

## **Welcome to Randall by the River**

December 21st, 2025

Pastor Hanna Barlow

980-356-2705

*9:00 am Every recorded Sunday Services are posted to "Randall by the River" on Facebook*

*Randall by the River is a Lighthouse Congregation of The Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, in partnership with The United Methodist Collective of the Western NC Conference.*

### **Centering Words**

On a night the world called ordinary, God entered the noise.

**We come to worship the God who draws near.**

When plans were disrupted and expectations undone, Love was born in a humble place.

**We come to welcome the love that does not turn away.**

This was not a silent night, but it was a holy one.

**We come seeking holiness in the midst of our own lives.**

In a world still loud with fear and longing, the light of Christ shines.

**We come to receive that light and share that love.**

Come, let us worship the God who keeps coming close.

**Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Opening Song-** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" UMH #230

### **Prayers of the People**

*We come together as a community to pray for and with one another. What joys and what concerns do we have this day?*

**"To that we all say, Amen!"**

### **Close with the Lord's Prayer**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

### **Advent Wreath Lighting**

**A Visit From Mary and Joseph**  
**Special Music- “Mary and Joseph”**

**Scripture Lesson- Luke 2:1-7**

1 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

**Message- Not A Silent Night**

**Response to the Word**

This is an opportunity to respond to the Word as you feel led. We invite you to remember your baptism, listen to the music, light a candle, give your offering, and pray.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Closing Song- “Away in a Manger” UMH #217**

**Benediction**

**Call to Action**

- Our mission box is going to the Spruce Pine UMC Community Assistance Fund!
- Our Advent Study will meet again on Monday at 6:30 pm!
- On December 23rd, at 6:30 pm, we will gather in the Branch to pack fruit bags and our gifts to hand out on Christmas Day at the Community Table. We hope you can join!
- On December 24th, we will have our Christmas Eve service at 6:30 pm! A time of fellowship will follow in the Branch.
- We will be serving at the Community Table on Christmas Day! We are in need of volunteers. Please sign up through our sign-up list or Karen Good.
- We will also be giving out socks, hats, and gloves on Christmas Day. If you would like to donate to this ministry, please bring your items to church by December 21st. We need all sizes!
- If you would like to donate to the fruit bag ministry that provides fruit bags to everyone after our Christmas Eve service, please place your offering in an envelope marked “fruit bags.”
- Elizabeth Davis will be collecting new underwear and new/gently used sweatpants for kids at Central Elementary. A donation box will be available from January 1st-31st. The school is in need of all kids sizes for boys and girls.

- January 11th, we will have a Joining Sunday! If you have been feeling a call to join our membership at Randall by the River, it will be a chance for you to join with others who are feeling that call!
- As Pastor Hanna and Josh plan to welcome the baby, we are in need of help for worship! If you are willing to lend your voice during Pastor Hanna's leave through scripture reading, prayers, or announcements, please let Pastor Hanna know!

Financial Stewards: Jennifer Almond and Linda Waddell

Mission Statement: "Our mission is to be a spirited, vibrant church planted by God's grace, growing in Christ's love, and living as fruitful neighbors within our community as we answer God's call to make disciples of Jesus Christ."