

Welcome to the  
**MURPHYSBORO UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**



*See You on the Trail!*

**December 20, 2015**  
**Fourth 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](mailto: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.*

**Prelude:** "Dona nobis pacem" Traditional

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

**Light of Christ Enters**

**++Hymn of Praise:** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" (vs 1,2,3) Hymnal #220

**++Invocation**

**O almighty God, by the birth of your holy child Jesus you gave us a great light to dawn on our darkness. Grant that in his light we may see light. Bestow upon us that most excellent Christmas gift of love to all people, so that the likeness of your Son may be formed in us, and that we may have the ever brightening hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath:** Terrin, Michelle, and Mila Thies

**Congregation Response:**

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

**++Time of Christian Fellowship and Greeting**

**Collection of Prayer Cards by Ushers**

**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**.*

**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:** Isaiah 9:6-7, John 3:16-17, and I John 4:7-9

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

P: **Thanks be to God**

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

Pastor Larry A. Gilbert

**March to the Manger Presentation**

**March to the Manger Offering**

**Hymn:** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Hymnal #234

Hymnal #234

*Our March to the Manger will include both your Christmas offering and your standard offering.*

**Taking the Light of Christ into the World**

**Benediction**

**++Postlude:** "Hallelujah Chorus" from "Messiah" by Handel

**++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:** Ben, Jennie, Greta, Everett and Lincoln Snyder

**Songs of Worship**

**Scripture Reading:** Isaiah 9:6-7, John 3:16-17, and I John 4:7-9

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

**March to the Manger**

**Sending Forth**

TODAY'S WORSHIP	TRADITIONAL SERVICE	PRAISE SERVICE
Liturgist	Jon Lough	
Organist/Pianist	Jenny Choo	
Worship Leader	Mike Dreith mumcministries@gmail.com	Angie Baughman/Emily Finke mumcministries@gmail.com
Music Leader	Joseph Ryker	Lacey Brown
Prayer Request Reader	Lou Ann Lough	Angie Baughman/Emily Finke
Acolytes	Conner Twenhafel and Maggie Jenkins	
Welcome Hostesses	Patti Shields and Carolyn Sauer	
Ushers	Rick Runge, Kyle Quigley, Jim Hughes, Bob Eaton, Trina Eaton and Jay Graff	Matt Baughman and Don Abbadusky
Children's Church Volunteers	Lacey Brown and Rene' Doody	Scarlett and Rick Pierson
Nursery Attendant	Caitlyn Boyd	Megan Gale
<b>The Memory Book is open to the page honoring: Mr. &amp; Mrs. A. I. Welshans</b>		

Stewardship and Attendance for December 13, 2015  
Traditional Service: 216; Praise Service: 52; Sunday School: 139  
Offering: \$8,440.50

**Be Sure to Visit the Rice Nativity Garage Display!**  
The display continues nightly through December 31st, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
501 Pump House Road, Murphysboro

# Christmas Eve

Our Christmas Eve services THIS COMING THURSDAY will include lighting of the Advent wreath, reading of the Christmas story, celebration of Holy Communion and 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



## CELEBRATION SUNDAY!

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

December 27th—Both Services



Our Neighbor's Table Team cordially invites YOU to their monthly fellowship meal

## NEXT SUNDAY

at noon in Rm 104

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.

## A COVENANT TO KEEP

January Sermon Series

- 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)

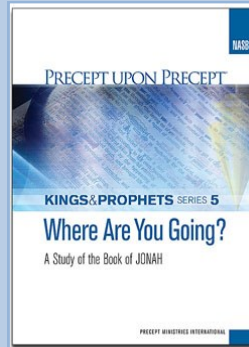


DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE JANUARY COMPASS IS:  
TOMORROW— December 21st

## POWERHOUSE: THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Room 204 at 10:10 a.m.

This new Faithful Friends Sunday School study will feature Francis Chan sermons that speak to the nature and work of the Holy Spirit—how He convicts, leads and empowers our lives. Women of all ages welcome to attend this month-of-January series. Facilitated by Nancy Vallino.



### Where Are You Going?

A Precept Study of the book of Jonah  
Sundays, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
January 10, 17 and 24  
Angie Baughman, leader

Have you ever tried to run away from God? Can a mere man hide from the presence of an all-knowing, all-powerful God? God used a reluctant prophet to tell an evil city of his compassion for them. Those individuals who

desire to learn a more significant way to study the Bible will not want to miss this series! Books cost \$4.50, and child care will be provided. Please express your interest in participating in this study by checking the 'Where Are You Going?' box on the Registration and Attendance sheet. Deadline for signing up is January 3rd.

## SAVE THE DATE

Palette Party and Luncheon  
Hosted by Belize Planning Committee  
Sat., Jan. 23rd, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



### POSITION OPENINGS Murphysboro United Methodist Church

- Children/Youth Ministry Coordinator**—10 hours per week  
Responsibilities: Coordinate and assist with discipleship ministries for children and youth of all ages.
- Technology Coordinator**—8 hours per week  
Responsibilities: Coordinate and provide assistance and support in the areas of technology ministries for worship services, small group activities and special events.

\*\*\*\*\*

For complete position descriptions and qualifications, visit [www.murphysboroumc.com](http://www.murphysboroumc.com) or call the church office at 618-687-2317. To apply, send a resume to Staff Parish Relations Committee, 1500 Pine Street, Murphysboro, IL 62966.

### Prayer List

Earl & Sandra Renshaw Prince Alexander  
Jim Peterson Katherine Twenhafel

- ~ 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](mailto: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.

### 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](mailto:jennylee.odonnell@gmail.com)

### Sunday School Teachers Needed!



Mark your interest on the attendance pad to receive more information.

**OPENINGS  
AVAILABLE IN TWO  
CLASSROOMS: 2ND  
& 3RD GRADE, AND  
SENIOR HIGH.**

Please consider becoming a part of this vital ministry.

### BELIZE T-SHIRT SALE

The opportunity to purchase a Belize mission trip t-shirt has been extended through December 27th. If you would like a shirt, please sign your name on the t-shirt list on the youth bulletin board.



### YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

**Dec. 27**

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.