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Family First!

Church we are surrounded by FAMILY. We have our immediate families and kin; we enjoy and engage our Christian family and we are privileged as members of the human family. We are surrounded by family! I suspect God’s heart is similarly formed; seeing family all around, even a family that has lost its way. So, what do we learn from God about family? Its not enough to see family all around you. Its not enough to know the problems and challenges they face. Its only sufficient to call people family when you are willing to send them your best!

John 3:16-17

¹⁶ For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world should be saved through him.

So, during this Advent season let’s not wait in anticipation of a coming Jesus who has already come; that makes no sense, right? Instead let us send forth His love in anticipation that He may be birthed in the hearts of FAMILY... We are approved by God to take this Gospel to the world. We must, if we claim to be Christ-Followers, tell his story with words of kindness, smiles, hugs, sharing of scripture, and witnessing to God’s deliverance power.

How long must we do this thing, Pastor? Well Jesus was nailed to a cross and preparing to die. But He did not forget family. The thief that hung near Jesus became family in a new way and now reigns in paradise with Christ. The Roman Centurions and Jews who crucified Him found forgiveness at Christ’s bequest. And finally, He cared for His immediate family, ensuring that His mother was taken care of by the disciple. Yes, its family first for the rest of our lives, family first!

Christmas 2021 Advent Readers

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Sunday, November 28th | Peace | The Guthman Family |
| Sunday, December 5th | Hope | The Voss Family |
| Sunday, December 12th | Joy | The Watson Family |
| Sunday, December 19th | Trust | The McNitt Family |
| Friday, December 24th | Love | The Vallinos |



WEEKLY BULLETIN DEADLINE
 is Wednesday
 at
 10:00 a.m.

*Unto Us
 a Child is Born*



H
OPE
PRESCRIPTIONS
OF
ADVENT
PEACE
TRUST
JOY LOVE

Advent
Sermon Series

Peace Isn't Necessarily Found
In Peaceful Situations

Hope Is A Guiding Star That
Will Not Be Extinguished

Joy Proceeds Out Of Hope
And Obedience

Trust God And He Will Call
You Out

Love Is All Around The
Believer

MUMC CHOIR & CONGREGATION
will be singing Christmas Carols at
the Community Christmas Tree Lighting on
Dec., 3rd from 6:35 - 7:10

we will meet at the Church at 5:00 pm
for practice and to go to the event together.

Let's show our Community how beautiful we sound.

The more the merrier!

See your Bulletin for more information.



*Silent
Night*

Poinsettias

*\$15.00 each orders due to
office by December 13th.*

*Order forms can be
found in your December
Compass, weekly
bulletins & your weekly
bulletin email.*



O COME,
ALL YE
Faithful
JOYFUL
AND
TRIUMPHANT

**CHRISTMAS
OFFERING
2021**

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
NO. _____ AMOUNT \$ _____

**Children & Youth
Camp Opportunities**

Oh Come All Ye
FAITHFUL

the first
Noel

Christmas Eve
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Blue Christmas
The Longest Night!

Honor your
loss....embrace
God's hope

For those of us experiencing
loneliness, sadness and loss, the
Christmas season can be a
difficult-you can feel singled out by
the programmed happiness of "the
most wonderful time of the year."
But you are not alone. Many people
experience at least some sadness
and loss in this season. All of us have
experienced loss. Please join us in a
simple worship of songs, readings
and a reflection of God's hope for us
and presence with us in feeling what
we feel. All are welcome!

A worship service of remembrance and hope
Tuesday, December 21st at 6:00 pm

December 24th
at 5:00 pm



Joy to the world



1	6:00 PM	Dream Casting—Youth	14	6:00 PM	BOT
	6:00 PM	Choir		7:00 PM	Finance
2	5:30 PM	Pound	15	11:00 PM	Staff
	6:00 PM	Scouts of the Round Table		6:00 PM	Choir
	6:00 PM	G&L Training	16	5:30 PM	Pound
	7:00 PM	GA		6:00 PM	GA
3	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie	17	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie
	5:00 PM	Choir/Congregation—Christmas Tree Lighting Caroling Event	18	10:00 AM	AA
4	10:00 AM	AA	19		4th Sunday of Advent
5		2nd Sunday of Advent	20		Meals On Wheels Week
6	9:00 AM	Prayers & Squares		9:30 AM	Prayers & Squares
	6:00 PM	Thank You Dinner	21	6:00 PM	Cub Scouts
7	6:00 PM	Cub Scouts		6:00 PM	Blue Christmas Service
8	9:00 AM	Nurture & Care	22	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting
	11:00 AM	Staff Meeting		6:00 PM	Choir
	6:00 PM	Choir	23	6:00 PM	GA
9	5:30 PM	Pound	24	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
	6:00 PM	GA	25		Merry Christmas Day
10	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie	26		
11	7:30 AM	UMM Men's Breakfast	27		
	10:00 AM	AA	28		
12		3rd Sunday of Advent	29	6:00 PM	Choir
13	10:00 AM	Bible Journaling	30	7:00 PM	GA
	6:00 PM	SPRC	31	9:00 AM	Stretching w/Rosie
14	8:30 AM	Young at Heart			
	6:00 PM	Cubs			



Saturday,
December
11th at 7:30 AM.



Reminder the there is no January Compass. Calendars will be available at the back of the Sanctuary and on-line.



"Advent is about God - and Jesus - coming to meet us in the low places of our lives, when we are our most vulnerable. Description: Let's be honest about Advent: American culture forces many of us to put on a happy face, to pretend we're merry when we're frustrated and stressed and exhausted by the expectations of others. We're also frustrated by what Advent has become - a celebration of consumerism - while it forgets the season's origins in a dark, cold stable with an empty manger. In this honest Advent devotional, best-selling progressive Christian author John Pavlovitz reminds us that God came to meet us in the low places of our lives - and that Jesus continues to come low this Advent season: when we live humbly, when we seek forgiveness, in our grief and suffering, when we act on behalf of someone else, when we pray. As we walk the road of Advent, Jesus reminds us the invitation is not to escape this world to an elevated Heaven somewhere else, but to bring Heaven down. "God with us" is Jesus, getting low. Each devotional includes a scripture and Advent reflection on Jesus meeting us on the ground, in the grit."

Join the Adult Sunday School Class during the month of December as we study and discuss the Advent devotional *Low*.

724 Ministries

Reaching Out Enriching Lives

Walker House Social

We invite anyone who would like to see our facility or learn more about our outreach programs to stop by for light refreshments on

Sunday, December 5, 2021 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

at 724 Walnut Street, Murphysboro, Illinois or call Ed O'Donnell at (618) 534-4971 to arrange a tour.



The Meal Train

What is Meal Train®? **Organized meal giving around significant life events.**

What this really means...When a friend is in need, everyone asks "What can I do to help?" The answer is always to provide support through a meal. When many friends provide support through a meal, Meal Train® keeps everyone organized.

If you have further questions about how Meal Train works, or you feel that you and your family could benefit from this kind of support, please contact Michelle Parker-Clark at the church office or at 618/922-3587.



The Fall/Winter Yard Sale was a huge success. Thanks to those who donated items to sell, those who worked to get the items ready to sell, and to those who shopped. On Saturday afternoon we allowed shoppers to take what they needed. We selected pictures and several boxes of clothing for a nursing and rehab center and our congregation prayed for the recipients of those items. The unsold items were taken to Renew in Marion; their mission is to give back to the community.

Our youth groups worked to get tables and boxes in place for the sale and assisted with packing boxes and loading the trailer after the sale. Their help was so appreciated.

There was a prayer room available during the sale and several concerns were lifted in prayer.

The mission of Warm Blankets = Warm Hearts was formed during the sale to benefit the Carbondale Warming Center. Donations of twin size type blankets will be delivered the end of November.

The funds from this sale (\$4,000 +) will be used for mission projects.

Blessings to all who made this sale successful.

Our Neighbor's Table

Future Dates:
October 31st
November 28th
& December 26th

FREE community meal
the last Sunday of every month starting at 12:00 noon in the Murphysboro United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Dinner is served with dessert and beverage.



Everyone welcome!





The Library Corner: Look, Listen, Enjoy

What do you need this Christmas? If it is to have your shopping and baking all done, the library unfortunately can't help with that! But if you just want to live this season more deeply—to look, listen, enjoy—the library has some items that may help.

You could start with a book by Max Lucado—a man who loves Christmas—every bit of it. But he loves it best when someone asks what he calls “the Christmas questions”, such as “What’s the big deal about the baby in the manger?” The short answer is in the title of his book: **Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born, Hope is Here.** In his easy, conversational style Lucado discusses in the book and accompanying DVD what he calls the “heart shaping promises of Christmas.” Other Advent studies include:

Mike Slaughter’s slim book **Christmas is Not Your Birthday** and accompanying DVD **A Different Kind of Christmas: Living and Giving Like Jesus.** Slaughter is the author of *The Christian Wallet*, the book that Pastor Marty used in his November sermon series.

The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem and **Not a Silent Night: Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem** by Adam Hamilton.

And others!

The library has Christmas fiction books and DVDs that can provide enjoyment and lift the heart. Here are two among a number of fiction books and DVDs:

Shepherds Abiding is a lovely Christmas tale by Jan Karon. Gain some joy and inspiration from Father Tim and other denizens of Mitford.

Jennifer Chiaverini has a tale of Christmas past, and Christmas present, in **Christmas Bells**, a novel inspired by the poem written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play

And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth good will to men
There are books and DVDs for kids as well. Among the DVDs try **The Fourth King**, who arrives late at the manger because of the delays caused by his penchant for helping others. And the **Veggie Tales** series include **Merry Larry and the True Light of Christmas** and a fun DVD of **Christmas Sing-Along Songs.** May you find something that helps you savor this glorious season!

Have you noticed? The library has a new display space near the water fountain in the upstairs hall—see the picture! Stop and have a look. Some of the books and DVDs mentioned here (plus more) will be there! Also, there will be children’s items on the table close to the Sunday School classrooms, plus other selections will be on display in the downstairs hall and in the library.



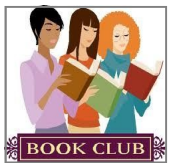
The Saturday Book

MUMC Club

Will not meet in December!

Saturday

Morning



You may have noticed, as we have, that December gets very busy! We are looking forward to January however, when things will have (supposedly) quieted down, and we can find time to concentrate on a book! Why don't you join us in the New Year? Or come any month the book we are reading appeals to you. We would be glad to see you any month of the year!



1	John & Patti Mills	17	James & Connie Boucher
25	Cloyd & Susan Karens		



1	Janis Crews	15	Cindy Presley
1	Cheryl Smith	17	Terri Yates
2	Charlie McNitt	19	Madison Jacobs
3	Kaitlyn Bitner	20	Mark Twenhafel
4	Rene Doody	21	Sylvia Carvell
4	Rosalie Winters	21	Carol Dreith
6	Jerry Crews	22	Todd Sievert
7	Kellie Ellis	24	Bob Hall
7	Mary Slider	24	Jon Lough
8	Phoebe Heller	24	Carrie Schwoerer
8	Elisabeth Stewart	25	Jesus Crist
8	Nancy Tillett	25	Virginia Bowers
11	Myrrl Burroughs	25	Travis Shands
12	Brandon Graeff	25	Samuel Sievert
12	Connor Graeff	25	Therrin Thies
12	Rosie Wece	27	George Dietz
13	Holly Fletcher	27	Lisa Huppert
13	Kathy Ripley	27	Aiden Jacobs
14	Gloria Barker	27	Nancy McNitt
14	Mike Clark	29	John Mills
14	John Vallino	30	Trina Eaton



\$1000

\$1000

ShareFaith

Donor Match Program

\$1000 \$1000 \$1000 \$1000 \$1000

That's right! MUMC can receive an extra gift of up to \$1,000 in matched donations for every NEW recurring gift our congregation establish on the ShareFaith Giving platform, through the end of the year. ShareFaith Giving will award all users receiving new recurring gifts through December 31, 2021 with up to \$1,000 in matched donations as a special gift to our Church.

[Can be set up by going to our website and clicking on Tithes & Offering!](#)

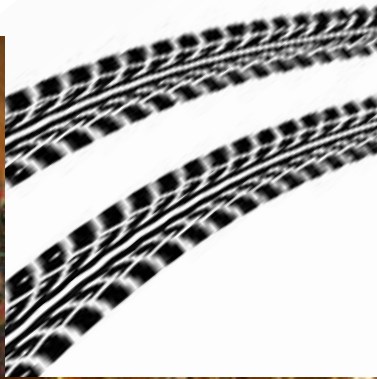


Stretching With Rosie each Friday 9:00 AM

Prayers & Squares Quilting

1st & 3rd Monday of each month
9:30 am in the fellowship Hall

Expert quilters and novice are all encouraged to come. We will make projects for family, friends, those in need in our local communities.



On November 9, we had a wonderful group of 19 YAH travelers that enjoyed a delicious meal at Patti's 1880's Settlement in Grand Rivers, KY. The restaurant and surrounding shops were already beautifully decorated for the holidays which just added to their charm. At the end of the day, everyone was full and happy as they took home some amazing desserts and a variety of Christmas gifts for family and friends.

On December 14, YAH on the Road will travel to Josephine's Tea Room & Gifts Shops located in Godfrey, Ill. The Tea Room features delicious sandwiches, salads, and desserts - remember to order your dessert first - and the shops offer a wide range of clothing, gift items, home decor, jewelry and accessories. Join us as we treat ourselves to a day at Josephine's - you won't regret it! Bus leaves at 8:30 am.





Did you know that Sunday School for all ages has returned! Not Sure where to go? See Diane Schingel outside the Children and Youth Area on each Sunday immediately following service. We are also looking for Sunday School Volunteers If you are interested call the Church Office or let Diane know.

We would love to have you all.

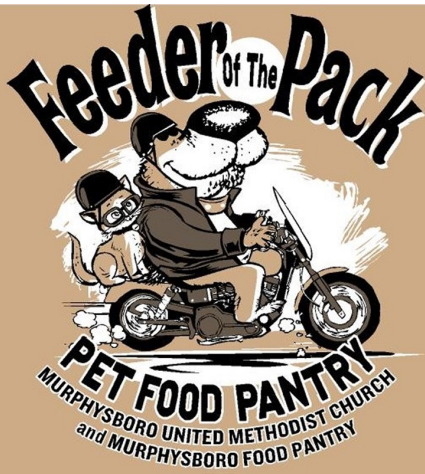


The MUMC Choir is Back



There is no age requirement nor a fee to join. Rehearsals are Wednesday nights from 6-7 pm. Contact Cameron Taylor at cambtay2012@gmail.com or 309-224-1676 for any questions

Mon., Dec 13th at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please let Rosie know if you will be attending to ensure there is adequate spacing available.



Meets the 2nd Friday of each month at the Murphysboro Food Pantry at 9:00 am



Richard and Mary Ellen Tierney, Ken and Vern Cline, Dick and Sharon Graff, Mike and Michelle Clark, and Richard Pierson enjoyed a delicious lunch and a great time of fellowship at Mary Jane Burgers and Brew in Perryville, MO. After lunch the group visited Missouri's National Veterans Memorial. Seeing the flags celebrating Veteran's Day waive in the breeze as they lined the walkway to the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall was a beautiful sight, and especially meaningful to those in our group that had served our country. We would strongly encourage everyone to make the short trip to Perryville, MO to see this monument to our nation's veterans.



Bathroom Update—Construction will start the first week of December. At this time our 4 main bathrooms in the Education Wing and the Bathroom in between room 205 & 203 (Sunday School rooms) are closed until the end of the repairs. During the Week the Handicap Bathroom

in the Fellowship Hall will be available for your use. On Sunday mornings, you will have access to the Bathroom in the Nursery, the Fellowship Hall, and in the Church Office (Annex/old Parsonage). We will have signage showing you the way to this facilities and we hope to have construction completed right after the first of the year.

28th Annual Murphysboro Community Christmas Dinner

The 28th Annual Community Christmas Dinner is looking for volunteers. The meal needs help setting up for the dinner in the days leading up to the dinner and on Christmas day.

- ◆ If you can help haul supplies to the KC Hall on Sunday, Dec 19th after church,
- ◆ If you can help set up and decorate the hall and organize gifts on the 22, 23 or 24 of December.
- ◆ Or if you are available for Deliveries or to help serve in the KC Hall on Christmas Day, please contact Jennifer O'Donnell by phone or text at 618-534-3822

To schedule Deliveries for Elderly and Shut-ins Contact Mary Ann Chambers-Hinchcliff at 618-303-4768



Volunteer Cliff Bucholtz was the potato maker for many years. (He only missed one year since the beginning of the dinner) A couple of years ago he trained his replacement, Scott Heller. I like to tease Scott that this is a lifetime assignment! LOL

Murphysboro Community Christmas Dinner needs Desserts

The 28th annual Christmas Dinner will be held again at the KC Hall at 606 Plum St. Non-dairy (nonrefrigerated) desserts are being requested. Brownies, Pies, Cakes, Cookies, or Bars are all acceptable. Please deliver to the KC Hall on December 23 or 24 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you plan on providing a dessert, please put your name on the sign-up sheet outside the north sanctuary doors at church or text Jennifer O'Donnell at (618) 534-3822. Thank you for supporting this community event!



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#).



In Loving Memory . . .

Since our last newsletter we celebrated the life of a single loved one:

Doreen Chambers

Doreen Chambers passed away on Sunday, November 14th. Doreen was the wife of Gene Chambers and the sister-in-law of Mary Ann Chambers-Hinchcliff.



Sign-Up Now!

In the Welcome Center or by calling the Church Office.

Jan., 7th, 8th & 9th, 2022



GET READY FOR OUR CHURCH

★PICTORIAL DIRECTORY★

Each family photographed will received a **free** 8x10 and a copy of our directory

Photographers will be here the weekend of January 7th, 8th, & 9th to take photos of all our Church members/families to be included in our Church Directory. Each member/family photographed will received a free 8x10, a copy of our directory, and the option to purchase additional photos if you desire.

We will have individuals in the Welcome Center each Sunday starting November 28—December 19th to help you sign up at

time for your photos to be taken. Or you may contact the church office to sign up.

Church Groups who want to be professionally photographed for the directory need to let the office know by Dec 15th so that a time can be set up on Sunday Jan 9th after service.

Christmas Poinsettia and Christmas Memorial

If you wish to order a Poinsettia for our church sanctuary, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office or mail it to the church. Orders must be received by noon on Monday, December 13. Please enclose payment with your order. Please make checks payable to MUMC.

The cost of each is \$15.00.

IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

FROM:

Enclosed is: _____.

- _____ Yes, I would like a poinsettia
- _____ I want to keep my poinsettia & will pick up Dec 24th after 5pm service, or Sunday, Dec 26th
- _____ No poinsettia, donation only

Blessing of the Animals 2021



MURPHYSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966**

OFFICE HOURS at MUMC

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@gmail.com
Website: www.crossandflameministries.com

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

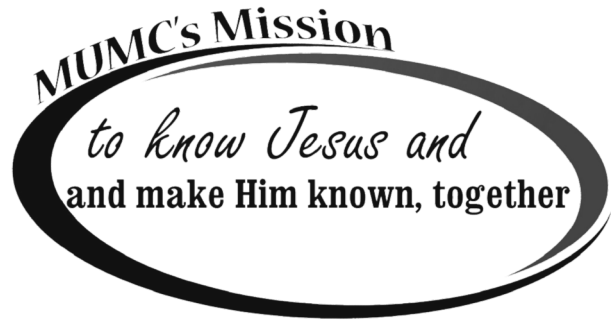
Sunday Service: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.



Staff

Ministers The Congregation
Pastor Marty McMichael
Interim Pastor of
Congregational Care..... Michelle Parker-Clark
Financial Secretary Christine Nolan
Custodian Pat Sullivan

Church Secretary..... Melba Ziegler
Pianist/Organist Cameron Taylor
Interim Music Director Cameron Taylor
Nursery Attendant..... Ashlee Sanders
Technology..... Vacant



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