

THE CIRCUIT WRITER

Volume 35

Issue 12

"SHOP 'TIL NEEDS DROP"

On Thanksgiving we express gratitude for being so blessed by God that we can eat until we are uncomfortable, then laze about watching big football games on our big screen TV or take a long restful nap. Then the seasonal carnage begins.

First comes Black Friday, the day after that most blessed day of remembrance, and how quickly we forget. Completely dissatisfied with our level of ownership, we storm the shopping malls and department stores to get more stuff. Then comes Cyber Monday, our first day back at work, when the least work gets done, except for the work of online spending, the internet's top shopping day.

Of course, we are not selfish and greedy! We are not shopping, primarily, for ourselves. We are getting gifts for all our relatives and some friends, who also had too much to eat the previous Thursday, as they gave thanks for all the stuff they already had. In the Christmas Shopping Season we exchange wish lists, so you can fulfill my desires, and I, yours. Rev. Mike Slaughter wrote the book Christmas Is Not YOUR Birthday to remind Christians who we ought to seek to honor on this special day.

The United Methodist Church television campaign this holiday season will focus on simplifying our experience of Christmas, so that we might intensify its true meaning. One ad asks "When did Christmas get so complicated?" and suggests a renewed focus on comforting others to regain the good feeling. If you haven't seen it on TV you can see it online, here - <http://www.rethinkchurch.org>.

To refocus our spending during the holidays, the UMC is also participating in Giving Tuesday (following Black Friday and Cyber Monday) as part of an international movement to extend the spirit of giving thanks into the Advent season. It offers an opportunity to start off the holiday season by giving instead of getting, by supporting organizations that are transforming the world. Every gift made online through The Advance at www.umcmmission.org/give on Dec. 2 will be matched up to \$1 million.* For more information, visit umcom.org/givingtuesday.

Of course, we already give throughout the year to many worthy missions in paying our apportionments. We are in danger of not being able to meet this year's askings because of a downturn in attendance and giving in 2014. One way to begin shifting our thinking about holiday spending would be to make an additional gift to the church in December, to help us fulfill our service, through the church, to a world sorely in need of transformation. Jesus said that we show kindness to him, as we give "to the least of these, my brethren." (Matthew 25:40) If Christmas is HIS birthday,

perhaps that is where we should focus at least some of our gifts. When we make our lists, and check them twice, let's be sure we are keeping Christ in Christmas.

Peace, comfort and joy, tom

**Global Ministries will allocate the matching funds dollar for dollar up to the first \$1 million in gifts to Advance projects received online on Dec. 2 between 12 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. EST. A maximum of \$2,500 per individual gift to a project will be dispersed as matching funds. A project may receive a maximum of \$25,000 in matching funds.*

MONTHLY & WEEKLY CHURCH SCHEDULING

Pastor Tom's Scheduled Day off	Fridays
Rev. Connie's Scheduled Day off	Thursdays
Sunday School	Sundays at 10:00am
Staff Meeting	Mondays at 9:15am – 10:30am
Monterey Hilltop Chorale	Mondays at 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Cub Scouts #15	Mondays at 6:00pm
Garden Club	2 nd Tuesday of each month at 10:30am
Civitan Club	3 rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm
Standing Stone	4 th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm
AGAPE Chapel	Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9:30am
Girl Scouts #1581-First	Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Cub Scouts #15	Fridays at 6:00pm
Cottage Ministry	Fri., 9am-3pm & Sat., 9am-1pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

FCE Bazaar & Craft Show	December 8 th , 9am-2pm
MUMC Christmas Music Service	December 14 th , 11am
Live Nativity during Worship	December 21 st , 11am
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	December 24 th at 6:30pm
Office will be closed	December 25 th & 26 th

A RECORD OF OUR FAITHFULNESS NOVEMBER 23RD, 2014

By Our Gifts

2014 Budget income received	\$2,376.75
2014 Budget income needed	\$3,122.00
2014 Budget income weekly (under)	\$ 745.25
2014 Budget income year to date (under)	\$15,557.92

DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist	Sandra Gilmore
Ushers	Bob & Susie Cournoyer
Youth Liturgists, Acolytes, and Ushers:	Anna Wiggins, Matthew Webb, Clair Webb, Megan Moore, & Cody Dove

THANK YOU-Marlon and I would like to thank you for your prayerful support and acts of kindness during the weeks following the car accident. We are very blessed that the injuries sustained were not any worse for either of us. We continue to ask for your prayers as I go through physical therapy and look to a complete recovery in 2015.

Jill Jones-Lazuka

MONTEREY'S DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

In an effort to update our records and to include your information in the newsletter, please send the church your birthdays and anniversaries. *(Please list the name(s) and date(s) of all in your family who are connected to the church. Thank you!)*

Ron Sontag	(12/3)
Chris Looper	(12/5)
Pastor James Johnson	(12/6)
Annie Looper	(12/6)
Kent McCormick	(12/11)
Theresa Looper	(12/12)
Judy Powell	(12/12)
Alfreda Ford	(12/12)
Joyce Steinmetz	(12/13)
Meretha Durham	(12/13)
Abby Baker	(12/14)
Rev. Dickie Hinton	(12/14)
Kathy Denton	(12/15)
Bob Eldridge	(12/16)
Richard Jackson	(12/19)
Patricia Hudgens	(12/20)
Megann Sheckler	(12/22)
Sandi Vanacore	(12/23)
Taylor Reese	(12/26)
Ed Bruce	(12/29)
Matthew Webb	(12/30)

MONTEREY'S DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

John & Marion Barwick	(12/1)
Richard & Linda Jensen	(12/21)
J.T. & Ina McCormick	(12/22)
Rev. James & Carol Johnson	(12/26)
Ed & Judith Bruce	(12/29)
Rev. Dickie & Thelma Hinton	(12/30)

THANK YOU

I want to send a special thank you for all of those that participate in Milk and Cookies at Burks --or have ever participated.

I was checking grades with a student that made the Honor Roll for the first time last nine weeks. Some of his grades, now, are low-- He saw the grades and said --"Oh I have to get my grades up-- I AM going to the next Milk and Cookies-- I loved it."

I know sometimes as we go through the motions of everyday life, we are overwhelmed by all that we have to do. Please everyone know that baking/buying cookies or serving some milk is a **BLESSING** to our students. Thanks for the God Work that each person is doing. God is Good-- All the Time!

Marcy Milligan

Burks Elementary School
School Counselor Grades 5-8

NOTE FOR THOUGHT

The secret of contentment is knowing how to enjoy what you have.

POINSETTIAS were purchased for the month of December in memory or honor of loved ones. The following is a list of those remembered:

IN MEMORY OF:

GIVEN BY:

Loved ones	Elora Stringer
Gerri Lusk & Stacie	Linda Jensen
The McCormick & Tudor Families & Roy Greene & Pat Tierney	Darlene Greene
Their Parents	Ray & Betty Higgins
Jess & Helen Williams & Jim & Ella Williams	Lynne & Mike Connor
Loved ones	Ellen & John McPherson
Their Parents	Byrnie Gilmore Hicks
Pepper Dove	Larry & Edna Drysdale
Margaret Webster	Pam Dove
Dick Swafford & Jack Nimmo	Judy & David Webster
Bob Hall	The Swaffords
Ted & Ruby Vail, The Roth Family & The Nimmo Family	Connie Hall
Francis Powell	Edwin & Louise Vail
Their Grandchildren	The Powell Family
Mr. & Mrs. W.W. Breeding	Theresa Looper
Chec Stamps	Anna Karch & Mr. & Mrs. Bill Medley
Priscilla Stamps	Morris Stamps
	Morris Stamps

IN HONOR OF:

GIVEN BY:

Their 3 Daughters	Nick & Joan Axen
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AGAPE PRESCHOOL STUDENTS



AGAPE STUDENTS VISIT STANDING STONE RESIDENTS

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Rose Holsten contributions were made to the AGAPE preschool: Priscilla Ford

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Ruth Randolph contributions were made to the building fund: Bobby Randolph

AGAPE PRESCHOOL



State Certified Teachers

Faith Based Education

MONDAY – FRIDAY • 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Free Breakfast & Lunch

Served Daily

Children ages 2 ½ - 4 years

REGISTER TODAY

Information available in Methodist Church Office

931-839-2597

AGAPE PRESCHOOL



Maestros Certificado Estado Por el

De fe Educación Basado

Lunes – Viernes 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Desayuno & Almuerzo Gratis

Servido Diariament

Niños 2 ½ - 4 años

REGÍSTRESE HOY

Información disponible en la Oficina de Iglesia Metodista

931-839-2597

Advent Calendar



Countdown & Color your way through the Season of Advent

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The people of The United Methodist Church*

Church office: 931-839-2597
Church e-mail: church@montereyumc.com
www.montereyumc.com

Come worship with us at Monterey at 11am



*The mission of Monterey United Methodist Church is to make
Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

Monterey United Methodist Church
124 North Holly Street
Monterey, TN 38574


ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Monterey United Methodist Church

December 2014



But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 2 Peter 3:8-9 (ESV)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Girl Scouts #1581 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	4 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:00p-Girl Scouts #15	5 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	6 9:00a-FCE Bazaar & Craft Sale 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
7 Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15 Mark 1:1-8 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	8 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15 6:30p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale Rehearsal	9 10:30a-Garden Club	10 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	11 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel	12 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	13 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 5:30p-Choir Rehearsal
14 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Luke 1:46-55 Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Christmas Music Service	15 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15 6:30p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale Rehearsal	16 6:00p-Civitan's	17 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Choir Rehearsal	18 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel	19 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	20 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
21 Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-20 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	22 9:15a-Staff Meeting 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15 6:30p-Monterey Hilltop Chorale Rehearsal	23 6:00p-Standing Stone	24 8:30a-AGAPE Chapel 6:30p-Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 Have a Blessed Christmas 	26 9:00a-Cottage Ministry 6:00p-Cub Scouts #15	27 9:00a-Cottage Ministry
28 Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 148 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40 10:00a-Sunday School 11:00a-Worship Service	29	30	31	