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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The season of Advent is upon us and the time to sing one of my very favorite hymns: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus. Hearing the music of this great advent hymn is one of the many things that says to me: Christmas is near. And with this awareness comes a profound sense of Hope.

For me Christmas is all about Hope. Hope that this world is not totally lost; Hope that good is really stronger than evil and love is ultimately more powerful than hate. Hope that forgiveness heals far more than revenge and the light of God can never be extinguished by the darkness of Sin.

It is all here in these familiar lyrics:

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
 born to set thy people free;
 from our fears and sins release us,
 let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
 hope of all the earth thou art;
 dear desire of every nation,
 joy of every longing heart.

This Christmas, as always, my heart is longing for the truth of this season to once again fill me with Hope. You see, the birth of Jesus is the gift of new life. With Jesus it comes in the form of a baby. But for most of us it will come in the form of a new heart. May this Christmas hold for you the gift of a new heart and may it be filled with Hope.

To God be the Glory,
 Larry

WEEKLY BULLETIN
DEADLINE
Wednesday
10:00 a.m.



January Compass
 Deadline is
 December 15th.
THANKS!

Noisy Mission Offering



in
December
 is going to

**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS
 DINNER**

THE RICE CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

Come see our interpretation of the Christmas story aided by Fontanini figures and buildings. The display will be open every evening from 6pm - 7:30pm, **December 14th - 31st.**

*Located in the Garage at
 501 Pump House Road
 Murphysboro, IL*



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| <p>1 7:00 pm AA Big Book Meeting</p> <p>2 6:00 pm Board of Trustees
Cub Scouts</p> <p>6:30 pm Praise Team Practice</p> <p>7:00 pm Finance Committee</p> <p>3 9:00 am Worship Team</p> <p>6:00 pm Choir Practice
Boy Scouts</p> <p>7:00 pm AA Meeting
Al-Anon Meeting</p> <p>4 6:00 pm Scouts Roundtable
Disciple II Bible Study</p> <p>5 8:30 am Adult Spiritual Formation</p> <p>6:00 pm Faithful Friends Christmas Party</p> <p>6 7:30 am UMM Breakfast</p> <p>9:00 am Handbell Choir</p> <p>10:00 am AA Meeting</p> <p>8 1:00 pm Nurture and Care</p> <p>6:00 pm Mom's Group</p> <p>7:00 pm AA Big Book Meeting</p> <p>9 noon Young at Heart</p> <p>6:00 pm Cub Scouts</p> <p>6:30 pm Church Council
Praise Team Practice</p> <p>10 6:00 pm Choir Practice
Boy Scouts</p> <p>6:30 pm P&P</p> <p>7:00 pm AA Meeting
Al-Anon Meeting</p> <p>11 4:30 pm Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:00 pm Disciple II Bible Study</p> | <p>12 10:00am Feeder of the Pack
noon Staff Meeting & Party</p> <p>6:00 pm Daisys & Brownies</p> <p>13 9:00 am Handbell Choir</p> <p>10:00 am AA Meeting</p> <p>14 4:00 pm UpperRoom/Journeys Party</p> <p>6:00 pm Choir Christmas Concert</p> <p>15 MEALS ON WHEELS WEEK</p> <p>7:00 pm AA Big Book Meeting</p> <p>16 6:00 pm Cub Scouts</p> <p>6:30 pm Praise Team Practice</p> <p>17 5:45 pm Choir Practice</p> <p>6:00 pm Boy Scouts</p> <p>7:00 pm Service & Missions
AA Meeting
Al-Anon Meeting</p> <p>18 6:00 pm Disciple II Bible Study</p> <p>20 9:00 am Handbell Choir</p> <p>10:00 am AA Meeting</p> <p>21 9:00 am March to the Manger</p> <p>11:15 am March to the Manger</p> <p>22 6:00 pm Mom's Group</p> <p>7:00 pm AA Big Book Meeting</p> <p>23 6:30 pm Praise Team Practice</p> <p>24 7:00 pm Candlelight Service
AA Meeting
Al-Anon Meeting</p> <p>25 Christmas</p> <p>28 noon Our Neighbor's Table</p> <p>5:00 pm Youth Christmas Party</p> <p>29 7:00 pm AA Big Book Meeting</p> <p>30 6:30 pm Praise Team Practice</p> <p>31 7:00 pm AA Meeting
Al-Anon Meeting</p> |
|--|--|

**Please remember the
deadline for the January
Compass is Monday,
Dec 15th**

A Night in Bethlehem
First Baptist Church of Cobden
December 12th, 13th, & 14th
5-8pm nightly
Pre-registration is suggested
by calling 618-697-1051 or
618-893-2261
Tours are every 10 minutes
and take about an hour.



A Night in Bethlehem
At
Murdale Baptist Church
Carbondale
Free to the Community!
Saturday, Dec 13,
&
Sunday, Dec 14
4:30 pm—8:30 pm
Tours Provided!
Refreshments



Please come hear about the *Miracles of Christmas* during each Sunday of Advent. All services are at 9:00 am and 11:15 am except for the Christmas Eve 7 pm service.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| November 30 | Miracle of Surrender |
| December 7 | Miracle of Trust |
| December 14 | Miracle of Praise |
| December 21 | Miracle of Revelation and March to the Manger |
| December 24 | Miracle of Belief |
| 7pm | Candlelight Communion Service |
| December 30 | Celebration Sunday—"The Year in Review" |

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Dec 13 Night in Bethlehem outing (Details below)

Dec 21 March to the Manger

*CYF: Christian Youth Fellowship (3rd - 5th grade)

Leaders: Irma Bigham & Jennifer Watson

*JYF: Junior Youth Fellowship (6th - 8th grade)

Leaders: Laurie Nehring & Shannon Vincent

*SYF: Senior Youth Fellowship (9th - 12th grade)

Leaders: Paula Chapa & Stephanie Finke

Meetings are every

2nd & 4th Sunday 5-6:30pm

Bring a Friend!

A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM

CYF, JYF and SYF youth groups

Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014

4:30 p.m.- Vans depart MUMC parking lot

5:00 p.m.- Dinner at Italian Village

6:00 p.m.- A Night in Bethlehem,
Cobden First Baptist Church

8:00 p.m.- Vans return to MUMC parking lot

Cost: \$2

Register with your youth group leader
by Sunday, Dec. 7.



BRING A FRIEND!

(Permission slip required.)

DECEMBER 9th

12:00 noon

Fellowship Hall

CHRISTMAS

Menu - \$5.00 charge

Ham with Pineapple

Sweet Potatoes

Corn

Ambrosia Salad

Each of us bring a dessert.

Please don't forget to sign upon the attendance pad!

Bring items for a Nursing Home...

tissues, stationary, deodorant,

body powder, body lotion,

stamps, socks, shaving lotion, etc.

We will see you all on the

2nd Tuesday of every month

for a delicious meal and fun conversation.




A CHRISTMAS PROGRAM for the WHOLE FAMILY
Chancel Choir Concert:
Come To Us:
A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST & CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS DRAMA 'T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS
DEC 14TH AT 6 PM
IN THE SANCTUARY

OUR NEIGHBOR'S TABLE



LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



SATURDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB

will not meet in December.

However the book for January's discussion is:

Riven Rock by TC Boyle.

T. C. Boyle's seventh novel transforms two characters straight out of history into rich mythic figures whose tortured love story is as heartbreaking as it is hilarious. Blending social history with some of the most deliciously dark humor ever written, Boyle employs his hallmark virtuoso prose to tell the story of America's age of innocence—and of a love affair that is as extraordinary as it is unforgettable.

Saturday, January 17th at 10:15am in the church library.

THE LIBRARY CORNER:

KIDS AND CHRISTMAS

One of the special joys of Christmas time is helping our children and grandchildren understand not just the fun of Christmas—but also the joy and love that entered the world one night in Bethlehem. Christmas books help provide both fun and understanding to younger and older children alike. And stories about Christmas are one of the pleasures of the season for the whole family!

There are some good books and DVDs in the church library which help children in a range of ages—beginning with the youngest—understand the special meaning of Christmas. Here is a sampling of what the library offers:

For the very young: Room for a Little One. Our littlest ones can relate to this sweet little book. One by one tired little animals find shelter in a stable on a cold winter's night, and then there comes a tired young couple who find shelter and warmth they need for a baby to be born—a little one who came for the whole world. Other books to read: **The Story of Christmas** and **Who's Coming to Our House**.

For toddlers and up: Try the Candle Bible **Baby Jesus is Born**, or The Berenstain Bears' **Joy of Giving** or **One Winter's Night** with illustrations which deepen the story of two births in a quiet stable.

For older children: Popular children's author Kate DiCamillo brings us a great story in **Great Joy**, when a young girl's kindness and concern bring the meaning of joy to her at the church Christmas pageant. The story in **Christmas Day in the Morning** tells of a gift of love from a son to his father, as the son takes responsibility for farm work the father has always done. In **True Gift**, siblings Lily and Liam have an unexpectedly different Christmas, thanks to a white cow and Liam's determination that the cow will not be all alone in the pasture at Christmas time. In the **Last Holiday Concert**, sixth grader Hart Evans learns a lot, and it all starts with a prank gone bad—a rubber band which he shoots at the wrong time and that lands in the wrong place.

Holiday DVDs add to the fun of the season. Veggie Tales DVDs tell the story of **It's a Meaningful Life** and **Saint Nicholas: A Story of Joyful Giving**. Veggie Tales also has a DVD of **Sing Along Songs** as Larry the Cucumber and Bob the Tomato and other Veggie Tale characters sing songs from various Veggie Tale Christmas stories. Or how about the story of **Fourth King**? He was supposed to join those other three kings, but never makes it—he somehow keeps getting delayed—for very good reasons.

GROWN-UP CORNER

Yes, adults, never fear. While the kids enjoy Christmas books and DVDs, you too are invited to add to the joy and inspiration of the season with books and DVDS about Christmas. You'll find them in the library, or on the table in the upstairs hall.

DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVICE SERVANTS		
TRADITIONAL		PRAISE
DEC	Worship Leaders	
7	Jennifer Watson jwastonla1982@yahoo.com	Angie Baughman angie_baughman@hotmail.com
14	Jennifer Watson jwastonla1982@yahoo.com	Angie Baughman angie_baughman@hotmail.com
21	Jennifer Watson jwastonla1982@yahoo.com	Angie Baughman angie_baughman@hotmail.com
28	Jennifer Watson jwastonla1982@yahoo.com	Ed O'Donnell eod@edodonnell.com
DEC	Welcome Hostesses	
7	Julie Peterson and Marilyn Perry	Vern Cline
14	Julie Peterson and Marilyn Perry	Jennifer O'Donnell
21	Patti Shields & Laurie Nehring; Carolyn Sauer & Kathy Blackwell	Sally Moutardier
28	Patti Shields & Laurie Nehring; Carolyn Sauer & Kathy Blackwell	Scarlett Pierson
DEC	Greeters	
7	Wilma Westerfield and Mimi Rice	Tonya Walker & Candy Watt
14	Wilma Westerfield and Mimi Rice	Tonya Walker & Carolyn Ozburn
21	Bert & Carolyn Ozburn	Susie Karnes & Jan Mandis
28	Bert & Carolyn Ozburn	Paul & Debbie Chapman
DEC	Acolytes	
7	Tyler Doody & Drake Rogus	
14	Conner Twenhafel & Maggie Jenkins	
21	Cadence Brown & Megan McNitt	
28	Ben Barringer & Ethan Finke	
DEC	Prayer Request Readers	
7	Wilma Westerfield	Angie Baughman
14	Kristi Miller	Angie Baughman
21	Mary Jane Williams	Angie Baughman
28	Emily Hargraves	Ed O'Donnell

DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVICE SERVANTS		
TRADITIONAL		PRAISE
DEC	Liturgists	
7	Adam Barringer	Brian Vincent
14	Vern Cline	Lacey Brown
21	Sandy Lanzi	Dennis Goforth
28	Gaye Auxier	Angie Baughman
Ushers		
Rick Runge, Mark Twenhafel Jim Hughes, Bob Eaton, Kyle Quigley and Trina Eaton		To Be Named Please contact Jay Graff to volunteer
Sunday Stewards		
Bob Eaton, Ralph Bastien, Andy McNitt, & Bill Quigley		



1	Janis Crews	21	Sylvia Carvell
2	Charlie McNitt		Carol Dreith
3	Kaitlyn Bitner	24	Bob Hall
4	Rosalie Winters		Jon Lough
	Rene' Doody		Carrie Schwebel
6	Jerry Crews	25	Virginia Bowers
7	Mary Slider		Travis Shands
8	Nancy Tillet	27	Lisa Bustos
11	Myrrl Burroughs		George Dietz
12	Connor Graeff		Aiden Jacobs
	Brandon Graeff		Nancy McNitt
	Lee Sullivan	28	Sandy Schwebel
	Rosie Wece	29	John Mills
13	Holly Fletcher	30	Trina Eaton
	Kathy Ripley		
14	Gloria Barker		
	John Vallino		
15	Cindy Presley	15	Sandy & Jack Herring
17	Terri Yates	17	Connie & James Boucher
19	Madison Jacobs	20	Sandy & Gene Schwebel
20	Mark Twenhafel	24	Dianna & Nathan Smith
		25	Susan & Cloyd Karnes
		28	Rindy & Larry Eisenhauer

If your anniversary or birthday does not appear in the Compass, please contact the Church Office at 687-2317

Murphysboro United Methodist Church
1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Murphysboro, IL
Permit No. 63

Return Service Requested

Murphysboro United Methodist Church
1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966

MUMC OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Phone: 618-687-2317 Fax: 618-687-2604
E-Mail: murphysboroumc@frontier.com

We're On The Web!
www.MurphysboroUMC.com



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditional Service: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:10 a.m.
Praise Service: 11:15 a.m.

Ministers.....The Congregation
Pastor.....Larry A. Gilbert
Coordinator of Ministries.....Earl R. Renshaw
Discipleship Coordinator.....Teresa Gilbert
Financial Secretary.....Christine Nolan
Church Secretary.....Deb Severa
Custodian.....Pat Sullivan
Organist.....Judy Little
Pianist.....Micah Mayes
Choir Director.....Ricardo King
Nursery Attendant.....Tania Cruz
Nursery Attendant.....Bridget Lewis



The Miracles of Christmas
each Sunday of Advent.