

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 1) Advent Books:

The 2021 Advent Devotional Books are available in the Narthex. Please pick up your families copy. We extend a warm thank you to all those who wrote a devotion this year....Advent Book Committee

### 2) Wreaths Across America Fundraiser:

Our church's American Heritage Girls and Trail Life troops are doing a fundraiser for Wreaths Across America again this year. Each wreath purchased will be laid on the grave of a veteran at Yorktown National Cemetery. The troop girls and boys will be attending the wreath laying ceremony and laying those wreaths on December 18th. If you would like to sponsor a wreath, you can do so at: <https://tinyurl.com/AhgVA1318WAA>. If you'd prefer to order by cash or check, there is a box on the media center. You may also choose to order your wreath through one of our troop members. Checks can be made it to "GPBC" with "WAA" in the memo. **The cost per wreath is \$15.** The **deadline** to order for this year's wreath laying ceremony is **November 29th**. Please contact Alyssa Owens at 804-815-7830 if you have any questions. Thank you!

### 3) Parents of Children's Choir Members:

Children will be singing at the morning service on **Sunday, December 19, 2021**. If your children will be singing, please have them present at **6:00pm** for the Wednesday night rehearsals.

### 4) Advent Bible School:

Advent Bible School begins this **Wednesday, December 1** at **6:30pm** and will continue for the next 3 Wednesdays (**Dec. 8, Dec. 15 and Dec. 22, 2021**).

### 5) Called Business Meeting:

There will be a called Business Meeting on **Wednesday, December 15, 2021** at **6:30pm** for the 2022 Budget Considerations.

## 1st Sunday in Advent

**Gus Saunders:** Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

**Gus Saunders & Congregation (*Unison*):** How does this happen?

**Gus Saunders:** God's light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God's divine love and light.

**Gus Saunders & Congregation (*Unison*):** "Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light."

**Gus Saunders:** A reading from the prophet Jeremiah: "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness" (Jer. 33:14-16).

**Gus Saunders:** Today, we wait for the coming of Jesus. We begin in the dark, and on this first Sunday of Advent, we light the first candle...known as the candle of HOPE.

**Deacon Family Member Nancy Dyson (Lighting the Candle)**  
(Lighting the 1st PINK CANDLE)

**Gus Saunders:** Every week in Advent, we will light another candle. Each candle that we light will remind us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of the baby Jesus.

**Gus Saunders & Congregation (*Unison*):** The Kingdom of God is drawing near. May we prepare our hearts with God's peace, God's justice, and God's love.