

# The Chalice Chat

Hooker Memorial Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
Rev. Kara Swartz, Minister

December 2018  
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[www.hm-cc.org](http://www.hm-cc.org)

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## Kara's Kerygma

Each year for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany we intentionally choose something to focus on throughout the season. One year was "Finding Bethlehem, Amidst the Bedlam," another it was "Holy Days." This year we are "Seeking Christmas." So why are we "Seeking Christmas"? Christmas has become such an integral part of our culture, from countdowns to parades, sales to parties, to all sorts of other events and moments that we are almost besieged with Christmas in some way shape or form from the minute summer ends. It is everywhere...so much so that do we need to seek it out? Does it make sense to be "Seeking Christmas" when it is seemingly all around us?

Short answer, yes. We, as people of faith, must intentionally seek out the meaning of Christmas amidst all the other parts of the holiday season. We can get so caught up in everything else that we can forget the reason for the season, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He can get lost in countdowns, and parties, Elf's on the Shelf's and Santa Claus. So, we must seek Him.

We must look for Christ in each and every moment of the season. That sometimes can be difficult when we are bombarded with everything but Christ. We ought to be intentionally seeking the hope, the peace, the joy, the love, and the light of Christ in everything we do to celebrate the season of his birth. The hope and prayer throughout this season is that we take a moment, pause, and intentionally seek out Christ as we celebrate Advent and Christmas. Seek Him out as we are watching, waiting, and preparing for His coming again.



Rev. Kara

**Salvation Army  
Bell Ringing**

**December 1, 2018  
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

**Food Lion #3  
1914 Turnbury Circle**



Please bring unwrapped  
Salvation Army  
Angel Tree Gifts  
to the church by  
December 9, 2018



Thanks for helping a child to have a Merry  
Christmas!

**December Worship**

**December 2**

*Where Does My Hope Come From?*  
Luke 1:26-38

**December 9**

*Peace – What's That?*  
Matthew 1:18-25

**December 16**

*How Great Our Joy*  
Luke 1:39-56

**December 23**

*We Found Love*  
John 1:1-14

**December 24**

**Christmas Eve – 6:00 p.m.  
Candlelight Communion Service**

**December 30**

*Still Seeking*  
Ephesians 4:22-24

**CWF Christmas Dinner**

**December 3, 2018**

**6:30 p.m.**





December 2 – Bible Study

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Dinner provided by Gene & Nancy Owens

December 16 – Christmas Caroling & Christmas Party

Meet at the church at 2:15 p.m.

Dinner provided by Donna & Dick Briley

HOOKER MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)  
CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

*Vendor Fair*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018  
10:00 AM- 2:00 PM  
IN THE CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL

*Vendors include:*

HAND-MADE ITEMS, HOLIDAY DECORATIONS,  
CUSTOM JEWELRY, DAVE'S BBQ SAUCE,  
AND SO MUCH MORE!

PROCEEDS GO TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF  
THE CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Come Sing With Us**

**Christmas Caroling  
Schedule**

**December 16, 2018**

2:15 p.m. – Meet at the church if you wish to carpool  
3:00 p.m. – Brookdale  
3:45 p.m. – Southern Living  
4:15 p.m. – Greenfield Place (East Carolina Rehab and Wellness)





## Serving for Children Worship & Wonder



Date	Story No.	Story	Story Teller	Greeters	Scripture
12/2/2018	17	The Prophets Show the Way to Bethlehem	B.J. Causey	Roberta West	Isaiah 9:2; John 1:5
12/9/2018	18	Mary and Joseph Show the Way	B.J. Causey	Pat Roberson	Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2
12/16/2018	19	The Shepherds Show the Way	B.J. Causey	Deloras Barwick	Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2
12/23/2018	20	The Magi Show the Way	B.J. Causey	Roberta West	Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2
12/30/2018	21	Meeting the Christ Child	B.J. Causey	Kathy Nunn	Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2
1/6/2019	1-B	Baby Jesus is Presented to God			Luke 2:22-38
1/13/2019	22	The Boy Jesus in the Temple			Luke 2:41-52
1/20/2019	23	Jesus is Baptized			Matthew 3; Mark 1:1-11; Luke 3:1-22
1/27/2019	25	The Mustard Seed			Matthew 13:31-32



## Serving for Grow in Worship

Date	Story	Story Teller	Greeter	Scripture
12/2/2018	Advent Prophecies	Becca Harris	Deloras Barwick	Matthew 1:20b-22
12/9/2018	Symbols	Becca Harris	Roberta West	Daniel 4:2-3
12/16/2018	Crosses	Courtney Cartwright	Kathy Nunn	1 Corinthians 1:18
12/23/2018	Sanctuary Worship			
12/30/2018	Sanctuary Worship			
1/6/2019	Epiphany Story			
1/13/2019	The Twelve Disciples, Part 1			
1/20/2019	The Twelve Disciples, Part 2			
1/27/2019	Sanctuary Worship			



## Opportunities for Service in December

### JOY Soup Kitchen

December 7

10:00 a.m.

700 Albemarle Ave.

### Ronald McDonald House

December 18

529 Moye Blvd.

See Kathy Nunn or Deloras Barwick

### First Born Community Development Center

Please continue to bring non-perishable food items and place them in the collection box located near the stairs in the Education Building.

## Caring & Sharing in December

*Edna Harris*

*Winton & Lucille Hill*

*Carolyn Howard*

*Betsy West*

Please hold each of these individuals in prayer during this month. You may also let them know, in some small way, that they are loved.

## Choir Rehearsal



**Wednesdays**

**6:30 p.m.**

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

**December 24, 2018**

**6:00 p.m.**

### December Prayers

Pray for all of those in and around our community during the Holiday Season.



**The Ladies of Hooker Memorial  
Christian Church  
Are Invited to  
The Home of Erika Churchill**

**December 17, 2017  
6:00 p.m.**

## December Meetings

### Christian Men's Fellowship

No Meeting in December

### Christian Women's Fellowship

December 3  
6:30 p.m.

Christmas Dinner in Fellowship Hall

### Elders

December 10  
6:00 p.m.

### Deacons

December 10  
7:00 p.m.

### Board

December 16  
Following Worship

## December Servants

### Elders:

Nancy Owens  
Gene Owens

### Deacon (Opening, Closing, & Communion):

2<sup>nd</sup> Kelly Morris  
9<sup>th</sup> Pat Hersch  
16<sup>th</sup> Monnie Morris  
23<sup>rd</sup> Larry Hersch  
30<sup>th</sup> Kelly Morris

### Worship Leader:

2<sup>nd</sup> Thompson Family  
9<sup>th</sup> Rick Owens Family  
16<sup>th</sup> Creech Family  
23<sup>rd</sup> Carson Family  
30<sup>th</sup>

*\* If you are unable to serve on the scheduled date, please find someone to take your place \**

## January Servants

### Elders:

Valorie Sullivan  
Lee West

### Deacon (Opening, Closing, & Communion):

6<sup>th</sup>  
13<sup>th</sup>  
20<sup>th</sup>  
27<sup>th</sup>

### Worship Leader:

6<sup>th</sup> Lee West  
13<sup>th</sup> Becca Harris  
20<sup>th</sup> Brenda Allen  
27<sup>th</sup> Farrah Owens

*\* If you are unable to serve on the scheduled date, please find someone to take your place \**

Please plan to help with removing and packing up the Christmas decorations

on

January 6, 2019  
Following Worship

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

*Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift. Jesus is here!*



2 Corinthians 9:15

  
*For unto us  
a child is born,*  
..... HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED  
*Wonderful Counsellor,  
THE MIGHTY GOD  
THE EVERLASTING FATHER,  
The Prince of Peace.*

Isaiah 9:6

