

ADVENT IS HERE. Your saints, our **saints** are communing.
They're keeping watch in these windowsills, remembering to us
how we are called

CANDLES DEDICATED IN 2013

Estelle & Roy Burgess Sr. (2)

Tammy Estep

Edythe Harlow

Frank Hazel

Hattie Johnson

Alice & Hereford "Pappy" Johnson

Edward Kennedy

Helen Kennedy

Ernie Martin

Ann & Fred Monroe (2)

Jim Raines

Karen & Mark Suter

IN 2014

Margaret Arey

Herman Burton

Quirio Del Cid

Margaret Gregory

Mary Martin

Gene & James "Jimmy" May

Melissa McIntire

Boulevard United Methodist Church



He is called a *rod*, and a *branch*; both the words here used signify a weak, small, tender product, a *twig* and a *sprig*, such as is easily broken off. He is said to come out of Jesse rather than David, because Jesse lived and died in meanness and obscurity; his family was of small account.

Matthew Henry, 1662-1714

to lend our light.

November 30, 2014

On the cover: Montag, Michael. *Root of Jesse*. Holy Family Shrine, Nebraska.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (Matthew 28).

321 N Boulevard
Richmond, Virginia 23220
www.boulevardumc.org

Order of Worship

(UMH) - The United Methodist Hymnal
(TFWS) - The Faith We Sing

* Please stand, as able.

Gathering

Introit

Change My Heart O God

*Call to Worship

Isaiah 11:1-4,11

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,

and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and might,

the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,

or decide by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,

and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;

the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

*Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

UMH 211

SELECT VERSES

O come, O come, Emmanuel

And ransom captive Israel

That mourns in lonely exile here

Until the Son of God appear

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high

And order all things far and nigh

To us the path of knowledge show

And cause us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, great Lord of might

Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height

In ancient times one gave the law

In cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou root of Jesse's tree,

And ensign of thy people be

Before thee rulers silent fall

All peoples on thy mercy call.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel

Words of Welcome

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Interlude

Proclamation and Response

Time with Children

Second Lesson

Isaiah 64:1-9

Anthem

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Sermon

“This Stump is Not a Seat”

Rev. Rachel G. May

*Hymn

Hymn of Promise

UMH 707

Offering Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Hear Us, O Shepherd

*Doxology (94 UMH)

*Prayer

Sending Forth

*Hymn

The Trees of the Field

TFWS 2279

*Benediction

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

OUR MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS is United Methodist Family Services. We help them put hope into the holidays for children and families in Virginia. Proceeds from the December 6th Nutzy Rotary Funn Run, a festive 5k, will benefit UMFS' Courage to Succeed program. Not among our participating walkers, joggers, and runners? Making a check out to Boulevard UMC, memo-lined UMFS—this is needed too!

WITNESS

telling our stories, offering expressions of faith, being Christ-like

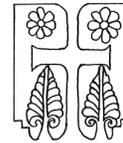
{Together}

THEATER HAPPENS HERE on Sunday, December 14th. At 4:00, come and experience "A Christmas Memory". Think of it as receiving a gift that could certainly be given elsewhere! Thanks to Janet Rodgers, formerly Head of Voice and Speech Training at VCU and currently a friend to Boulevard, among other ventures—we have the privilege of hosting. Last year's production was heart-warming, awakening, and put on with great professionalism and dedication. Don't miss it this time around!

NURTURE

caring for one another, for our space, and for our growth as disciples

{Inward}



O RADIX JESSE—O root of Jesse—is the third of the seven O Antiphons of Advent, which are based on Isaiah's messianic vision. Traditionally sung in Latin, today, these Antiphons are more often spoken in prayer: "O Root of Jesse, standing as an ensign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage: Come quickly to deliver us."

WE ARE PRAYING for Bill Rice and Debbie Bassett, Jamie and Lanier May, Shane, those in contact with Ebola, and Irene Wagner. Here, per your request, we publish a prayer list. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate. Or, leave a message with the main office.

REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY READINGS typically shape our order of service, including the sermon. Next Sunday: Isaiah 40:1-11 and Mark 1:1-8.

OUR NURSERY is not staffed. However, the door to "Noah's Ark" is an open one. This space is on the first floor. Please feel free to exit and return at any point during this morning's service. We welcome infants and young children in the sanctuary. With them, we are more complete.

NEXT MONDAY MORNING PRAYER: December 1. Join in prayer and lunch thereafter, if you'd like, at Westminster Canterbury (1600 Westbrook Ave.). We gather at 11:30 in the 6th floor common room.

PLEASE USE SIDE AISLES in the sanctuary this morning. That is not to say the center aisle is off-limits to all people! It is, however, an acknowledgement of the Advent wreath's purposeful placement.