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The Herald

December 2014 Newsletter
Robinson First UMC



Prayers Concerns

Charlie Clark, Kathy Allen, Becky Van Schoyck, Greg Markello, Alan Sebens, Bev Harness, Donita Holmes, Jerry Phillipe, Vicki Lewis, Harold & Bernie Limper, Jerry Crozier, Margie Moore McNamara, Peg Markello, Dr. John Newlin, Sam Mitchell, Taya Harmon, Jim Currie, Greta Rich, Tim Rich, Emma Kocher, Eleanor Laswell, Helen Blanton, Debbie Doom, John Markello, Jeremy Markello, Ruth Rice, Nora Busby, Kobe Brannon, Bobby Gordon, Ashley Reed, Dee Dee Trout, Karleigh Wampler, Dan Hatfield, Jack Frakes, Erma Baum

Prayer Requests

If you have any prayer requests, please contact Shirley Treadway at gwtsea@hotmail.com, so that request can be shared with the prayer chain.



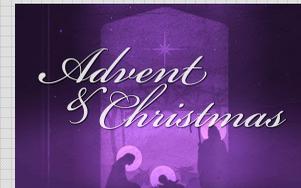
Our kids have been working so hard! Each week, they are working on learning about the different kinds of literature in the Bible, locating books in their Bible, as well as individual chapters and verses. They are memorizing a lot of Scripture as well! Our last meeting for 2014 will be on December 17!

Upcoming Worship Services

Sunday, December 14: our Handbell Choir will be leading us in worship as they share music of the season.

Sunday, December 21: the Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, and the Minors will be leading us in a service of lessons and carols as we prepare for the birth of Christ.

Wednesday, December 24: Christmas Eve worship services will be held at 4:00 and 7:00 pm. The 4:00 pm service will be held in the chapel, unless attendance outgrows the space; then the service will be moved to Asbury Hall. The 7:00 pm service will be held in Asbury Hall. We'll have a variety of musical offerings at each service. Come to experience the wondrous story in word, song, in candlelight and with communion.



Pastor's Pen

Friends, one of the major things we experience in today's culture is a lack of patience, waiting, and expectation. Information is available on our phones and computers instantaneously. We have express checkouts at Super Walmart; we get impatient when we have to wait in construction traffic.

The church, and Christianity, is set apart from getting ahead. We have built-in times of the church year where we wait and build expectation – particularly Advent and Lent. However, the church fights against the culture even during these seasons, wanting to sing Christmas carols immediately after Thanksgiving. What a letdown if we begin to celebrate a month before the actual event! (Don't even get me started on Hobby Lobby and other stores having Christmas décor available in July!)

So wait and watch with me this Advent season. We will build expectation of the birth of Christ together. There will be plenty of time during those twelve days of Christmas to sing carols and celebrate!

Speaking of celebration, mark your calendars for an open house at the parsonage on Sunday, December 21, from 3:00-5:00 pm.

I will see you in worship!



Grace and peace,



Our "Just One" item for December is toothpaste. If you can bring one tube of toothpaste and place it in the "Just One" container under the coat rack.

As you know the winter season is upon us: there will be a "mitten" tree in the narthex. Any hats, mittens/gloves, and scarves that you donate will be used to make sure that our NOW students stay warm this winter. Thank you!

2nd Wednesday Dinner

Due to the busy schedule in December, we will not be having a second Wednesday dinner. We hope that you had a good opportunity to fellowship at the chili cook-off in November, at the Hanging of the Greens, and that you will enjoy the fellowship at the parsonage open house (see details elsewhere in this newsletter). We'll see you in January!

Committee News

SPRC News: After serving faithfully as our interim music director for several years, Gaytha Vail has indicated that she would like to step down from that position. We will be opening the search for a permanent music director this month, with details on the church website. If you know of anyone who may be qualified or interested in the position, please refer them to the website. Gaytha will continue to serve until the position is filled. In the future, you will have an opportunity to express your thanks to Gaytha at a reception and with a gift.

Greeters and Liturgists: Thelma Gifford will be coordinating greeters and liturgists for 2015. If you are currently serving as a greeter or liturgist and no longer wish to do that, please let Thelma know. Otherwise, you will continue to be placed in the schedule for 2015. Likewise, if you have not been serving as a greeter or liturgist and would like to serve, please let Thelma know. The schedule will be developed this month.

Charge Conference: Our annual charge conference is Tuesday, December 2, at 5:30 pm in Asbury Hall. District Superintendent Scott Grulke will be presiding. The conference should last no longer than an hour. All are invited to attend.

From the Building Committee

In the building process, we met a couple of times with the district building and land location committee to approve plans for our new sanctuary. During those meetings, it was encouraged that we give the congregation an opportunity to take ownership in the new building. You may want to “purchase” an item in honor or memory of someone, and the building committee has been hard at work to develop a list. Some items are not on the following list because they have already been spoken for, but if you see other items that might be added, please let Marcia Schmidlin or Robert Quick know. Please contact Ken Mattsey if you have questions about the cost of items.

Stained glass windows (4)	Pulpit
Sanctuary seating	Lectern
Choir chairs	4 th Octave of Handbells & equipment
Baby grand piano	Clavinova
Rank of organ pipes	Clock(s)
Bell Tower music/speaker system	Sanctuary Christmas trees
Sanctuary nativity set	TVs and wall mounting systems (7)
Welcome kiosk	Coffee/beverage machines
Chairs/benches for narthex	Building donor plaque
FUMC Foundation donor plaque	Altar candleholders
Altar	Altar flower tables
Rockers for cry room (2)	Paraments/Altar Cloths
Seasonal Banners	Interior signage
Exterior signage	Electronic bell ringer
Wheelchair lift to the chancel	Choir robes
Altar Bible	Funeral Pall (cover for casket)
Bibles for seating	Hymnals and songbooks for seating
Bibles for choir	Hymnals and songbooks for choir
Altar cross	

UMYF

Sunday, December 7: We will go caroling at 5:30 pm to some of our area nursing facilities. Please dress warmly. There will be hot chocolate and cookies at the church when we finish at 7:00 pm.

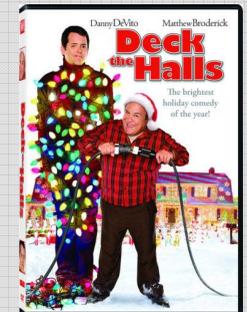
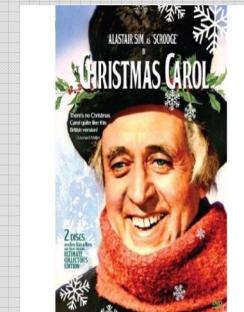
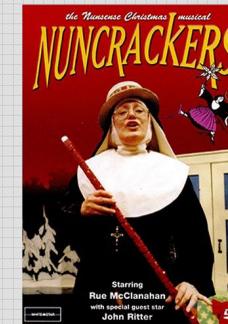
Sunday, December 21: We will have a Christmas party at the parsonage. Bring a white elephant gift for a fun gift exchange. Food and games will be provided!

Mark your calendars:
January 5, 2015 –
Ski Trip!

From the Library

Your church library is excited to present our Christmas exhibit, displaying items relating to Jesus’ birth. Ever wonder what frankincense and myrrh looked like? What kind of lighting might that “manger” have had at Jesus’ birth? Check out swaddling clothes and see Jesus’ family tree going back to Adam and Eve.

December’s additions are the DVD Nun-crackers: The Nonsense Christmas Musical, the first “TV special” taped by the sisters in their convent studio for Cable Access; the DVD A Christmas Carol, which needs no explanation; and the DVD Deck the Halls, featuring Matthew Broderick and Danny DeVito as two neighbors who are trying to put the “win” in “winter.”



December Birthdays

12/5 Joy Anderson, Kevin Black
 12/7 Tyler Devonshire
 12/9 Kate Imhoff, Sandra Hale
 12/10 Ann Magee
 12/11 Stacie McMillan, Wesley Parker,
 Lucas Taylor
 12/12 Nancy Brigham
 12/15 Jim Wallace
 12/16 David Null, Grant Oxford,
 Katie Pippin, Mary Etta Whitmer
 12/18 Julia Albin
 12/19 Bonnie Wright
 12/23 Jean Decker, Nita Bradbury
 12/24 Ken Mattsey
 12/25 Susan Inboden
 12/26 Suzanne Wallace
 12/28 Kay Albin, Nancy McCracken,
 Kristy Veenstra
 12/30 Kirtina Carter, Elliott Veenstra
 12/31 Rita Diel



December Anniversaries



12/9 Steve & Patty Lycan
 12/18 Jon & Joy Anderson
 12/22 Don & Alice Taylor
 12/23 Dave & Sharon Freeland
 Amy & Mark DeDoming
 12/28 Mike & Mary Jane Parker



Sunday, December 21
 3:00-5:00 pm
 804 North Scott Drive

December 2014

	1	2 6:30pm Disciple I	3 3:00pm Kids' Club	4 10:00am Disciple I 6:00pm Building Comm. 7:00pm Handbells	5	6
7 9:00am service 10:15 SS 11am choir 5:00pm Run 4 God 5:30pm UMYF	8	9 6:30pm Disciple I	10 3:00pm Kids' Club 6:00pm Worship Committee	11 10:00am Disciple I 6:00pm Building Comm. 7:00pm Handbells	12	13
14 9:00am service 10:15 SS 11am choir	15	16 6:30pm Disciple I	17 3:00pm Kids' Club	18 10:00am Disciple I 6:00pm Building Comm. 7:00pm Handbells	19	20
21 9:00am service 10:15 SS 11am choir 3:00pm parsonage open house 6:00pm UMYF	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day Office Closed</i>	26	27
28 9 am service 10:15 SS 11am Choir	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>			