



The Circuit Writer is published monthly
by Ghent United Methodist Church
531 Raleigh Avenue
Norfolk Virginia 23507
Phone: (757) 622-2843
E-mail: office@ghentumc.org
Minister: Bill McClung
Address service requested

Non-profit
Organization
U S POSTAGE
PAID
NORFOLK VA
Permit No 315



The Circuit Writer

Ghent United Methodist Church

November 2010

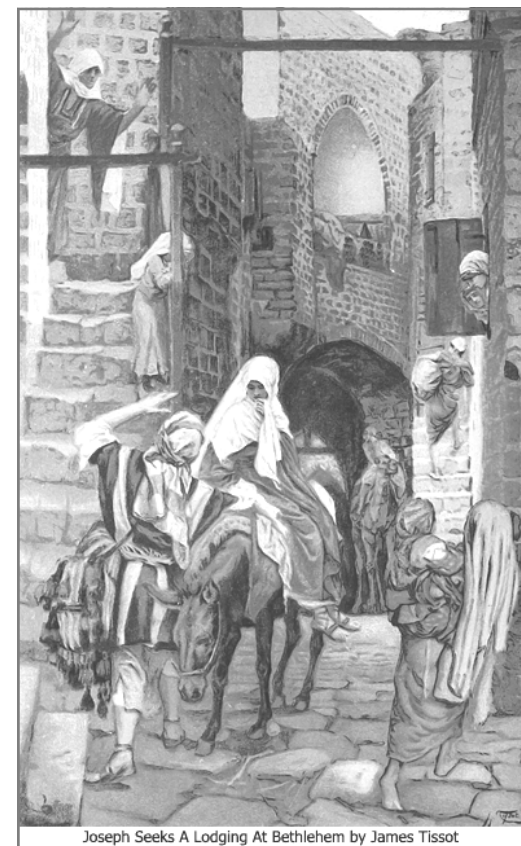
A young girl does her best, but Ruhamah's bread just isn't as good as her mother's! Hannah is the best baker in Bethlehem, but her blindness has imprisoned her, so it is her daughter, Ruhamah, who prepares the bread and carries it off to sell. It's another busy day at the market, and all of **Bethlehem's Best** crafts and trades people are singing and selling their wares! Visitors are abundant and the inns are

**Bethlehem's Best
Ghent UMC
December 5th!**

full. As night draws near, a brilliant star appears overhead, and a young couple appear, looking for a place to stay the night. As Ruhamah makes her way home, she looks up at the star wistfully wishing things were different...

Join the children and youth of Ghent UMC **Sunday, December 5th, 4 pm** as they tell the heartwarming story of **Bethlehem's Best!**

Children and youth of all ages are invited to participate! Rehearsals are set for every Sunday through November from 4 to 5:30 pm. Dress rehearsal will be Saturday, December 4th (during the Hanging of the Greens!) Dr. Peterson is teaching the music at Children's Choir Practice on Wednesday



nights 5:30-6:15. If you have questions about the play or would like to sign up your child, or if you are interested in helping with the scenery, costumes, or other logistics contact Kristen McClung at kristen_mcclung@hotmail.com or 268-4385.



This year celebrate Advent and Christmas with a renewed feeling of anticipation and hope centered on the **true** hope, Christ!

In **Meeting the Messiah**, by Kara Lassen Oliver, six weeks of short daily readings and guided reflection on Scripture will allow you to experience Advent through Epiphany with the Holy Spirit, John the Baptist, Mary, the shepherds, the Magi, and Jesus himself.

Men and women are invited! Monday mornings at 9:30 or Monday evenings at 7 pm beginning November 29 through Epiphany. Call 622-2843 by November 15th if possible.

We will place a group order for the study book, \$14 **Come! Meet the Messiah!**



One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked Him, and he was a Samaritan. Luke 17:15-16 NIV

Thankful!

The passage above from the Gospel of Luke is timely because it makes a point about thankfulness. Jesus is heading to Jerusalem, but travels near the border between Galilee and Samaria. There, ten men with Leprosy call out to him and ask for mercy - healing. Jesus simply says, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." and "as they went, they were cleansed." All are obedient, all believe, all are cleansed. Yet only one of the ten returns to glorify God and say "Thank you" to Jesus.

We are in the season of Thankfulness. We look toward the celebration of Thanksgiving, a day of expressing gratitude to God for all the blessings we receive from Him. So, you should know that I thank God for you, my Ghent Church family. I am so thankful to be the pastor of this church that prays for one another and seeks ways to lift one another up during difficult times. I am thankful for your love of children that has nurtured the development of a pre-school ministry, provides Christian education where children learn the precepts of our faith, and now a children's

choir where young voices sing the songs that bring us closer to God. I am thankful that you take the statement "Feeding the Community" seriously enough to care for the homeless, to provide meals for each other, to eat together as family. I am thankful for your willingness to seek ways to be the body of Christ, and love personified to a broken and hurting world because of your love and thankfulness to Jesus.

Above all I am thankful for your love and support of Kristen, Drew, Norah and I. It is hard for me to believe I am in my seventh year as pastor appointed to the Ghent Church community. I can not tell you how it warms my heart to see you at work in God's mission, and how much your encouragement helps me.

This month I did not want to be like the other nine, but like the one, glorifying God and thanking Him; and also thanking each of you for your love of God, each other and me.

Feeding the Community,

Bill



Ghent Faith Family November Birthdays

01	Steve Loomis	11	John Gahagan	23	Jim Blassingham
03	Carolyn Long	11	Norah McClung	24	Victoria Marasco
03	Shelley Matthews	13	Rhonda Pickrell	24	Ellen Key
03	Michael Hagn	14	Evan Pugh	24	Lauren Griffin
04	Matthew Pugh	15	Katherine Cross	26	Elizabeth Moore
06	Michael Horner	18	Parker Cross II	29	Les Smith
08	Joshua Greenough	19	Judy Carraway	29	Brian Truitt
08	Caleb Vineyard	19	Annah Cross	30	Melissa Meador
08	Lauren Vineyard	22	John Tyler		

Doris Luther Scholarship at Spartanburg Methodist College!

Doris often stated that if not for assistance she would not have been able to go to college. Her former Spartanburg students remember, and have established an endowment in Doris' name. Contributions can be mailed to SMC, 1000 Powell Mill Rd., Spartanburg, SC 29301-5899.

Office Hours:

GUMP - M-F, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Church Office - Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Stewardship & Attendance

Attendance:		Pledges:	
Oct 3	79	\$	3,850.00
Oct 10	82	\$	3,126.89
Oct 17	80	\$	2,561.06
Oct 24		\$	
Oct 31 will be included Dec Circuit Rider.			

Needed Weekly: \$5,186.00

The Circuit Writer is published and mailed out monthly. Please send information to ssgarner@cox.net or call 623-1862. December issue deadline is Sunday, November 14th.



The G.U.M.Y. gang is busy help-

ing with the children's **Christmas Play** on December 5th. Rehearsals will begin Sunday November 7, at the same time as our usual meetings. Below are a few other events that are happening this month.

Thursday November 11 - Paint Ball @ Fox brothers paint ball in Virginia Beach. Veterans Day the youth are out of school, so we will take a moment to remember how our veterans defended our freedom! Meet at church at 9 am. Cost will be \$20.00 for paint ball. Bring money for fast food lunch on the way home. Youth funds will pick up the difference. Visit www.foxbrotherspaintball.net/home.htm

Sunday November 21 - Lunch Bunch- we will go to lunch at a nearby restaurant and try not to eat turkey this close to Thanksgiving!

November 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Eggleston Circle	2 Laubach Circle	3 Children's Choir Chancel Choir	4	5	6 Coffee with Pastor
7 SS-Worship GUMY Play Practice	8	9 Mary Martha Circle	10 Knitting Children's Choir Chancel Choir	11 GUMP and Church Office Closed	12	13
14 SS-Worship GUMY Play Practice	15	16	17 Children's Choir Chancel Choir	18	19	20
21 SS-Worship GUMY Play Practice Charge Conference UMW Meeting	22	23	24 Knitting Children's Choir Chancel Choir	25 GUMP and Church Office Closed Thanksgiving!	26 GUMP and Church Office Closed	27
28 SS-Worship GUMY Play Practice First Advent!	29 Advent Bible Study 9:30 am and 7:00 pm	30	MISSION: Collecting Change & Baby Items in November for the Crisis Pregnancy Center.			First Sunday Food-bank Dec 4th!

Regular Weekly Schedule

Sunday

Sunday School 9:45 am
Worship 11:00 am
GUMY 4:00 pm

Children's Play Practice (all month!) 4:00 pm

Monday

NEW! Advent Bible Study- 9:30 am, OR 7:00 pm. Contact: Debbie at 855-5333.

Wednesday

Children's Choir 5:30 - 6:15 pm (Kindergarten-5th Grade)
Chancel Choir Practice 7:00 pm

Ghent UMC Meetings & Events

Monday, November 1 - Eggleston Circle 7 pm, in the Church Kitchen.

Tuesday, November 2 - Laubach Circle 10 am in the church.

Saturday, November 6 - Coffee with the Pastor, 2-4 pm at the parsonage, 935 W. Princess Anne Rd.

Tuesday, November 9 - Mary & Martha Circle 9:30 am.

Wednesday, November 10 & 24 - Knitting Group, 10-12 am in the Clark Room.

Sunday, November 21 -

- ❖ Charge Conference 4 pm at Epworth UMC.
- ❖ UMW Meeting - World Thank 4 pm in the Sanctuary.

Though our mouths were full of song
as the sea,
and our tongues of exultation
as the multitude of its waves,
and our lips of praise
as the wide-extended firmament;
though our eyes shone with light
like the sun and the moon,
and our hands were spread forth
like the eagles of heaven,
and our feet were swift as hinds,
we should still be unable to thank Thee
and bless Thy name,
O LORD our God and God of our fathers,
for one thousandth or one ten thousandth part
of the bounties which thou has bestowed upon
our fathers, and upon us.
Hebrew Prayer Book

Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church Nov 14

More than 100 million Christians in almost half of the countries of the world are persecuted for belief in Christ.

Holy Father, strengthen our Christian brothers and sisters when they tremble in weakness and affliction. Remind them that the grace of Jesus is sufficient because His power is made perfect in weakness. When their trust wavers, strengthen them in Your mighty power. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Charge Conference: Leading by Following Jesus

Ghent Church's Annual Conference is scheduled for Sunday, November 21st at 4 pm, in conjunction with Epworth UMC and will be hosted by Epworth this year. All congregation members are encouraged to attend. Norfolk District Superintendent, Rev. Brad Phillips, will preside at the meeting.

The 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, in section 247 number 3, the primary responsibilities of the charge conference in the annual meeting shall be to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church (§¶ 120-124), receive reports, and adopt objectives and goals recommended by the church council that are in keeping with the objectives of the United Methodist Church.

This year our Christian Conferencing theme will be **"Leading by Following Jesus."** We will spend some time intentionally talking about two areas. First, we will review what we have done to be excellent "fishers of people" this past year and explore ideas to strengthen this area of ministry. Second, we will consider ways to move from a settler's congregation: settled, established, full of routine, to being a pilgrim congregation: willing to pull up stakes and go on a journey with God.

This is an opportunity for us to celebrate the past, but more so to be excited about the future to which God is calling us. I hope you will make plans to be a part of this important work of the church.



Ghent UMW News and Notes

Eggleston Circle will meet **Monday, November 1st at 7 p.m.** Eggleston Circle is a group of women in search of Christian fellowship and opportunities for mission. Questions? Call Debbie Bonnewell at 855-5333.

The **Laubach Circle** will meet at the church on Tuesday, November 2, at 10:30 a.m. We will be discussing Chapter 5 of our study book, **A Love Affair With India**. After the meeting, we will have a fall lunch. Any interested women are invited to join us for study, mission projects, fellowship, and lunch! Please call 855-4577 or e-mail Carolyn Long (cndlong@cox.net) for more information.

The **Mary & Martha Circle** will meet Tuesday, November 9 at 9:30 a.m. on the third floor of the church. Childcare is lovingly provided! We'd love to have you! We continue to collect items for the **Crisis Pregnancy Center** and hope to fill the bassinet container in the Church Narthex! Items needed are listed in the church bulletin. For more information about our circle, please contact Christin Johnson (cln_odu@yahoo.com or 489-1639) or Melissa Meador 204-7281 or by email (melissameador@cox.net).

All women are invited to the **Ghent UMW World Thank Unit Meeting in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November**

21st at 4 pm. Our guest speaker is **Penny Radd** who is the Norfolk District UMW Social Action Coordinator. We will review and briefly discuss Mark Winne's book titled: **Closing the Food Gap: Resetting the Table in the Land of Plenty**. The book is widely available, however you do not need to read the book to attend the meeting. A World Thank offering will also be collected, and we will be assembling sandwiches as well to donate to **St. Columba Ecumenical Day Center** for the homeless, located on Lafayette Boulevard. Refreshments will be served, and childcare will be provided. Please RSVP for attendance and childcare needs by Wednesday, November 17th (622-2843 or office@ghentumc.org).

Thank You!

- ❖ The congregation was very generous on behalf of the children at **Club Sandwich!** An abundance of notebooks, binders, paper, pencils, crayons, glue, hand sanitizer, tissues and much, much more was delivered. Thank you for supporting this ministry to children!
- ❖ We appreciate all of the women and men who helped to make the UMW worship service on October 24th such a meaningful experience! Following worship, we enjoyed fellowship, lunch and program in which we examined UMW's purpose and learned about pledging.

Ghent Church Advent Calendar

November 27/28

Chrismon Tree



The First Sunday of Advent is Nov 28th. A few **Good Christian Men** are needed the Saturday prior, to put the Chrismon Tree up in the Sanctuary! Call Pastor Bill if you can help! 622-2843.

December 4

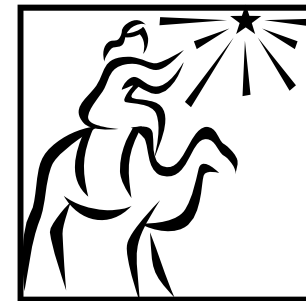
Hanging of the Greens



Join us **Saturday, December 4th, 4 pm** as we **Deck the Halls** of Church and Sanctuary with The Holly & The Ivy, and wreaths and candles! The children have a rehearsal in the Little Town of Bethlehem, and chili will be served when all the work is done!



Mondays during Advent
Meeting the Messiah Bible Study...



December 12



Lessons & Carols

A Service of **Scripture and Song** which embraces our desire, O Come Emmanuel, and celebrates the fulfillment of prophesy and promise!

December 5

Bethlehem Best Christmas Play



Don't miss this wonderful story of children who encounter Mary & Joseph on a very special night! In the Social Hall at 4 pm!



December 19

Live Nativity & Open House



Hot Cider, Caroling, Shepherds, Angels and Wise Men, Scripture, and a newborn baby bringing salvation Away in a Manger...

Get to Know: Our Children's Sunday School Teachers!

Ghent UMC is very blessed to have three dedicated Sunday School teachers to help parents keep their baptismal promise to teach their children about God, and salvation in Christ!

PreK/1st Grade Teacher Cortney Doucette

"I've mostly been staying at home to raise my two daughters for the last three years, although I do contract marketing work from home when available. I've been at Ghent UMC for about a year and I love working with the children because they are so enthusiastic and curious!"

2nd-5th Grade Teacher D'Wayne Tupper

"I am the father of Victoria Grace (7) and Andrew Scott (5) Tupper. I was raised in the Methodist tradition since birth, as were both my parents, Peter and Patricia.

On Sunday, March 22, 2009, with the specific purpose of finding a church home for my family, I entered Ghent United Methodist Church for the very first time. On that day Rev. McClung preached a Wee Worship service to twelve children wanting to learn about God. Then he preached a

Christ oriented sermon to their parents who were equally motivated to be disciples.

I recall being deeply touched by the presence of the Holy Spirit in this church and congregation on that day. I returned on April 5th, which was Palm Sunday, just to be certain, and again was deeply moved. So, on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009, I introduced Victoria and Andrew to their new church home.

The fellowship and blessings extended by this congregation over the past sixteen months only confirm this is a genuine House of God for All People! After finishing my tenure as Chair of the Trustees and also as a member of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee at our former church, my family officially joined Ghent United Methodist Church on August 29, 2010."

Jr/Sr High Teacher Karen Kowalski.

"I am originally from New York and moved here 12 years ago with my husband, Bill Kordyjak, when he was transferred here with the Navy. We liked it so much we stayed a while! We have 2 children, Chloe and Ben, who attended GUMP and now attend GUMC. When not taking care of my children or teaching Sunday School, I teach biology at Tidewater Community College in Chesapeake!"

We are very grateful to Cortney, D'Wayne and Karen for their commitment of time and energy sharing their faith, and God's Word with the children of our church family!

Ghent UMC - busy all week!

If you thought the church building is only open on Sunday morning for Sunday School and Worship Services, then you should know that Ghent Church is a busy place during the week too. Activities take place almost everyday!

Of course most of you know about **GUMP** (Ghent United Methodist Preschool) which meets daily 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. But did you know that we also rent space to **Little Feet Dance** and the **Academy of Music**? Little Feet Dance offers ballet and tap classes Monday and Wednesdays. The Academy of Music uses our rooms to teach group violin lessons to approximately

60 students and their parents on Thursday afternoon and evenings. AND...we have lots of Church activities too, from weekly year round **Chancel Choir** rehearsal and **G.U.M.Y.** (Ghent UMC Youth) to activities that meet for several weeks at a time such as **Bible Study** or **Children's Play Practice**. Don't forget the monthly meetings of **Ghent UMW Circles** and twice monthly meetings such as the **Knitting Ministry**.

All of this can make for a very busy calendar. To make sure that activities don't overlap, it's very important to check with the church office by calling **622-2843** or office@ghentumc.org before scheduling your next group activity or meeting!

Patricia Dominicci



Monday, October 25th, the Mary & Martha circle visited the Lydia Roper Home, with the little ones dressed in costume/festive attire. (from left to right: Ashley, Regan, Christin, Melissa, Kristen) The residents were delighted with the floral arrangements from UMW Sunday and the sugar-free treats and devotions. The Mary & Martha girls also left the residents 6 pumpkin pies to enjoy after dinner!



Coffee with the Pastor!

We love seeing new faces in worship on Sunday morning! To help us get to know you better, you are invited to **Coffee with the Pastor, Saturday, November 6, 2 pm at the Parsonage, 935 W. Princess Anne Road, Norfolk.**

This is great opportunity to learn more about the ministries of Ghent United Methodist Church as well as get to know others in the church family. So join us for coffee! Give us a call at 622-2843 or office@ghentucm.org.

Operation Christmas Child Boxes Nov 14th

Operation Christmas Child is a global Christmas gift exchange project operated by Samaritan's Purse. Fill a shoebox with toys, school supplies, personal items, and other gifts.



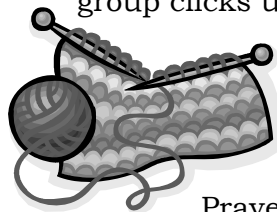
Bring your filled boxes to church by November 14th! Each box costs \$7 to mail. Please write postage donation checks to Ghent UMC. By

making one payment for shipping, we can arrange to have our shoe boxes **tracked**. We will find out where the children receiving our shoeboxes live! We will post the locations on a map, so our children will better understand the joy and excitement of participating in "global" mission! See the following web site www.operationchristmaschild.org for tips on filling your box, or call Debbie Bonnewell at 855-5333.



Clicking Up a Storm!

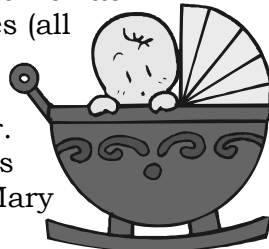
The Prayer Shawl Ministry knitting group clicks up a storm twice a month on Wednesday mornings! If you like to knit or would like to learn how, join Kathy Butler at the Prayer Shawl Ministry group



Wednesday, November 10th and 24th, from 10 am to noon, in the Clark Room, located downstairs across from the Social Hall!

Collection for Crisis Pregnancy Center

The Mary and Martha Circle is collecting change in the baby bottles located in the pews, as well as diapers, wipes, onesies (all sizes), receiving blankets and bibs throughout November. A December delivery is planned in honor of Mary and the Christ child!

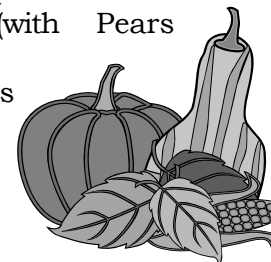


A Cornucopia of Blessings! on Sunday, November 21st a cornucopia of fruits and vegetables will decorate the altar. **Church members are asked to contribute fresh fruits and vegetables.** Following the service, the food donations will be given to **Ghent Area Ministries.** Sign up sheets are located in the narthex and foyer of the education building. Bring items to the church office Nov. 15-19 (8 am to 3 pm) or on Sunday morning, Nov 21 (9 to 10:15 am). Volunteers are needed to help set up the display. Please call the church office if you would like to help!

Here is a list of the fresh produce items needed:

The list of fresh produce follows:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Broccoli | Lettuce | Lemons |
| Eggplant | Green | Tangerines |
| Beets | Beans | Limes |
| Cauliflower | Cabbage | Apples |
| Squash | Tomatoes | Grapes |
| Peppers | Pineapple | Bananas |
| Potatoes | Celery (with tops) | Pears |
| Carrots | Oranges | |
| (with green tops) | | |
| Scallions | | |



For, after all,
put it as we may to ourselves,
we are all of us from birth to death
guests at a table
which we did not spread.

The sun, the earth, love, friends,
our very breath
are parts of the **banquet...**

Shall we think of the day as a chance to
come nearer to our Host,
and to find out something of
Him, who has fed us so long?

Rebecca Harding Davis

Ghent Faith Family Joys and Concerns

Courtney Doucette	Pat & John King
Aundrea Dunham	Marjorie Mitchell
Tom Dunham	Dorothy Thomson
Gail Evett	Meredith Travers
Ian Garner	Meredith Wilkins

Gulf Coast Oil Spill
Difficult Economy
Cholera in Haiti
Honest Election Process
Indonesia

Deployed Military and their Families:
Rob Collett, Steven Morse, Chris Martin

Joys & Praises

Emily & Michael Lindale announce
Colin James Lindale
born July 28, 2010
Chilean Miners saved!