



**Saturday,
December 9th at
7:30 am UMM
Breakfast.**



Reminder there is no
Jan Compass we will
have calendars available
in the
sanctuary
and online.



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

ADVENT

leading up to Christmas day we will celebrate 4 weeks of Advent this year. We will light four candles to define the nature of His coming and proclaim a vicarious birth of our Lord and Savior upon lighting the fifth and final candle. But what might it mean? Beyond what you were taught about its meaning, what might God be communicating to you this year? How might HOPE, PEACE, JOY AND LOVE become alive in your life and become real forces that positively affect the world around you.

Hope suggests much from a biblical perspective. If you hope for a Savior, you concede you require saving. The next logical question is saving from what? The answer is, from yourself (sin) and the subsequent eternal hell assigned to sinners. But what virtue do we obtain through the embracing of hope. We obtain at least the strength of **humility**. You see to admit that something is wrong with oneself that requires help from another is humility. To be intimate with your faults, to own them suggests the capacity to honor the same humanity in others. Hope in this sense creates character that expects personal transformation in Christ while providing room for others to enjoy the same.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 53:6)

Peace speaks to an internal and external reordering of our reality so as to positively change feelings and behaviors. Isaiah says that Jesus is the Prince of Peace! Having a Prince of Peace can be difficult to digest when you live in a world infiltrated and overcome with chaos. However, this conflicted concept exhibits the preeminence and power of Christ in your life. Here you rejoice in the impossible; that in the midst of chaos Christ offers peace. In this sense you become more than a conqueror through Him that loves you. Your circumstances may not change, but an abiding hope of understanding overtakes you, and you find peace.

⁷ Casting all your care upon him; for he cares for you. (1Peter 5:7)

Joy is characterized by a happiness unrelated to external realities and wholly centered on the nature and promises of God. However, the Joy Candle is wholly celebrating God and what He is doing, the birth of His son, in the world. Joy suggests that you have dynamic power and not limited to a happy expectation of God, but also His manifestation in your life! Your life in Christ is content with little, but this joy rejoices because God has added much!

⁹ When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. ¹¹ And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Love is characterized by an unmerited favor which pervades your life, even redefining the very nature of thought, feeling, and action as one ponders the remarkable depth of God's love for humanity. You become fully human because of this love; spiritually and emotionally. Love on this level suggests your capacity to heal all things, bare all things, share all things, and be all things for another.

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (John 3:16-17)

Advent is not what happened, church. Advent is who you are becoming and what you will be. Advent is a barometer for our spiritual and interpersonal lives, gauging in a juxtaposed fashion the heart of God to your very own. Advent for you is not a season, but a way of life. Amen

Sincerely,
Marty McMichael
Sr. Pastor

1		Bus Trip to Branson	10		2nd Sunday of Advent	19	11:00 am	Staff Meeting
	11:00 am	Blood Drive		9:00 am	Sunday School Christmas Program (during Service)		6:00 pm	SPRC
	6:25 pm	Choir at Tree Lighting	11	3:00 pm	Grief & Loss Support #1		6:00 pm	Cub Scouts
2	9:00 am	Hand Bell Choir		4:00 pm	Bible Journaling	19	7:00 pm	Service & Mission
	10:00 am	AA Meeting	12	10:00 am	Grief & Loss Support #2	20	9:00 am	Nurture & Care
3		1st Sunday of Advent		11:00 am	Staff Meeting		5:30 pm	Choir
	4:30 pm	Glory Fire Youth Band		6:00 pm	SAS		7:00 pm	NA Meeting
	5:00 pm	Youth Fellowship/ Christmas Party		6:00 pm	Cub Scouts	21	6:00 pm	Blue Christmas Service
4	3:00 pm	Grief & Loss Support #1	13	5:30 pm	Choir		7:00 pm	GA Meeting
	5:00 pm	SS Team		6:00 pm	Bible Study Meal	22		
5	10:00 am	Grief & Loss Support #2		7:00 pm	Bible Study	23	9:00 am	Hand Bell Choir
	11:00 am	Staff Meeting		7:00 pm	NA Meeting		10:00am	AA Meeting
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts	14	7:00 pm	GA Meeting	24		4th Sunday of Advent
6	5:30 pm	Choir	15	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie		9:00am	Candle Light Service
	6:00 pm	Bible Study Meal	16	9:00 am	Hand Bell Practice	25		Merry Christmas
	7:00 pm	Bible Study		10:00 am	AA Meeting	26		
	7:00 pm	NA Meeting	17		3rd Sunday of Advent	27	7:00 pm	NA Meeting
7	4:00 pm	Grief & Loss Training		9:00 am	March to the Manger (during Sunday service)	28	7:00 pm	GA Meeting
	6:00 pm	Scouts of the Round Table		6:30 pm	Christmas Cantata	29	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie
	7:00 pm	GA Meeting	18		Meals on Wheels Week	30	10:00 am	AA Meeting
8	9:00 am	Stretching w/Rosie		3:00 pm	Grief & Loss Support #1	31	Noon	Our Neighbors Table
	9:30 am	Feeder of the Pack at Food Pantry		5:00 pm	SS Team			
9	7:30 am	UMM Breakfast						
	9:00 am	Hand Bell Choir						
	10:00 am	AA Meeting						





1	John & Pattie Mills	25	Cloyd & Susan Karnes
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Shake Up Your Holiday Tradition
Give Blood

Fri., Dec 1st
11 - 3pm

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

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

Sermon Series

November 19th -
December 31st

Thanksgiving
Valuing Others
Hope
Peace
Joy
Love
After Christmas



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

Get your Poinsettias in Honor of, or in Memory of

\$15.00 each orders due to office by December 11th.

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

BIBLE STUDY 7pm every Wednesday

One Story that Leads to Jesus

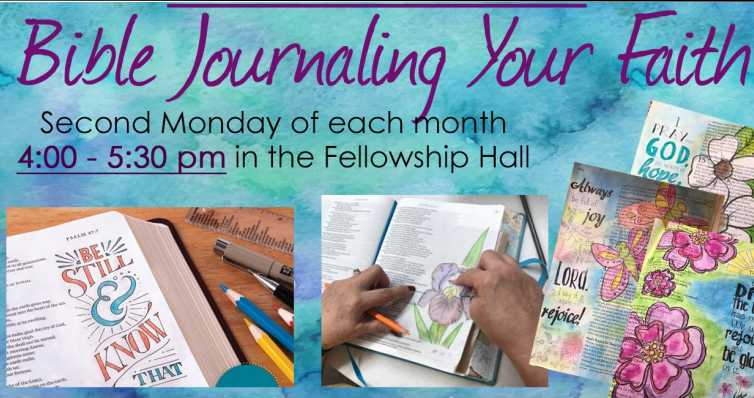
Dinner served each week at 6pm in fellowship hall.
Cost of meal is a donation of your choice.

Adult classes & Childcare available



NO Bible Study
December
20th, & 27th

Advent Devotionals are available in the Welcome Center. There are three devotionals to select from: The Light of Grace - Welcoming God's Amazing Gift of Christ, My Spirit Rejoices - Daily Prayers for Advent, and A Season of Peace Advent Devotions for Seniors. Our hope and prayer is that you use these devotionals daily to enhance your quiet time with God as you prepare your hearts and minds for the glorious celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



Our Neighbors' Table is looking for volunteers, especially Safe-Serve/

Certified Food Handlers. The Health Department requires we have at least one certified food handler present as we prepare and serve our monthly meals. This is an exciting and rewarding way to serve God and our neighbors. If you are interested in helping (even if you're not certified), please contact Pam Graham, Richard Tierney or Vern Cline.



Thank you to all who donated items for the Fall/Winter yard sale, worked with placing and pricing items, and worked during the sale. It was a huge success and we appreciate all the efforts.

Please consider leading this sale next April and October. I am willing to assist but due to health concerns I need someone to accept leadership. There are about six parts that could be divided.

Blessings to all!
Lynn Pierson



Well our Saturday morning Grapevine phone calls will be coming to an end on Dec 23rd. Due to the rising cost of the system that allows us to make this call it is no longer feasible to continue. We will all miss Gene's friendly voice reminding us each week of what is going on in our church. But we are here to make sure you are still aware in the following ways.

1. All events are listed on our website.
2. We try to list all events in our newsletter each month if possible.
3. We send out email reminders by way of constant contact (if you are not currently receiving these please contact Melba in the office to be added to this list).
4. Sunday morning we have a list in each bulletin that is also emailed out (by constant contact) each week in the bulletin email.
5. Facebook we try to keep you informed by our facebook page make sure you have not only liked us but are following us.

Again we are sad to see it go but it has come to an end.

Seekers Sunday School Class

Each Sunday at 10:15am
Room 202

Contact Michelle Parker-Clark for more information

During the month of December the Seekers Adults Sunday School Class will be studying Why This Jubilee?: Advent Reflections on Songs of the Season by James Howell. Music is such an important part of Advent and Christmas. Can you imagine Advent without "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel?" How about Christmas without carols like "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "Silent Night," and "Joy to the World?" In 24 reflections on well-known carols and Christmas songs, the author explores the birth of Jesus. He ponders the meaning of certain phrases from these songs and relates them to our daily lives through the four weeks of devotions arranged by topic: The Place, The Men (Joseph, shepherds, magi), The Mother, The Child. Adults of all ages are welcome to attend. Please join us for a time of discussion, fellowship, and prayer.

The Glory Fire Youth Band

YOUTH BAND

Meets 1st and 3rd Sunday Evenings at 4:30pm

Contact Melanie Harp at (618) 534-5524 for more information

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OBEDIENCE

September 17th

KNOWLEDGE

SERVING GOD

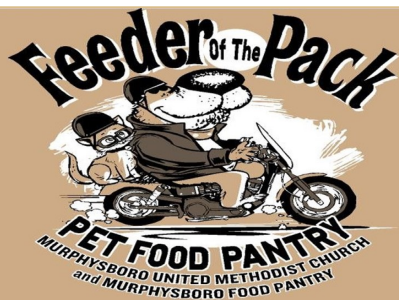
November 5th

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!



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.

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



After the Hometown Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec., 1st, our MUMC Chancel Choir will be singing at the corner of 19th & Pine Street from 6:00 - 6:25 pm. Stop by and show them our support, you can even join in if you like. Contact any choir member for more information.



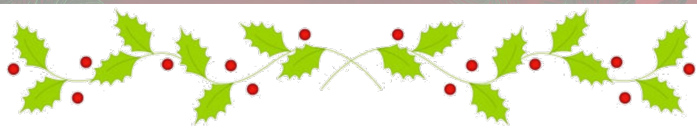
Advent Sundays & Readers

*Dec 3rd - Hope
Pierson Family*

*Dec 10th - Peace
Thies Family*

*Dec 17th - Joy
Voss Family*

*Dec 24th - Love, Christ, &
Candle Light Service
Imhoff Family*



*Sunday Dec., 10th During Service
Contact Diane Schingel for more information*



March to the Manger

*Sunday, December 17th
Special Offering Will Be Collected*

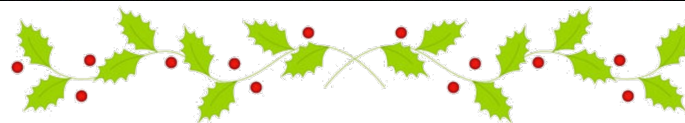


Murphysboro United Methodist Chancel Choir Presents

Love Song

A Christmas Cantata

*Sunday, December, 17th 6:30pm
1500 Pine Street, Murphysboro*



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

Thursday, December 21st at 6:00 pm

*Murphysboro United Methodist Church
1500 Pine Street*



Teams for this Month

Usher Teams

Date	Team #	Names
Dec., 3rd	2	Todd Lirely, Vanessa Lirely, Dick Graff, Sandy Herring
Dec., 10th	2	Todd Lirely, Vanessa Lirely, Dick Graff, Sandy Herring
Dec., 17th	1	Rick Runge, Jay Graff, Jim Hughes, Nicci Graff, Mike Clark
Dec., 24th	1	Rick Runge, Jay Graff, Jim Hughes, Nicci Graff, Mike Clark
Dec., 31st	3	Patti Mills, John Mills, Rosie Wece, Kyle Hargraves, John Erbes

Acolytes

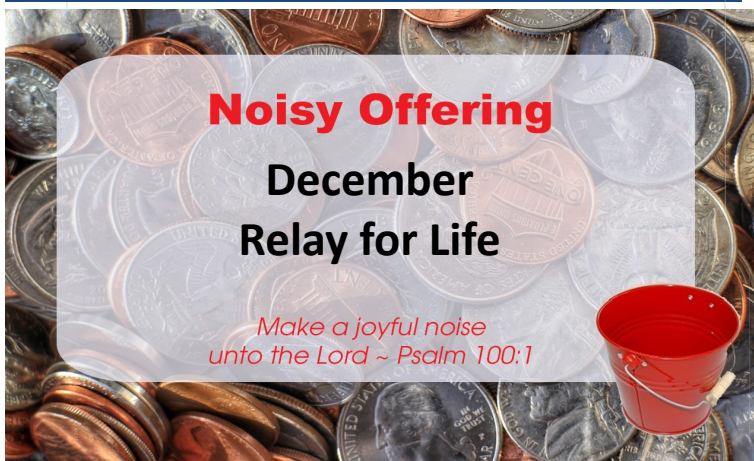
Dec., 3rd	Lincoln Snyder
Dec., 10th	Mila Thies & Lydia Haney
Dec., 17th	John & Elija Imhoff
Dec., 24th	Jonathan Graham
Dec., 31st	Jonathan Graham

Advent Readers

Dec., 3rd	Pierson Family
Dec., 10th	Thies Family
Dec., 17th	Voss Family
Dec., 24th	Imhoff Family
Dec., 31st	Pending

Welcome Center/Greeters

Dec., 3rd	Thelma Pierson
Dec., 10th	Thelma Pierson
Dec., 17th	Sandy Herring
Dec., 24th	Patti Mills
Dec., 31st	Sandy Herring



As you can see from the photos, our annual All Church Thanksgiving Potluck was well attended with plenty of good food, fun, and fellowship. A very special thank you goes out to Roger Twenhafel for preparing the hams and the turkeys; for those who brought salads, side dishes, and desserts; for those who helped with the set up and clean up; and for Richard Tierney for lending his talents as Master of Ceremonies, performer, and talent scout for karaoke. He was even able to get Patsy Cline to participate - you might want to ask Rosie Wece about that. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and we look forward to seeing you next year!





We currently have a Sunday School class for Pre-K—High School and one Adult Sunday School class that meets every Sunday. Interested in starting your own Adult/Young Adult class see the items available in our library to help you get started. Contact Diane Schingel for more information.

**30TH ANNUAL
MURPHYSBORO COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER
NEEDS YOU!**

We are looking for desserts and volunteers.

Cakes, cookies, brownies, or dairy free pies, either home baked or store bought are needed at the KC Hall on Sunday, December 24th by 2pm. Contact Jennifer 618)534-3822 or sign up on the attendance pad at church.

Volunteers are need to:

- ♦ deliver meals on Christmas day
- ♦ decorate KC Hall 12/23 & 24
- ♦ Bag Gifts 12/23
- ♦ Help Cook 12/24 & 12/25
- ♦ Serve at the KC Hall 12/25



**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 11. 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

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



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

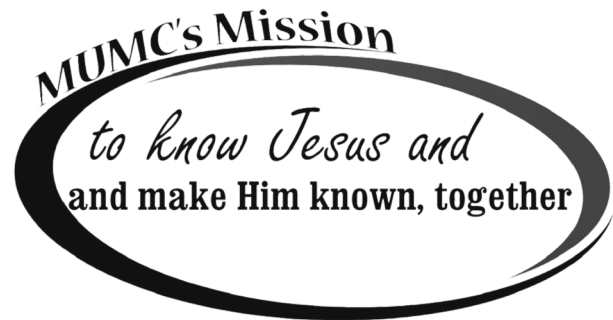


WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

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.....Melba Ziegler



Return Service Requested

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

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