Murphysboro United Methodist Church 1500 Pine Street Murphysboro, IL 62966

Volume 13, Issue 11 November 2015



ITEMS OF INTEREST	Page
Anniversaries, Birthdays, and Worship	8
Calendar of Events	2
Library Corner	4
Mission Report	6
Opportunities	3
Welcome	7
Youth Activities	5





FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Well the holiday season is upon us and I always feel like someone should have done a better job of spacing them out a little. Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years run over and into each other in often uncomfortable and confusing ways. As a culture we watch Halloween and Christmas decorations hit the market shelves about the same time, wondering if we are just skipping Thanksgiving this year.

As the Christian Church, maybe we have done a somewhat better job when it comes to celebrating our two most holy days, Christmas and Easter. For these two days, or better stated, seasons, the church has built in a time of preparation. For Christmas the season is Advent and for Easter it is Lent.

The four Sundays before Christmas comprise the season of Advent. These four weeks are set aside as time for us to prepare our hearts for the recognition and celebration of Christmas. We do this each year because you or I will never fully understand or grasp all the meaning of Christmas, no matter how long we live. Each year offers us the opportunity to understand the Incarnate God in a new way and through this deepen our faith and love of God.

The Advent season holds several special practices and rituals intended to help us prepare for Christmas. One is the lighting of the Advent wreath in our worship services. I am not sure anyone fully understands when or how this ritual began, but for hundreds of years it has been a part of most Advent worship services. The wreath should have four candles - one for each of the Sundays. There are just countless traditions about what the four Sundays represent and typically a brief liturgy is read as the candles are lit, helping the worshipper connect with each Sunday's emphasis. The candles should express the Liturgical colors of the season, which are either purple or blue. Often a wreath will have three candles of one color and one of a rose or pink shade for the third Sunday of Advent. This practice has no profound theological significance and can or cannot be observed.

The practice of lighting a candle each week helps the worshipping community recognize the passing of time and the coming of Christmas. Anticipation is a part of the Advent season and the additional candle each week helps us count down the days till Christmas. But Advent is more than just a time-keeper. The season says to us: *The Lord is Coming* and the implied message is that he is coming for you. The baby was born to Mary and Joseph but this baby is our baby also, because he was born for you.

One of the additional blessings of Advent is that so many of our worship rituals adapt nicely to the home. Small advent wreaths are inexpensive and a variety of home worship resources are available on line. Children often enjoy the family gathering for a special worship ritual in which they can participate. Children's advent calendars are also popular and come in countless varieties, many with special surprises on different days. All these practices teach our children the sacred significance of the holiday, reinforcing in the home what they experience in worship on Sunday.

The holidays are coming; preparations for many have already begun. Why not begin to think now about how you can make this Advent season especially meaningful for yourself and those around you.

To God be the Glory, Larry

The Compass

NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Page 2

2	7:00 pm	AA Big Book Meeting	11	6:00 pm	Choir Practice	20	7:00 pm	NA Meeting
3	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts			Boy Scouts	21	9:00 am	Handbell Practice
	6:30 pm	Praise Team Practice		6:30 pm	Publicity & Promotions		10:00 am	AA Meeting
4	9:00 am	Worship Team		7:00 pm	AA Meeting		10:15 am	Book Club
		Holy Folders	13	10:00 am	Feeder of the Pack	22	5:00 pm	Youth Meetings
	6:00 pm	Choir Practice		7:00 pm	NA Meeting	23	5:00 pm	Girl Scouts-Juniors
		Boy Scouts	14	7:30 pm	UMM Breakfast		6:30 pm	Girl Scouts-Cadets
	6:30 pm	Nominations Committee		9:00 am	Handbell Practice		7:00 pm	AA Big Book Meeting
	7:00 pm	AA Meeting		10:00 am	AA Meeting	24	2:00 pm	Holy Folders
5	5:00 pm	Daisies & Brownies	15	3:30 pm	Confirmation Class		6:00 pm	Cub Scouts
	6:00 pm	Scouts Roundtable		5:00 pm	Thanksgiving Dinner		6:30 pm	Praise Team Practice
6	7:00 pm	NA Meeting	16		MEALS ON WHEELS WEEK			Church Council
7	9:00 am	Handbell Practice		7:00 pm	AA Big Book Meeting	25	6:00 pm	Choir Practice
	10:00 am	AA Meeting	17	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts			Boy Scouts
8	5:00 pm	Youth Meetings		6:30 pm	Hospitality Team		6:30 pm	Youth Ministry
9	5:00 pm	Girl Scouts-Juniors			Praise Team Practice		7:00 pm	AA Meeting
	6:30 pm	Girl Scouts-Cadets	18	9:00 am	Nurture and Care Team	26		Happy Thanksgiving!
	7:00 pm	AA Big Book Meeting		6:00 pm	Choir Practice	2 7	7:00 pm	NA Meeting
10	12:00 pm	Young at Heart			Boy Scouts	28	9:00 am	Handbell Practice
	6:00 pm	Board of Trustees		7:00 pm	Staff Parish Meeting		10:00 am	AA Meeting
		Cub Scouts			Service & Missions Team	29	Noon	Our Neighbor's Table
	6:30 pm	Praise Team Practice			AA Meeting	30	7:00 pm	AA Big Book Meeting
	7:00 pm	Finance Committee	19	5:00 pm	Daisies & Brownies			

fall backward

don't forget to set your clocks back Saturday before bed enjoy that extra hour of sleep before ALL SAINTS DAY SERVICES SUNDAY!



November 2015 Su Mo Tu W Th Fri Sa 1 23 4 $\mathbf{5}$ 6 7 8 9 11 10 12 13 14 15 2021 16 1718 19 222324252627282930

Congratulations Pastor Larry on 40 years in Ministry!





I would like to offer my deepest appreciation of the wonderful 40th year of ministry celebration given for me by the church on October 11th. I cannot begin to tell you how many times I have read the cards, reflected on the words chosen, and been browsing at Lowes. Thank you to everyone who participated in anyway. You are a wonderful congregation and a blessing to Teresa and myself. We are honored to serve you. **Pastor Larry**

The Compass Service & Fellowship Opportunities

PREPARE YOUR FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS

Three different devotional booklets will be available for advent this year. There is a devotional with activities for young children, one designed for teens and young adults, and one for older adults. The devotional booklets will be available during the month of November on the library table in the upstairs hallway, and in the foyer at 15th & Pine. Please stop by and pick them up for your family.



NOV 10th-THANKSGIVING 12:00 noon **Fellowship Hall**

Turkey and dressing Mashed potatoes Broccoli with cheese Rolls **Cranberry salad** Pumpkin dessert



Menu - \$5.00 charge

Corine McDaniels will tell the group about the Quilt Code of the Underground Railroad

Please sign up on the attendance pad. If you cannot attend after signing up, please contact the church office by the Monday before. Otherwise YAH members must pay for the meal that was ordered for you. Thank you.

Young at Heart is a group of senior adults that meet once a month on the second Tuesday for food, fellowship and a program

Save the date - The Rice Nativity Open House will be December 13 from 1-4 pm. Watch for more details! **********

OUR NEIGHBOR'S TABLE



LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE ALL CHURCH THANKSGIVING POTLUCK SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15th

Thank You, LORD!

AT 5:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. The Church provides meats and drinks.

Bring a side dish of your choice of a vegetable, salad or dessert. Please come and enjoy this wonderful time of fellowship.



CARDS FOR A CURE

Have you ever found yourself needing a gift quickly and had nothing available? Do you like to dine at Chili's, Panera, or Steak and

Shake? Do you purchase home repair items at Lowe's, Sears, or Home Depot? How about buying a book from Barnes & Noble or Amazon.com?

If you answered "YES" to any of the questions, you can help raise money for the American Cancer Society. The Methodists on a Mission, Relay For Life team is selling gift cards again this year to raise money to help in the fight against cancer. It is a battle all of us have seen loved ones, friends and co-workers fight. You may have fought the battle vourself.

For every gift card that we sell, the companies will give us a percentage of the sale. For example, if you give us \$10 we will give you a gift card for \$10. The business will donate a percentage back to our team.



The purchase of gift cards is an easy way to jump-start your Christmas shopping and at the same time help raise money for the battle against cancer. Order forms will be available in the bulletin on November 1 and 8. You may mail your order to Wilma Westerfield, 303 South Pecan Street, DeSoto, IL 62924, or return it to a team member who will be collecting them at the north and east doors of the sanctuary after each service on those dates. If you have questions, you may contact Wilma Westerfield at wmwcof@frontier.com.

WE WILL ONLY ORDER ONE TIME THIS YEAR. (In the past we have made two orders). ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015.

YOU ARE INVITED

TO JOIN THE SATURDAY MORNING

BOOK CLUB

Saturday, November 21st at 10:15 a.m. The Book for NOVEMBER is "Go Set a Watchman" by Harper Lee

Mavcomb, Alabama. Twenty-six-year-old Jean Louise Finch - 'Scout' - returns home from New York City to visit her aging father, Atticus. Set against the backdrop of the civil rights tensions and political turmoil that were transforming the South, Jean Louise's homecoming turns bittersweet when she learns disturbing truths about her close-knit family, the town and the people dearest to her. Memories from her childhood flood back, and her values and assumptions are thrown into doubt. Featuring many of the iconic characters from To Kill a Mockingbird, Go Set a Watchman perfectly captures a young woman, and a world, in a painful yet necessary transition out of the illusions of the past - a journey that can be guided only by one's conscience.

IN December: The Book Club is not meeting.

The Library Corner: Entertaining the Young'ns!

The holidays are fast approaching! Well, you knew that. But did you know that the church library has books and DVDs that you can use to help entertain the younger family members that come for a visit?

We have a variety of books and DVDs that can while away a little down time for your young visitors, ranging from the very young on up to the older kids. Some books and DVDs have holiday themes, but we have many that are good for any time of year. Here are a few:



First we have a brand new series of books for the younger set— "My Very First Little House Books." These are adapted from Laura Ingalls Wilder's classic books about growing up on the frontier in the 1800s. These books have great illustrations and make fascinating reading for the little ones. Most of the series features Laura and her sister Mary, but several of the books focus on Almanzo, a little boy growing up on a farm back east.

The Berenstain Bears Series is good reading for children aged 3 or 4 to 7 or so. Brother and Sister Bear get into lots of entertaining situations that can also spark family conversations. Our two newest in this series: The Berenstain Bears and the Truth. and the Berenstain Bears Get in a Fight.

Two series of books for young readers are The Cul-De-Sac Kids by Beverly Lewis and The Sugar Creek *Kids* by Paul Hutchens. For older children the *Raising Dragons* series by Bryan Davis and the *Narnia* series by C.S. Lewis are "good reads." Look also for books about Thanksgiving and Christmas. including baby and toddler books.



Children's and family DVDs abound! There are many of the entertaining *Veggie Tale* DVDs to choose from, plus a variety of others. Try **Where the** Red Fern Grows, The Secrets of Jonathan Sperry, A Golden Christmas (golden retrievers, that is), A Christmas Carol starring George C. Scott, The Polar Express, Max Lucado's The Crippled Lamb, or The Fourth King (find out why just three Kings showed up at the manger!)

New In the Library: One of our newest books is by Dave Auxier, who along with his wife Eileen Auxier was a member of our church for a number of years. They are now residing in Memphis. Dave has applied his talent for entertainment to writing his memoirs and has sent us a copy, which as those of you who know Dave can imagine, is replete with interesting stories! Look for Dave's book, entitled **This** is My Story ... and I'm Sticking To It in our "Local Authors and Local Interest" section.

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CHURCH LIBRARY







 Nov. 8 Youth Group Meets, 5:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
 Nov. 22 Youth Group Meets, 5:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
 *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: Lacey Brown & Stephanie Finke

Youth Groups meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month.



YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO BELIZE - 2016



The high school youth will be taking a mission trip to Belize during the summer of 2016. So far our Belize mission committee has raised just over \$4,000 - a good start toward what we'll need. We are so excited about this! We couldn't raise this kind of money without the generosity of our church family. Although it will be a lot of work, this is an amazing

opportunity for our youth to grow closer to God.

STICKY NOTE PLEDGE BOARD

We have a created a sticky note pledge board located in the downstairs hallway. If you have a chance, please come down and pick a sticky note within your budget.



THE TOILET TURMOIL IS BACK!

We are bringing back the ever popular toilet fundraiser. Our toilet turmoil began on October 4th. We are charging \$5 per day or \$20 per week to have the toilet put in someone's yard. Don't want it in your yard? Never fear! We have insurance available for \$10. Unfortunately, if someone pays for the toilet before you pay for your insurance you are still going to receive it. Pick up a toilet request form or a toilet insurance form from the youth bulletin board or contact



Emily Finke 618-967-0866 or Emma Nehring 618-534-9727 for either form.

The Compass

Moment for Mission

In 2013, Service and Missions was asked to begin looking for places for an Adult Mission Trip. Here we are in 2015 with *four* adult mission trips complete. What a wonderful way to grow our discipleship!

On Sunday, Sept 27, 2015 at 5 a.m. (still dark then, by the way), seven of us loaded the BRAND NEW church bus for New Orleans, LA. The bus was picked up on Sept 25, 2015... this was its maiden trip.

Twelve hours later, we were pulling into Camp Restore. Camp Restore is the only remaining organization in New Orleans still working on restoration. They have had over 45,000 volunteers in the 10 years since Katrina. Even though we could see a lot of improvement since our last trip, a lot still needs to be restored.





We were met by two young men, JD and Rico, who are both from Germany. They are both there on a volunteer internship and will remain for one year. It did not take us long to figure out that they were going to be invaluable during the week. Notice I said young men, but I failed to say they were also strong and willing to help with any work we might ask of them during our stay.

After we unloaded the bus, settled in our rooms, and ate dinner, we decided to take a trip to the home of Angela Irvin and her three young adult daughters. This home is in the Ninth Ward and had been damaged by Katrina. Angela had been taken advantage of (like many others) by contractors to make repairs to the air conditioning system. Unfortunately, ten years later the ceiling in her dining area had

fallen in. She had pans sitting all over the floor catching water leaking from the system in the attic. We were fully equipped to replace the ceiling, but we could not repair the air conditioning

system, and if that was not done first, the ceiling would once again fall in. We gave Angela the bad news and left there with heavy hearts. When we returned to Camp restore that evening we reflected on what we might do to help her, decided to pray about it and see if we found any answers.

The next morning our prayers were answered. Angela found someone to repair the AC for a fairly nominal fee. Camp Restore, paid



to have it done that day, and shortly after that we were tearing down what was left of her dining ceiling. By Friday she had AC that worked and did not leak, and a new insulated ceiling that

was textured and painted.

We also were able to clean out a portion of her yard that housed a much loved green house. She had not been able to even get to that area of the backyard for 10 years, because of foliage and Katrina debris. She said to us, "God sent me seven Angels this week to complete what I couldn't do in 10 years."

We also took on concrete removal and re-pouring of a concrete slab in front of a small grocery store in Lower Ninth Ward. This job could not have been completed without the help of Rico and JD; this is where the "strong" comes in! It was torn out on Monday, graded by

hand and formed. Tuesday morning concrete was poured and finished by noon. This will eventually be the site of a small laundromat. Ellen DeGeneres donated three commercial washers and dryers to the owner to put in a laundromat. Citizens of the lower Ninth have had to take their laundry and change buses three times to get to the nearest laundromat.

A few of us also were able to take a few hours and visit the Senior Citizens Center. Oh my goodness, I have never felt the Holy Spirit as I did that day during their devotional time. Their strong faith and trust in God are what kept them going for the 10 years since Katrina. We left there receiving much more that we could ever give.

Every moment of this trip was alive with the Presence of God. He opened doors that we were unable to open alone. God's Spirit directed our every step and enabled us to be his hands and feet.

Hopefully, we will have opportunity to complete another Adult Mission Trip in 2016!!





The Compass MUMC News and Happenings

WHAT MURPHYSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MEANS TO ME:

To tell you that, I have to tell you how I got introduced to this church. About 20 years ago, I met Trina. We knew each other previously from having boys in the Murphysboro Zips, but now we had both gone through a divorce and I am pretty sure that God brought us together. Trina was already a part of MUMC and after our relationship got a little bit more serious, she invited me to come to church.

I was raised in a Baptist church, was a member of a Lutheran church, and was not too keen on the idea of going back to church. I was nervous, but the minute I sat down (in the same pew we use today) I felt welcome. For a few years, I believe that is exactly what I did. I showed up for Church, sat in the same pew and went home after Sunday School. I was not really involved in anything.

I loved this church, but I felt I was just not getting what I was supposed to be getting. Something was missing.

Now a few years later, I am Finance Chair, on the Board of Trustees and have attended studies and many other great programs offered.

But what I really enjoy is service. That makes me feel like I am really a part of the church. What a treat it is cooking hot dogs for hundreds of kids at Truck or Treat, helping in the kitchen for Vacation Bible School and seeing all of those smiling faces after eating Apple Pancakes. I love working with projects that promote reading, or help people feed their dogs and cats. And what a fun project the elevator was! After all those years of helping people in and out of the Chair Lift, I am glad those days are over.

You might not see me leading a class or speaking in front of the congregation, but I am one of the many people who serve God and our church in an unseen way. I really feel that I get way more out of my service than I give.

This is the time of year when we look at the upcoming budget and say "wow, where are we going to get that kind of money". Many times we have approved something in Finance meetings and say we will just have to approve this on "faith." I am amazed at the many times this congregation comes through. Keep up the good work and if you are not involved in something besides sitting in your own pew, get involved in something. The Church has unlimited opportunities that will help you grow in your walk of faith. God Bless all of you. Bob Eaton

Velcome

The Nursery Committee is pleased to welcome and introduce Megan Gale and Caitlyn Boyd as our Nursery Attendants. We invite you to stop by the nursery and greet them if you haven't already done so.

Megan loves living in a town where traditions and family are important. She was born and raised in Southern Illinois. Growing up she had always loved the idea of working with children and being a teacher. In her playroom growing up she had a "teacher's desk" and a "students' table" and she would play school all the time with her friends.

Megan is currently employed at Montessori School of Southern Illinois and has been employed there for three years. She is in her third year of college. Megan is working on receiving her early childhood degree. Megan loves being a new member of Murphysboro United Methodist Church's family and their traditions!





Caitlyn currently lives in Marion while finishing her student

teaching, and plans to graduate in December with a bachelors in music open studies and elementary education. She has volunteered at her church nursery since she was young and worked at Grace in Carbondale for 2 summers.

While in college, Caitlyn was a member of the SIU wind ensemble for 4.5 years, the Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra (for 1 year in high school and 4 in college), and many chamber ensembles. She is also a member of Sigma Alpha lota, a women's music fraternity, where she served as the corresponding secretary and Vice President of membership & ritual, and participated on many committees.

The Compass

WORSHIP, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Page 8

ov		PRAISE						
ov		TRADITIONAL PRAISE			Sunday Stewards			
	<u>Worsh</u> <u>mumcminist</u>	i <u>p Leaders</u> :ries@gmail.com		Gene Schweb	el, Troy I	Brown a	and Everett Blackwell	
	Rick Runge	Kristi Miller	1	A / P	VX	Ì	by HOAN	
0V	Welcom	e Hostesses						
1	Sharon Graff and Pam Crews							
8	Kay Bozarth & Kathy Bratton				No	ovemb	ber	
L5	Kay Bozarth & Kathy Bratton		2	Kathy Black	woll	15	Cindy Johnson	
	Marcia Butler & Barb Hughes			_		15		
	Marcia Butler & Barb Hughes			Cole Fletche	er		Brant Wingerter	
ov		reeters		Julian Vallia	nt	16	Cecla Crawshaw	
1	Vern & Ken Cline	Don Abbadusky	-	Josh Baugh	man		Sharon Graff	
8	Vern & Ken Cline	Don Abbadusky			-		Arlene Bitner	
L5	Irma Bigham & Betty Morefield	Don Abbadusky	4	Kay Lirely				
22	Irma Bigham & Betty Morefield	Don Abbadusky		Caroline Peo			Landrie Green	
29	Pam Crews & Mimi Rice	Don Abbadusky		Clifford Swa	fford	18	Katie Schwebel Stewar	
ov	Ac	colytes		Lucas Bigham			Greg Schuh	
1	Wesley Graham & Maggie Jenkins	Ben Barringer & Alex Baughman	Ethan Finke			22	Pam Graham	
8	Megan McNitt & Caroline Guthman		5 Robert Frank				Pat Porter	
L5	Tiara Bradford &		6 Dezmond Ottinger			25	Earl Renshaw	
	Conner Twenhafel Ethan Finke &		8 Jude Siulua				James Nimmo	
22	Drake Rogus		10 Arthur Porter			26	Tabitha Lirely	
29	Ben Barringer & Ali Bradford		11	Robert Willia	ams		Russell Schirmer	
ov		quest Readers		Liam Guthm	nan		Katherine Twenhafel	
1	Gene Schwebel	Kristi Miller				20		
8 L5	Gaye Auxier Lou Anne Lough	Kristi Miller Kristi Miller	12	Dave Auxier		29	Beverly Jarrett	
22	Stephanie Finke	Kristi Miller	-	Julie Erbes		30	Jerry Giffin	
29	Nancy Fager	Kristi Miller		Bill Quigley			Ben Barringer	
ov	• •	Church Leaders	13	Jonas Schal	demose			
1	Tonya Walker	Patty Thrailkill & Theresa Mills					1.1.1	
8	Jennifer O'Donnell	Katie Stewart & Katrina Carnes	נ	If your		De	Best Wishes your Anniversary	
L5	Lacey Brown & Rene' Doody	Ben & Jennie Snyder		níversary	ON	you		
22	Diane Schingel	Rick & Scarlett Pierson	or bírthday			•	0	
29	Diane Schingel	Patty Thrailkill & Theresa Mills			1	Teresa & Larry Gilbert		
ov	Liturgists	Music Leaders	does not		4	Terri 8	& Roger Twenhafel	
1	Vern Cline	Lacey Brown	appear in the		15	Susan	& Harry Wirth	
8	Bill Slider	Brian Vincent			17	Arlong		
L5	Mason Schingel	Dennis Goforth	Compass,		1/	Arlene & Paul Bitner		
22	Emily Fnke	Angie Baughman	please contact the			Kristi & Jerry Miller 18 Barbara & Hal Zimmerma		
29	Mary Jane Williams	Lacey Brown			18			
Ushers Todd Doody, Kyle Hargraves, Jennifer Watson, Lowell Heller, John Erbes and Shannon Green Paul Chapman and Allen Bigham					21	م النا	k Jim Peterson	
				rch Offíce at				
			1	аі 87-2317.	25	Adrien	ine & Wes Will	

Murphysboro United Methodist Church 1500 Pine Street Murphysboro, IL 62966

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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

Ministers The Congregation
Pastor Larry A. Gilbert
Discipleship Coordinator ······ Teresa Gilbert
Interim Minister of Visitation ······ Michelle Parker-Clark
Financial Secretary Christine Nolan
Church Secretary Deb Severa

SPECIAL NOVEMBER SERVICES

Sunday, November 1	All Saints Sunday
Sunday, November 8	Stewardship Sunday
Sunday, November 15	Consecration Sunday



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

Ministry Support Assistant	Lacey Brown
Custodian	Pat Sullivan
Pianist/Organist	Jenny Choo
Choir Director	Joseph Ryker
Nursery Attendant	Caitlyn Boyd
Nursery Attendant	Megan Gale

SPECIAL NOVEMBER SERVICES

Sunday, November 22	Thanksgiving Sunday
Sunday, November 29	First Sunday of Advent