



Poplar Springs Drive United Methodist Church

Believe - Belong - Become

Branching Out to Make Disciples

Larry's Lines

December 7, 2011

Jesus is the Reason for the Season

Keep Christ in Christmas

This time of year we like to throw around catchy phrases like the ones above. There's nothing wrong with these sentiments but does a cliché really show the world how we are impacted by the birth of Jesus? I think that in the midst of the publicity of Black Friday and the hi-jacking of the Savior's birth by the innate greed of humanity we lose the power of the story.

Other religions believe that we are climbing a mountain to reach God or to become a God. Christianity believes that God came down the mountain to reach us.

All year, but especially during this season, we need to look for ways to show that love to others. We have an especially wonderful way to help with that this year and that is by serving the clients of Love's Kitchen. On Wednesday December 14 at 6PM we will have a wonderful time with our Handbell Choir playing, the singing of carols, and serving a hot meal and dessert and making sure each person leaves with a bag of goodies.

Don't squander your time this year by just voicing words but put love to action. You can do this by coming and joining the fun on December 14 at 6PM, by donating brownies and cookies packed by 2's in zip-lock bags, bringing bags of apples/oranges, candy or other treats to the church by Tuesday the 13th. As we do this maybe we can learn a new phrase that is most helpful this time of year.

Christmas is NOT your Birthday

Let's honor Christ by showing love to our sisters and brothers.

Grace and Peace,

Larry

Scripture

Readers:

December 11th
Early: Raymond King
Late: Jean Harrison

December 18th
Early: Ken LaBruyere
Late: Ron Burton

December 25th
One Service

Acolytes:

December 11th
Liyuan Hilliard
Lucy Payne
Braeden Smith

December 18th
Cameron Munn
Ravynne Wilson
John Landon Young

Usher Teams for December: Early: Tootie Ellis, Irby Lang, Butch Shannon, Butch Wright, Gordon Kent & Cathy Ellis
Late: Ron St. John, Jim Autry, Andy Neal, Red Stewart, Nate Williamson & Pam Litton

On the Inside:

Upcoming Meetings
Holiday Schedules

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WEDNESDAY NIGHTS FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship Suppers will return February



Looking Ahead

Christmas Eve

- Communion & Candlelight Service at 6:00 pm
Communion Celebrants: TBA

Christmas Day

- One service at 10:30 AM.
- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will have a blessing of the toys on Christmas Day see article on facing page for more details.

New Years Day

- One Service at 10:30 AM
- Sunday school is up to each class

Ask the Pastors (this Sunday will be your chance to ask your pastors questions about the Bible, United Methodism, or other Theological issues. You may submit the questions beforehand or we will take questions from the floor

Finance Committee Meeting

December 13th - 6 PM
Conference Room

PSDUMC @ Love's Kitchen

December 14th, 6 PM

Plan to share a part of yourself and some Christmas spirit with our friends at Love's Kitchen.

See 5 Practices Page for additional Information

We Extend Heartfelt Sympathy to:

Ron and Jennifer St. John, in the loss of her mother, Natalie Smith, December 5th.

Amy White and family, in the loss of her uncle December 4th.

OUR FAITHFULNESS	Nov 20th	Nov 27th
8:30 A.M.	110	93
10:55 A.M	100	99

BUDGET OFFERING

	Nov 20th	Nov 27th
	\$8,617.90	\$10,123.20
Budget	6,868.65	7,465.20
STL-FFF	477.50	1,207.00
Memorials		65.00
Missions (2nd Mile)	68.75	163.00
Seminary Support	45.00	150.00
Children's Ministry		80.00
Family Night Supper	520.00	525.00
Youth Trips	27.00	136.00
Wesley House	100.00	
Care Lodge	200.00	
Relay for Life		25.00
Missions Trips		20.00
Staff Christmas Gift	100.00	95.00
Cookbook	10.00	
Fall Food Festival	201.00	
T-shirts		162.00

Communion Celebrants

December: Gordon & Bessie Kent
Nancy Crews, Carrol Barham

January: Raymond & Carron King
Ron & Jennifer St. John

2011 Contributions must be in by
Wednesday, December 28th for
you to receive 2011 credit.

*Anything received after then
will be applied to 2012.*

Second Helping Offering

In 2012 we will begin a new program to help us as we support local mission. We are calling this the second helping offering. On the **second** Sunday of every month we will take up a **second** offering above and beyond our normal tithe.

The ministries we will be supporting through the second helping offering are:

John Wesley Fund (January)

In house fund to help church members or community members in times of need.

Trinity Dyslexia Center, Relay for Life, Center for Pregnancy Choices, Salvation Army, Hope Village for Children, Mustard Tree Missions, South Harbor Shelter, Boys and Girls Club, Care Lodge, Feet Without Soles

This Second Helping Offering program will be in place of our Loose Coin Offering.

Terry's Tidbits... The Present of Presence

(Most of these words are from Out of the Ordinary by Joyce Rupp)

God sent a present into the world, the gift of a loving presence named Jesus. The gospel stories indicate that Jesus gave few material things to people. What he gave most was his personal presence, gifts that were treasures of the heart: belief in self, inner healing, peace of mind, compassion, forgiveness, dignity, and justice. This loving presence lives on in us and is the central focus of Christmas gift-giving.

Sharing the gift of personal presence means we see ourselves as a gift holding the goodness of Jesus who is Emmanuel, God-with-us. Like Jesus, we can give from our inner abundance, gifts from the heart. Moments lovingly sent with another through prayer or through personal presence carry more beauty and have more endurance than anything material we could give. What greater gifts could we share than ones that reflect the one Great Love we have known in the person of Jesus: our care and concern, our hope, our joy, our understanding and forgiveness, our kindness, our patience?

In our rushed and busy Advent season filled with decorating, parties, and shopping, it is easy to cloud up our awareness of those in the world and around us. Yet Jesus was never too busy or too rushed to offer his presence to those around him. If you are feeling the call to give the gift of presence (and hopefully we all are) here are some suggestions. There are two possible ways to be with someone: (a) be present with another or (b) be physically be present "in spirit" by deliberately sending prayer, compassionate thoughts, and kind feelings toward another.

Be with someone who needs you. Be with a person who gives you hope. Be with a war-torn country.

Be with hungry children. Be with men and women in prison. Be with someone who has written you.

Be with yourself. Be with ??? (You can fill in the blank.)

Peace, Terry

Blessing of the Toys!



Christmas morning, our service will be relaxed and welcoming! We hope that everyone who is in town will join us. Casual clothing will be the norm and pj's are definitely welcome (especially the kind with feet)! We will sing plenty of carols as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. I invite all the children to bring a new toy or gift they have received for Christmas to the worship service. We will bless them and more during the Children's time!

Poinsettias For Advent



You may purchase these plants in honor of or in memory of a loved one at the cost of \$15.

They will need to remain in the sanctuary through the December 24th worship service. A listing of the memorials and honorees will be included in our bulletin on December 18th.

Order forms are available in the Narthex and in the church office.

5P'S DUMC

Looking ahead ...

20 Monthly Health Kits needed

(for Care Lodge & So. Harbor Shelter)

Health Kit

- 1 hand towel (15 x 25 - 17 x 27)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large & sturdy, no pocket-size)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers
(no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in
original wrapper)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- 1 regular-sized tube of toothpaste

Place all of the items in a sealed,
one gallon plastic bag.

NEW ITEMS ADDED:

- 1 bath towel
- 1 pillowcase

Place the gallon bag and the
bath towel in the pillowcase
and secure with a rubber band.

Drop your donations off at the altar any
Sunday or in the Staff Work Room.

New items added to the kits given for
Care Lodge and So. Harbor Shelter!

**Also Care Lodge would like us to add
religious reading material (books,
devotions) to the pillow case.**

If you have any gently used books by Max
Lucado, Phillip Yancey, Terri Blackstock or any
other Christian author that can be passed on
please bring them to the church.

- Dec. 8 Staff Christmas at Parsonage - 6 pm
St. Andrews Christmas Party- 6 pm
- 10 Children - Dress Rehearsal- 9:30 am
Friendly Crusaders Party - 11:30 am
- 11 Regular Services
Advent Study
Children's Program- 6 pm
- 12 Advent Study
Deborah's Christmas Party - 6:30 pm
- 13 Finance Committee Meeting - 6 pm
Grace Circle Christmas Party - 6 pm
- 14 Love's Kitchen - 6 pm
- 16 Shalom Christmas Party - 6:30 pm
Genesis Christmas Party - 6:30 pm
- 18 Regular Services
Children deliver Gift Bags - 2 pm
Youth Christmas Party - 5 pm
Advent Study
- 19 Advent Study
- 24 Christmas Eve Communion - 6pm
- 25 Merry Christmas!
One Service at 10:30 am

26th - 30th

Day School is Closed

Church Offices are Closed

(We will be checking messages)

Care Lodge is in need of your old cell phones
for their clients. Phones are wiped clean and
programmed to only call 911. You can drop
off your donation at the church office.

Also: We need Health Kits!!

Come early on Sunday mornings,
(8:05 AM) for coffee or tea, muffins
and fellowship before morning
worship. Bring a friend
and come get energized !!



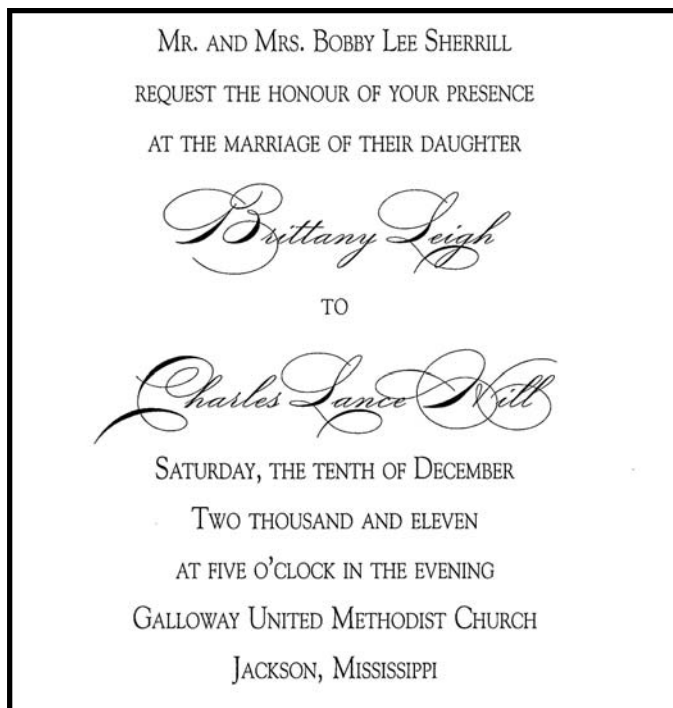
PSDUMC @ Love's Kitchen

December 14th, 6 PM

Plan to share a part of yourself
and some Christmas spirit with our
friends at Love's Kitchen.

Besides what Larry suggested in
his article, if you are able to pick
up an extra pair of socks or some
gloves and a scarf to put in the
goodie bags we will give out, it
would be greatly appreciated.

Warm bodies and loving hearts will
be needed also that evening.



Health Kits are needed!



**See list on the 5P'SDUMC
page or look on the website.
Imagine ... you had to leave
home quickly ... how nice it would be
to have a new toothbrush and your
own hand towel the next morning to
start a new day, a new life.**

Memorials

In Honor of:

Don & JoAnn Wheeler

Ken & Dixie LaBruyere - Missions

In Memory of:

Edna McDonald

Gordon & Bessie Kent - Missions
Friendly Crusaders S.S. Class - Missions

Rev. F. W. "Bill" Price

Bobby & Ouida Sims - Securing the Legacy

Anita "Nita" Cooper

Friendly Crusaders S.S. Class - Missions

Children's News

Bring your Christmas "Child at Heart" Gift bags this Sunday Evening-December 11th

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

- Dec. 10th Dress Rehearsal, 9:30 - 12 Noon. All children need to be here at 9:30 to get into costumes.
- Dec. 11th Christmas Program "The Christmas Story", 6:00 P.M., in the Sanctuary. Bring your gift bags for Golden Living Center also.
- Dec. 18th Caroling & Delivering gift bags to Golden Living Center. Children should be here at the church by 2 P.M. After delivery we will have a Christmas Party.
- Dec. 25th No Sunday School. Just one worship service at 10:30 A.M. There will be no children's church or nursery.
- Wear your favorite PJ's and bring one toy. During the children's moment we will have a Blessing of the Toys.
- January 1st No Sunday School. Just one worship service at 10:30 A.M. No Children's Church.



January Birthdays

Kayla Feist ~ Grace Porter
Nora Peterson

SNL - Sunday Night Live
will return on January 22nd
3:50 - 6:00 pm

NAGS Schedule:

- December 11th
Early: Dixie LaBruyere
Late: Pam Litton
- December 18th
Early: Dianne Shannon
Late: Liz Payne
- December 25th
One Service: Cathy Ellis

SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE SUPPER SCHEDULE

- Dec. 11th Children's Christmas Program
- Dec. 18th Christmas Party (Children)
- Dec. 25th Christmas

May your Christmas sparkle with moments of Love, Laughter and Goodwill
and may the year ahead be full of contentment and joy!

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

PSD Children and Sunday School Teachers



YOUTH NEWS

December 18th - Youth Christmas Party at Shelby's our theme is "Christmas with the Clampets"
Bring a snack, \$10 or less white elephant gift and dress accordingly!!

January 4th - Deadline to sign up for Disciple Now!! Cost is \$25 per person and
Includes a t-shirt. D-Now is Friday and all day Saturday (Feb. 3rd & 4th).
We will stay over at the church Friday night with some exciting activities!!
Make sure you invite friends to be a part of this weekend!!

March 2nd - 4th - UNHINDERED Youth Conference in Jackson...details coming soon.

January Birthdays

2nd	Kayla Feist Randy Jentoft Janice Parks Nora Peterson	17th	June Estes Alex Nunnery
		18th	Benny Egger
3rd	Carolyn Beaver Pam Honea Sally Miles	19th	John Fera Celia Hall
7th	Kelly Fera Jennifer Jones	21st	Jeff Pupa
9th	Vernon Bailey	22nd	Bill Lang Laura Lang
10th	Jacob Munn	23rd	Grace Porter
12th	Casey Ridinger Brittany Sherrill	26th	Beth Crowell
13th	Debbie Cook Ann Williamson	27th	Wendy Egger Marty Lee
14th	James McElroy	29th	Dana McElroy Malaea Mendiola
16th	Patti Coxwell Jan Egger Will Peterson Jana Sanders Johnnie Stutts	30th	Ally Anderson
		31st	Gordon Kent Lori Williams

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December 7, 2011



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

God, Thank you for:

Sunday, December 11th

7:45	A.M.	Praise Team
8:05	A.M.	Sunday Grind Coffee Fellowship/Gathering Area
8:30	A.M.	Contemporary Worship
9:45	A.M.	Sunday School
10:55	A.M.	Worship Service
3:50	P.M.	Sunday Night Live (Preparing for Christmas Program)
4:00	P.M.	Handbell Rehearsal
4:00	P.M.	Youth Group
5:00	P.M.	Advent Study
6:00	P.M.	Children's Christmas Program

Monday, December 12th

10:00	A.M.	Advent Study
6:30	P.M.	Deborah Circle Christmas Party/Home of Cathy Ellis

Tuesday, December 13th

6:00	P.M.	Finance Committee Meeting/Conference Room
6:00	P.M.	Grace Circle Christmas Party/Beef O'Bradys

Wednesday, December 14th

6:00	P.M.	Love's Kitchen
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Friday, December 16th

6:30	P.M.	Shalom S.S. Class Christmas Party
6:30	P.M.	Genesis S.S. Class Christmas Party