

Welcome to the
**MURPHYSBORO UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**



See You on the Trail!

**December 13, 2015
Third Sunday of Advent
Advent—Blue**

1500 Pine Street, Murphysboro IL 62966
Phone: (618) 687-2317 Fax: (618) 687-2604
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Pastor Gilbert's cell phone: (618) 201-2658

Pastor & Teresa Gilbert's mailing address: 2575 Edgewood Lane, Carbondale, IL 62901

Email: murphysboroumc@frontier.com

Website: <http://www.murphysboroumc.com>

"The mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

New to Murphysboro UMC?

We want to help you get connected!

Welcome Center:

Come visit the Welcome Center following the service today. The Welcome Center is located just outside the north sanctuary doors. We have a "sweet" gift for you and we would love to meet you!

Newcomers Reception:

Approximately once per quarter we will host a Newcomers Reception, at which Pastor Larry will be present to meet and share information with the newcomers. At that same event, we will offer a church tour and brief orientation to the ministries of our church.



ATTENTION PARENTS:

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service. If you prefer, a nursery for children (suggested ages infant through three years old) is available during both the worship and Sunday School hours.

THE NURSERY is located in Room 201, just outside the north sanctuary doors. Children who desire, ages 3 through grade 3 (suggested), will be dismissed for CHILDREN'S CHURCH in Room 205, prior to the pastor's message. Also see our "Helping Children Experience Worship" cards in front of the pew Bibles.

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service

Call to Worship

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
P: And also with you.

Congregational Chorus: "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" Hymnal #204

The Greeting

Sharing of Parish Opportunities and Attendance Ritual

Please fill out the prayer request cards, if needed, located in the pew Bibles, and hand them to the ushers after the Time of Christian Fellowship and Greeting.

Handbell Choir: "People of Joy" arr by Valerie Stephenson

Please begin a quiet time of centering for worship when music begins.

Light of Christ Enters

++Hymn of Praise: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" Hymnal #224

++Invocation

Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world. Grant that, being born in our hearts, he may save us from all our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator, to whom be everlasting praise and glory, world without end. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Katrina, Brianna and Lance Carnes

Congregation Response:

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

++Time of Christian Fellowship and Greeting

Collection of Prayer Cards by Ushers

Chancel Choir: "Hymn of Angels" by Thomas Grassi

Children's Moments

*As the children come down, please pass the red **Money for Missions** buckets in the pews. The noisy mission offering in December will go to **Community Christmas Dinner**.*

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "Pastoral Symphony" by F. Handel, arr by P. Gouin

++Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal #95

Hymn: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (vs 1,3,4) Hymnal #230

Offering of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer of Intercession and Blessing

The Lord's Prayer Hymnal #895

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Children's Church Procession to Room 205

Scripture: Matthew 2:16-18

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

P: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon: "Christmas to Me Is ... Me" Pastor Larry A. Gilbert

++Commitment Hymn: "In the Bleak Midwinter" (vs. 1,3,4) Hymnal #221

Taking the Light of Christ into the World

Benediction

++Postlude: "#2 from Romanian Christmas Carols" by Béla Bartók

++Congregation is invited to stand as you are able

11:15 a.m. Praise Service

Opening Singing

Greeting Each Other

Welcome and Announcements

Giving Our Offerings

Children's Time

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Debbie and Paul Chapman

Songs of Worship

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:16-18

Sermon: "Christmas to Me Is ... Me"

Pastor Larry A. Gilbert

Closing Song

Sending Forth

TODAY'S WORSHIP	TRADITIONAL SERVICE	PRAISE SERVICE
Liturgist	Willa Addison	
Organist/Pianist	Jenny Choo	
Worship Leader	Mike Dreith mumcministries@gmail.com	Angie Baughman/Emily Finke mumcministries@gmail.com
Music Leader	Joseph Ryker	Dennis Goforth
Prayer Request Reader	Gaye Auxier	Angie Baughman/Emily Finke
Acolytes	Wesley Graham and Maggie Jenkins	
Welcome Hostesses	Nancy Tillett and Thelma Pierson	
Ushers	Rick Runge, Kyle Quigley, Jim Hughes, Bob Eaton, Trina Eaton and Jay Graff	Matt Baughman and Don Abbadusky
Children's Church Volunteers	Jennifer O'Donnell	Jennie and Ben Snyder
Nursery Attendant	Caitlyn Boyd	Megan Gale
The Memory Book is open to the page honoring: Mrs. Bessie Wayman		



Remember to place your order for Christmas poinsettias **by TOMORROW, December 14th** to honor and/or memorialize your friends and loved ones!

Stewardship and Attendance for December 6, 2015
Traditional Service: 201; Praise Service: 67; Sunday School: 144
Offering: \$10,678.00

HAPPENING TODAY



RICE CHRISTMAS NATIVITY OPEN HOUSE THIS AFTERNOON, 1-4 P.M.

at 501 Pump House Rd.,
Murphysboro

Cookies and punch will be served.

Over 400 nativities will be on display. The garage display continues nightly, December 14th through December 31st, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

The *March to the Manger* Live Nativity will be held in both worship services

NEXT SUNDAY

This act of worship will give us the opportunity to focus on the story of Christ's birth and to share our gift for the Christmas offering.



DECEMBER 20th—Both Services

Christmas Eve

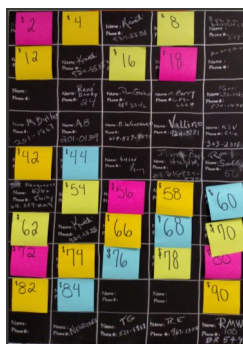
Our Christmas Eve services will include the lighting of the Advent wreath, the reading of the Christmas story, the celebration of Holy Communion and the passing of the Light of Christ throughout the congregation.



5:00 p.m. Service—Featuring the music of the MUMC Praise Team
7:00 p.m. Service—Featuring the music of the MUMC Handbell Choir

BELIZE STICKY BOARD OPPORTUNITIES AWAIT YOU!

Please consider supporting the senior high youth group's first international mission trip to Belize by visiting the Belize Sticky Board located at the second floor youth bulletin board. Choose a sticky note with the amount you would like to donate, write a check to MUMC and give the check to Stephanie Finke, Laurie Nehring or submit to the church office.



Celebration Sunday 2015



December 27th—Both Services

It's Time to Celebrate!

- * Video highlights of MUMC ministry 2015
- * Burning of mortgage from Phase II construction (\$837,000)
- * Special presentation by youth



Don't miss our Children's Christmas Program, "Is It Really Christmas?"

Next Sunday

during Sunday School. Congregation invited to attend.



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE JANUARY COMPASS IS: Monday, December 21st

During the Sundays in January, Pastor Larry will revisit the concept of our spiritual journey being like a walk on a trail. Where are you on the trail? Is it time to move further along? Come and hear God's calling on your life to draw closer to Him.

- Sun., Jan. 3 - Covenant Sunday (with Holy Communion)
- Sun., Jan. 10 - Our Prayers
- Sun., Jan. 17 - Our Presence
- Sun., Jan. 24 - Our Gifts
- Sun., Jan. 31 - Our Service (with Holy Communion)



The purpose of the Carbondale Interfaith Council is to make God's love visible in our community by fostering interfaith cooperation, sharing religious experiences, engaging in service, discovering unity while respecting our differences, and speaking with courage and strength for justice. The Council began coordinating the *Spirit of Christmas* project in 1972. Our church's annual participation in the project once again has provided Christmas gifts to 75 of over 1000 less-fortunate members of our community. Thank you for sharing in the *Spirit of Christmas!*

~MUMC Service and Missions Team

Prayer List

Earl & Sandra Renshaw
Julie & Jim Peterson

Sandy Lanzi
Katherine Twenhafel

Prince Alexander

- ~ If you would like to place or remove someone on the prayer list, please call the church office at 687-2317 or send an email to murphysboroumc@frontier.com
- ~ Names will be published in the bulletin for 4 weeks. Please contact the office if you want a name to run longer.
- ~ Copies of the long-term and ongoing prayer list are on the bulletin table for those who wish a copy for their prayer time at home.

Prayer Emphasis for December is Community Christmas Dinner. Please include this emphasis in your daily prayers.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF MURPHYSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH?

Please mark the attendance pad if you'd like to be contacted, and include your phone number.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Opportunities available for shifts on December 23rd, 24th, and 25th! Jennifer O'Donnell is our contact for this project (contact info below). Please indicate your interest in volunteering by checking the Community 'Christmas Dinner Volunteer' box on the Registration and Attendance Sheet.



DESSERTS ARE NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

No dairy, please. Deliver to the KC Hall on December 23rd or 24th. Jennifer O'Donnell is our contact for this project. Please indicate your interest in donating a dessert by checking the 'Christmas Dinner Dessert' box on the Registration and Attendance Sheet.



JENNIFER O'DONNELL, 534-3822 or jennylee.odonnell@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

TODAY
Dec. 27

*Youth Christmas Party
No meeting.

- *CYF: Children's Youth Fellowship (3rd - 5th grade)
- *JYF: Junior Youth Fellowship (6th - 8th grade)
- *SYF: Senior High Youth Fellowship (9th - 12th grade)

*Youth meetings are the 2nd and 4th Sundays every month.