in the sanctuary on a special Sunday, reserve the date on the 2010 FLOWER CALENDAR on the wall across from the church office and complete a SANCTUARY FLOWER form and turn into the office.
- ⇒ Please notify an usher if you need a LARGE PRINT HYMNAL.
- ⇒ Sunday services may be viewed on CHANNEL 50/Skybest Channel 21 at the following times: Sunday - 11 am, Monday - 3:00 pm, Thursday - 10:00 am, Friday - 3:00 pm. DVD copies can be arranged in the Church Office.
- ⇒ CHILDREN'S CHURCH is available for children ages 4 yrs.-3rd grade at 11 am. Children go to the classroom following the Children's Sermon.
- ⇒ Please TURN CELL PHONES OFF OR SILENCE RINGERS in gatherings! Be reverent, respectful, and do not disturb others. Take calls outside the sanctuary during worship or outside the room during meetings. Thanks!



Help is needed in many areas of service in the church such as Greeters/Ushers, Communion Servers, Liturgists. If you notice the back page of the bulletin, we have no one scheduled for the month of January. If you would be willing to serve throughout the coming year, please check which areas you would be willing to do, fill in your name/phone number, tear off this section, and either drop it in the offering plate of in the box outside the office.

_____ Usher/Greeter _____ Communion Server _____ Liturgist

_____ 9:00 a.m. Service _____ 11:00 a.m. Service

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Prayer Concerns ~ Please let the office know of any updates.

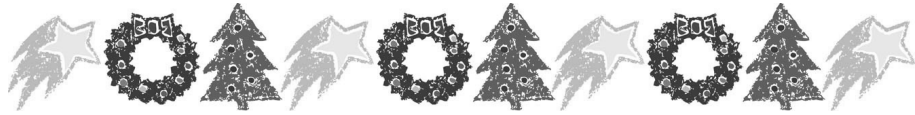
- Ongoing: Peace in the world; our pastor and our ministries; our Stephen Ministry leaders; Our country & leaders; Troops in Iraq and Afghanistan; Homeless; Oil Spill impact; Peggie King; Shirley Howell-cancer; Holmes Wilson; Sue Hampton-chemo/cancer; Ed Brady; John Boyer; Reiner; Cindy Blackburn-cancer; John Kilmartin's sister, Kathy-chemo; Ellen Church-health; Martha Thompson's sister, Carolyn; Karan Durham-cancer, Terry Marsh-cancer; Bobby Dean Caudill-cancer; Barsha Nichols-health/chemo; Katy Finney-health/chemo; Walt Green-health; Jane Farr-health; L Roe Boyer-health;
- November 14: Joyce Payton-surgery; Rena Sturgill-surgery; Julie Mash (Betty Latham's friend) - rare form of cancer.
- November 21: Jeremiah Hampton deployed to Afghanistan; Mark Edwards-cancer; Terry Jackson-health.
- November 28: George and Ida Maude Collins' son-in-law-cancer; soldiers in harms way; safe travels; Arnold Wagoner-blood clots-surgery; Jane Wallace-back problems
- December 12: Arnold Wagoner-health; Leland Simons-recovering from shoulder surgery; Camille Green-health; Lisa Hawkins (Tom & Rosalee Atwood's daughter-health.



To the family of Jo Phares, sister-in-law of Karol Boyer; and to the family of Margaret Aycock

Those HOMEBOUND or in NURSING HOMES

Margaret & Jack Aycock	Sunbridge Retirement-Sparta
Lewis Bobbitt	Sunbridge Retirement-Sparta
Judy Church	Dobson
Boyd Farmer	Woodland Terrace, Cary NC
Arlene Heffley	Homebound
Thelma Jordan	Grayson Nursing/Rehab-Independence
Lou Landreth	Sunbridge Retirement-Sparta
Thomas Myers	Dobson
Tim Myers	Dobson
Arville Saintsing	Lexington, NC
Bobby Saintsing	Triad Nursing/Rehab-High Pt.
Margaret Saintsing	Lexington, NC
Virginia Setzer	Sunbridge Retirement-Sparta
Betty Turner	Blue Ridge Highlands -Galax
Josie Wilson	Sunbridge Retirement -Sparta



Happy Birthday this week!

Steve Jones—December 22
 Beverlee Scott—December 23
 Vickie Scott—December 24
 Micah Miller—December 25
 Rob Vaughan—December 25
 Conor McKenna—December 26



Updated Church Telephone/Address List

Since a number of new members have joined our fellowship, we thought an updated address/telephone list was in order. There are several copies on the table in the foyer (green cover sheet). If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy, please leave a note in the mailbox outside the church office or e-mail the office with your request.



A STEPHEN IS . . .

The Caregiver's Compass points Stephen Ministers in the right direction on their care giving journey. The symbol for Jesus Christ at the center of the compass reminds Stephen Ministers that Jesus is the source and power for their caring ministry. The four points of the compass remind Stephen Ministers to be caregivers who are:



- Compassionate – able to share the sufferings of their care receivers;
- Full of faith – relying solely on God to be the one who heals all wounds;
- Skilled – knowing how to listen, understand, and empathize;
- Trustworthy – maintaining confidentiality, visiting care receivers regularly, and remaining committed to their ministry.

“Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2) To find out more, call Pastor Bob Miller and/or Stephen Leader Delta Peterson.



Calendar of Events

The week of December 19-25, 2010

Sunday	8:00 am	UMM Breakfast
	8:30 am	Prayer in the Sanctuary
	9:00 am	Worship
	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship
	12:00 pm	Mission Meal
	5:30 pm	Youth Fellowship

Wednesday	12:00 pm	Community Advent Service
	5:30 pm	Choir Practice

Friday	6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
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Saturday	<i>Have a BLESSED CHRISTMAS!</i>	
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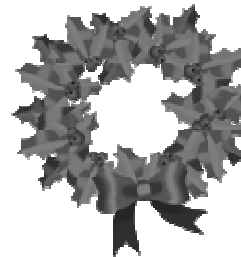


The week of December 26, 2010—January 1,

Monday	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
	6:00 pm	Stephen Ministry

Wednesday	12:00 pm	Community Advent Service
	5:30 pm	Choir Practice

Thursday	1:30 pm	Alleghany Education Foundation (FH)
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~Staff Love Offering~

Our Staff Parish Committee will be accepting a love offering for Christmas gifts for our pastor and staff for the next 2 weeks. Please indicate your designated gift in the memo section of your check or offering envelope.

