

# GOOD NEWS AT FIRST UMC

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



## December 21, 2011



### A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!!!

**Guest of Honor:** Jesus Christ  
**Date:** Traditionally, December 25  
**Time:** 11 am this Sunday.  
(Please don't be late, though, or you'll miss out on all the fun!)

**Place:** In your heart.... He'll meet you there.  
(You'll hear Him knock.)

**Attire:** Come as you are... grubbies are okay.  
He'll be washing our clothes anyway. He said something about new white robes and crowns for everyone who stays till the last.

**Tickets:** Admission is free. He's already paid for everyone...  
(He says you wouldn't have been able to afford it anyway... it cost Him everything He had. But you do need to accept the ticket!!)

**Refreshments:** New wine, bread, and a far-out drink He calls "Living Water," followed by a supper that promises to be out of this world!

**Gift Suggestions:** Your life. He's one of those people who already has everything else.  
(He's very generous in return though. Just wait until you see what He has for you!)

**Entertainment:** Joy, Peace, Truth, Light, Life, Love, Real Happiness, Communion with God, Forgiveness, Miracles, Healing, Power, Eternity in Paradise, Contentment, and much more!  
(All "G" rated, so bring your family and friends.)

**R.S.V.P.** Very Important!  
He must know ahead so He can reserve a spot for you at the table.  
Also, He's keeping a list of His friends for future reference. He calls it the "Lamb's Book of Life."  
**Party being given by His Kids (that's us!!)**

Hope to see you there!

Howard



Hi all,

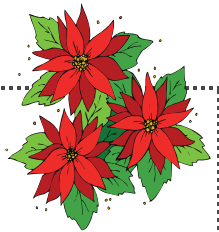
I am tired of making tamales, but I am proud that this worked out well. Special thanks to Barbara Terrell, Nicky Jones, Richard Denning, Ellen Wells, and Jo Ellen Miller. You are the reason this worked.

By my estimate we made 1536 tamales (counting a 24 scorched/tossed out). We used over 90# of pork, about the same in masa. Don't think about the lard....

The money raised is sufficient to operate the food pantry for more than 3 months, so your hard work and willing hands have fed 80 families for a quarter of a year. Impressive.

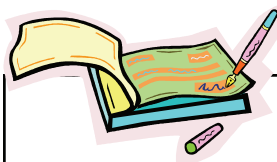
In the end we will have raised over \$1300 after expenses, and after all outstanding orders are picked up and paid for.

Thanks  
Thad Miller



### Christmas Eve and Christmas Services

- \*December 24<sup>th</sup> "Christmas Eve services"
  - \*5 PM Candlelight Service-Sanctuary
  - \*(Meet and Greet in Fellowship Hall after service)
  - \*7 PM Candlelight Service-Sanctuary
  - \*(Meet and Greet in Fellowship Hall after service)
  - \*11:30 PM Candlelight and Communion -Sanctuary
- \*December 25<sup>th</sup> "Christmas Service"  
11 AM only-Sanctuary



### Year to Date Giving

YTD Giving.....	\$481,668
Expense.....	<u>497,134</u>
Add'l Funds needed.....	\$15,466

**TARLETON WESLEY  
FOUNDATION LUNCHES**

I have received the dates for the Wesley lunches in the Spring from Norman. If you would like to help provide a meal for the students or make a monetary donation if you are not able to physically do a meal it would be greatly appreciated. The dates are: January 19 and 26; February 2,9,16, and 23rd; March 1,8,22, and 29th; April 5,12,19, and 26th. Contact me at 968-6662 or email, [jgsult@embarqmail.com](mailto:jgsult@embarqmail.com).

Thank You,  
Jana Sult

**THANK YOU**

A huge thanks to the Kum Doubl class for their generosity. They collected enough Christmas gifts for every resident in the Stephenville and Castle View Nursing and Rehabilitation facilities.

I wanted to say Thank YOU to all the individuals, groups, and Sunday School classes that graciously offered to help with the meals for the Wesley Foundation lunches this Fall. The number of students that we served each week was around 120 this semester. The students are very appreciative of this meal and always offer kind words to our members who serve them each week. Thank You again for helping with this ministry.  
Jana Sult

# January Birthdays

**January 1**  
Zeke Miller

**January 4**  
Chris Cole  
Judi Larmer

**January 5**  
Shelby Wright  
Hailey Austin

**January 7**  
Seth Heupel Brandon  
Nabors

**January 8**  
Kathleen Whitecotton

**January 9**  
Chuck Rives

**January 10**  
Ellen Magee

**January 12**  
Mandi Connelly  
Christine Pendleton  
Cynthia Rives

**January 13**  
Jacey Gill

**January 14**  
G.K. Lewallen  
Macyn Wright

**January 16**  
Ann Fink

**January 17**  
Ivan Farrell

**January 18**  
Connie Banks  
Robert Brown

**January 19**  
Brandy Carlson  
Nolan Miller

**January 20**  
Brandon Stevens

**January 21**  
Bradley Dowell  
Laura Laird  
Angie McCully

**January 24**  
Becky Copeland  
Emily Seawright

**January 25**  
Boots Elliott  
Casen Conlee

**January 26**  
LeeAnna Parks  
Randall Carter

**January 27**  
Miranda Priddy

**January 28**  
Andi Goodwin  
Kathy Sherrard

**January 30**  
Richard Denning  
Shelby Morgan  
Ronnie Isham

**January 31**  
Vicki Cook

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Calling all married couples!** On February 10, 11 we will be hosting a marriage seminar at FUMC. The title of the seminar is *Laugh your way to a better marriage*. The program will be from 6-9 PM on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> and from 9 until noon on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup>. More details to come...Save the Date!

**HCI**

FUMC has been invited to participate in the Conference Healthy Church Initiative. The (HCI) was formed to help renew churches and aid them in fulfilling The Great Commission. Through a combination of continuous learning, coaching and consultation, this process helps congregations more effectively join God in God's mission. The (HCI) has both a Clergy and Lay component. If you would be interested in being trained as a lay-person in this new initiative please contact Howard.

The workshops will begin in January.

© **Want to join a book club?**

**For more information:**  
Contact Rachel Kammerer at [Rachel.Kammerer@sville.us](mailto:Rachel.Kammerer@sville.us) or 254-965-5112.

## Prayer Concerns

### **In the Hospital...**

Diane Porter Wilson (Daughter of Jonnie Porter)

Pat Cassaday, San Antonio Hospital  
( brother-in-law of Chris Grantham)

Shane Sorrells  
(nephew of Connie & Monty Banks)

Katie Lund-(Sister-in-law of Paula Oxford)

Hope Martin-Houston  
(Dave & Chris Martin's granddaughter)

Ted McCulloch (brother of Bryan McCulloch)

Stan Swam-Harris Methodist

### **Thanksgivings...**

Mack Sorrells(Father of Connie Banks)

Jean Goldsberry (Mother of Betsy Ball)

Bill Mayo (Brother of Lavada Allison)

### **Others...**

Nursing Home Residents

Our Troops in Harm's Way

Tom Malloy (Friend of Linda Jones)

Glen Cauble (Friend of Jill Burk & Janet Whitley)

Joe Gillespie

Barbara Dallas (Mother-in-law of Chris Swam)

Courtney Tatum

Bob Spatz

Joyce Lowry

Clay Patton

Diane Monk (friend of Jana Sult)

Hilda Swindle

Dana Dowell (Karen Wilson's sister in law)

Ora B Burnett (aunt of Merrill Striegler)

Jerry Dyer (brother of Becky Copeland)

Jim Perry

Pat Bartlett (sister in law of Ada Phipot)

Matt Ethers

Bill Stanley (brother of Leslie Stanley-Stevens)

Cathy Echols

Marie Johnson

Jason McAdams

Doyle Oneil (Uncle of Jana Sult)

Louise Demetruk

Steve Lund (brother of Paula Oxford)

Patrick Darden

Mary Lynn Larmer

Brad Thompson

Daniel Petty (grandson of Linda Sledge)

Linda McElroy

Don Douglas

Patti Douglas

Heather Hamilton

Dennis Fulfer (friend of Cindy Woolley)

Chuck Donaho

Macyn Wright (daughter of Ramsey & Sarah Wright)

Michael Mason (Son of Rita Mason)

Bill Berger (Brother-in-law of Leslie Stanley-Stevens)

Hope Martin-

(Dave & Chris Martin's granddaughter)

## Church Calendar

### Wednesday, December 21

\*1:30pm Busy Bee Quilters-QR

### Saturday, December 24

*Christmas Eve*

\*5:00pm Candlelight Service-S

\*7:00pm Candlelight Service

(Meet & Greet following-FH)

\*11:30pm Candlelight & Communion Service-S

### Sunday, December 25

*Christmas Day*

\*10:00am Sunday School

\*11:00am Christmas Service (1 Service)

\*3:30pm Castleview NH Service

### Saturday, December 31

8:30am Food Pantry

### Monday, December 26-Monday, January 2. Church office closed

### Sunday, Sunday, January

\*9:00am RENEW Contemp. Svc.-S

\*10:00am Sunday School

\*11:00am Traditional Service-S

\*6:00pm UMYF

### Tuesday, January 3

\*5:15pm UMW Executive Meeting

### Wednesday, January 4

\*1:30pm Busy Bee Quilters-QR

\*6:00pm RENEW Band Rehearsal-S

### Sunday, Sunday, January 8

\*9:00am RENEW Contemp. Svc.-S

\*10:00am Sunday School

\*11:00am Traditional Service-S

\*6:00pm UMYF

### Monday, January 9

\*6:30pm ESL-FH

\*6:00on Trustees Meeting-CR

\*7:00pm University Praise

### Tuesday, January 10

\*6:30am UMM Breakfast-FH

\*7:00pm Chancel Choir

\*6:00pm RENEW Band Rehearsal-S

### Wednesday, January 11

\*10:30am ESL-FH

\*4:00pm WOW (van)

\*6:00pm Handbells

\*7:00pm Chancel Choir

### Thursday, January 12

\*6:00pm RENEW Band Rehearsal-S



**The FUMC Church Office will be closed**

**Monday, December 26 – Monday, January 2.** We'll return to the office on Tuesday, January 3. Office email and telephone messages will be checked periodically. **If you have an emergency during this time, please call Cindy's cell (254-485-1712)**

*Memorials are given in loving memory of...*

**Raymond Rice** By:  
JoEllen Miller

**Connie Birdsong** By:  
Dolly Thrift  
Burl D Lowery

**Austin Embry** By:  
JoEllen Miller

Tommie & Sylvia Huckabee

**Edith Carr** By:  
JoEllen Miller

**Mack Sorrells** By:  
JoEllen Miller

**Jean Goldsberry** By:  
B.J. & Lois Alexander

Jeff and Melanie Royal  
Vernon & Cynthia Sweeney

Louise Woolley  
Bertha Cox circle

Gilbert and Nita McCall  
Pathfinders Sunday School

David & Marianne Mathews  
Bill & Decie Jones

Bill & Rachel Kammerer  
JL Bush

JoEllen Miller

Tommie & Sylvia Huckabee  
Norma Schwartzkopf

Christopher & Leslie Stanley-Stevens  
Lee & Sarah Tannahill



## **ATTENDANCE**

### Sunday, December 11, 2011

**94** people attended the 9:00am Service

**166** people attended the 11:00am Service

### Sunday, December, 18 2011

**98** people attended the 9:00am Service

**261** people attended the 11:00am Service

## **TELLERS**

**December 25**  
LaRue Weems

**January 1**  
Bill Larmer  
Jeff Royal  
Frances Blair

## **Acolytes**

11:00 am Worship Service

### December 25, 2011

Carlene McCully  
Mallory McCullu

### January 1, 2011

Emma Elliott  
Bailey Deshmukh

**FUMC STAFF**

422 W. Washington PO Box 173 254-965-5046  
Stephenville, TX 76401

**Rev. Howard Martin, Pastor**

254-965-5046 ext. 6 pastor@fumcstephenville.org

**Luke Austin, Director of Music Ministries**

254-965-5046 ext. 2 music@fumcstephenville.org

**Heather Hamilton, Pianist**

336-457-1658 hhamilton10@att.net

**Mary Beach McGuire, Director of Children's Ministries**

254-965-5046 education@fumcstephenville.org

**Hailey Austin, Multimedia Coordinator**

254- 485-3470  
media@fumcstephenville.org

**Kelly Oliver, Nursery Coordinator**

254-592-2675 nursery@fumcstephenville.org

**Penny Elliott, Stepping Stones Day School Director**

254-965-3320 steppingstones@fumcstephenville.org

**Leann Pate, Tree House After School Program Director**

254-965-9756 treehouse@fumcstephenville.org

**Charles Moore, Building Maintenance**

254-965-5046 maintenance@fumcstephenvill.org

**Cindy Woolley, Business Administrator**

254-965-5046 ext. 5 finance@fumcstephenville.org  
254-485-1712 office@fumcstepnenville.org

**Ministry Volunteer Contacts**

**United Methodist Women**

Janelle Beran 254-968-7996  
janelleberan@embarqmail.com

**United Methodist Men**

Ben Sword 254-967-3077  
sword@tarleton.edu

**Faith Lit Book Club**

Rachel Kammerer 254-965-5112  
Rachel.Kammerer@sville.us

**Totally Joy (young adult ladies) Bible Studies**

Hailey Austin 254-485-3470

**Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Studies**

Howard Martin 254-965-5046  
pastor@fumcstephenville.org

**Busy Bee Quilters**

Betty Chandler 254-968-6796

**Food Pantry**

Diane Swanson 254-968-3549  
dianne@swanson.com

**Clothes Closet**

Sara Tannahill 254-968-5593

**ESL (English as a Second Language)**

Kathy Saunders 254-968-5886  
kgsister@embarqmail.com

**Ushers**

Jeff Justice 806-441-1657  
jw\_justice@me.com



Place  
Stamp  
Here

*Our Faithful Followers:*

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