

GOOD NEWS AT FIRST UMC

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors



FUMC is a Spiritual Vision Partner for the Offer Them Christ Campaign



Christmas

Have you paused to think about the meaning of Christmas this year? What is Christmas?

*Christmas is the Birthday of Jesus who became the Christ.

*Christmas is a major social event; a time for community celebrations.

*Christmas is an economic indicator of the strength of our economy.

*Christmas is a time for family vacations and travel.

*Christmas is a time of generosity, gift giving to charities, and a time of good will. And most importantly,

*Christmas is a time for Change!

Christmas time can bring out the best in us or the worst in us. For some people Christmas is filled with strong, emotionally charged sentiments that lead people astray in their thoughts and actions. For others, Christmas time changes them and they become more generous, compassionate, and light-hearted. Our culture is filled with examples of these transformations from *Scrooge* to the *Grinch*. People who usually do not go to church will come to a Christmas-Eve worship service just to see what all the hullabaloo is about. I think that most people want to believe that their lives really can change.

I invite you to catch the spirit of the SPIRIT this Christmas. This is not the spirit of a cultural Christmas, rather the Spirit of God who changes us through love and directs us into the proper giving of our gifts as well as ourselves.

Shalom,
Howard

Merry
Christmas



FACTS & FIGURES

December 2010 Budget

Weekly Budgeted Amount.....	11,662
Week's Contributions 12/05.....	11,482
Week's Contributions 12/12.....	14,539

Connectional Giving

Apportionments Due through 12/31/10.....	\$81,183
Year-to-date Apportionments Paid.....	\$16,913
Apportionments Balance for 2010.....	\$64,270

Summary

Budgeted Exp through 12/31/2010.....	\$595,464
YTD General Fund Receipts.....	\$464,328
Add'l Funds Req'd through 12/31/2010.....	\$131,136

Memorials are given in loving memory of...

Cristin & Katie Grubbs by:

Calvin & Susan Spindor
Jo Ellen Miller

Maxine Gallaher by:

Louise Woolley
B.J. & Lois Alexander
Marie Johnson
Bill & Decie Jones
Jim & Barbara Terrell
Vernon & Cynthia Sweeney
Wayne & LaVena Prichard
Texas & Anna Covey

Jennifer Rittenour by:

Pat Lorange
Jim & Barbara Terrell
Cody & Ellen Wells
Vernon & Cynthia Sweeney
Wayne & LaVena Prichard

J. Louis Evans by:

Pat Lorange

Tommy Ramey by:

Wayne & LaVena Prichard



9:00



11:00

December 19, 2010

RENEW SERVICE Mason Castleberry
Jake Bagby

December 24, 2010

5:00pm no acolytes needed
7:00pm Peyton Barberee
Courtney McGuire

11:30pm no acolytes needed

December 25, 2010

No acolytes needed

December 26, 2010

Combined Service at 11:00 Mason Holstein
Merit Holstein

The Promise of Christmas FREE EVENT

The Promise of Christmas is A NEW Christmas Show from the producers of The Promise in Glen Rose!
FUMC Stephenville is going as a group on **Saturday, Dec. 18th**. We will meet at the church at 4:30 p.m. and leave at 4:45 p.m. (van, carpool, etc.). We will eat supper together in Glen Rose and then attend the performance. If you are interested in going with us, please call Lori in the church office and RSVP. We don't want to leave without you!
Come dressed warm and bring a blanket.
Donations of canned goods will be accepted for the Tarrant Area Food Bank, and monetary donations will be accepted for The Promise in Glen Rose, Inc.
A \$5 per vehicle fee will be collected for the Texas Amphitheatre parking.



Open invitation to all!

Come Caroling Thursday,
December 16th!

We will be visiting area assisted living and nursing home facilities to spread some Christmas Cheer.

Meet at the home of Larry & Janelle Beran
1207 N. Dale at 6pm

Songbooks and Cider Provided!

Call Kim at 965-4987 if you need a ride!



Worship on Wednesday

@ FUMC

4:00pm-5:30pm after school
4 years - 6th grade

Will resume Wed. January 12th!!

We will pick up kids from each campus, provide them with a snack, disciple them to have a closer relationship with Jesus Christ, and teach them to glorify God through music! Stop by the church office to complete a permission slip.

Permission slips are mandatory if you wish your child to be picked up in the church van!

Help Out!

There is an account at Town & Country Bank for Lindsey Lozano. If you would like to help out please go down and ask about making a donation. To read more about Lindsey go to caringbridge.org and read her story.

Coming events at FUMC

Please mark your calendars for the following special worship services during December.

December 24th We will have 3 services on Christmas Eve.

5:00p.m. Contemporary service

7:00p.m. Traditional Christmas worship

11:30 p.m. a Contemplative service with Holy Communion

December 25th One Christmas service at 11:00a.m.

December 26th One combined Sunday service at

11:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School (Adult Only)



Christmas Schedule & Hours

Attention: There will not be a Newsletter Wed. Dec. 22nd due to the Christmas holiday. The next edition will go out Wed. Dec. 29th.

Christmas Office Hours:

Thursday, Dec. 23rd closing at 12:00pm

Friday, Dec. 24th Closed

Reopen Monday, Dec. 27th at 8:30am

Christmas Services:

Friday, Dec. 24th: Christmas Eve

5:00pm Contemporary Service

7:00pm Traditional Service

11:30pm Contemplative Service w/ Holy Communion

Saturday, Dec. 25th: Christmas Day

11:00am Service

Sunday, Dec. 26th - Sunday school at

10:00am (No Children's Sunday school

Pre-K - 12th grade) then 11:00am Combined Service

Full-time Caregiver Needed

The
Thompson
Family



Micah and
her little
brother
need you!



Call Amy
972-816-3141



The Giving Tree

This Sunday (through Christmas Eve) we will, again have the opportunity to place a gift on the Giving Tree in the sanctuary. Many wonderful missions are supported by this offering. Missions that have received this support include the Aldersgate Enrichment Center, the Methodist Children's Home in Waco, Meals on Wheels in Stephenville, Golden Cross (support of retired pastors housing in our conference), and the Maua Methodist Hospital in Kenya.

There will be an envelope in your pew and during the first hymn you can hang your envelope on the tree. Let's fill the tree with those beautiful red envelopes. Each one is a symbol of our support to these missions.



Want to join a book club?

Faith Lit. is a group of people who enjoy talking about books and eating good food. If this sounds like you, join us!

The book we are reading this time is Fall of Giants by Ken Follett.

For more information contact Rachel Kammerer at Rachel.Kammerer@sவில்.us or 965-5112.



We will discuss this book on Wed. January 12th at 6:00pm.





Prayer Concerns

Prayer concerns may be added to the list by calling or writing the church office. Names will run for four full weeks, and can be continued on the list with a simple call or email.

Hospital...

Nancy Crouch-Erath

Mark Barrera (Friend of Tonya Dobson)

Joys...

For the Dec. 8th birth of Joshua Craig Thompson (Son of Jeffrey & Amy Thompson)

Others...

Nursing Home Residents * Our Troops in Harm's Way * John Laird (Son-in-law of Don & Patti Douglas) * June Herrod Aaron (Aunt of Linda Jones) * Tom Malloy (Friend of Linda Jones) * Glen Cauble (Friend of Jill Burk & Janet Whitley) * Mack Sorrells (Father of Connie Banks) * Ray Sisemore (Son-in-law of Bill & Betty Chandler) * Jack Anderson * Joe Gillespie * Lindsey Lozano * Carrie McDonald (Cousin of Jeanie Faught) * Charles Peek * Guyla Davis * Norma Schwartzkopf * Marie Johnson * Grant Grubbs Family (Brother of Amber Lemons) * Michael Hamilton * Jack Mayer * Conner Elms—U.S. Army 10th Mtn. Div. Afghanistan (Son of Chick & Cindra Elms; Grandson of Mr. & Mrs. G.K. Lewallen) * Ruth Sillivent * Carol Isabella (Niece of Rita Mason) * Courtney Tatum * Bob Spotz

Church Calendar

Wednesday, December 15

- *1:30pm Busy Bee-QR
- *5:30pm Peer Passion
- *6:00pm Handbells
- *6:15pm New Beginnings X-mas party-OS
- *7:00pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 16

- *5:00pm Finance Cmte Mtg-CR
- *6:00pm Magdalene Women Caroling-OS (Van)

Friday, December 17

Poinsettia Pick-Up (Van Reserved)

Saturday, December 18

- *8:30am Food Pantry/Clothes Closet
- *4:30pm The Promise of Christmas-Glen Rose

Sunday, December 19

- Fourth Sunday of Advent
- *9:00am RENEW Contemp. Srv.-S
- *10:00am Sunday School
- *11:00am Traditional Srv.-S
- *5:30pm Peer Passion

Monday, December 20

*1:00pm Staff Mtg-CR

Tuesday, December 21

Staff Christmas Party - All Day - In office

*12:00pm Bertha Cox-FH

Wednesday, December 22

No Newsletter until Dec. 29th

Thursday, December 23

Office Closing at 12:00pm

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve - Office Closed

- *5:00pm Contemporary Service-S
- *7:00pm Traditional Service-S
- *11:30pm Contemplative Communion Srv.-S

Saturday, December 25

Christmas Day

*11:00am Worship Service-S

Sunday, December 26

- *10:00am Adult Sunday School Only
- *11:00am Combined Worship Service-S
- *3:30pm Castleview Nursing Hm Srv.
- *4:00pm S'ville Nursing Hm Srv.

ATTENDANCE

Last Sunday in our church,

318 people attended the 10:30 combined worship service

TELLERS

December 19, 2010

Vicki Cook, LaRue Weems, Van Evans

December 26, 2010

Gary Sult, Marion Pack

January 2, 2011

Bill Larmer, Jeff Royal, Frances Blair

Please place Sunday School attendance envelope in offering plate during worship service.



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

Our Faithful Followers:

Place
Stamp
Here