

December, 2000 Pastor's Report

The last month has been very busy, and will be until after Christmas. Preparing for Advent through prayer and study has been at the forefront of all that I do. The Advent and Christmas Eve services are being planned in consultation with Rob Gundlach. A thank you to Leslie and Kathleen Earl for making the new Advent Wreath and to Olga deBloom, Rob and the choir, and all those who help prepare for worship services. (communion, lighting of Advent Candles etc.)

The 7:30 Christmas Eve service will be a candlelight, communion service of Lessons and Carols, with lectors reading the lessons.

The following have been a large part of my pastoral ministry this last month.

- There have been many people ill, I have continued to make visits to hospitals two to three times a week, visits to homes and nursing homes, plus phone calls to those needing pastoral attention as well as funerals.
- Cards continue to be sent for birthdays and to shut-ins.
- I am sending over 50 Christmas cards to friends and shut-ins. A big thank you to Ruth Beckwith and Arlene Pate for purchasing and addressing these cards.
- Writing correspondence, writing the Christmas letter, for the newsletter and for the Christmas booklet in addition to preparing the Sunday bulletin.
- Teaching and working with our fine Confirmation Class.
- Thank you to all the staff, Cass Young, Darlene Waters, Art Jones for all that they do this time of year.
- I ask permission to take 4 or 5 vacation days Thursday, December 28th returning Wednesday late morning Wednesday, Jan. 3rd 2001. Deacon Max Hoffman will preach at the one service on New Year's Eve morning at 10:AM. He will also preach January 14, as I am gone for the week-end for study leave.

May you all have a blessed Christmas as we anticipate working together in the Spirit of Christ during the New Year.

Pastor Corinne Baker