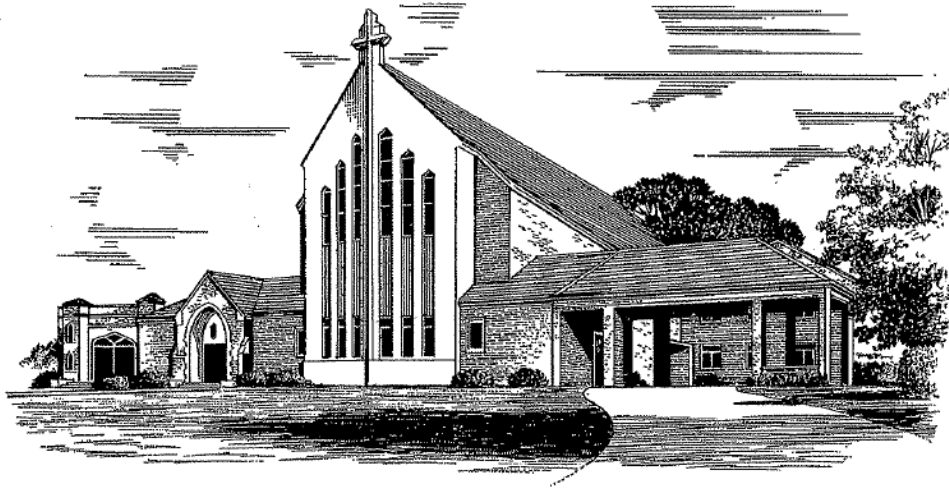


Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church



*"When I was in want...my needs were supplied
by the people who came from Macedonia."
II Corinthians 11:9*

**First Sunday of Christmas
January 1, 2012
8:15 & 10:30 Worship Services**

MACEDONIA'S MISSION STATEMENT

Mission: A community of believers responding to the Gospel of Jesus Christ through faith, worship and action.

Vision: That Christ might have first place in everything. (Col. 1:18)

- *Invest in youth and family life.*
- *Support and develop education programs.*
- *Build community by developing strong Christian fellowship.*
- *Improve communication including the effective use of technology.*

- *Think beyond ourselves to be involved in local synodical and churchwide programs.*
- *Strengthen and develop programs to attract others to Christ.*

- *Increase cooperation and mission opportunities with Lutheran Retirement Ministries.*
- *Encourage an attitude that promotes the development of new ministries.*
- *Identify and use the talents of the congregation to meet the needs of the church and community.*

January 1, 2012

First Sunday of Christmas

Holy Communion

Setting One – 8:15 & 10:30 (ELW)

The Marks of Discipleship: I will strive to . . .

- + Pray daily
- + Worship weekly
- + Read the Bible daily
- + Serve at and beyond Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church
- + Be in Relationship with others to encourage spiritual growth
- + Give of my time, talents and resources in a generous manner and to the glory of God

INTRODUCTION

From the beginning, by virtue of our baptism, we are called Christian. We were "Christ-ened" at the font. Bearing his name, we share the same Father and are invited to address him intimately: Abba! Jesus bears our sins in humble obedience to the will of the Father. Today we pray that the mind of Christ, whose name we bear, would be our own. It is a good way to begin, again, another year.

P = Pastor

C = Congregation

A = Assistant

(Please prepare yourself for worship during the Prelude)

PRELUDE (8:15) *From Heaven Above* settings by F. Zachau & J. Buttstedt

PRELUDE (10:30) *Hush, My Babe, Lie Still and Slumber* arr. S. Rabinof

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/Sit

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW 275 (*Red Hymnal*)

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

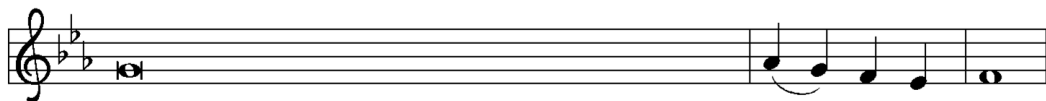
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



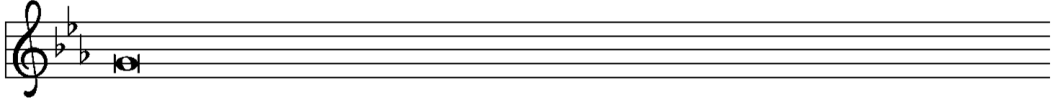
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



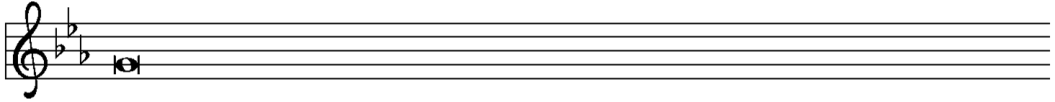
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

C **Amen.**

THE ANTHEM (10:30)

Rejoice and Be Merry
Chancel Choir

Traditional English Carol
arr. Michael Larkin

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3

(John 1:1-5; Colossians 3:16)

A A reading from Isaiah, chapter sixty-one & sixty-two.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 148 (we read together)

ELW 148 (*Red Hymnal*)

SECOND READING *Galatians 4:4-7*

A A reading from Galatians, chapter four.

Paul proclaims the ultimate significance of the nativity: Jesus was born the Son of God so that, because of him, we all may be God's children.

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

A The word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL *Luke 2:22-40*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty- four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW 272 (*Red Hymnal*)

SERMON

PASTOR PHILIPP STRINGER

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Rejoicing in this new year of grace, let us bring our prayers for the church, all creation, and the needs of the world before God.

A brief silence.

A Let us pray for our bishops, pastors, teachers, and other church leaders. Grant them boldness to work for unity among all who confess Jesus Christ as Lord, so that the world might believe. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Let us pray for wisdom and discernment. Grant that we, who have been given dominion over creation, may rule over the works of your hands with humility. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Let us pray for all nations. Grant peace where there is war, food where there is famine, and economic opportunity where there is poverty. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Let us pray for those in need: children, all seeking a new start in life, and the sick (*especially*). Grant them healing, safety, and hope, that they may live in the dignity you have given to all humanity. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Let us pray for this congregation. Grant us vision for ministry, and give us your Spirit to live in harmony and do your will. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Let us give thanks for those gone before us, who with tongues and talents confessed Jesus Christ as Lord. May their faith and lives move us to be servants of Christ. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Rejoicing in the glory of the Lord revealed to the world, we offer these and all our prayers to you, O God of our salvation.

C **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8:15) *A Rose Breaks Into Bloom* setting by A. Schreiner

OFFERTORY (10:30) *French Folk Carol* arr. D. Wood

OFFERTORY HYMN *What Child Is This* **ELW 296**(Red Hymnal)

THE PRAYER

A Let us pray.

A Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

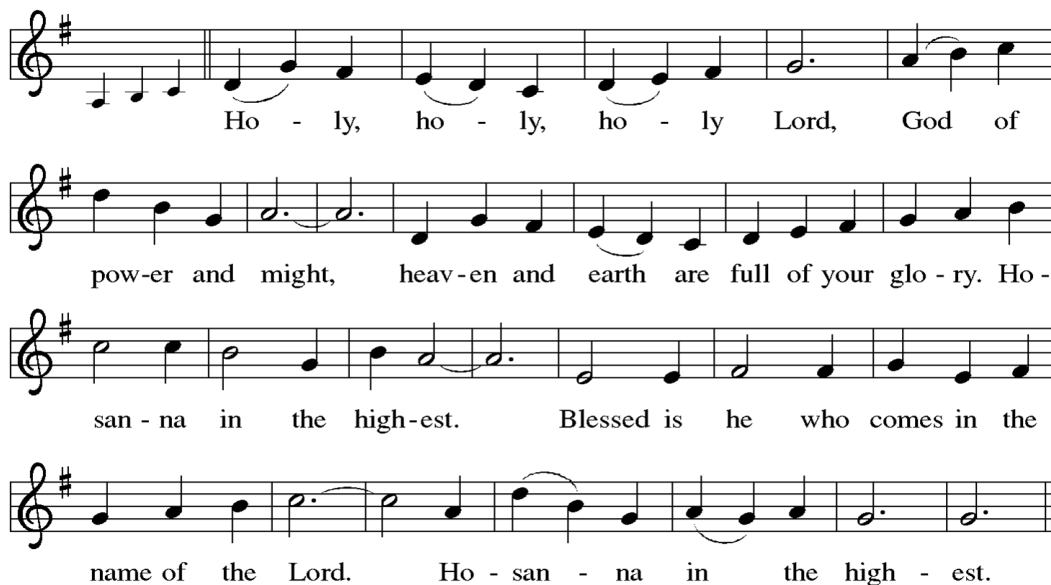
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE *(Spoken by the Pastor)*

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn: *(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father in heaven,**
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.
 When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

A The body of Christ, given for you.
 The blood of Christ, shed for you.

And each person may respond **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD *(Sing Twice)*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

In a Lowly Manger Born
In the Bleak Midwinter

ELW 718 *(Red Hymnal)*
ELW 294 *(Red Hymnal)*

PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

A Let us pray.

A We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *Cold December Flies Away* **ELW 299** (*Red Hymnal*)

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE (8:15) *Joy to the World* setting by W. Pelz
(10:30) *Good Christian Men, Rejoice!* arr. D. Johnson

Welcome! Happy New Year! The best way to enter into the gift of a new year is to worship the Author of time and eternity.

Visitors! We are delighted you are with us. Please give us your name, address and phone number on a Welcome Card in the pew pocket or in the Friendship Register.

We welcome Pastor Philipp Stringer, ELCA pastor, from Jamestown, NC to our chancel area this morning. Pastor Rust is on vacation today in Birmingham, Alabama. Pray him safely home.

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

Please remember in your prayers: Shari Vassello, Ruby Winn, *Jimmy Graves, the family of Rev. Dr. Hoyle Whiteside. (*Requests are to be renewed weekly by contacting the church office.*)

Loaves and Fishes – For the month of January please bring juices, peanut butter and sugar.

Please note . . . 2012 offering envelopes are available in the Narthex. Please use them each Sunday and mark them clearly for General and/or Capital fund.

If you have not had a chance to pick up your **Poinsettias** please do so today! Any plants remaining after the 10:30 service will be removed from the church later this week.

Blood Drive! Macedonia will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive this coming Tuesday, January 3 from 2:00 - 6:30 p.m. in Luther Hall. To schedule an appointment, please call Leah Bass at 584-0266 or for additional information call the American Red Cross at 226-4906.

MUSICAL MOMENTS AT MACEDONIA - Mark your calendar! Invite your friends! Sunday, January 29 at 4:00 p.m. the Queen City Ringers (adult handbell choir from Charlotte) will share a Christmas concert to celebrate Epiphany. A reception will follow the concert.

PIANO CDs recorded by Joy Rust are still available for \$20 each. All proceeds benefit the youth's trip to the National Youth Gathering. You may purchase them from Joy, or from one of the youth signed up to attend, or from the church office. There are 3 different CDs available.



Believe.
HOPE.
Encourage.
PERSEVERE.

2012



READINGS FOR THE WEEK
JANUARY 1, 2012
First Sunday of Christmas

Monday	Psalm 148 Proverbs 1:1-7 James 3:13-18
Tuesday	Psalm 110 Proverbs 1:20-33 James 4:1-10
Wednesday	Psalm 110 Proverbs 3:1-12 James 4:11-17
Thursday	Psalm 110 Proverbs 22:1-9 Luke 6:27-31
Friday	<i>Epiphany of Our Lord</i> Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12
Saturday	Psalm 110 Exodus 1:22—2:10 Hebrews 11:23-26
Sunday	Psalm 110 Exodus 2:11-25 Hebrews 11:27-28

Brunswick Stew & Bake Sale

Come join the fun and fellowship!!!

The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a ***Brunswick Stew and Bake Sale*** on Saturday, January 14. Proceeds from the sale will go directly to local charity organizations. We are looking for lots of volunteers to help cook the stew on Friday night, January 13. We are also asking for donations of home-baked goodies, as well as monetary donations to help with the cost of the stew ingredients. If you would like to cook, bake, or make a donation, please call Ned Thigpen (229-4862) or Leah Bass, (584-0266). Sign up on the posters in the narthex or fill out the form below and put it in the offering plate or bring it by the church office. Pre-orders for the Brunswick Stew will be collected through January 5. These will be available for pick up from 8-11 am on January 14. After pre-orders are filled, any remaining stew will be available in the Educational Building. ***Order early so you won't miss out!***

I can help: Friday, January 13

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. _____

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. _____

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. _____

9:00 p.m. - Midnight _____

I can help: Saturday, January 14

Midnight - 6:00 a.m. _____

6:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. _____

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. _____

_____ I can provide baked goods for sale.

_____ I can donate money to help purchase ingredients: \$ _____

Signed: _____

Brunswick Stew Sale

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Number of Quarts: _____

Return this portion to church office

Brunswick Stew & Bake Sale

Saturday, January 14, 2012

Pick-up 8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Macedonia Lutheran Church

421 West Front Street, Burlington

Number of quarts ordered: _____ \$7.00 / quart

Keep this portion for your records

Brunswick Stew Sale

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Number of Quarts: _____

Return this portion to church office

Brunswick Stew & Bake Sale

Saturday, January 14, 2012

Pick-up 8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Macedonia Lutheran Church

421 West Front Street, Burlington

Number of quarts ordered: _____ \$7.00 / quart

2012 Flower Calendar: Please call the church office (227-5554) if you would like to be put on flower calendar or if there is an error on the list below. The (P) signifies the family would like the same date (or as close to the date as possible) every year.

<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
<u>Date</u> 1/1 Poinsettias 1/8 (P) Janet Meisenbach 1/15 _____ 1/22 _____ 1/29 _____	<u>Date</u> 2/5 _____ 2/12 _____ 2/19 _____ 2/26 (P) Bob & Lauren Hentze	<u>Date</u> 3/4 _____ 3/11 _____ 3/18 (P) Debbie Riggs 3/25 _____
<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
<u>Date</u> 4/1 (P) Betsy Black 4/8 Brant & Chrissy Adkins 4/15 (P) Shawn Easter 4/22 _____ 4/29 _____	<u>Date</u> 5/6 (P) Rusty O'Kelley 5/13 (P) Men of Macedonia 5/20 (P) Debbie Riggs 5/27 _____	<u>Date</u> 6/3 _____ 6/10 _____ 6/17 (P) Ladies Bible Class 6/24 _____
<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>
<u>Date</u> 7/1 _____ 7/8 (P) Paul & Gail Cobb 7/1 (P) John & Xylda Gee 7/22 _____ 7/29 (P) Rhune & Nancy Simeonsson	<u>Date</u> 8/5 _____ 8/12 _____ 8/19 _____ 8/26 (P) Vera Barker	<u>Date</u> 9/2 (P) Bill & Connie Poovey 9/9 (P) John & Sharon Walker 9/16 Ron & Debbie Reeger 9/23 _____ 9/30 _____
<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
<u>Date</u> 10/7 (P) Danny & Beth Van Fleet 10/14 (P) Ingeborg Warschkow 10/21 John & Cathy Kimmel 10/28 _____	<u>Date</u> 11/4 (P) John & Sharon Walker 11/11 Brant & Chrissy Adkins 11/18 (P) Betsy Black 11/25 Joel & Lori Helgeson	<u>Date</u> 12/2 (P) Alyse Tickle 12/9 (P) Grace Roth 12/16 (P) Paul & Gail Cobb 12/23 _____ 12/25 (P) Bill & Michelle Claypool

Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church

421 West Front Street - Burlington, NC 27215

Phone: 336-227-5554 - Fax: 336-227-6859

E-mail: macedonia_office@bellsouth.net

Website: www.MacedoniaLutheran.com

Office Hours: Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Senior Pastor (585-0666).....	Rev. Stephen C. Rust
Director of Youth and Family Ministry (639-9790).....	Mr. Brian Grimes
Director of Church Music.....	Mrs. Joy H. Rust
Director, Chancel Choir and Reformation Ringers	Sylvia R. Crews
Organist (8:15)	Mary Anne Dettman
Organist (10:30)	Joy H. Rust
Organist Emeritus	Terry G. Woodings
Director, Cherub Choir.....	Joy H. Rust
Director, Macedonia Ringers and Melody Choir	Sylvia R. Crews
Sunday School Superintendent	Ruth W. Matkins
Crucifer	
Acolytes	
Lay Reader	(8:15) Greg Myers. (10:30) Colleen Macklin
Communion Preparer.....	Barbara Lilienthal
Communion Assistant	(8:15) Vera Barker. (10:30) Sheila Gibson
Greeters.....	Debbie Gunyan, Pat Jones; Sue & Aaron Page
Nursery Attendants	Ruth Matkins, Kyler Peter
Ushers	<i>Chief</i> , Dale Greeson - <i>Assistant</i> , Brett Bass,
.....	Harold Fogleman, Charlie Harris, Frank Rhue,
.....	Danny Van Fleet, Brant Adkins, Randy Hunley, Ray Turner
Sound System.....	Randi Dunn
Dust Covers	Dave & Diane Robinson

Lutheran Retirement Ministries/Twin Lakes Community

Executive Director, TLC

Charles R. Harris