



Saturday, Dec.
10th at 7:30 am.
UMM Breakfast.



Reminder there is no
January Compass.
Activity Calendars
will be
made
available the
first week of January.



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

Dear Church Family,

Music is not just a functional part of our services on Sunday mornings at MUMC, but historically something we see throughout the Bible as an available implement or response in the lives of believers throughout the week, wherever we go, and regardless of the circumstances.

In Acts 16, Paul and Silas are thrown into prison for healing the unclean spirit in a slave woman who had prior been profitable as a fortune teller. Her owners, angry at the loss of the money she was bringing in for them, had turned them over. At about midnight, they were praising God and singing hymns when the Lord sent a violent earthquake and loosened their bonds and swung open their cells. They witnessed to the jailer and later his family, bringing them to Christ. It's an example of how God is moved and drawn to us because of our worship, transcending the manifestations that we generally think are possible simply by exalting him. Praise is a liberator.

In 2 Chronicles 20, Jehoshaphat is given to a surprise attack from not just one army but several. Being surrounded by the Moabites, Ammonites, and some of the Meunites, he finds himself in a seemingly impossible predicament, fighting a battle he didn't choose but one that chose him. God gave him instruction that he would not have to fight this battle and to simply command his army to just position themselves and praise God. They sang and praised God before, during, and eventually after the altercation. The enemy armies were so surprised and confused by the counterintuitive response that they actually began to destroy each other. Jehoshaphat and his men crossed the finish line to praise and celebrate in Beracah Valley. The takeaway is that praise itself and self-standing can be a reasonable response to adversary or conflict. Praise is a weapon against the enemy.

These are only a few examples we find throughout the Word. Remembering that God created us to magnify and lift Him up and that this is a part of our purpose on Earth helps us to better understand the role that praise and worship can and should play out in our everyday lives. This goes beyond singing when we come together as a body on Sunday mornings but extends into the fabric of our lives. This is tough when life gets messy and in our brokenness and, at least for me, isn't always the first thing I tend to think about.

We know that music is an amazing gift from God to everyone of us, regardless if you're a seasoned musician or know relatively little about music. Worship allows us to breathe in the presence of God through the Holy Spirit and have a confirming or illuminating word spoken to us in song, but now we know it can be deeper than this. This is probably why the Bible says *"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."*

I'm excited about the great things God has in store at MUMC overall and certainly in our music department. Anyone and everyone is welcome to join us for **Chancel Choir and/or Bell Choir (Wednesdays at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:00 a.m., respectively)**. All that's required is interest and a desire to praise God. Just let us know of your interest or simply show up! If you have ideas for other worship settings and ways you can participate, these are welcome. We're looking now for additional seasonal participation and regardless of an ongoing commitment. Please consider joining us in performing for the **Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in Murphysboro on Friday evening, December 2 as well as for A Night For Rejoicing, our own Christmas Cantata right here at MUMC on Sunday evening, December 18th at 6:00 p.m. Cantata rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 in the Sanctuary. It should be a wonderful night.**

So...when you're at services at MUMC or wherever you find yourself, I hope you'll reflect on how pleased God is when we sincerely lift our voices or instruments and just give Him praise. Be reminded if you're going through the questions or struggles or uncertainty that none of us are immune to, you are already equipped. You can find healing and victory, not by power or might but through the incredible power of His Spirit.

Here's to the boundless hope we share in Jesus Christ!

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Keith Javors
Director of Music and Multimedia
Murphysboro United Methodist Church

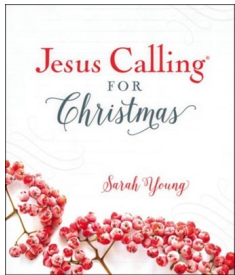
1	3:00 pm	Grief & Loss Support	10	7:30 am	UMM Breakfast	20	6:00 pm	SPRC
	4:00 pm	Grief & Loss Team		10:00 am	AA Meeting		6:00 pm	Cub Scouts
	6:00 pm	Scouts of the Round Table		10:00 am	Bell Choir		7:00 pm	Service & Missions
	7:00 pm	GA Meeting	11		3rd Sunday of Advent	21	6:00 PM	Blue Christmas
2	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie		5:00 pm	Youth Christmas Party		7:00 pm	NA Meeting
	6:50 pm	Choir @ Hometown Christmas	12	4:00 pm	Bible Journaling	22	7:00 pm	GA Meeting
3	8:00 am	YAH on the Road/St. Charles, MO	13	11:00 am	Staff Meeting	23		
	10:00 am	AA		6:00pm	BOT	24	10:00 am	AA Meeting
	10:00 am	Bell Choir		6:00 pm	Cub Scouts		5:30 pm	Christmas Eve Service
4		2nd Sunday of Advent		7:00 pm	Finance	25		Christmas Day
	5:00 pm	Youth Fellowship	14	6:00 pm	Choir		9:00 am	Christmas Morning Service
5	9:30 am	Prayers & Squares		7:00 pm	NA Meeting			Community Christmas Dinner
	6:00 pm	SS Team	15	3:00 pm	Grief & Loss	28	7:00 pm	NA Meeting
6	11:00 am	Staff meeting		7:00 pm	GA Meeting	29	7:00 pm	GA Meeting
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts	16	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie	31	10:00 am	AA Meeting
7	6:00 pm	Choir	17	10:00 am	AA Meeting	<p style="text-align: center;">Dec 26th—Dec 30th the church office is closed to visitors. In case of an emergency contact Pastors Marty or Michelle.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!</i></p>		
	7:00 pm	NA Meeting		10:00 am	Bell Choir			
8	9:00 am	Nurture & Care	18		4th Sunday of Advent			
	3:00 pm	Grief & Loss		Noon	Private Event			
	7:00 pm	GA Meeting		6:00 pm	Christmas Cantata			
9	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie	19		Meals on Wheels Week			
	9:30 am	Feeder of the Pack Food Pantry		9:30 am	Prayers & Squares			
	11:00 am	Blood Drive	20	11:00 am	Staff Meeting			





The Library Corner: Christmas Joys

When this newsletter reaches you, December will be upon us, and we will celebrate the wondrous miracle of Jesus' birth. Are you looking for a little more joy this Christmas and a little less hurrying and worrying? The very busy-ness of Christmas activities can make us lose focus what is important. Here are a few items from the church library that can help re-focus our minds and hearts on Jesus.



Jesus Calling for Christmas by Sarah Young. Young has written a series of beloved Jesus Calling books, which are written from the perspective of Jesus speaking directly to the reader. This book, written especially for Christmas, combines her

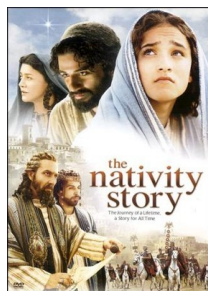
devotions with scripture passages and festive illustrations.

By mistake the library acquired two of these books! So, one of the books will be available for check-out, and there will be a drawing for the "extra" book. Stay tuned!

Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born, Hope is Here by Max Lucado. Lucado says "Rekindle your connection to the Christ of Christmas and find hope for a lifetime" and "Lay down your endless Christmas to-do list and receive what Jesus has already done." Sounds like good advice. Can we take it? The book includes an Advent devotional at the back and questions for reflection.

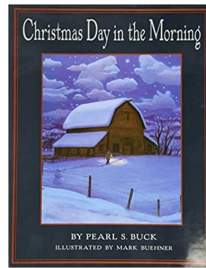
The Nativity Story: the Journey of a Lifetime, a Story for All Time.

(DVD) This is a story we all know—but it is new again when it can be seen and heard, not just read. A good family activity for the season.



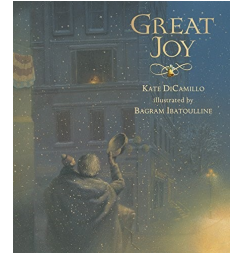
Joy certainly comes when reading to children! The library has a number of books related to Christmas for children of a range of ages. There are several books about Jesus' birth written for very young children, and for Berenstain Bears fans we have Christmas books,

including **The Christmas Angel** and **The Joy of Giving**.



Christmas Day in the Morning, by Pearl Buck. Set on a farm, this story has an old-fashioned feel, but a timeless message. A youngster with no money to buy a gift still finds a way to give a gift of love to his father.

Great Joy by Kate DiCamillo. It is a joy just to read this story of a young girl and her compassion for an organ grinder and his monkey.

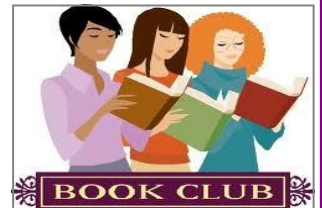


May you find Christmas joy this year, or may Christmas joy find you!

The Saturday Book Club Room 202

January 21, 10:00

(Note the date-- there is no Book Club meeting in December!)



The Lincoln Highway

By Amor Towles

The bestselling author of *A Gentleman in Moscow* and *Rules of Civility* and master of absorbing, sophisticated fiction returns with a stylish and propulsive novel set in 1950s America

In June, 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm where he has just served fifteen months for involuntary manslaughter. His mother long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett's intention is to pick up his eight-year-old brother, Billy, and head to California where they can start their lives anew. But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the trunk of the warden's car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett's future, one that will take them all on a fateful journey in the opposite direction—to the City of New York.

Spanning just ten days and told from multiple points of view, Towles's third novel will satisfy fans of his multi-layered literary styling while providing them an array of new and richly imagined settings, characters, and themes.



1	John & Pattie Mills	25	Floyd & Susan Karnes
---	---------------------	----	----------------------



1	Janis Crews	14	John Vallino
2	Charlie McNitt	15	Cindy Presley
3	Kaitlyn Bitner	17	Terri Yates
4	Rene Doody	20	Mark Twenhafel
4	Rosalie Winters	21	Carol Drieth
6	Jerry Crews	22	James Poole
7	Kellie Ellis	22	Todd Sievert
7	Mary Slider	24	Bob Hall
8	Phoebe Heller	24	Jon Lough
8	Elisabeth Stewart	24	Carrie Schwoerer
8	Nancy Tillitt	25	Travis Shands
11	Myrrl Burroughs	25	Samuel Sievert
12	Brandon Graeff	25	Terrin Thies
12	Connor Graeff	27	Lisa Huppert
12	Rosie Wece	27	Nancy McNitt
13	Holly Fletcher	29	John Mills
13	Kathy Ripley	30	Trina Eaton
14	Mike Clark		

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Will resume December 11th
Please see Melanie Harp to learn more
or signup on attendance pad!

THANK YOU

Thanks to All:

Thanks to every one that has sent cards and said a prayer for us. We enjoy the cards and appreciate all of them. Thanks to Erin Mileur for making them they are beautiful and she does fantastic good job.

Thanks to Jennifer and Ed O'Donnell for all the food, to Vern and Ken Cline for staying with Ralph when I have appointments also Everett and Kathy Blackwell for all they do for us. We couldn't make it with out them. Mike & Michelle for their visits and all they do.

Keep the prayers going we need them. May God bless all of our church family.

Ralph & Joan Bastien


New Time for
Bible Journaling Your Faith

Second Monday of each month
4:00 - 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

MURPHYSBORO
 Hometown Christmas
TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY
 Friday, December 2nd at 6:00pm
 CAPE LEE PARK, MURPHYSBORO, ILLINOIS

After the Hometown Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec., 2nd, our MUMC Chancel Choir will be singing at the corner of 19th & Pine Street from 6:50 - 7:15 pm. Stop by and show them our support, you can even join in if you like. Contact any choir member for more information.

During the month of December the Seekers Sunday School Class will be doing an Advent DVD Study - Adam Hamilton's Incarnation. His parents gave Him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and angels addressed Him by other names. They called Him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh. In this study, Hamilton explores the meaning of these titles and what they tell us about the child whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. Adults of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend this class for a time of discussion, fellowship, and prayer.



**Fri., Dec 9th
11 - 4pm**

Shake Up Your Holiday Tradition
Give Blood

Signup to give blood on-line or with Gene Schwebel before of after church each Sunday.

Volunteers Needed Day of Drive as Well as Snacks. Contact the Church Office or Gene to volunteer.



Stretching With Rosie each Friday 9:00 AM

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Jr. High & Sr. High meet the 1st & 3rd Sunday of every month in Fellowship Hall from 5-7 pm.

A meal is provided, invite your friends and come fellowship with us!


Our Neighbor's Table

FREE community meal the last Sunday of every month starting at 12:00 noon in the Murphysboro United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Volunteers Needed!

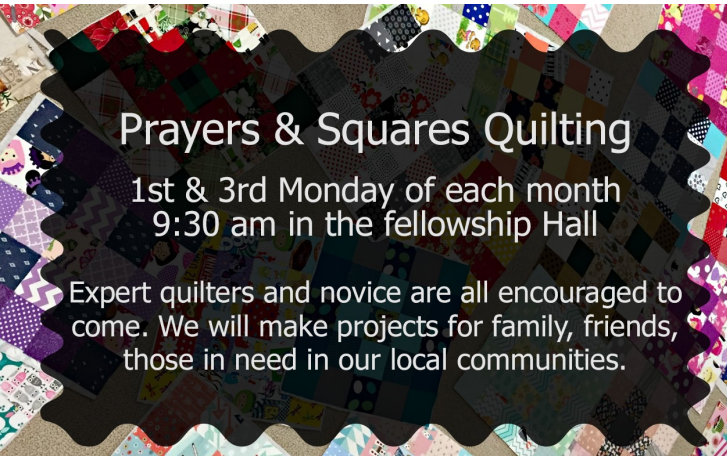


Signup on Attendance Pad or Contact Michelle Parker-Clark



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

Feeder of the Pack needs your help to stay alive. Costs of supplies have doubled. Please consider donating today.



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.

Advent Sermon



**Jesus' Coming Is Known
In Our Being**

Poinsettias

\$15.00 each orders due to office by December 12th.

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



**The Christmas Nativity
Annual Open House
Sunday, Dec 11th from 1-4 pm**



Cookies & Punch will be served

**Mimi Rice's Home
501 Pump House Rd
Murphysboro**

A Night for Rejoicing

Christmas CANTATA



Presented by the
Murphysboro United
Methodist Church
Chancel Choir

Sunday, Dec., 18th
6:00 pm

Light refreshments to follow.
1500 Pine Street, Murphysboro, IL

Just A Little Christmas



Presented by MUMC Sunday School Kids

Sunday, Dec., 18th During Service

Christmas Offering



Will be dedicated to
~Summer Youth Camp~

We will bring our offering forward Sunday, Dec 18th during the March to the Manger.

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 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
Wednesday, December 21st at 6:00 pm
Murphysboro United Methodist Church
1500 Pine Street**

Christmas Eve

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

**December 24th
at 5:30 pm**



THE 29TH ANNUAL MURPHYSBORO COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER NEEDS YOU

Please text or call Jennifer at 618-534-3822 if you are able to help

Desserts*– KC Hall Dec 24th by 4pm

Delivery* Driver (Dec 25th 10:30am)

Volunteer* Set-up (Dec. 23 or 24)

Volunteer* Server (December 25)

Volunteer* Christmas Day

Gift Coordinator-Children

Volunteer* Clean up (Dec 25th 2:30pm)

Kitchen Volunteer* Dec 24 or 25

Coordinate Deliveries (Now until Dec 25)

Gifts Coordinator-Adults

*These opportunities are at the KC Hall 606 Plum St. Murphysboro

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 12. 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 either Dec 24th after 5:30pm service, or Sunday, Dec 25th

No poinsettia, donation only but please list information noted above.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**Children's Church Update**


**Children's
CHURCH**

Will resume December 11th

Please see Melanie Harp to learn more

Children's Church begins December 11. In general, Children's Church will take place the second, third, and fourth Sundays of the month, but with the Christmas season, we are just doing an introduction to children's church on December 11 and will launch full scale in January.

The first Sunday of every month will be reserved for Children's Moment and Communion. When we have a fifth Sunday,

children will be taking charge of the whole service. That happens next in January.

On Children's Church Sundays, family style worship will continue. Children, third grade and younger, will be dismissed to go to Children's Church after the time of prayer and before the scripture reading and sermon.

Children's Church is a 35-40 minute time period. We will do music, a brief message, and memory verse that relates to, and paves the way for the Sunday School lesson to come.

We need volunteer assistants to help once every month or two. All you have to do is show up and have fun! Text or call Melanie to volunteer: 618-534-5524



YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

The youth Christmas party will take place Sunday evening, December 11 at 5 pm. Please send a gender neutral \$8-\$10 gift for exchange. If you need help providing that gift for your child or a friend that they want to invite, please contact Melanie.

6TH - 12TH GRADE YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, Dec 11th
5:00 pm
in Fellowship Hall

Join us for
Food, Games,
& Fellowship

**Bring a \$10 gift for
the Santa Game!**

Also, If you would like to extend a special invitation to someone who doesn't normally attend, this is a great opportunity to introduce new kids to the group. Contact Melanie: 618-534-5524.



YAH was on the Road again to Patti's 1880's Settlement on Wednesday, November 9. We had a wonderful group of 19 that traveled down to Grand River's, KY to enjoy the holiday decorations, a great meal, and, of course, shopping. For November, it was an exceptionally warm and sunny day, and I think you can see by the smiles that a good time was had by all!

YAH on the Road will be traveling to beautiful and historic St. Charles, MO on Saturday, December 3, 2022. We will depart the church parking lot at 8:00 am to begin a day filled with a Christmas festivities, characters in period costumes, shopping at a variety of unique and interesting stores and lunch at your choice of a number of fabulous restaurants. Please join us as we celebrate the holidays in style - St. Charles style that is!

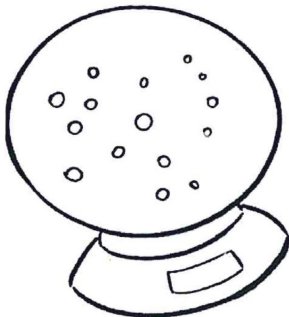
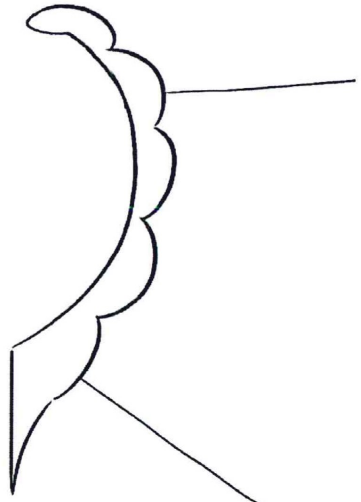
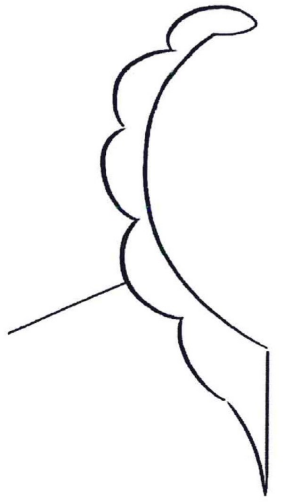


Memory Verse Coloring Contest for Kids of All Ages!

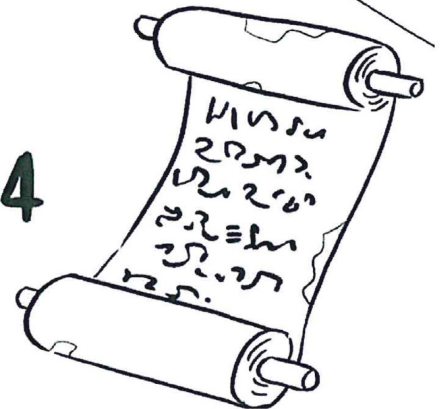
Attention parents and kids: Please find December's memory verse and have your child color it and turn it at Sunday school any Sunday in December to win a prize! Coloring pages will be posted in the upstairs hallway for all to see.



GLORY TO GOD
IN THE HIGHEST HEAVEN,
AND ON EARTH
PEACE
TO THOSE ON WHOM
HIS FAVOR RESTS.



LUKE 2:14



Congregational Meal Team

Wilma Westerfield Coordinator

Want to be a part of helping others with a meal in their time of need, or know someone in need contact Wilma at 618-534-1061

If you have ever been in the hospital due to an accident, injury, or surgery, you know how difficult it can be to manage your day to day responsibilities when you return home. As a church family our desire is to make your time of recovery and rehabilitation a little easier. Wilma Westerfield will be our Congregational Meal Coordinator for just such occasions. If you would like to be

part of Wilma's team who will prepare meals, or if you know someone who could benefit from this ministry, please contact Wilma via email at wmwcof@frontier.com or at 618/534-1061.




29th Annual MURPHYSBORO COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER
FELLOWSHIP

CHRISTMAS DAY
 December 25th
Doors Open: 11:30 am
Lunch: 12 pm - 2 pm
Knights of Columbus Hall
 606 Plum St.
 (East of St. Andrew's Church)

SANTA **GIFTS**
FOOD **MUSIC**


For Deliveries to the **ELDERLY & DISABLED IN MURPHYSBORO** TEXT OR CALL JENNIFER BEFORE DEC. 22ND
 A MINISTRY OF MURPHYSBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH & THE COMMUNITY OF MURPHYSBORO

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Dec. 23rd, 24th, & 25th
 Call Jennifer 534-3822 or Ed 534-4971



For unto us a child is born,
 HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED
Wonderful Counsellor,
THE MIGHTY GOD
 THE EVERLASTING FATHER,
The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6



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.
Phone: 618-687-2317 Fax: 618-687-2604
E-Mail: murphysboroumc@gmail.com
Website: www.crossandflameministries.com

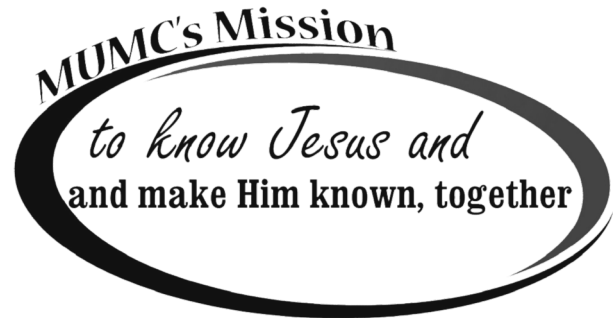


WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday Service: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.

Staff

Ministers The Congregation
Pastor Marty McMichael
Pastor of
Congregational Care..... Michelle Parker-Clark
Director of Children
& Family Ministries.....Melanie Harp
Financial Secretary Christine Nolan
Custodian Pat Sullivan
Church Secretary..... Melba Ziegler
Pianist/Organist Cameron Taylor
Music Director..... Keith Javors
Nursery Attendant..... Ashlee Sanders
Technology.....Keith Javors



Return Service Requested

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

**Cross and Flame Ministries
Desoto & Murphysboro
United Methodist Churches
1500 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL 62966**