

Welcome to the worshipping community of

Berea Friendship United Methodist Church.

If you are new to our community, you are welcomed by the God who welcomes us all, who in Jesus Christ calls us "friends." You are invited to participate in the service to the degree you are comfortable. An asterisk (*) indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able. You are invited to read aloud those passages that are printed in **bold**. Welcome to this assembly of the people of God!

Epiphany Sunday

Celebration of Christian Baptism and Holy Communion

January 4, 2009

10:30 am

THE PRELUDE
(Paxton)

The Light From on High

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

GREETING AND SERVICE NOTES
Bill Sherrill

TRINITY CHIMES

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP
David's City

Once in Royal

Gauntlett)

(Henry

*HYMN- No. 254
Three Kings

We

*OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you made of one blood all nations, and, by a star in the East, revealed to all peoples him whose name is Emmanuel. Enable us who know your presence with us so to proclaim his unsearchable riches that all may come to his light and bow before the brightness of his rising, who

lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON - pg.738, 1155

Isaiah 60:1-9

*GOSPEL LESSON - pg.956, 1497

Matthew 2:1-12

CHORAL ANTHEM

He is Exalted

(Twila Paris)

SERMON

Following the Light

Pastor

Keith Ray

MOMENTS OF SILENT REFLECTION

CELEBRATING THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Hymnal, p. 33

Baptized Member: Claire Rebecca Philpot

Professing Member: Betty Bridges

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OFFERTORY

Jesus, Our Comfort and Life

(arr. Blake)

*DOXOLOGY – No. 95

*THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

Hymnal, p. 15

You are invited to come forward as we share in the gifts of God for the people of God. In the United Methodist tradition, all are invited to the table who hunger for Christ. You will be given a piece of bread.

Very lightly dip the bread into the cup and partake of the communion. You may kneel for a time of prayer or simply return to your seat.

*HYMN – No.157

Shall Reign

Jesus

*EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

* CHORAL BENEDICTION – No.251

Wm Smith)

(arr.

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

sing)

(The congregation is invited to

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere,
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

*POSTLUDE

(Peterson)

Rejoice! Our Redeemer Is Born!

The flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of **Claire Rebecca Philpot's** baptism. The flower placed on the altar is in memory of Josie Leigh Philpot. Today we celebrate the infant baptism of **Claire Rebecca Philpot**, daughter of **Heather and Joe Philpot**. Claire is wearing the christening dress originally worn by her Aunt Liz Philpot in 1966. It was later worn by Claire's father, Joe, in 1968, and Claire's sister, Haleigh, in 2004. All were baptized in this sanctuary. The dress was hand-made and embroidered by Claire's great-grandmother, Martha Smith.



OTHERS TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER Claire Rebecca Philpot, Joe Philpot, Jay and Vera Hunt, Helen Yockey, Carolyn Hunter, Nick Nichols, Bob Donaldson, Libby Wingate, Georgiana Dougherty and her neighbor, (Bobbie Brown), Edith Bynum, and her sons Carl and Jerry, Margaret Rivers, Eunice Looper, Shirley Dickson's friend, (Marvin Lollis), Mildred Huckaby, Lucy Hughes, Rachel Palmer, Mildred Pollard, Steve Hester's mother, (Elva Hester), Jerry Smith, Benson McWhite, Jake Moorehead, Juanita Sherlin, Helen Stebbins, Mary Childs and Doris Williams.

Offering Envelopes for 2009 Please pick up your 2009 offering envelopes located on the back table, by doing this you will save us postage. The envelopes are in alphabetical order.

SYMPATHY The Pastor and Congregation express their deepest sympathy to Mary Childs and her family upon the death of her husband Morris "Dub" Childs. Dub died on Sunday, December 28th. A Memorial Service will be held today at 2:30, visitation prior to the service from 1:00 – 2:15 p.m. The Fellowship Hall will be open to friends and family immediately following the service.

Administrative Council We would like to get all council members to meet Saturday, January 24th instead of January 14th. We will meet from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. and enjoy a soup lunch together as we make plans for the coming 2009 year.

Morning Circle will meet on January 20th, at 10:00 in the Quilters Room. We will make plans for 2009. **Shalom Circle** will meet on January 21st, at 6:30 pm in the Ruth Bible Class. Please come join us as we continue to read "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World".

Bible Study Our Bible Study Class will resume on January 7th, at 4:30 pm. We meet every Wednesday, so bring your bible and come join us. We are studying the book of Jeremiah. For any questions call Bob Helms @ 295-2973.

Officers Training at Aldersgate UMC District UMW Officer Training will take place at Aldersgate UMC at 9:00 am on January 10th.

Youth Breakfast Our youth breakfast will be January 11th at 8:30 am. Please come enjoy a time of fellowship and good food.

Covered Dish Lunch will be held on January 18th, following the morning worship. Please join us and bring your favorite dish.

Staff

Pastor	Keith Ray II
Music Director	Bill Sherrill
Organist	Sibyl Thomas
Membership Secretary	Pat Teat
Youth Director	Patti Taylor
Treasurer	Marsha Disher
Administrative Assistant	Debbie

Capps

THOSE WHO SERVE

Liturgist	Bill Sherrill
Acolyte	Monroe Stone
Trustee	Ronnie Hunter
Stewardship	Jim Rawson
Altar Guild	Vickie Failor

Nursery	Lucy Hughes
Ushers	Gene Bondurant, Steve Corky Holman, Ronnie
Capps Hunter	

For Your Information (and inspiration)!

Attendance – Sunday December 28th :
 Sunday School –56 Worship -124
Financial Report for December 28th :
 Received for Budget \$12,597.27
 Total received for Budget in Dec. \$25,833.33
 Missions Offering \$291.00

Wednesday Night Supper

January 7th
 Fried Chicken, Rice & Gravy
 Italian Green Beans, Rolls
 Banana Pudding,
 Tea, Coffee, Water

Happy Birthday

January 4	Reagan Mann Adam McCloud
January 6	Jake Moorehead
January 7	John Ferrer Doris Hunt
January 9	Dustin Hagins
January 10	Zack Philpot

Happy Anniversary

January 10	Ronnie & Judy Armstrong
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“The mission of Berea Friendship United Methodist Church is to glorify our Lord by serving all people equally; welcoming those in search of a loving and supportive church family.”

Friendship



Berea

United Methodist Church

Organized in 1953
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 Pastor's Home Phone: 864-228-0476
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Where's the Pastor?

Happy New Year, dear church family. I hope you are all renewed by the many reminders of God-with-us in this season of new beginnings. How thankful I am to have had the opportunity to share the Advent-Christmas journey as the pastor of Berea Friendship. Our family thanks you for the many expressions of Christmas cheer that you shared with us. Your gifts, cards, and kind words brightened our season even more!

On Tuesday, January 6 I will be leaving town for several days (returning Wednesday, January 14) to teach in Jacksonville, Florida at the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies. The late Robert Webber was my doctoral advisor and when I finished my

Doctor of Ministry program he invited me to become a member of the faculty of an institute he established in 1999. The mission statement of the Institute reads: "The Institute for Worship Studies forms servant leaders in Christian worship renewal and education through graduate academic praxis, grounded in biblical, historical, theological, cultural and missiological reflection in community." We offer both master's and doctor's degrees in worship history and theology. All of the faculty of the institute have full-time jobs elsewhere and we meet twice a year to teach, learn, worship, and live in community at Grace Episcopal Church, Orange Park, Florida.

I serve as the Doctoral Thesis Co-director, providing students a course on thesis writing and giving oversight to their projects through the year. This work keeps me connected to a variety of churches throughout the country and I am grateful to our PPRC for blessing my continuing work at this institute while I serve as your pastor. I anticipate that my work at the institute will strengthen my ministry with you. So while I am away, know that I will be engaged in conversations with ministry leaders from around the country and, indeed, the world as we seek to be faithful worship leaders

Blessing to you all,
Pastor Keith