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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 10.** If you would like to participate in Christmas caroling, please meet at the church at 3:45P. We will be going to Schowalter Villa to carol, then through the community, and finally coming back to the church for hot chocolate and cookies.
- **Women in Faith:** The “**Thursday**” group will be having a cookie exchange on **Thursday, December 14** at Lakeside Apartments, 3rd floor west lounge. For more information, contact Helen McClain. The “**Sunday**” group meeting will be **TOMORROW, December 9**, at 1:00P. They will meet in the nursery and will be cleaning the toys in there to provide a more welcoming space for families. Anyone in the church is welcome to come help with this project! If you’d like to help, but you’re not available on that day, contact Janelle Hahn to find out what project you could do at your convenience.

End of Year Contributions:

If you would like your church contributions counted toward 2023 tax statement, we must receive your check by December 31. All mailed checks must have a postmark date no later than December 31. Any “extra” gifts you would like to make will be greatly appreciated. ~*John King, Finance Chair*

Staff Gift:

It’s time, once again, to begin collecting donations for Christmas gift for our staff. We want to show them how much they’re appreciated for the things they do all year long. If you would like to donate to the staff Christmas gift fund, please make your check payable to HUMC with “staff gift” in the memo line. Thank you! ~*Roni Caffrey, Staff Parish Chair*

Christmas Dinner and Children’s Program December 17:

Our annual Christmas Dinner and children’s program will be Sunday, December 17. The children’s program will take place during worship service, with the dinner immediately following service. Turkey, dressing, ham, gravy, rolls, and mashed potatoes will be furnished. The congregation is asked to bring two of the following three side dishes: vegetables, salad, or dessert.



We are still collecting “Favorite Holiday Recipes” to create a holiday cookbook for Advent. If you have a favorite recipe you make during the holidays, please send it to the office so it can be compiled into a cookbook. So—come on! Where’s your favorite recipe??? *We could use some entrees and side dishes!* **Please submit before Thursday, December 14, so there is time to compile. *If you would like to include a note as to what makes the recipe special, please do so! Also, if you have a photo of your dish, please send it!***

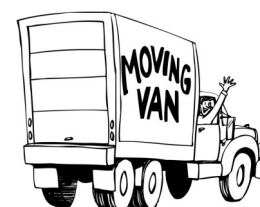


Church Mailbox

Please be checking your church mailbox on a regular basis. Save a stamp—check your box.

Have you moved?

Please double-check that we have your correct address. We’ve had some mail returned “undeliverable” recently. Thanks!



From the Missions Committee:

There will not be a delivery in January.



~Melinda Jantz

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday this week to:

Bryce Hansen, Joey Kueker, Howard Baugh

Happy Birthday next week to:

Ellen Samuelson, Ray Novak, Carol Peirce, Merlin Dresher, Helen McClain

Your Gift Transforms The Holidays for At-Risk Youth: Christmas Connection Drive

For 95 years, United Methodists have been supporting At-Risk Youth at Emberhope Youthville. Our church will continue to support 16 teen girls on the Newton campus with gifts this Christmas. There is a tree in our church foyer with clothing and interest items for various girls. Pick an ornament off the tree and purchase the items on the wish list, or, if you’d rather, you can donate a monetary gift to the church with an Emberhope notation on the memo line, and the youth group will go shopping for you. Gifts need to be purchased and returned to the church no later than **December 10**. Please do not wrap the gifts, but do leave the gift tag on the gifts that you bring. ~Michelle Coffman

**Current Prayer list:**

Kim Witt (surgery recovery), Tom McClain (Buck & Helen's son; health)

Continue to pray for: (Please let me know of any updates/additions/deletions)

Chuck Arens (health), Cayle (Janeen Bezona's son-in-law), Bob Diehl (LeAnn's brother; hospice), Bonnie and Jan (friends of LeAnn), David Clark (Chuck Buechman's nephew; cancer), Paul Hart (friend of Ray Novak; medical issues), Joe Hershberger (fall), Kennedy (from Raelene Kite; health), Robert Kinsley (Marge Hamilton's brother; improving but still needs prayer), Lee (Pam Arens' brother; health), Marilyn (Pam Arens' sister; cancer), Carol Peirce (health), Jan Strecker Hedges (former member; health)

MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS

Medical Mission donations: Medical Mission Team is once again preparing for their mission trip in January. We are beginning to collect monetary donations for them to purchase supplies. Please indicate "medical mission" on the memo line of your check.

~Mission Committee

**Blessing Box Needs As of December 8:**

We have several things that are completely out or nearly out. We do not need canned vegetables or canned soup.

- "Just add water" mixes
- Tuna Helper
- Canned tuna / canned chicken
- Spaghetti sauce / spaghetti
- After-school snacks (we have breakfast bars and nothing else)
- Toilet paper


PLEASE—no glass jars. Please do not place opened and/or partially used items in the blessing boxes. (New Hope will take opened/partially used items.) Thanks!

Additional Notes:

- **Fellowship Hall:** If you would like to reserve Fellowship Hall for an event, please schedule with the office. All upcoming reservations will be listed in this section in the weekly emails.
 - Reserved on Mondays, from 6:30P until 8:00P for scouts
 - Reserved Friday night, December 15
 - Reserved Sunday afternoon, January 7
- **Calendar Items:** Please let the office know of meetings that need to be added to the calendar. I'm currently working on **DECEMBER** and **JANUARY** items. *Please let me know of upcoming committee meetings and other events we need to put on the calendar. Thanks.*
- **Missions meeting**—December 6, 10:30A
- **Directory Info:** If your information needs to be updated for the directory, please let me know before the end of the month. Updates will be published when there are changes).
- **Office will be closed** December 25 for Christmas

December 2023

November '23							January '24						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30			28	29	30	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3 9:00A Lunch Prep	4 9:00A Lunch delivery	5	6 7:00A Men's Bible Study HAS 9:00A Women's Bible Study 10:30A Missions 3:30P Bells practice 7:00P Youth	7	8	9 1:00P United Women Faith
10 3:45P Christmas Caroling	11	12	13 7:00A Men's Bible Study HAS 9:00A Women's Bible Study 3:30P Bells practice 7:00P Youth	14 2:00P United Women Faith	15	16
17 10:00 Worship/Children's Program 11:00P Fellowship Meal	18	19	20 7:00A Men's Bible Study HAS 9:00A Women's Bible Study 3:30P Bells practice 7:00P Youth	21	22	23
24	25 Merry Christmas! The office will be closed 	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	Notes Fellowship Hall reserved Mondays 6:30P - 8:00P Fellowship Hall reserved Saturday, December 2, 4-8P Fellowship Hall reserved Friday night, December 15				

December 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28 Bryce & Keather Hansen	29	30 Katelyn Hamilton	1 Pam Waltner	2
3	4	5	6 Bryce Hansen	7	8 Joey Kueker	9 Howard Baugh
10	11 Ellen Samuelson	12 Ray Novak	13	14	15 Carol Peirce Merlin Dresher	16 Helen McClain
17	18	19 Allen Hahn Jack Gish	20	21 Merlin & Sandra Dresher	22	23
24 Ken Schwanke	25	26 Wilma Garrison Laverna Parrish	27 Henry Martin	28	29	30
31 Bev Perry John & Roni Caffrey	1	Notes				