



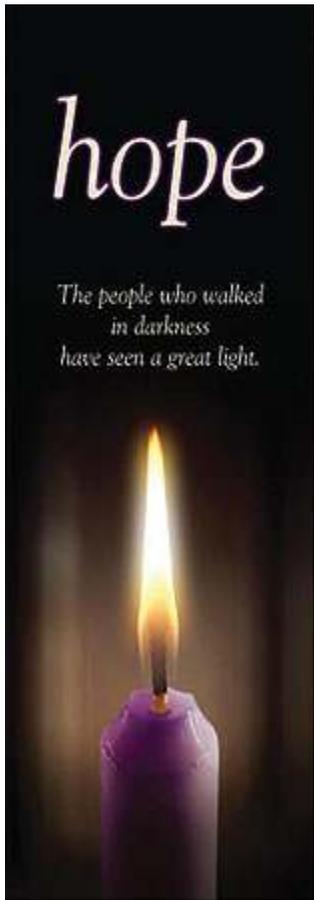
First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande

275 North Halcyon Road . Arroyo Grande . CA 93420 (805) 481-2692

“This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Psalm 118:24

Welcome to our 8:30 AM worship service. Today is December 2nd, 2012 – First Sunday of Advent

Nursery Care is available * Elementary aged children are dismissed during worship * Ask about our hearing devices.



Welcome and News of the Church

Opening Praise Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

† Scripture Reading In Unison
“Behold, the days are coming,” declares the LORD, When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely; and this is His name by which He will be called, ‘The LORD our righteousness.’

† Opening Prayer Pastor David

Lighting of the Advent Candle The Thronson Family
One: The unbreakable gift for this first Sunday of Advent is the gift of hope.

Light the first candle

ALL: Dear God, thank you for the season of Advent and the gift of hope. Help us to prepare our hearts for your coming and to remember the true meaning of Christmas. Amen.

Praise *El Shaddai*
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Jesus Be The Center; Holy Righteous

Prayer of Adoration

Susan Coho

**** Children are dismissed at this time to their Sunday School class.**

We Worship in Giving

Offertory *Wind Thru The Olive Trees*

Joys and Concerns with Prayers and Thanksgiving

Pastoral Prayer Pastor David

Scripture Reading Matthew 1: 18 - 25 Mike Herber

Message *Christmas Gifts That Don't Break: The Gift of Hope*
Pastor David M. Burgeson

Communion Scripture I Corinthians 11:23-26 In Unison

Communion Song *IN The Bleak Mid-Winter*

Benediction Song *The Lord Bless Thee* Pastor David

Recessional *I Will Sing of My Redeemer*

** * Please feel free to stay to enjoy the closing music to enhance your worship today.*

If you are visiting with us, we are so pleased to share this time of worship with you.

Your presence is a blessing to us, as we pray it is for you.

We invite you to join in a time of fellowship in Criswell Hall to enjoy some coffee and goodies after the service – we would like to get to know you.



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Welcome and News of the Church

Pastor David

Prelude

Of The Father's Love Begotten (L. Smith)

Choral Introit

The Snow Lay on the Ground

Chancel Choir

Lighting of the Advent Candle

One: The unbreakable gift for this first Sunday of Advent is the gift of hope.

Light the first candle

ALL: Dear God, thank you for the season of Advent and the gift of hope. Help us to prepare our hearts for your coming and to remember the true meaning of Christmas. Amen.

+ Call to Worship

Tom Egan

One: The scriptures were written to teach us;

Many: through their endurance and encouragement we have hope.

One: May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give us today a spirit of unity among ourselves as followers of Christ Jesus,

Many: so we can be God's choir, not just with our voices, but also with our very lives, singing in harmony in a stunning anthem to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

One: With this hope let us welcome one another just as Christ welcomed us in order to bring praise to God. Amen.

+ Opening Hymn No. 196 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Prayer of Confession

Tom Egan

One: Please join me in prayer:

Many: God of all time and seasons, how quickly the year spins by, and we are caught unprepared for your Advent. We are still recovering from Thanksgiving or the latest crisis or the long list of things to do. The demands on our time seem unending, the tasks seem overwhelming, and our energy is draining.

Holy God, sing to us in the stillness of this moment; speak to us in the depths of our hearts. Let there be a space for you in the midst of all the hurry and rush - a holy, inner place that cherishes silence and song, that keeps a candle lit and a manger ready.

God of all time and seasons, create in us a place for your birth. Amen.

Choral Anthem

Immanuel (King of Kings)

Chancel Choir

Joys and Concerns with Prayers and Thanksgiving

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for the Giving and Receiving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (M. Roberts)

+ Doxology

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1: 18 – 25

Tom Egan

One: This is the word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Message

Christmas Gifts That Don't Break: The Gift of Hope
Pastor David M. Burgeson

The Great Thanksgiving for Advent – see insert

The Lord's Prayer

The Giving of the Bread and Cup

+ Closing Hymn No. 377 *It Is Well With My Soul*

+ Benediction and Choral Response

Postlude

Praise to God The Father (F. Ritter)

Please Lift- up These in Recent Need of Prayer – 2 December 2012

- Health and healing for those in our church family who are ill.
- Comfort for the families of those who have gone on to be with the Lord.
- The financial welfare and stewardship of our church and its members.
- Victims and the recovery efforts after recent Hurricane Sandy.
- Prayers for the Middle East.
- Bill Paulsen passed away, prayers for the family. Service will be 12/8 at 1 PM.
- Bill Gerrish's mom, Doris, passed away on 11/20. Prayers for the family.
- Karen Gainer and her grand-children are still in need of a home.
- Doris Douglas' brother-in-law passed away. Prayers for the family.
- A friend of the 'Women of Prayer' , Cindy, whose father-in-law passed away.

Praise! Thanks be to God for His Goodness.

- Thank you to all for the well wishes for Pastor David's birthday last week.
- Joel Anderson & Lucy Jacob's father, Weston, is doing better.

Our Covenant Missionary: Frido Kinkolenge (Liberia)

Cal-Pac Missionaries in the Field: Julie & David Elmore (Alaska), John Elmore (Chile), Lorene & David Persons (Congo), Muriel & Terry Henderson (Mexico).

We Remember in Prayer: Our pastor and his family; our church family and friends; the youth and children's ministries of this church; our church leaders; those in service to God around the world; those who are hungry, displaced, sick or in poverty because of these and other natural and human-made disasters, and for the workers who minister with them; for God's peace and justice for the world; our nation's current and future leaders; God's peace and salvation for the world through Jesus Christ; those serving in the military and their families.

Continue to Prayer for: Gladys Paulsen, Kent Brown, the Smiths, the Hammonds, Sean Lehman, Fenton McClure, the Bucktons, Sheila Owine, Todd Everett, Ken Coombs, Isabella Sloan, the Noltzes, Ayleen Melsheimer, the Alsums, Les Bradley, Sharon Woodcock, the Williamsons, Mike Douglas, Richard Gainer, Adam Gainer, Beverly Calkins, Wil Ogden, the Gandys, Tom Egan, Virginia Mothes, Cristy Eichelberger.

Those In Care Facilities: Bob Atwood, Bob Serby, Inez Kenneaster, Wayne Frisby.

Our Shut-In Members: Doris Rice, Ruby Weddell, Yvonne Holt, Madge Young, Elvon Houlding, Jeanne Jenkins, Donna Truman, Esther Miller, Harold Bailey.

Prayer Calendar – Please continue to lift up the global UM Church

Dec. 2: Wesley Community Centers of Savannah Inc., Savannah, Georgia; **Dec. 3:** United Community Centers Inc., For Worth, Texas; **Dec. 4:** Women's League, Haiti: Tuition assistance for children in the aftermath of the Haitian earthquake, Haiti; **Dec. 5:** Methodist Church in India: Methodist Rural High School and Hostel, Saheerabad, Medak, Hyderabad, India; **Dec. 6:** Sierra Leone United Methodist Church Young Women's Network: Program support, Sierra Leone; **Dec. 7:** Caribbean Conference of Churches, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, Caribbean; **Dec. 8:** United Methodist Community Center, Youngstown, Ohio



December 2, 2012

Please feel to use this space to take notes.

Join with Pastor David as he shares today's message entitled,

Christmas Gifts That Don't Break: The Gift of Hope

Matthew 1: 18 - 25



The Bulletin Board

2 December

A full event calendar on our website at worshipweekly.com – check it out!

Coffee & Fellowship Hour – Many thanks to our **Finance Committee** for the goodies this week. Hosting next week is the **Library** team and **Mary- Martha Circle**.

Flowers on the Altar honor of Isabella Sloan's birthday (12/8) –love your family.

On Today's Schedule:

- “Sweet Adeline’s Celebration Chorus” Christmas Concert – TODAY at 2 PM (S)
- “How To Study the Bible” – A journey through the Bible, chapter by chapter, to better understand God’s Word - TONIGHT at 6 PM in the McMillen Room.

On This Week's Agenda – Get out your calendar:

- **Sew n Sews Quilting Group** – Tuesday at 9 AM in the McMillen Room.
- **Board of Trustees** – 12/4 at 7 PM in the McMillen Room.
- **Senior Exercise** – Tues., Wed., Thurs. at 8:30 AM in Criswell Hall.
- **Handbell Choir Rehearsal** – Tues. & Thurs. at 5 PM in the Handbell Room.
- **All-Church Work Day** – Wednesday at 9 AM.
- **Weekly Fellowship Dinner** – Wednesday at 5:15 PM in the McMillen Room.
- **Pastor's Advent Bible Study** – Wednesday at 6 PM in the McMillen Room.
- **Kid's Night Out** – Wednesday at 6 PM in room 211.
- **Youth Group** – Wednesday at 7 PM in the youth lounge.
- **Chancel Choir Rehearsal** – Wednesday at 7 PM in the Sanctuary.
- **People's Kitchen Team**– 12/6 leaves from UMC of AG at 11:30 AM.
- **Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group Holiday Café** – 12:30 - 3:30 PM (CH)
- **Book Club** – 12/6 at 4 PM (McMillen Room).
- **Worship Team** – 12/6 at 7 PM (McMillen Room).
- **Morning Bible Study** – Friday at 8:30 AM in the Library.
- **Friends of Jonah Benefit Concert** - 12/8 POSTPONED–watch for it in February 2013.

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center will selling **See's Candy for the Holidays**. Monies raised will assist our teachers to attend the annual *California Association for the Education of Young Children Conference (CAEYC)*, on March 14 & 15, 2013. **See Ms. Maddy in Criswell Hall after the services TODAY** or stop by the Children's Center office Monday - Wednesday between 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM. The last day to place an order is December 5 - candy will be delivered by Friday, December 14.

The Giving Tree is HERE! Adorned with ornament tags, this tree has over 60 opportunities for you purchase a gift named for a foster child. Again with two tags on the tree, we ask you to take the original tag with you to label the gift. Leave the duplicate (photocopied tag) on the tree and write your name on it. Please bring your gift WITH the original tag to the tree or the church office by 12/17. God bless!

Christmas Gifts That Don't Break – An All-Church Advent Study – Wednesdays

This study and series will explore how the gifts of the Advent season have a permanence that speaks to generations. *What are the Christmas gifts that won't break?* They are those gifts that cannot be lost, that never go out of style, and that are independent of the chances and changes of life. They are the gifts that have been graciously given by God. This all-church Advent study will focus on four of those gifts that also coincide with the four outer candles of the traditional Advent wreath: Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. *Join us on the Sundays of Advent as Pastor David helps us prepare for the birth of Christ and go deeper into the Gifts That Don't Break on Wednesdays at 6 PM in the McMillen Room for Adults; kids meet at 6 PM in Criswell Hall; youth group will study in the youth lounge at 7 PM.*

Men Dealing With Prostate Cancer Info. Night - Thursday, December 6th at 6:30 PM in the New Life Care Center, Dr. Johnnie Ham will be sharing issues dealing with prostate cancer. Questions- New Life Church at 489-3254 x500.

Christmas Musical Jubilee is Something New - A brand new Christmas program, sponsored by the Methodist Men will take place on **December 14th** in Criswell Hall from **6-9pm**. This “Jubilee” will include dancing, group sing-a-long, and some seasonal solos and a spread of refreshments - all **FREE!** Childcare is available upon request. Mark your calendar and plan to attend - bring along a neighbor or friend!

UMC of AG's People's Kitchen Team Hosts Christmas Party for the Homeless & Needy on December 13 – We need help – *see the table in Criswell Hall for information.*

Arroyo Grande UM Children's Center Holiday Program - December 13 at 7 PM. This 25 minute program reflects the traditions of the children, their families, and our staff. **Admission:** a non-perishable food item (*Five Cities Christian Women's Food Ministry*).

Five Cities Christian Women - Holiday Food Baskets – *Set-up and Distribution is scheduled for the week of 12/17/2012!* Please bring non-perishables to the basket in the sanctuary – a listing of the needed items is available in the church newsletter. Thanks!