



UNILU NEWS & EVENTS

December 9, 2020



FROM PASTOR JON

Consider the ravens...consider the lilies, how they grow...consider the falling leaves - Luke 12:22-28 (plus an addition).

In my morning devotion I shared how contentedly surprised I was to notice the many ways leaves make their brief journeys from branch to the ground. With a soft breeze blowing I witnessed leaves that rocked back and forth, as if swinging in a hammock, fall. Others glided to the ground like a paper airplane or riding on a sled. Some leaves spun like little helicopter blades and still others in large, swooping circles. Such variety in these exceedingly brief forays. And I thought, why? Leaves falling to the ground, adding their nutrients and richness to the soil need not be so pretty if the goal was purely functional. And yet our creator has even filled these brief transitions full of beautiful dances, if I simply take the time to notice. And to appreciate. And to give God thanks.

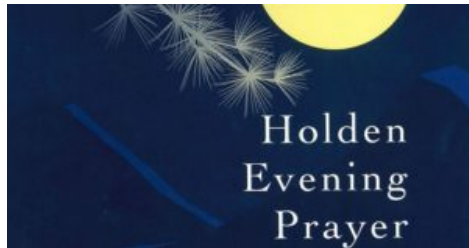
During times of stress it's easy to have our focus narrow to only the problem or challenges at hand. Yet even a minute or two of deep breathing, a minute or two of taking in the glories around us every day, can be healing for the soul. I invite you to join us [this evening on Facebook Live at 7 PM for our *Holden Evening Prayer*](#) for one such opportunity (more information in the article below).

Please put on your calendar that we will have a **4 PM online only Christmas Eve service** which will involve lessons and carols, holy communion and candle lighting. And for those who desire (and agree to wear a mask and respect physical distancing), **on Christmas Eve at 7:30 PM in our Sloan Street Parking lot** we'll gather to hear the birth story from Luke's gospel, sing a few carols and have candle lighting. **For safety purposes the lot will be closed to all cars so you'll need to park in the lower lot, on the street or in the city parking deck.**

God bless you as we continue to look after one another and our neighbors.

God's peace & hope,

Pastor Jon



HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER WORSHIP SERVICE

This evening, Wednesday, December 9 at 7 PM, we'll gather online via Facebook for our

Holden Evening Prayer worship. Click the following link to watch **Live** at <https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>.

You can also watch **Later** on YouTube by clicking on the following link at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQVMnXOXzFkX65vue_fON0g.

This beautiful service will be accompanied by members of the choir, and some visuals including the picture above. Taken when I visited the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem it captures for me a sense of peace and a sense of hopefulness.

The sanctuary will be dimly lit and you may want to worship at home in a setting that allows for candlelight (perhaps your Advent wreath?) as part of the overall mood and tenor of the service. This service is one of our congregation's and my favorites so I hope you'll join us live or view it later on University Lutheran's YouTube channel.



ONLINE CONGREGATION MEETING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT 10:30 AM

Our congregation meeting will be held **online THIS SUNDAY, December 13 at 10:30 am.**

There are two agenda items:

1. Pass the 2021 annual budget (click [HERE](#) to review budget)
2. Elect new council members (click [HERE](#) to read bios.)

The meeting will be held on Zoom (information provided below). You may click the link for video participation or you can call in to the meeting. We will vote by Zoom poll and more information on voting will be given at the meeting.

For those who are unable or uncomfortable attending this meeting online, you may attend the meeting in person. We expect the meeting to be short and we will observe proper physical distancing. Masks will be required.

Zoom meeting information

Time: Dec 13, 2020 10:30 AM Eastern Time

Video link:

<https://clemson.zoom.us/j/94020204536>

Meeting ID: 940 2020 4536

Phone-in information:

- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 940 2020 4536

Find your local number: <https://clemson.zoom.us/u/aedyEIFwt>

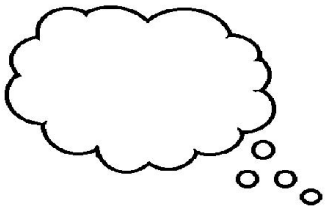
THANK YOU!

Thank you to Cheryl Ingram-Smith, Cece Parker, and David Foster for their service on our congregational council. As their terms come to an end, we are grateful for the time and energy they have given to this community in the past few years. Blessings as you continue to be a part of this church in different ways!

SANTA SHOPPE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Many toys were delivered to the SANTA SHOPPE at the Dream Center. There was lots of smiles and thank yous as the toys were unloaded.

- Community Ministry Committee



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The old testament reading for yesterday (December 8) in the common lectionary is Isaiah 4:2-6. Isaiah is prophesying to the Israelites. He is telling them that a Branch of the Lord will come to Jerusalem and be with the Israelites again. I particularly like verses 5 and 6.

Isaiah 4:5-6:

*Then the Lord will create over all of Mont Zion and over those who assemble there a cloud of smoke by day and a glow of flaming fire by night; over everything the glory will be a canopy.
It will be a shelter and a shade from the heat of the day, and a refuge and hiding place from the storm and rain.*

God provides shelter and is our refuge, and we certainly need a refuge now. I love the way Janet Beagle discusses these verses in *The Word in Season* devotion for yesterday. She is director of graduate programs for Purdue University's College of Engineering and an active member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in West Lafayette, IN.

When we are caught in one of life's storms, we must remember that no matter what we face, God promises to be our refuge and shelter. Maybe we have never seen a pillar fire lighting our path like Israelites saw, but we have seen opportunities appear or unexpected gifts help us on our journey. We can remember the times we received just the right advice or a word of encouragement. We know, even during the tumultuous times, that God is still guiding, protecting, and caring for us.

I have certainly experienced many times in the early morning as I wake up when God has answered a prayer, provided a solution to a problem, or let me know that I need to do something. Thank you God for being our shelter and refuge in these difficult times and guiding us.

Jean Mehlman

PARISH NEWS & UPDATES



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Beautiful poinsettias adorning the sanctuary is a welcomed worship experience for the Christmas season.

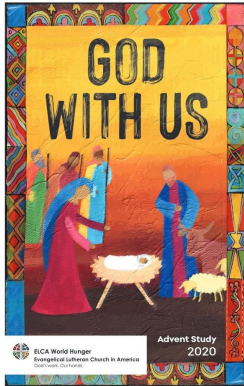
We would again like to have poinsettias in our sanctuary for our on-line worship. If you would like to honor someone or remember someone with a poinsettia in the sanctuary, please place an order by contacting our church secretary, Abi, (unilusecretary@gmail.com or 864-722-5504) with your information (your name and memorial or honorary name(s)), and send in a check for \$15.00 to University Lutheran Church, 111 Sloan Street, Clemson, SC 29631. **The deadline for your request is Sunday, December 13** . Flowers will be in the sanctuary for worship beginning December 20. After Christmas, you are welcome to pick up your flower to enjoy in your home.



2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your offering envelopes are coming! Your offering envelopes are coming! (Said in a Paul Revere voice). 2021 offering envelopes will be in the narthex **beginning Monday, December 21** if you'd like to pick them up. If

you want them mailed/dropped off to you, please let Abi know at unilusecretary@gmail.com. When you pick up your envelopes we invite you to spend a few minutes in the decorated sanctuary for a time of peaceful reflection, prayer and meditation."



"GOD WITH US" ADVENT STUDY 2020

4 Weeks - via Zoom - Tuesdays – 10 am

Dec. 1 st - *Keep Awake*

Dec. 8 th - *Prepare*

Dec. 15 th - *Comfort*

Dec. 22 nd – *Presence*

"GOD WITH US" booklet is available in the Narthex or download at:

<https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCA-AdventStudy2020.pdf>

ZOOM SIGN UP or questions: Karen Dreher 864 888 2828 - jkdreher@att.net

Jean Mehlmens 864 944 5205 - jmehlman43@gmail.com



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

If you are in the mood for some wonderful Lutheran camaraderie and Bible Study on **Wednesdays at 10:00 AM**, please join us at this [link](#). If you have technical questions, contact [Marty High](#). If you have questions regarding the class, contact [John Wagner](#).

We would love for you to join us!



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Come and join the adult Sunday school class that is meeting via Zoom! **We are starting a new quarterly study on the topic *Call in the New Testament*** where

we will examine God's call in stories found in the New Testament. There are some of the participant books available at the church, in the classroom (cry room) beside the sanctuary, if you'd like to pick one up. But, you do not have to prepare, just join in at **10 am on Sunday morning** and we'll develop a broader and deeper understanding of God's call and an appreciation for the ways people respond positively to that call.

Join Zoom Meeting at 10 am Sunday.

[https://9zest.zoom.us/j/96273872837?
pwd=RoVobW14aC9EN3FscENaeGxaRUo2Zz09](https://9zest.zoom.us/j/96273872837?pwd=RoVobW14aC9EN3FscENaeGxaRUo2Zz09)

Meeting ID: 962 7387 2837

Passcode: 865931



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Mollie Barrow is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Sunday School K-12

Time: 10:00 am Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Sunday at 10 am until Dec 27th.

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81812001614?
pwd=bmk5cEdmN1FkdGtONUtMQmpjeDJSQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81812001614?pwd=bmk5cEdmN1FkdGtONUtMQmpjeDJSQT09)

Meeting ID: 818 1200 1614

Passcode: SSK-12

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



To give electronically, look for this icon on the lower right of the University Lutheran webpage at <http://uniluclemson.org/>. Click on "Give an Offering."

Or [CLICK HERE](#) to go directly to the giving page.

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND AS WE NAVIGATE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY TOGETHER (Subject to Change as Circumstances Change)

- **All worship services and church meetings will be conducted online until CDC/NIH give a declaration that people can gather in groups of more than 100.** Sunday service livestreamed at 9 AM on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/> later posted to our website www.uniluclemson.org and YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQVMnXOXzFkX65vue_fONog.
- Council has requested that the pastors not have in-person pastoral visits, except in the case of life-threatening emergency.
- Pastors will use telecare or other methods for the duration of this public health emergency.
- Pastors can be reached via cell phone 24/7. Please **DO NOT CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE.** Pastor Jon: 843-304-5664; Pastor Josh: 919-744-1590.
- Church administrative assistant, Abi Donhauser will work remotely from her home office. She can be reached during normal office hours Monday - Thursday, 7 am to 12 noon & 1 pm to 2:30 pm; Friday 8 am to 12 noon at 864-722-5504 or by email; unilusecretary@gmail.com.
- LCM meals will be provided as boxed/to-go meals rather than usual group meals. A small number of people will help with meal preparation.
- This public health emergency may leave people feeling isolated. To combat this, Council and others in the congregation, who desire to do so, (volunteers are welcome!) will be asked to contact others regularly to check in (lists will be provided).
- Church facilities remain available to congregation members, but we suggest that this be for **INDIVIDUALS ONLY AND NOT FOR GATHERINGS/MEETINGS.** Please thoroughly sanitize after use.
- Clemson Community Care will continue their regular schedule of operations. Donations can be made at the church (baskets in narthex) or can be brought directly to their facility. Online monetary donations are also greatly appreciated

UNILU ONGOING EVENTS

SUNDAY

Worship at 9 am on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

Adult Bible Study, 10 am

Linda Holt lindaGTholt@bellsouth.net

"Call in the New Testament"

(Link to join at 10 am on Sunday in *Adult Sunday School* article above)

Youth Sunday School, 10 am

Mollie Barrow mbarrowjr@aol.com

(Link to join at 10 am on Sunday in *Children's Sunday School* article above)

First Sunday of Each Month 10:30 - 11 am Drive Up Communion

In church upper parking lot

MONDAY - SATURDAY

Morning Devotion "Jammies with Jesus" at 7:30 am on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

TUESDAY

Bible Study, 10 - 11:15 am

Karen Dreher jkdreher@att.net

"God with Us" Advent Study on Dec. 15th & 22nd

No Class on Dec. 29th

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study, 10 am

Marty High marty@martyhigh.com

"The Book of Isaiah"

FRIDAY

Zoom Drop in with Renee & Pastor Jon, 5 - 6 pm

Drop in for a few minutes or hangout for the full hour.

Contact Pastor Jon pastorjon12@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

UNILU CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

UNILU PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYER CONCERNS for University Lutheran Members, Family and Friends:
Martin & Harriet Schneider; Mike Strand, Alton Fanning; Brenda Monn's mom, Betty Lighty; Kenneth Cothran, Sr.; Sarah Heyer's family; Gregg Dupree; Marty Copenhaver & family; Jimmie Pletta & family; Gail Paul; Pat Wagner; Rosalyn Flanigan; George Harris; Tony Quesada; Randy Gilchrist; Larry Bock; Joyce Lillehamer.

UNILU CELEBRATIONS

Celebrating Birthdays this Coming Week: Connor Lehmacher; Leah Severance; Barbara Blackmon; Paula Sommerville; Carol Miller; Roy Sanders.

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this Coming Week: Ed & Jean Mehlman; Douglas & Debbie Paul.

PARISH INFORMATION

Click [HERE](#) for UniLu Calendar
Click [HERE](#) for Prayer Fellowship List

LINKS

[SC LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)

[UNILU WEBSITE • LECTONARY/READINGS](#)

[LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY • SC SYNOD](#)

[ELCA GOOD GIFTS](#)

MISS A SERVICE?

The recorded church sermons, audio and video, are posted weekly to the website: www.uniluclemson.org and to the University Lutheran Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

REMOTE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

**Monday–Thursday 7 am–12 pm; 1 pm–2:30 pm
Fridays 8 am - 12 Noon**

Abi can be reached during the above hours at: **864-722-5504** or
unilusectetary@gmail.com

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

*University Lutheran is a family of faith, called by the Holy Spirit to be
one ministry serving both our community and university.
The Spirit calls us to make known, by word and deed, the story of God's
love in Jesus. Our worship together empowers us to grow as disciples
as we receive, celebrate, and share God's gifts with all of
God's creation and created ones.*