

THE CORNERSTONE CONNECTION



Reaching Up To Christ and Out To Each Other
December, 2025

From the Pastor:

Backstory:

I was asked to lead a devotion on the life of Jesus one day. My first question to myself was, how do you condense Jesus' life to a few minutes? So I got out my Bible and created this poem. I pray that you find Jesus when reading it. Merry Christmas!

JESUS' STORY

Written by: Rev. Cindy Rumsey

'Twas the age before time when all through
heaven
Father, Son, and Spirit conceived our creation.
Not a creature existed, not even a mouse.
No oceans nor trees, not even a house.

But God spoke a Word and through Jesus' true
light.
The universe became and through him day and
night.
Plants, Animals of all sorts, and humankind.
With enlightenment given to every human mind.

Creation was completed in only a week.
The big and the small, the strong and the meek
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was
God.
Who proclaimed creation very good with a nod.

But the world was a mess even though people
tried,
So, God sent his Son as a baby who cried.
A baby born in Bethlehem to a virgin mother,
The Word became flesh, tell your sister and
brother.

Prophecy fulfilled; he is the Messiah.
Through Ezekiel, and Malechi, and even Isaiah.
The one who will save all, true grace foretold.
Emmanuel, God is with us, for the young and the
old.

He was circumcised and baptized a true Jew he
was,
He went to Jewish festivals; he learned Jewish
laws.
He grew in wisdom and stature they say,
We don't know much else; did he joke around or
play?

He faced temptation from Satan and passed,
By knowing scripture and thinking fast.
He learned in the Synagogues and then he taught,
In the temple, or with crowds. Where? It mattered
not.

He healed the paralytic and the sick.
He chased away demons, he worked really quick.
The blind and the deaf, the lame and the leper,
It didn't matter who, he made them all better.

He called the disciples in ones and twos.
He said, "Follow me, if you will, you choose."
He taught them in parables and gave them insight.
Then gave them authority to spread the light.

He performed many miracles that weren't the
norm.
He walked on the water and calmed the storm.
He changed water to wine and fed the multitudes,
With two fish and five loaves as the only foods.

He taught everyone, the men, and the women.
The Samaritan, the Gentile, the Jew and the
Roman.
He healed the hemorrhaging woman and many in
pain.
He raised Lazarus from death and the widow's
son from Nain.

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He taught about grace, forgiveness, and the way.
He even taught us how to pray.
He said to love God and also your neighbor.
And don't sit by but take care of each other.

He's the light of the world, the great I am,
The good shepherd, the door, the true vine, and
the lamb.
He's the resurrection and life, the truth and the
way,
The water and the bread, our debts he did pay.

He was betrayed by Judas and Peter denied
Ever knowing our Lord; three times he lied.
He was arrested and scourged, for our sins he did go
To the cross and the grave, for he loved you, did you know?

But to the amazement of people then and now
God raised him to life, and to that I say wow!
He lives once again and was seen by many;
The women, disciples, and other people aplenty.

He ascended to heaven and sits on the throne.
And will come one day to take us home.
So, at Christmas remember, there's more to the season.
Jesus came as a babe, and you are the reason

Lectionary Study for December:



Sunday, Dec. 7th:

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19 (UMH 795)

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday, Dec. 21st:

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19 (UMH 801)

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

Sunday, Dec. 14th:

Isaiah 35:1-10

Luke 1:46b-55 (UMH 199)

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

Sunday, Dec. 28th:

Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalms 148 (UMH 861)

Hebrews 2:10-18

Matthew 2:13-23

December Birthdays:

1st John Owen

5th Anne Sullivan

17th Randy Hayes

23rd Edith Blafield

January Birthdays:

10th Olivia Henke

14th Judy Prather

15th Lilith Hasenjaeger

18th Sara Stovall

20th Judy Pernie

20th Zin Bronola

24th Georgia Hurley

25th Debbie Betancourt

29th Kathy Hurley

Please contact Church office if there are any additions or corrections to the birthday & anniversary list.

For prayer e-mail and/or bulletin prayer list requests please notify the church office, 328-1496 or crnrstone@comporium.net (office hours are Mon-Thurs 9-2 p.m.). When the church office is closed, leave a voice mail on office phone or you may also email, call or text church secretary, Cary Bartelmo, cbartelmo@comporium.net; 803-372-7923.



*Donations to Cornerstone can be made by using the **QR Code** or through Zelle by using our email address: **crnrstone@comporium.net**.*

Or mail your checks to: 2697 Heckle Blvd., Rock Hill, SC 29732

*Check out Cornerstone's **Instagram** page: [@umc.cornerstone](https://www.instagram.com/umc.cornerstone) and*

View the worship service each Sunday on Cornerstone's Facebook page:

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

Scripture Readers For December:

Dec. 7th: Ken Jones
Dec. 14th: Ken Jones
Dec. 21st: Randy Hayes
Dec. 28th: Diane Brewer

Acolyte Schedule For December:

Dec. 7th: DeeDee Anthony
Dec. 14th: Gavin Sliva
Dec. 21st: Emery Sliva
Dec. 28th: Teresa Boehme

Schedule for offering counters (Sunday mornings):

Dec. 7th: Linda McCallum; Dan Sliva
Dec. 14th: Teri Brothers; Diana Deyton
Dec. 21st: Vicky Castro; Randy Hayes
Dec. 28th: JoAnn Till; Angela Constantine

Schedule for Youth Sunday School Teachers:

Dec. 7th: Kathy Hurley
Dec. 14th: Angela Constantine
Dec. 21st: Randy Hayes
Dec. 28th: Dale Williams

Committee Chairs: Please have items for the newsletter in to the office on the Mondays of the last full week of the month.

Christmas Open House: Pastor Cindy is hosting an open house on Saturday, Dec. 13th at the parsonage, 1072 Eagle Dr., Rock Hill. Feel free to drop in anytime between 4-6 p.m.!

GPS Christmas party: Saturday, Dec. 13th from 1-4 p.m. at Cornerstone. If you have questions, please contact Debbie Jackson, 803-417-3510 or Debbie.Jackson18@yahoo.com

Choir Christmas Cantata will be Sunday, Dec. 21st during a joint (w/ Epworth) worship service at 11:00 a.m. at Cornerstone.

Christmas Eve Communion Service will be held at Cornerstone at 5:30 p.m.

The UMM will once again be hosting feeding the tenants of the Bethel Men's Shelter on Christmas morning. We would like as many as possible to assist us in this outreach project. A sign-up sheet is in the back of the church. Contact Marty Monahan if you have questions. 803-370-4239

POINSETTIAS

We have arranged special pricing with a local florist of \$15.00 per poinsettia in order for members to decorate our church sanctuary for the Christmas holiday. If you would like to purchase a plant in honor or memory of someone, please sign below and either bring to the church or mail it to: Cornerstone UMC, 2697 Heckle Blvd., Rock Hill, SC 29732. Be sure to mark your envelope “for poinsettias”.

Orders and money need to be turned in no later than *Sunday, December 7th, 2025.*

I would like to purchase _____ poinsettias at \$15.00 each for a total of \$ _____

In HONOR Of: _____

In MEMORY Of: _____

GIVEN BY: _____

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>10:30 am Advent study at CUMC</i>	2	3 <i>6:00 pm Choir</i>	4 <i>2-4 pm Nifty Knitters</i>	5	6
7 Communion -9:30 am Good Eats -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship -12:15 pm Trustee mtg -Poinsettia orders due in	8 <i>10:30 am Advent study at CUMC</i>	9	10 <i>6:00 pm Choir</i>	11	12	13 <i>1-4 pm GPS Christmas Party at Cornerstone</i> <i>4-6 pm Christmas Open House at parsonage</i>
14 -9:30 Good Eats -9:45 S.S. -11 am Worship - Children's Christmas pageant -5:15 Finance -6:00 Church Council	15 <i>10:30 am Advent study at CUMC</i>	16	17 <i>6:00 pm Choir</i>	18	19	20
21 -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am S.S. -11 am Worship - Christmas Cantata 5-7 pm Youth	22 -10:30 am Advent study at CUMC -6:30 pm UMM meeting -Newsletter items due -Cary-vacation	23 <i>Cary-vacation</i>	24 <i>5:30 pm Christmas Eve Communion Svc</i> <i>Cary-vacation</i>	25 Christmas Day <i>(Office closed)</i>	26	27
28 -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship	29 <i>10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC</i>	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve (Office closed)</i> <i>No Choir</i> <i>Cary-vacation</i>			
		<u>Offering Counters</u> <i>7th: L. McCallum Dan Sliva 14th: Teri Brothers; Diana Deyton 21st: Vicky Castro; Randy H. 28th: JoAnn Till.; Angela C.</i>	<u>Scripture Readers</u> <i>7th: Ken Jones 14th: Ken Jones 21st: Randy Hayes 28th: Diane Brewer</i>	<u>Acolytes:</u> <i>7th: DeeDee Anthony 14th: Gavin Sliva 21st: Emery Sliva 28th: Teresa Boehme</i>	<u>Youth S.S. Teachers:</u> <i>7th: K. Hurley 14th: Angela Constantine 21st: R. Hayes 28th: Dale Williams</i>	<u>Opening & Closing:</u> <i>Johnny Starnes</i> <u>Altar Guild</u> <i>Maxine Smith</i>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <i>New Year's Day</i> (Office closed)	2	3
4 <i>Epiphany Sunday</i> Communion -9:30 am Good Eats -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship -12:15 pm Trustee mtg	5 10:30 am devotional study at CUMC	6	7 6:00 pm Choir	8	9	10
11 -9:30 Good Eats -9:45 S.S. -11 am Worship -5:15 Finance -6:00 Church Council	12 10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC	13	14 6:00 pm Choir	15	16	17
18 -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am S.S. -11 am Worship 5-7 pm Youth	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Office Closed) -No Devotional study at CUMC -6:30 pm UMM meeting	20 -Newsletter items due in	21 6:00 pm Choir	22	23	24 Lay Servant classes at Cornerstone
25 -9:30 am Good Eats fellowship -9:45 am Sunday School -11 am Worship -Lay Servant classes conclude	26 10:30 am Devotional study at CUMC	27	28 6:00 pm Choir	29	30	31 4-7 pm UMM barbeque & bake sale at Cornerstone
		<u>Offering Counters</u> 4th: L. McCallum Dan Sliva 11th: Teri Brothers.; Diana Deyton 18th: Vicky Castro; Randy H. 25th: JoAnn Till. Angela Constantin	<u>Scripture Readers</u> 4th: Steph Pilecki 11th: Ken Jones 18th: Bill Brothers 25th: Randy Hayes	<u>Acolytes:</u> 4th: DeeDee Anthony 11th: Gavin Sliva 18th: Emery Sliva 25th: Teresa Boehme	<u>Youth S.S. Teachers:</u> 4th: K. Hurley 11th: Angela Constantine 18th: R. Hayes 25th: Dale Williams	<u>Opening & Closing:</u> Johnny Starnes <u>Altar Guild</u> Maxine Smith