

GOOD NEWS AT FIRST UMC

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



December 7, 2011



Advent Hope

I read a story about a congregation that was polled with a questionnaire concerning its expectations and outlook for the future. Among the questions was, "What are your hopes for the future?" The most common answer was, "I hope to win the lottery!"

When you think about the future, what do you hope for? Winning the lottery would be great but everyone knows how the lives of winners have been negatively affected. As Christians, I would trust that we would hope for an end to violence in the Middle East or the eradication of Malaria in Africa or an increased cooperation between Democrats and Republicans in the coming election. I realize that these aspirations sound like pat answers in a beauty pageant quiz. But!

Consider these words from Romans 15:13 "Oh! May the God of hope fill you up with joy, fill you up with peace, so that your believing lives, filled with the life-giving energy of the Holy Spirit will brim over with hope."

Because we are Christians, Our challenge is to dream a future for our world that leaves no one out. We are to desire that God would work through us in accomplishing this task. We are to trust that it may be soon. That's something to look forward to.

Shalom,
Howard

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 10th and from 9 until noon on Saturday the 11th.

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.

First United Methodist Church

Christmas Memorials

We all know how the Advent

season goes: sentimental music, can-

dle lighting, festive décor, themes of hope and preparation, family and *place*; and that particular *place*, is the Church! In our *place*, First United Methodist Church, thousands of people through the years have discovered meaning as well as a sense of belonging. This year the worship committee would like for the congregation to continue to remember and honor those persons who spent time in this sacred *place* as well as those people who will be returning to worship in this *place*. In the past we have provided the opportunity to purchase poinsettias for this occasion, however, this year we would like for you to make a donation in memory or appreciation of your loved one(s) to the *place* where God meets with us each week. The FUMC Christmas Memorials will help us keep this sacred *place* in good repair for years to come.

Name: _____

In Memory

Of: _____

In Honor

Of: _____

Please turn this form in no later than

Wednesday, December 21, 2011

All Memorials/Honorariums will be listed in



PLEDGE CARD

Have you turned in your pledge card???

It's that time of year when planning for the 2012 budget has begun and every pledge card counts!

Advent/Christmas Events

The month of December is always a busy month. The following is a designation of the coming church events so that you can make the appropriate plans.

- *December 7th "WOW Christmas Concert"
5:30 PM Sanctuary
- *December 11th "Bethlehem Revisited"
Waxahachie 4 PM
- *December 18th "Choir Cantata" 11 AM Sanctuary
- *December 18th "Family Christmas Caroling"
Leave from Fellowship Hall at 6:00pm
- *December 24th "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 25th "Christmas Service"
11 AM only-Sanctuary



Help Needed

Stepping Stones Day School needs a person to assist the kindergarten teacher beginning January 3, 2012

8:30am to 12:00pm Monday through Friday
Calendar Holidays

Requirements: Patience, love for young children and understanding "little" personalities. Occasionally drive for a field trip.

Family Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 18

at 6:00pm

We will be leaving Fellowship Hall at 6:00pm for Caroling and progressive refreshments. Come join in the festivities!



WOW CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Wednesday, December 7th at 5:30pm

Join us in the Sanctuary for some wonderful Christmas music presented by the WOW kids.

November & December Greeter Schedule

December 11

Lance & Gina Bagby
Jennifer and Patrick Darden

December 18

Barbara and Jim Terrell
Paula Oxford

December 25

Combined Service

Want to join a book club?

For more information:

Contact Rachel Kammerer at
Rachel.Kammerer@sville.us
or 254-965-5112.



University Praise
worship experience
every Monday at 7:00pm

Remembering...

The Faith Community Nurses at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Stephenville are supporting the Compassionate Friends worldwide candle lighting service. This candlelight vigil is for anyone who has lost a child.

Candle Lighting Service
Sunday, December 11, 2011
6:30 PM

Stephenville City Park Amphitheater
with music by Luke Austin

Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital...

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)
Chuck Donaho

Thanksgivings...

Marvin Manley (brother of Leon Manley)
Edith Carr (Mother of Deanna Glasgow)
Austin Embry (Nephew of John Springer)
Raymond Rice (Father of Misty Elliott)
Mack Sorrells (Father of Connie Banks)
Jean Goldsberry (Mother of Betsy Ball)

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
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)
Pat Bartlett (sister in law of Ada Phipot)
Matt Etters
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
Diane Porter Wilson (Daughter of Jonnie Porter)
Brad Thompson
Daniel Petty (grandson of Linda Sledge)
Linda McElroy
Don Douglas
Patti Douglas
Dennis Fulfer (Friend of Cindy Woolley)
Heather Hamilton
Charles Castleberry (Father of David Castleberry)
Bill Mayo (Brother of LaVada Allison)

TELLERS

December 11

Don Douglas
Molly Elliott
Scott Kunishige

December 18

Vicki Cook
LaRue Weems
Van Evans

Acolytes

11:00 am Worship Service

December 11, 2011 December 18, 2011

Robyn Huffman Peyton Barberee
Hagen Carter Cooper Conlee

Church Calendar

Wednesday, December 7

*1:30pm Busy Bee Quilters-QR
*4:00pm WOW (van)
*5:50pm WOW Christmas Concert
*6:00pm Handbells
*7:00pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 8

*12:00pm Music Club-FH
*6:00pm RENEW Band Rehearsal-S

Saturday, December 10

Tamale Cooking Event
*10:00am Jean Goldsberry Service-S
(reception following-FH)

Sunday, Sunday, December 11

St. Nicholas Day
3rd Sunday of Advent
Tamales Delivered
*9:00am RENEW Contemp. Svc.-S
*10:00am Sunday School
*11:00am Traditional Service-S
*4:00pm UMYF "Bethlehem Revisited" -
Waxahachie (everyone welcome)

Monday, December 12

*9:00am S. Stones cookie event-FH & Kit.
*6:00on Trustees Meeting-CR
*6:30pm ESL-FH
*7:00pm University Praise

Tuesday, December 13

*6:30am UMM Breakfast-FH

Wednesday, December 14

*10:30am ESL-FH
*6:00pm Handbells
*7:00pm Chancel & Children's Choir- S

Thursday, December 15

*5:00pm Finance Meeting-CR
*6:00pm RENEW Band Rehearsal-S

Friday, December 16

*9:00am S. Stones Program-FH
*6:30pm Wedding Rehearsal-S

Saturday, December 17

*8:30am Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
*1:30-3:00pm Cantata Rehearsal-FH &
Education Bldg
*6:00pm Wedding-S

Sunday, December 18

4th Sunday of Advent
*9:00am RENEW Contemp. Svc.-S
*10:00am Sunday School
*11:00am Christmas Cantata-S
*6:00pm UMYF
*6:00pm Family Christmas Caroling-Leave
from Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 20

*1:00pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday, December 21

*1:30pm Busy Bee Quilters-QR
*6:00pm Handbells
*7:00pm Chancel & Children's Choir- S

Thursday, December 22

*6:00pm RENEW Band Rehearsal-S

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

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

Marvin Manley By:

Les & Myra Gandy

Edith Luker Carr By:

Pathfinders Sunday school class
Les & Myra Gandy

Austin Embry By:

Tommie & Sylvia Huckabee



January – November 2011 Giving

Receipts Jan-Nov.....\$443,515
Jan-Nov Expense.....451,372
Jan-Nov Loss..... — \$ 7,557

December 1st through 7th, 2011
Receipts
\$13872.00

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, November 27, 2011

64 people attended the 9:00am Service
133 people attended the 11:00am Service

Sunday, December, 4 2011

63 people attended the 9:00am Service
146 people attended the 11:00am Service

HURRY

ORDER YOU TAMALES!!!

Call the Church
Office at 965-5046



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:

ADDRESS
SERVICE
REQUESTED
1st United Methodist Church
422 W. Washington
P.O. Box 173
Stephenville, TX 76401
(254)965-5046