

Welcome

In the Christian calendar, the season of Advent is the four week period of preparation prior to Christmas. Advent literally means “arrival” or “coming” as we anticipate the celebration of Christ’s coming into the world. Christians celebrate this holy day season in three tenses: we remember Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem, celebrate the Spirit of Christ’s presence in our lives today, and look forward to the Lord’s future return.

One of the traditions of the season is the Advent Wreath. Each Sunday a new candle is lighted in preparation for Christmas. In our tradition, the colored candles each represent a Sunday in the Advent season. The white Christ Candle in the middle is lighted on Christmas Day.

New this year are weekly video devotions given by members of our staff. Each week a new devotion will be viewable online, and an email will be sent to our church email list giving the link to the devotion. The devotions can also be accessed directly at www.samjonesumc.blogspot.com. Copies of the weekly devotions will also be available for those who are not able to view them online.

We are happy you have joined us during this Holy Season.

In Christ,

Bill Burch
Senior Minister

“A Christmas Story”
Luke 2:9-12
Only five days until Christmas? Are we ready? In part, it depends upon whether we hear “A Christmas Story” or “THE Christmas Story.”

Announcements

Living Nativity

December 19 – 24, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. on the Youth House Lawn
Experience the living Nativity as the story of the first Christmas is presented “live” each evening. Congregation members of all ages are volunteering for this project. Contact Steve Landrum, 770-313-8282, stevell146@comcast.net, if you wish to participate in any way.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Thursday, December 24, 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Family-friendly simulcast at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center

Combined Worship Service

Sunday, December 27 at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Lighting the Advent Candle today:
The Gary Couey Family

Ministry Opportunities

As our church continues to grow, we have many opportunities for spiritual growth and service. If you would like to become involved, please fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate or give it to one of the staff ministers.

I would like more information on:

- Church Missions
- Sunday School
- Bible Study
- Music/Media Ministries

- Children’s Ministries
- Youth Ministries
- Adult and/or Older Adult Ministries
- Hospitality Ministries
- Stephen Ministry

Contact Information _____

Name _____

Prayer Request

The ministers and Prayer Team of Sam Jones Memorial UMC want to pray for your special needs. Place this card in the offering plate or give it to a staff member.

Name (optional) _____

Pastors Only

Pastors and Prayer Team

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2010 Winter Worship Series
BUILT TO LAST:
CHRISTIAN MARRIAGES THAT ENDURE
Begins January 10

The Church Office will be closed December 25 and 28.

Sam Jones Church Staff

Senior Pastor Dr. Bill Burch
Ext. 102, bburch@samjonesumc.org

Associate Pastor Reverend Dee Dee Lawson
Ext. 110, dlawson@samjonesumc.org

Minister of Music and Worship Mr. Brian McLeod
Ext. 104, bmcLeod@samjonesumc.org

Ministry Directors:

Linda BentonChurch Growth/Evangelism
Ext. 108, lbenton@samjonesumc.org

Matt Flournoy Youth Coordinator
404.606.5279, youth@samjonesumc.org

Judy Smith Children's Learning Center
Ext. 112, jsmith@samjonesumc.org

Alison WrightMinister of Discipleship
Ext. 111, awright@samjonesumc.org

Merry Christmas

from your church staff.

Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church
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