

BLUFF POINT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
DECEMBER 1, 2013  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**HOPE**

WELCOME AND GREETING  
ORGAN PRELUDE/CANDLE LIGHTING  
SONG OF PRAISE - #2091 "The King of Glory Comes"

**LIGHTING OF FIRST ADVENT CANDLE**

L. As our nights grow longer and our days grow short,  
we look on these earthly signs--light and green branches--  
and remember God's promise to our world:  
Christ, our Light and our Hope, will come.  
Listen to the words of Isaiah the prophet:

P. The people that walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those who lived in a land as dark as death  
a light has dawned.  
You have increased their joy  
and given them gladness;  
They rejoice in your presence  
as those who rejoice at harvest,  
as warriors exult when dividing spoil. *Is. 9:1-2*

**\*CONGREGATION'S PRAYER**

O God, rejoicing,  
we remember the promise of your Son.  
As the light from this candle,  
may the blessing of Christ come upon us,  
brightening our way and guiding us by his truth.  
May Christ our Savior bring life into the darkness of our world,  
and to us, as we wait for his coming.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

**ADVENT CAROL - #2090 Light the Advent Candle vs.1**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE** - Let us offer one another signs of  
reconciliation and love.

**HYMN OF PRAISE: #196 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"**

**CHORAL ANTHEM: "Advent Carol of Hope"**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

PRAYER HYMN - #2203 "In His Time"  
PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

**\*OFFERTORY**

DOXOLOGY: Hymnal, #95:

OFFERTORY PRAYER: O God of Advent, we come today on this  
advent of hope, trusting that the gifts we offer you will offer hope  
to the world. May these offerings we give be a symbol of our trust  
in you as we watch for your coming. Grant your hope to the  
world. In Christ we wait, Amen.

**SCRIPTURE - Isaiah 2: 1-5(p.632NT);Matt.24:36-44(p.27NT)**

**SERMON - "Be Ready for the Unexpected Hour" Rev. Judy D White**

**CHORAL COMMUNION INVITATION-**

"Christmas Communion Song"

**HOLY COMMUNION, P.13**

**HYMN OF DEDICATION #722 "I Want To Be Ready"**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION - "Choral Benediction"**

**POSTLUDE**

**\*All who are willing and able, please stand**

**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE THIS MORNING WE  
WILL "HANG THE GREENS". Please stay and decorate our church  
to prepare for the Birthday of Jesus" All are invited to come to  
fellowship dinner after we finish decorating.**

**SERVING CHRIST THIS WEEK:**

Organist: Cindy Heggie

Choir Director: Aimee Perry

Liturgist: Ron Salyer

Communion Steward: Meredith Nielsen

Greeters: John and Laurie Prinzivalli

Ushers: Andy and Gail Kenneda

Scripture Reader: Bruce Westerdahl

Fellowship: Sylvia DeMay and Blanche Fingar

Sunday School: Meredith Nielsen

Nursery: Terry Fingar and Sonya Andersen

Counters: Dick Smith and Elly Stempien

**SERVING NEXT WEEK: (12/8/13)**

Organist: Cindy Heggie  
Choir Director: Aimee Perry  
Liturgist: Ron Salyer  
Greeters: Blanche and Dorwin Fingar  
Ushers: Ann Shepardson and Marilyn Sands  
Scripture Reader: TBA  
Fellowship: John and Laurie Prinzivalli (**Birthday Sunday**)  
Sunday School: Sarah Stackhouse  
Nursery: Phil Pearce and Donna Johnson  
Counters: Bill Sutherland and Elly Stempien

**This Week Schedule:**

Tues. UMW luncheon, Noon at Antique Inn  
Choir Rehearsal, Tues. 7pm  
**BIBLE STUDY ON Wed.**

**DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR:**

**This Coming Saturday:**

**DEC. 7<sup>TH</sup> – OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER, 6PM. A DELICIOUS LASAGNA DINNER WILL BE PREPARED BY JOHN PRINZIVALLI. Bob Gilbert, a DJ, will provide music for singing and dancing. Dress up in your best “bib and tucker”. Come celebrate Christmas together as a church family.**

Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> Our Live Nativity – 5-6pm. **We need actors. No speaking parts. Be willing to stand outside for 25 min.** This year we have new costumes and a new stable. It will be displayed in the church lawn.

Please tell your friends to come and invite others. We will have supper for those who participate.

DEC. 19<sup>TH</sup>, SENIOR CHRISTMAS DINNER AT ST. MICHAEL'S RC CHURCH – 4PM. SPONSORED BY OFFICE OF THE AGING. Call their office for reservations.

**DEC. 22<sup>ND</sup>. CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SUNDAY**

**DEC. 24<sup>TH</sup> – OUR TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE. - 7PM**

**BLUFF POINT  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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“THE LITTLE COUNTRY  
CHURCH WITH A BIG HEART”



**Advent of Hope**