

  
**MAIN STREET**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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January 5, 2025  
*Epiphany Sunday*

8:30am  
*Worship Service*

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**WELCOME**

Victoria Smathers

**PRELUDE**

*We Three Kings*  
Jill Gardner, pianist

Lloyd Larson

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Victoria Smathers

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**  
The risen Christ is with us. **Praise the Lord!**

**\* HYMN** No. 254

*We Three Kings*

KINGS OF ORIENT

**PSALTER READING**

Psalm 72: 1-8  
Pew Bible, OT page 533

Bert Brumfield

**ANTHEM**

*Jesus, the Light of the World*  
Chorale; Jill Gardner, pianist; Nancy Blakemore, director

Ken Bible and George D. Elderkin

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 2: 1-12  
Pew Bible, NT page 2

Lanny Lancaster

**HOMILY**

"This is the Way: A Light to the Nations"

Lanny Lancaster

**\* HYMN** No. 249

*There's a Song in the Air*

CHRISTMAS SONG

**\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** No. 881 The Apostles' Creed Phil Kuntz

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*\*universal*

**\* SHARING THE PEACE**

Phil Kuntz

**CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

Phil Kuntz

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Phil Kuntz

**OFFERING INVITATION**

Phil Kuntz

Offertory

*In The Bleak Midwinter*

Allen Orton Gibbs

\*Doxology No. 95

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below:  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Phil Kuntz

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION UMH page 12

Phil Kuntz

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## SHARING THE MEAL

Music for Meditation, Jill Gardner

*In the United Methodist Church, the Lord's Table is open to everyone who seeks the grace of God in Christ. Because of our conviction that God's grace is extended to people of all ages, children are welcome at the communion table. You will stand to receive the elements and then kneel to pray at the communion rail if you choose. As a sign of your openness to receive the sacrament, stretch out your hands to receive the bread. The pastors will place a piece of bread in your hand and you will be offered the cup. By faith, this will be for you a sharing in the Body and Blood of Christ. The ushers will guide your coming to and going from the Lord's Table. If you are unable to come to the front to receive communion, just let one of the ushers know and the pastors will serve you in your seat. You are welcome to leave an offering to the poor on the communion rail. Pre-packaged Communion elements are available upon request from the basket at the communion rail.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

Phil Kuntz

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

\* HYMN No. 221

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

CRANHAM

\* BENEDICTION

Phil Kuntz

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Jesus the Light of the World (Refrain)*

ELDERKIN

**Walk in the light, beautiful light; come where his love and his mercy are bright.  
Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the light of the World.**

## POSTLUDE

*Sing We Now of Christmas*

Nathan Cain

\* please stand as you are able

Today's Communion Assistants: Mike Harris

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## Welcome to worship at Main Street United Methodist Church!

*When Christians worship, we step into an alternative world. Liturgy and ritual, hymns and prayers invite us into another landscape. Jesus' words and the experience of his presence peel back the rhetoric that pummels our eardrums so that we are able to hear him say to us, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:27, NRSV)*

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### Thank you for worshipping with us today at Main Street UMC!

If you are a visitor, please sign the attendance pad in the pew so that we can contact you at a later date in order to discuss the ministries of Main Street UMC.

**Restrooms** are located in the back left corner of the Narthex.

**Should you need to step out during worship**, you can go to the Parlor and still view and hear the worship service. Please see an usher if you need assistance.

**Main Street UMC's Sanctuary** is an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur. Camera angles may capture your image as you worship. Our weekly services are routinely shared with others via livestream and DVD. If you would like a DVD of today's 10:55 service, please contact Kathryn at 993-3411 in the church office.

**Confidential prayer requests** can be made by calling the church office at 336-993-3411 or by clicking the "contact" tab on [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org).

**Children's Ministry:** We are so happy to share God's love with our children! Main Street is a Safe Sanctuary Congregation.

- *Nursery* (8:30-noon) is available for infants-3 year olds in the Education Building. The nursery is staffed with experienced caregivers and lay volunteers.
- *Kids Connect* is our Sunday School (9:45-10:45am) program for children ages 3 years old to 5th grade in the Education building. Kids Connect offers a large group Bible lesson, worship, and small group activities.
- *Kids Connect-Worship* is offered during the 10:55am service for wiggly kids ages 3 years to 1st grade who can't quite remain in worship the entire time. Kids of all ages are invited to the front for *Moments with Children* before the younger children are dismissed to the Education Building for *Kids Connect-Worship* activities.

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## Let's Worship Together!

### Sundays

8:30am less-formal Traditional service in the Sanctuary  
8:45am Jubilee Contemporary service in the Chapel  
10:55am Traditional Worship service in the Sanctuary

### Wednesdays (September-May)

5:00pm Oasis Mid-week Service in the Sanctuary

### Thursdays

6:30pm NOW: Night of Worship contemporary service in the Chapel (1st & 3rd Thursdays)

## Main Street UMC Staff

Lanny Lancaster, Senior Pastor  
Phil Kuntz, Associate Pastor  
Al Ward, Minister of Visitation  
Wayne Purdy, Pastor of Youth Ministries  
Victoria Smathers, Dir. of Children's Ministries  
Nancy Blakemore, Director of Music Ministries  
Clay Howard, Jubilee Music Director  
Jenny Lail, Alpha & Omega Youth Choir Director  
Jill Gardner, Organist

Tina Crew, Business Manager  
Betsy Tang, Administrative Assistant  
Kathryn Jenkins, Administrative Assistant  
Anthony Simmonds, Custodian  
Willie Craven, Custodian  
La'Niah Johnson-Flemming, Custodian  
Kellie Vinay, Preschool Director  
Cynthia Barron, Kitchen Hostess

## Main Street United Methodist Church

306 S. Main Street, Kernersville, NC 27284

336-993-3411

[www.mainstreetumc.org](http://www.mainstreetumc.org)

# Announcements

**LADIES TEA**—You are invited to join the ladies of the *Tuesdays Together in Faith Group* at a Ladies Tea to kickoff the new year on **January 7** at 10:30am in the Commons. RSVP to Susan Furge at 336-671-1244.

**THE WEDNESDAY CONNECT DINNER** on **January 8** is Lasagna (*gluten-free entrée is available upon request*). Dinner is served at **5:30pm**. Dining together is a great fellowship opportunity, but if you need to get your meal “to-go”, then we can do that, too! We have disposable takeout containers but we encourage you to bring your own re-usable containers for “to-go” meals. Reservations can be made by: signing a reservation card and placing it in the offering plate; calling the church office at 336-993-3411; emailing Kathryn ([kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org](mailto:kathryn.jenkins@mainstreetumc.org)); visiting our website or clicking the link in the Thursday Connections email each week. Reservations for dining in-person or “to-go” must be made by **Monday at noon**. The suggested donation is \$6/adult, \$3/child (*10 & under*). *We accept cash, check, or cards. Great Expectations SS class serving.*

**NEW START TIME FOR OASIS WORSHIP SERVICE:** Come to the Sanctuary at 5:00pm (*new time!!*) on Wednesdays for an intimate 30-minute service with Holy Communion and prayer led by one of our pastors, with music by Chuck Foster, and a short devotion by a member of our congregation. Our Oasis service is meant to be a time of refreshment & encouragement in the middle of a busy week.

**YARD SIGNS** to support our neighbors in Western North Carolina are available from members of the New Horizons SS class and from the Church Office during the week for a suggested donation of \$20 (cash or checks written to New Horizons class). Money raised will go to UMCOR.

**CHICKEN PIES:** Our United Methodist Men are taking orders for Mrs. Pumpkins Frozen Chicken Pies! You can order frozen 9 inch Moravian Chicken Pie, Baked Spaghetti, and/or Brownies for \$15 each, or mix and match 3 for \$42.00. 4 pack 5-inch individual frozen Moravian Chicken Pies are available for \$17.00 and NOT in the mix and match deal mentioned above. Orders can be placed with any United Methodist Men member with your order request, name, email and phone number. The last day to order will be February 17. You should plan to pick up your order between 9am and noon on **February 22**.

**THIS IS THE WAY...** How is God calling you forward in 2025? How is God calling us forward as Main Street United Methodist Church? Come join us on Wednesdays at 11am or 6:30pm as we look at Jesus' life, teachings, and ministry and reflect on how that can teach us the way forward into this new year. Pastor Lanny will lead this class in the Chapel starting on **January 8** and ending on May 21. Please let us know that you'd like to attend by registering at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) and click “signups” on the red stripe.

**NEW MEMBER SUNDAY** on **January 12**—contact Pastor Phil Kuntz if you are interested in becoming a member of Main Street UMC on this date or another date.

**HERITAGE CLUB** meets for breakfast at the Olympic Restaurant in Kernersville on **January 14** at 9:00am.

**HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP BIBLE STUDY:** A 6-week video-based study called "A History of Christian Worship" will be offered on Wednesday nights starting on **February 12**. Segments include Music, Art & Drama, Baptism and Communion. How have these elements of worship evolved over the 2000 years of Christianity and in various faith communities? The class will meet from 6:30 to 8:15 in room 320 (upstairs Commons classroom) and be led by Wade and Jan Hampton. No preparation is required between classes, just come, watch, discuss. Please let us know that you will attend by signing up at [mainstreetumc.org](http://mainstreetumc.org) and click “signups” on the red stripe. Class will be limited to 24 participants and will run for 6 weeks.

**COLLECTION BOXES** are in the new main entrance for: **BOOKSAPALOOZA**, donate new or used books; **HOPE CENTER**, donate empty egg cartons, clothing, groceries; and **CRISIS CONTROL**, donate non-perishable food, each month has an item to focus on, January's item is canned beef stew.

**CHILI COOKOFF** to raise funds for Youth Mission Trips this summer will be at 5:30pm on **January 26**. Make up a pot of your favorite chili and enter it into our contest (there will be prizes!). Even if you don't want to make chili for the contest, we still need people to eat all the chili, so come on out! Admission is free but donations will be gratefully accepted for Youth Missions.

**THANK YOU** for helping to care for our Sanctuary by not bringing in food or beverages.