

PERRYVILLE CIRCUIT NEWSLETTER

501-889-5314

www.perryvilleumcarkansas.org perumc@windstream.net

Bro. David Baker, Pastor

December 2011

Vol. 10 No.12



SO IT CAME TO PASS THAT THE CAESAR ASKED FOR A COUNT OF ALL THE PEOPLE. Since Joseph was of the family of King David, they had to go to Bethlehem to register. When they got there, it became the time for Mary's child to be born.

We know the rest of the story. No room in the inn, shepherds with their flocks, angels telling the story, swaddling clothes, manger, wise men, star. We know the whole story. We can tell to anyone who will listen. We can tell it in our sleep. We can tell it at the drop of a hat. Just ask us, and we will share the story of a miracle on that Christmas morn, so long ago.

Now, does this translate into our daily living? Are we so willing to share the story of faith? Are we ready to tell the story of what happened to us because of what that baby did? Are we as sure about the meaning of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord, as we are about the story of his birth?

Part of our answer may be about Bible Study. When the DISCIPLE Bible Study was first introduced, the main purpose was for Biblical literacy. This meant that there had been statements made saying that United Methodists



.December 4—2nd Sunday of Advent—Holy Communion — Isaiah 40: 1-11; Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3: 8-15a; Mark 1: 1-8. "Wilderness, Water, and a Wild Man." From Mark we read about the story of John the Baptist baptizing at the River Jordan.

December 11—3rd Sunday of Advent—Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24; John 1: 6-8, 19-28. "The Year of the Lord's Favor." The Lord's favor would be upon the people through the gift of the Messiah.

December 18—4th Sunday of Advent—2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16; — Luke 1: 47-55; Romans 16: 25-27; Luke 1: 26-38.

were Biblically illiterate. When we compared ourselves to persons of other denominations, we felt as though they knew more of the Bible than we did. There is a difference between knowing the Bible and knowing about the Bible. While one is about being able to quote chapter and verse, the other is about knowing the meaning of the stories of the Bible. Both are important. The second part may be more important for understanding the meaning of the passages.

The second purpose was to help folks apply what they learn from the Bible to their daily lives. Application of what we learn is also important. Knowing the Bible and applying it to our lives means that we make a conscience decision to follow the instruction from God about how to live in faith.

Christian faith is about being able to tell the stories of the faith and being able to live the faith for others to see. **How are we doing?** Grade yourself: A, B, C, D, or F.

As our children are learning about the stories of the faith through the Rotation Sunday School class, they are studying or learning about the story through several different methods for each month. They receive the message through various methods. We remember that each person may learn best by a specific method.

Bible study is not just sitting down with the Bible in your lap. It takes reading, studying, meditating on, interpreting, and applying. All of these are important.

God Blessed us with the gift of God's word. Amen.

Bro. David

"According to Your Word." Mary acknowledges the power and presence of the Holy Spirit and what that would mean.

December 24—Christmas Eve—Isaiah 9: 2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2: 11-14; Luke 2: 1-20. "O Little Town of Bethlehem." The baby is born in the little town of Bethlehem. Come, Lord Jesus.

December 25—Christmas Day—Isaiah 57: 7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1: 1-4; John 1: 1-14. Matthew 1: 18-25—"Named Him Jesus." It is sometimes visions or dreams that make an important impression on us. From his dream, Joseph knew to name the baby, Jesus.

Plans for Sunday Night Live will be announced later.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

The **Christmas Cantata** at the Perryville United Methodist Church will be held on Sunday, December 18. The exact time will be announced later.

The Cantata is entitled, "Rejoice Believers," by John E. Coates.

The **Men's Breakfast** for the church will be on December 18th as well. The time to start serving will be announced in the bulletin. Everyone will be welcome. Plan to come and stay for the morning worship service and Cantata.

The Christmas Eve Service will be on Saturday, Dec. 24, at 6:30 pm. This is a Candle-light Communion Service.

On Christmas morning, we will not have Sunday School Classes. We invite to come and share in some fellowship time before the worship service. During the worship service, the pastor will have a "**Blessing of the Toys.**" All of the children are invited to bring one favorite, non-scary, non-noisemaking toy to be blessed during the Children's Time. (Adults may bring their favorite non-scary, non-noisemaking toy to be blessed as well.)

Stewardship is HEART WORK

I will be loyal to U.M.C and support it by my prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.”



**IN NEED
OF PRAYER**

Carmon Anderson, Opal Boshears, Annie Dodson, Tom Kelley, Dona Laywell, Mike Martin, Connie McNeal, Donna Phelan, Diane Robertson, Joe Tipton, Johnnie Mae Ware, Don Weiss, Penny Wegner *CHURCH ATTENDANCE & FINANCES*

GIFTS

PRESENCE: During the period of October 30, through November 20, we averaged 34 people in Sunday School and 66 in Worship Service.

SERVICE & WITNESS



IN LOVING MEMORY

DAVID WOMACK

Ida & Lester Rose	Building Fund
Ben & Sarah Hyatt	General Fund
Rob & Lolly Hill	General Fund
Cindy Langston	General Fund
Tom & Carla Kelley	General Fund
Bob & Brenda Reeder	General Fund



Month of -10/30-11/20

Operating Fund	\$7,811.42
Building Fund	\$2,322.79
Designated Giving	\$639.50

Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Perryville United Methodist Church is to make followers of Jesus Christ through Bible Study, Worship, Fellowship, Service, and Witness, and we are to serve as a Connection Center between God, Church, and Community.

A new shipment of PUMC Cookbooks has arrived. Just in time for Christmas! Contact Kate or the Office if you need one. Just \$10.00 each.



United Methodist Family Health offering

Methodist Churches (and our predecessor churches) have supported the Methodist Children's Home with financial gifts during the Christmas season.

Methodist Family Health is the management company which runs four programs: Methodist Children's Home, Methodist Counseling Clinic, Methodist Behavioral Hospital, and Arkansas Cares. The Methodist Children's Home was established in 1909. Now it is the center for group foster care in the Little Rock area. There are also group homes in several towns throughout Arkansas. In addition to the foster homes, the Methodist Behavioral Hospital is located in Maumelle and provides residential care. Also provided are counseling services in various parts of the state.

On December 11 and 18, offering envelopes will be provided during worship for you to send in your gift to Methodist Family Health. Thank you

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



LIVING NATIVITY at PUMC

December 9 & 10, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

(We still need some “actors” and helpers. Contact the church office to volunteer.)

FEEL THE SEASON in a different way, and invite some friends to experience the joy.

Living Nativity at Perryville United Methodist Church

This year our church has agreed to help with the Living Nativity in our church parking lot. The dates for this will be December 9 & 10, from 6 to 8 pm. This is a change in the dates and location.

[Due to the animals being committed to the Heifer Village in Little Rock on Saturday, Dec. 3, and many of the volunteers leaving after that, the drive-through/walk-through Living Nativity will be at our church. We will have three scenes.]

We will be responsible for many of the characters as well as the refreshments. There will be a sign up sheet ready for us to sign up for the characters or the jobs we would be willing to do. The costumes will be provided by the Ranch.

To help with refreshments and inside activities, please contact Carla Kelly

Please plan to support this ministry with your presence and talents. Bring your friends and have fun.

Hendrix College Christmas Carol Services

The Hendrix College Choir will present an off-campus performance of its Candlelight Carol Service in Little Rock on Friday, Dec. 16. The service will begin at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church, located at 2223 Durwood Road.

The Candlelight Carol Service, now in its 47th year, is a traditional favorite to begin the Christmas season, presenting the Christmas story through Scripture lessons and music. Admission is free. No reservations are required for the tour performances.

This year's musical selections will include organ works Toccata in C Major by J. S. Bach; Greensleeves by Richard Purvis; Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine by Claude Means; and Finale (Symphony VI) by C.M. Widor; as well as choral pieces Llegó, llegó! by Domingo Santa Cruz; Adam Lay in Bondage by Conrad Susa; Canite tuba by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina; Sans Day Carol, arranged by Louis Halsey; Bogoróditse Djévo by Arvo Pärt; Joseph, lieber Joseph mein by Samuel Scheidt; There Is No Rose by Ronald Corp; Lux aurumque by Eric Whitacre; Where Is This Stupendous Stranger? by Leo Nestor; Hodie Christus natus est by Andrew Carter; and the traditional processional hymn, Once in Royal David's City.

The choir will perform under the direction of Dr. Nancy Fleming, professor of music, who joined the music faculty at Hendrix in 1986. The choir will be accompanied by Ansley Fleming, Hendrix College Organist and adjunct instructor of music.

Reservations are required for the on-campus services, which will be presented Thursday, Dec. 1 through Saturday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 4 p.m. All campus services will be in Greene Chapel on the Hendrix campus. Reservations will be accepted Monday, Nov. 21 through Friday, Dec. 3. For reservations, call 501-450-1495.



Children of all ages, come to the barn!

Sunday, December 11th, 5:00 p.m.

Gather at the Church for costuming, carpool to the Annual Nativity at O'Such Barn, and then back to the Church for hot chocolate and cookies.

If you are willing to help be a greeter or work with our children in C.H.I.M.E.S. for the up-coming new year - please, let the office know. New list for the year 2012 are being written and they need your name on them. Please help.

Growing, growing...
Sunday School
Fletcher for offering a
unteers. Is God asking you?



our Followers & Little Followers
class...hooray! Thanks to Rick
much-needed hand. We still need vol-



Our Choir will sing
their Christmas Cantata
on December 18th at
10:30 am, in the
Sanctuary.

The men of our Church will provide
their traditional Christmas Breakfast,
on Sunday December 18th. *Volun-
teers are always needed.* Please plan
on eating breakfast with us before
attending the Cantata and Worship
afterwards.



Meals On Wheels

Perryville UMC is actively involved in delivering Meals on Wheels and we are in need of more volunteers. *If there is anyone interested in volunteering their time to this cause, please call Katherine Keough at 889-3271.*

**Delivery Schedule-
Meals on Wheels**

Dec. 26th	Closed
Dec. 27th	B. Hyatt
Dec. 28th	A. Munn & R.A. Smith
Dec. 29th	K. Keough
Dec. 30th	A. Munn & R.A. Smith

November food offering - We donated 105 pounds of misc. items this month to Partners for Progress.

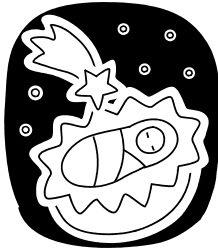


The Joyful Ringers will practice each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.: December 7, 14, and 21st.

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

- Sun. Dec. 4 9:45 am - Sunday School
10:55am - Announcements
11:00 am - Worship Service
12:00 pm - S.P.R.C. Meeting
- Tues. Dec. 6 1:30pm - Mary Martha Meeting
- Wed. Dec. 7 RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE
6:00 pm - Handbells
7:00pm - Choir Practice
- Thurs. Dec. 8 9:00am - UMM Coffee
- Fri. Dec. 9 6:00-8:00 pm - Living Nativity
- Sat. Dec. 10 6:00-8:00 pm - Living Nativity
- Sun. Dec. 11 9:45 am-Sunday School
10:55am - Announcements
11:00am- Worship Service
5:00 pm - Nativity Barn - O'Such Farm
- Tues. Dec. 13 1:30pm-Intercessory Prayer
- Wed. Dec. 14 6:00 pm - Handbells
7:00 pm - Choir Practice
- Thurs. Dec. 15 9:00 am UMM Coffee
- Sun. Dec. 18 8:00 am - Men's Breakfast
10:30 am - Worship Service
And Cantata
- Mon. Dec. 19 **Newsletter Deadline**
- Tues. Dec. 20 Community Advent Meal
- Wed. Dec. 21 6:00 pm - Handbells
7:00 pm - Choir Practice
- Fri. Dec. 23 - Office closed**
- Sat. Dec. 24 6:30pm - Christmas Eve.
Communion Service
- Sun. Dec. 25 - Christmas Day
10:30 - Fellowship Time
10:55 am - Announcements
11:00 am - Worship Service

A Shower for Baby Jesus!



When Jesus arrived as an infant, his parents were very poor. There are many poor parents in Perry County, too, who cannot afford basic items for their child. Baby items are being collected to share with the Partners for Progress food pantry at Christmas. To your shopping cart this month, add some cereal, diapers, baby food or formula "for Baby Jesus".



BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

Macey Chambers	12/1	Tom Box	12/14
Lynn Baker	12/3	Edie Knight	12/15
Catherine Whitener	12/5	Austin Spickes	12/18
Kristen Pennington	12/8	Bob Reeder	12/21
William Penn	12/8	Jessica Spinks	12/21
Carla Kelley	12/9	Jerrianne McCallister	12/22
Kate Cole	12/10	Carol Allen	12/25
Kadin Spinks	12/10	Ben Hyatt	12/26
Arnie Jester	12/11	Greg Spinks	12/26

Lester & Ida Rose	12/2
Wade & Gemma O'Such	12/5
Bob & Brenda Reeder	12/21
Roger & Michelle Hill	12/31



P.O. Box 645
123 Cross Street
Perryville AR 72126

Phone 501-889-5314
Email: perumc@windstream.net
Web Site: www.perryvilleumcarkansas.org

Non-Profit Org.

Permit # 3

Perryville, AR 72126

U.S. Postage Paid

Our Staff:

Pastor..... Rev. David E. Baker
Minister of Music..... Steve Collins
Pianist..... Lee Kelm
Secretary..... Becky Camp
Custodian..... Nate Spinks

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Worship service 11:00 AM



Christmas Eve Service at 6:30

The Christmas Eve Candlelight and Holy Communion Service will be held at 6:30 pm this year. As usual, we invite everyone in our community to share in this service. It is always a special time to share this service with our community on the evening before we celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

DECEMBER WORKERS ARE:

USHERS

Will be printed in bulletins.

LITURGIST

12/4 Kate Cole
12/11 Melinda Collins
12/18 Dan Gudahl
12/25 Jenni Langston

GREETER

Becky Camp & Edie Knight

COMMUNION WORKERS

Nancy O'Such, Greg Spinks, Lynn Baker

C.H.I.M.E.S

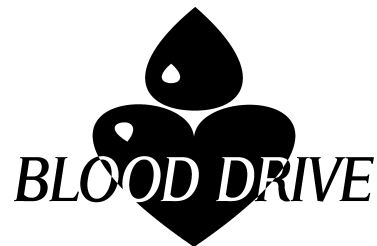
Charla Edwards

Carla Keley

December's Bread Angel is Nancy O' Such

Snacks for December - 4th Chambers 11th Reeder
18th Rose 25th Whitener

RED CROSS



Save your blood until December 7— meaning do not give blood until then at our church from 9-2. If you have not given blood recently, then you can give on December 7.

As we have done before, this Blood Drive will be in honor of Tom Kelley.

Remember,

If you can't give, send someone that can.