

# THE MESSENGER

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
200 NW 2<sup>ND</sup> Street  
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DECEMBER, 2019



Our Annual Covered Dish Christmas Dinner (meat provided) will be held Sunday, December 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

The Choir will be presenting their Christmas Cantata during the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services on Sunday, December 8.



The Christmas card exchange box will be located in the Fellowship Hall on the table near the coffee. Please sort your outgoing cards alphabetically when placing them in the box. EVERYONE please check the box for cards addressed to you and your family. Any cards not claimed by Sunday, January 5 will be donated to a charitable organization.

*Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Services will be held at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.*



Thanks to your generous giving, we will finish the year with a positive balance. As of the newsletter deadline, we have paid 74% of our Conference Apportionments and have paid the parsonage loan down to \$26,000. Commitment Sunday was November 24. If you were unable to return your commitment card on that Sunday, please turn it into the Church Office. Thank you again for your wonderful support of our church!



Everyone was invited to the November meeting of the UMM. Jim Clark provided the entertainment, singing many songs of our era. His presentation was outstanding! The UMM thank everyone who supported the Smoked Chicken Dinner. It was one of the most successful and raised over \$2,600. The UMM have also voted to purchase two more radios for our Security Team to assist in communication. The officers for 2020 are: Dowling Watford, Pres.; Richard Kersey, VP; and Ed Thornton, Sec./Treas. There will be no meeting in December.



- 1<sup>st</sup> - David Straight
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Gil Culbreth
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Judy Mix, Pat Watkins,  
Janice Spyker
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Nicolas Suarez

- 5<sup>th</sup> - Kim Mucherino
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Anne Young
- 7<sup>th</sup> - Sandy Watford, M/M Larry White
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Coleen Clark
- 10<sup>th</sup> - George Cooper
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Dana Straight, Preston Hall
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Janet McKinley
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Darrell Enfinger
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Jennifer Gagliano, Sue Miller
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Earl Williamson
- 21<sup>st</sup> - M/M Bennett Yeilding
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Georgia Gerren
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - George Clement
- 26<sup>th</sup> - M/M Jack Wolff, M/M Joe Ostavitz
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Rita Rucks, Willard Suits
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Jim Barnhart
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Dave Buddenhagen, Kathryn VanBeek,  
Joe Suarez
- 31<sup>st</sup> - Peggy Lampi

\_\_\_\_\_ If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or has been omitted, please call the Church Office.

**Volunteers are needed to assist in the Elementary Sunday School class. Please call the Church Office at (863) 763-4021.**



**The Handbell Choir is in a rebuilding phase. If you have ever wanted to learn to play the handbells, now is the time to sign up for the free lessons that begin in January. Call Jeanne Enfinger at (863) 763-5383 for more information.**



## Symbols of the *season*

Many traditional decorations convey the meaning of Christmas.

*Directions: Use the picture clues to the right to complete the words. Then write the boxed letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV.*



shepherd's staff    \_   \_ \_ \_ \_

tree that keeps its leaves    \_ \_ \_ \_  \_ \_ \_ \_

shines to lead the way    \_ \_ \_

green for eternal life,     \_ \_ \_ \_ &  
red for Jesus' blood    \_ \_ \_   \_ \_

sounds to announce     \_ \_ \_ \_  
good news

has no beginning or end    \_ \_ \_ \_  \_

Th   ks b  to  od fo   is  
indesc   ba  le gif  !

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15, NIV

Answers: candy cane, evergreen, star, holly & berries, bell, wreath; Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV