



The Journal

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DECEMBER, 2008

DAN'S DOODLES

“And Mary said, My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior....for the Mighty One has done great things for me and holy is His name!” (Luke 1:46,49).

Wow, December is here! And with December comes the Christian season of Advent. The word Advent literally means “beginning”. Advent marks the beginning of the Christian liturgical year and that is very significant. For in one important sense the most important moment in human history began with the birth of Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God. Advent is a time for us to prepare our hearts for the celebration of that birth!

And so the question for us in the month of December is how can we prepare our hearts to receive anew the Christ child this special season? Well, let me offer a couple of concrete suggestions:

The worship committee has prepared a daily devotional Advent booklet for our use this year. Please plan to pick up one of those at church this Sunday. The devotions have been prepared by individuals in our church family, and I know each one will enhance our preparation for Christmas.

Please plan to include the reading of the Christmas story from Luke (chapters one and two) on a daily basis during December. I would suggest just reading a few verses each day until God speaks to your heart! Remember, the Bible was given to us, not so much to increase our knowledge, but to change our lives! Let God speak to you from His Word this special season.

And then, I would encourage us to prayerfully ask God to simply make us sensitive to His presence in the lives of others as well as the circumstance of our own lives this Advent season. Before you retire for the evening, reflect upon one simple question (by yourself or with someone from your family):

“Where did I sense the presence of God today?”

Sandy and I just want you to know that we have sensed the presence of God in our church family in special ways already and would like to thank you for your partnership in the gospel! May God bless you and yours with His special presence in the coming days!

HOUSE OF FAUST,
Pastor Dan and Sandy

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<u>UMW News</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>College Care Packages</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>“WOW”</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>Thank You!</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>December Birthdays</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Poinsettias</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Christmas Eve Service</u>	<u>4</u>

DECEMBER GREETERS

December 7– Annette Robertson

*December 14 - Marty Williams &
Bobby Hearnnes*

December 21 - Taylor & Julie Burke

*December 28 - Tripp Logan &
Jane Jackson*

COMMUNION AT THE MANOR

We will serve Holy Communion at the Charleston Manor on Wednesday, December 10, 9:30 a.m. You are invited to come and share in the service.

BOSTON BUTT SALE

Our annual Boston Butt Sale will be on Saturday, December 20. The cost will be \$20 each & can be picked up at 11:00 a.m. that day in the Family Life Center. To reserve yours, call the church office or the Brinks at (683-3733).

MIDDLE SCHOOL MOB

We will be meeting the first 3 Sunday nights in December; watch the bulletin from week to week for detailed information. Thanks to all who are helping with this ministry! We are off to a great start!

UMW NEWS

The United Methodist Women will meet for their General Meeting & Christmas Luncheon on Wednesday, December 3, 10:30 a.m. at Dorothy Anne Brink's home. The program will be Spiritual Growth: "Made in the Image of God." Everyone please bring a wrapped gift for the Charleston Manor & paper products for Susanna Wesley.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

Care Packages for our college students will be assembled on Sunday, December 7. If you would like to donate to this project please bring your treats to the church office by December 4.

"WOW" INFORMATION

Any youth (6th grade or older) who would like to attend the WOW event in Springfield in January and would like to ride the District bus, should contact the church office by Friday, December 5th. The cost for the event is \$50.00 if we register before December 16th and \$65.00 after that. You can register for the event by contacting our church office for a registration form.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Children's Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 14 during the morning worship service. Practices will be held during the Sunday School hour throughout November and on December 7 during the Sunday School hour. After the Worship service on December 14 we will sing Christmas Carols in the Sanctuary, followed by an all-church potluck dinner hosted by the Family Life Committee.

CONFIRMATION REMINDER

Just a reminder that Pastor Dan would like to know ahead of time how many he can expect in the confirmation class beginning in January during the Sunday School hour. The class is open to adults as well as students who are 6th grade or older. Please register your plan to attend the class by calling the church office as soon as possible. Thanks.

**CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CANTATA SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2008
DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.**

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

Thank you very much for the Halloween Care Package. I enjoyed all the goodies. It is nice of you to remember the college students in this way.

Sincerely,
Brink Naile

Prayer Shawl Ministry,

My sincere thanks to all of you for the beautiful shawl. Your thoughtfulness and kindness is greatly appreciated.

God Bless All,
Anne Richards

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the care package! It is full of some wonderful goodies! They are an awesome pick-me-up! I really appreciate your love, support, and kindness!

Jennifer Miller

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the care package! My roommate and I enjoyed it, especially during mid-terms. I truly appreciate it, and the time and effort that was put into the packages for all the college students. Thank you once again, church family.

Love,
Allison DeField

Thank you for your prayers for Willis Passley, Sr. during his surgery.

Mrs. Willis Passley, Sr., Children & Grandchildren

Dear United Methodist Cooks,

Please accept my apology for the delay in acknowledging your kindness in providing a meal for the "Go Tell" crusade.

The delicious meal was greatly enjoyed!

Thank you so very much for your planning, preparation, delivering and serving.

God has blessed our community with many loving and spirit filled people. I am grateful for your demonstration of Christian love and friendship.

Your sister in Christ,
Mary Katherine Branum

Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl. I really appreciate it. It means a lot to me to know that you all were thinking of and praying for me.

Thank you all!
Kate Ann Duenne

Methodist Church,

Thanks so much for the delicious dinner you provided for us. We appreciate all you hard work.

Alen & Janie Pemberton
Lucy Ledbetter
Dan & Linda Rockett

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Methodist Church**

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*Open Hearts, Open
Minds, Open Doors*

**MAKING
DISCIPLES**

*

**MAKING
A DIFFERENCE**

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DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Andrew DeField
- 2 - Allison DeField & Pierce Huls
- 3 - Jr. DeLay
- 4 - Annie-Mollie DeLay & Claudia Arington
- 5 - Alice Burke
- 6 - Dee Harper
- 8 - Carl Gary Latham, III, George Simmons, Gretta Goodin & Kelly Hunter
- 9 - Connie Michael
- 10 - Elizabeth Smith
- 11 - Julie Combs & Pat Williams
- 13 - Clay Hillhouse, Mildred Ault, Peggy Joslyn, Phil Atteberry & Sara Jane Goodman
- 14 - Bruce Austin & Sallie Goodin
- 15 - Buck Farmer, Elliott Simmons & Kristi Hanor Hamrick
- 16 - Bob Jackson, Katie Hunter & Leslie Fox
- 17 - Evelyn Ponder
- 18 - Greg Banta
- 19 - Byron McDowell, Caroline Burke, Iona Ledesma, Sarah Shelby Thurmond
- 20 - Martha Jane Evans
- 21 - Landyn Scott
- 23 - Charles Tinsley, Jr. & Courtney Jones
- 24 - Mihoshi Yamashita
- 25 - Megan Luehmann
- 26 - Julie Burke & Pierce Hamrick
- 27 - Edward Goodman
- 28 - Dorothy Cullison, Mark Dugan & Mary Ella Yamashita
- 29 - Shelly Seabaugh
- 31 - Lynn Brown

POINSETTIAS

Purchase a **Poinsettia** or donate to the **Poinsettia Outreach Fund**, you decide. This Advent Season you can give a poinsettia or donate (\$15 or more) to the Outreach Fund in memory or honor of loved ones. The flowers will be placed in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 21. Please bring your name & donation to the church office by December 17. Thank you!

2009 PREPARATION

Following the church conference held on Oct. 21st, which voted to go back to a one worship service format for 2009, the worship committee has determined the time of the worship service. Beginning in January, the following will be our weekly schedule:

- Worship — 9:30 a.m.
Coffee fellowship — 10:30 to 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School — 10:45 to 11:30 a.m.

**Christmas Eve Service, Wednesday, December 24, 2009 at
5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.**

