

FARMVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



"BACK INTO SERVING GOD"

December, 2014



WHAT'S INSIDE!

Page 2 -

Message from the BOT
Christmas Giving Tree
Christmas Musical
Jonathan's last Sunday
Soup & Sandwich Lunch
Birthday Party for Baby Jesus
UMMen News
UMWomen News

Page 3 -

UMYouth News
Youth Christmas Party
Children's Ministry
Community Men's Group
Note from Finance Committee
Report on Stewardship Campaign
Online Giving
Advent Offering

Back Page

Church-Wide Birthday Party
Birthdays
Prayer request
Note from the Staff

Inserts -

Schedule of Our Service
December Calendar
Kid's Page

Christmas Greetings...and may God's Hope, Peace, Joy and Love be with you!

As we have begun the first season of the Christmas cycle called Advent, a time of preparation spiritually to celebrate the birth of God's Son, Jesus, the Messiah and Savior of the world, you will notice that each week's bulletin cover has the same picture...yet different themes for each week! Sunday, November 30th, was the theme "Hope", December 7th is "Peace", December 14th is "Joy" and December 21st will be "Love"...each a part of the traditional Advent themes!

Yet, as we continue each week to prepare ourselves spiritually and reflect upon...more fully understand...and then celebrate the **true meaning** of Christmas, we see that our bulletin covers clearly reveal a bright star! And as we look at each week's cover, we may immediately be reminded of the star that the Magi/Wise Men followed on their journey towards Bethlehem—and we certainly would be correct in doing so!

However, the star on our bulletin covers each week is also meant to remind each of us... that we too are on a spiritual journey in finding the Savior of the world—Jesus, the Son of God! For some of us, the star represents our **first journey** of finding Jesus in our life! For others, the star may represent our **continuing journey**...a reminder that even though we have found the Messiah...our Lord...we must never quit our spiritual journey of truly discovering more about Jesus of Nazareth, God made into flesh! And yet, for those of us who have strayed away from our Lord, the star can represent **God drawing us...leading us back** to Himself...gently reminding us that God has never left us and never will!

As we continue to look at our bulletin cover each week, may we not only see a different theme...but also be reminded that the true meaning of Christmas is meant to bring into our lives—**True Hope...True Peace...True Joy...and True Love**, which can only be found as a result of one day...one moment—coming to the Lord and beginning to get a glimpse of what Jesus of Nazareth's birth, life, death and resurrection means to the world...but especially in your life! Jesus, God's Son...is the Light of the world...the Light who can bring us out of the darkness of despair, anxiety, sadness and hate...and bring into our lives—True Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, **as only God can!**

This Advent season, may you truly follow that star that God provides in your life, to guide you on your spiritual journey...directly to Him!

To God be the glory...and may God's Hope, Peace, Joy and Love be with you, your family, and your friends this Christmas season!

Take care....peace...
Pastor Bill



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.....

Attention Church Family: Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 7th at 3 pm**. There will be a FUMC "Mission" meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to hear from the church family about how to best use our church facilities to serve our needs, community needs and spiritual needs. We ask that you think and pray about these matters and please join us to express your ideas about how to use the "space" that is our church building. Thank you in advance, your B-o-T.



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Dec. 14 – Warming of the Greens for Adult Gifts and United Methodist Home for Children Goods

The Christmas Giving Tree is located in the hallway outside of the Fellowship Hall. You will find names of persons, both young and senior, with gift requests. Also there are names of youth from the United Methodist Children's Home requesting simply \$25.00 Visa/MC/Walmart Gift Cards. **Please return gifts by Sunday, December 14.**



THE LOVE OF GOD AT CHRISTMAS"
"The Love of God at Christmas" is a powerful Christmas musical. It will be presented Sunday, **December 14 at 6:30pm** by the FUMC Christmas

Choir. This stirring presentation celebrates the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who comes to us, not to conquer, not to enslave, not to dominate, but to give us all His love. We hope you will join us for this beautiful Christmas musical.

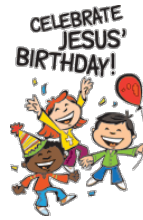


COME AND CELEBRATE ~ JONATHAN'S MINISTRY AT FUMC

Sunday, December 14th will be our Youth Director, Jonathan Lemmon's last Sunday with Farmville UMC.

Jennifer, his wife, has graduated and they will be relocating as they began a new journey for the Lord. Jonathan will be bringing the message that morning at both services, followed by a **Soup and Sandwich Lunch after the 11:00am service. All donations will go to the Youth.** Please come, as we celebrate Jonathan and Jennifer's ministry at our church and send them on their new journey for our Lord. We have been very blessed to have them be a part of our church family!

Volunteers are needed to make soup and desserts. Sandwiches will be provided by the church. Please call Irene Pollard, 252-315-6555.



BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR BABY JESUS – SUN. DEC. 21

Sunday-December 21-(during regular Sunday school time) the children's Sunday school classes will celebrate the birth of the Baby Jesus with a birthday party. Children are asked to bring a wrapped food item as a gift. There will be a birthday cake and lots of fun and praise! We are in need of someone to play the piano for singing-just let the church office or Margo know. Parents are welcome! And bring a friend!



UMMen Dinner meeting Monday, December 8 at 7:00pm. Menu—

Shrimp Stew. Come join us good food and great fellowship.



Circle III – Circle III will have their Christmas Meeting on Tuesday, December 16 at Plank Road Steakhouse at 6:30. Peanut

orders should be picked up on Tuesday, December 9 at the Church.



The Holiday Helper and Silent Auction were a huge success. All women in the church worked together and UMW made around \$5000 to be donated to the Boy and Girls Club, Back Pack Pals, Methodist Home for Children, and Wesley Foundation. Special mention goes to the ladies on these committees: Silent Auction - Marion, Julie, Wanda and Tracie; Decorations - Jean, Tracie Marion and Lisa; Money – Kay, Polly and Margaret; Kitchen – Nancy H. Darlene, Irene, Eloise, Debra, Lisa, Ann, Mary, Jean, Joy, Cindy, Connie, Lindsay, Diane and others.; Publicity – Nancy J. and Delane; Web – Jean, Lindsay, and Margaret; Pricing – Maxine, Harriett, Anita, and other. Thanks to all!

Thank You!

Thanks to all who helped make the Holiday Helpers fundraiser a delicious success. The fellowship hall looked like winter wonderland, complete with snowflakes hanging from the ceiling! The many donations of time, food and auction items will help bring smiles to Methodist Home for Children, Boys and Girls Club of Farmville, Wesley Foundation at ECU and Back Pack Pals. Because of your generous support, the Farmville United Methodist Women raised approximately \$4800.00 which will help make a Merry Christmas for many.

Marion Stowe



Greetings Farmville UMC,
It is hard to believe that December is here! It is that magical time of year when we get to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

It is also that time of year that we spend even more time with family, eat even more great food and give each other gifts! And with that, the New Year is just around the corner. I look forward to hearing about all the great things the Farmville Youth are up to in 2015. I know God has some amazing things in store for them. It has been one of the greatest blessings in my life thus far to have been the Youth Director at Farmville UMC. Jennifer and I have both been blessed beyond our understanding. Thank you all for making us feel at home. The Youth here at Farmville are an extraordinary group of young men and women. They will do great things in life as they continue on their faith walk. Thank you all, God bless. HE>I John 3:30 Jonathan Lemmon.



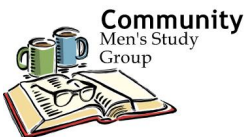
Combined Youth Christmas Party Sun. Dec. 7 at 3:00pm. We will be having pizza and I am

asking that you all please send some sort of party food to share with the group. Also, each Youth should bring a \$5 gift for one of the games we will be playing. I will have a few extra gifts on hand in case this isn't possible for some. In addition to the games, we will be watching a Movie. Let me know if you have questions.



Hello parents just a quick reminder that our next children ministries activity will be on Dec.14 at 4 in the afternoon! Please have your new verses

memorized and be ready to say them to me, everyone should have gotten new verses last weekend! Also, please continue to fill out your accountability cards! Everyone seems to be doing a great job at that and attending a lot of church events! We will have a parents meeting to discuss spring events and activities on Jan.11 during Sunday school at 10! So please mark your calendars! Last, I wanted to thank everyone who came to the activity Sunday, we had a great turn out! Children Ministries Director
Player Reid Eason



The Men's Study group continues their weekly meetings on Tuesday nights at 7:00pm. All men are welcome to come and learn more about how this group of men is encouraging one another as they grow in their faith.

NOTE FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
All contributions for 2014 should be in the church office on or before December 31 to go on this year's statement



"LIVING EACH DAY AS A STEWARD"

We have successfully ended our "Living Each Day as a Steward!" campaign. We hope that you found it easy to respond with your pledge and learned how to live each day as a steward. We encourage everyone who has not already done so, to complete their pledge and return it to the church by Sunday, December 14th. To date we have only approximately 30 commitments returned.
The Finance Committee



STEWARDSHIP AND THANKSGIVING

In this season of thanksgiving, a sincere 'thank you' is in order to everyone who supports our congregation throughout the year with their attendance, service and regular financial contributions. For those of you who are interested, the church offers electronic giving options for making donations on a scheduled, automated basis. It's convenient for you and provides much-needed financial consistency for the church. To donate, visit the church website at www.farmvilleumc.com and locate the link to the giving page or call the church office for information.



Advent Season is when we receive offerings to support special mission needs and unexpected natural disasters, etc. The entire amount raised goes to missions. At any time, you may simply contribute by using one of the coin folders available on the credenzas in the hallways, by using one of the offering envelopes on the back of the pew or by personal check; just indicate on the envelope/check "Advent Offering," and drop it in the offering plate. Thanking you in advance for your generous gift in the name of the One who gave all for us.



**CHURCH-WIDE BIRTHDAY
PARTY – JANUARY 11 AT
6:00PM**

Hey Church Family,
Our Church wide Birthday Party is January 11 at 6pm. I am looking forward to a fun night with a great entertainment from Scott Wilkinson, who puts on a wonderful show for all ages!!
If you are able to attend, please call or text me at 252-916-3563 or email at purplecrushmom@yahoo.com and let me know your Birthday month. That will help me ensure there is enough seating at each table.
If you are interested in helping, I am in need of people willing to decorate a table to correspond to a certain month, as well as people willing to bring a dessert. If you are able to help, please also contact me and I will get you signed up.
This is going to be a wonderful event where our church can come together, worship, and socialize with each other while celebrating a year FULL of wonderful people's birthdays. You won't want to miss it!
Thank you and kindest regards,
Lindsay Annis
(252-916-3563 or purplecrushmom@yahoo.com)



Dec. 3: Jamie Cleveland
Dec. 4: Garland Mozingo
Dec. 8: Delane Fuquay

Dec. 13: Ann Rogers
Dec. 14: Bert Warren, Sr.
Dec. 15: Walter Jessup
Dec. 15: Cindy Parks
Dec. 21: Mary Allen
Dec. 24: Edna Hobgood
Dec. 25: Happy Birthday, Baby Jesus
Player Eason



**PLEASE BE IN PRAYER
FOR...Rufus & Evangeline
Cochran (health), Tracey
Smith (health), Minnie Lee**

Winborn (health), Nellie Lang (peace), Frank Powell (recovery), Billy & Gray Baker (health), Kirsten Baker (healing), Kailey Eaton (healing), Jeff Albritton (healing), Graceleigh Harper Hood & Family (healing), Lynnette Williams (healing), John Sherman (recovery), Victims of Disasters, Carroll Oakes (recovery), Jesse Braxton (recovery), Frank Hemmingway (healing), Christian witnesses around the world (safety & courage) Dylan Riggs (recovery), Savannah Pollard (healing), Jan Cannon (healing), Ronnie Wainwright (healing), Lynn Joyner, (recovery), Stanley Vick (recovery), Nathan (healing), Lisa Housley (recovery), Roxie Smith (recovery), Henry Fields (recovery), Joyce Smith (healing), Laura Whitehurst (recovery), Harry Lamm (healing), Dan Webb (healing), Martha Allen (strength), Etna Lewis (tests), Karen T. Wende (healing), Persons on Christmas Giving Tree (God's touch), Gerald Grange (healing, friend of Eloise), the family of John Wells (grief, father of Anne Walters and Buzzy Wells, grandfather of Hunter Walters) Jean Padget (health, grandmother of Alicia Taylor).



Merry Christmas from the Staff

**Blessings!
From Your FUMC Staff
A Sincere Thank You
To The Congregation of FUMC
For your Love and Support in 2014**



December 2014

USHERS

Dec. 7: Phil Reel
 Dec. 14: Newton Smith
 Dec. 21: David Stowe
 Dec. 28: Mike Terrell
 Jan. 4: Mike Tugwell

ALTAR FLOWERS

Nov. 30- December 28:
 Christmas Decorations
 Jan 4: Eloise Carraway

ACOLYTES

Dec. 7: Lance Smithwick
 Dec. 14: Savannah Reel
 Dec. 21: Molly Williams
 Dec. 28: Bailey Walters
 Jan. 4: Savannah Reel

SANCTUARY GREETERS

Dec. 7: Chuck & Joy Fields
 Dec. 14: Dewey & Delane Fuquay
 Dec. 21: David Garner Family
 Dec. 28: Bob & Joan Ginn
 Jan. 4: Paul Grimes Family

WELCOMING GREETERS

(Sunday School Entrance)

Dec. 7: Walter & Nancy Jessup
 Dec. 14: Tommy & Beth Hardy
 Dec. 21: Chuck & Pam Johnson
 Dec. 28: Bob & Anne McGaughey
 Jan 4: David Monroe Family

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Dec. 14: Maggie Williams
 Dec. 21: Tracie Durrett
 Dec. 28: Lindsay Annis
 Jan 11: Ashlie Boberg

KID'S Korner

Dec. 14: Teresa Parent
 Dec. 21: Mike Wainwright
 Dec. 28: Jean Pierce
 Jan. 11: Irene Pollard

NURSERY - INFANTS TO AGE 5

Dec. 7: Kirkie & Maggie Williams
 Dec. 14: Tracie Durrett & Virginia Tynch
 Dec. 21: Paula Tugwell & Catherine
 Dec. 28: Paul & Erin Grimes
 Jan. 4: Mary & Emily Monroe

FELLOWSHP DINNERS

Dec. 3: New Beginnings
 Dec. 10: Men
 Dec. 17: Circle III
 Dec. 24: No Meal
 Dec. 31: No Meal
 Jan. 7: Circle 1v

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS SCHEDULE

Nov. 2: Teresa Parent
 Nov. 9: Debra Evans
 Nov. 16: Sarah Peterson
 Nov. 23: Teresa Parent
 Nov. 30: Debra Evans
 Dec. 7: Sarah Peterson

BACK PACK PALS SCHEDULE

(Pack bags on Wednesday of each week)

Dec. 3: Youth Group
 Dec. 10: Monroe Family
 Dec. 17: Kay Crossan
 Jan. 7: Youth Group

Statistical Report November 2014

Ave. Sunday School Attendance ----- 23
 Ave. Worship Attendance ----- 141
 Ave. Offerings ----- \$5,472.72
 Need to date ----- \$254,906.42
 Raised to date ----- \$218,234.46

DECEMBER

CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 2

7:00pm Community Men's Group

7:00pm Administrative Council

Wednesday, December 3

10:00am "Away Day"

6:00pm Fellowship Dinner

Covered Dish

6:15pm Children's Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Sunday, December 7 - 2nd Sunday in Advent

Communion

8:30am Praise & Worship

9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Traditional Worship

3:00pm Combined Youth Christmas Party

3:00pm - Board of Trustees'

Church-Wide Meeting

Monday, December 8

7:00pm UMMen's Supper Meeting

Tuesday, December 9

7:00pm Community Men's Group

Wednesday, December 10

6:00pm Fellowship Dinner - UMMen

6:15pm Children's Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Sunday, December 14 - 3rd Sunday in Advent

Jonathan Lemmon's Last Sunday

8:30am Praise and Worship

9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Traditional Worship

12:05pm Soup & Sandwich Lunch

4:00pm Children's Activity

6:30pm "The Love of God at Christmas"
presented by the FUMC Christmas Choir

Tuesday, December 16

6:30pm Circle III - Plank Road

7:00pm Community Men's Group

Wednesday, December 17

6:00pm Fellowship Dinner

Circler III cooking

Sunday, December 21 - 4th Sunday in Advent

8:30am Praise and Worship

9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments

10:00am - Celebrate Jesus' Birthday

Party for Children

11:00am Traditional Worship

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

December 24, 25 & 26 - Office Closed

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 28

8:30am Praise and Worship

9:30am Fellowship & Refreshments

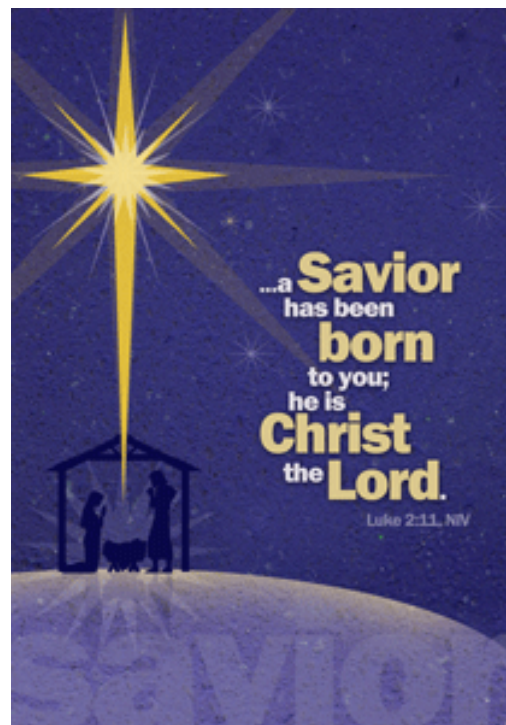
10:00am Sunday School

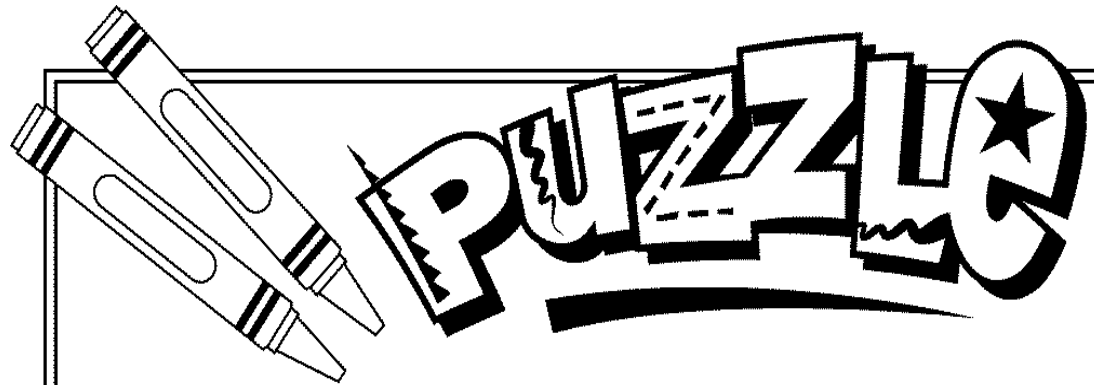
11:00am Traditional Worship

Wednesday, December 31

NO MEAL

NO RHEARSALS





"Away in a Manger" PLATE



Make this special plate as a gift to give this Christmas.

What you need:

- Clear glass plate
- Acrylic craft paint
- Paintbrush and water
- Black permanent marker

What you do:

1. Turn plate upside-down on table. Paint one of your palms brown, and press it on the center of the plate.
2. Rotate the plate so fingers point down. Using yellow paint, make a straw bed in the palm.
3. Mix white and brown paint for Jesus' face. Use white paint for a swaddled body.
4. Paint a yellow star above Jesus and a yellow border around the plate rim.
5. When paint is dry, turn plate over. With the marker, draw dots for Jesus' eyes and write the words of Luke 2:12 around the plate rim.

Barn king of the Jews

Matthew 2:1-2 says that after Jesus was born, wise men came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?" Complete the puzzle to discover what they found in Bethlehem.

Directions: In the grid below, draw lines by starting at the first number in each list and stopping at the last.



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16-17	28-17-6	61-50-39	8-7-18	106-96-85-97-107-106	42-41-52-63-64-53
3-14-25	36-47-58	104-105-106	38-49-60	89-100-111-123	107-108-109-120-130
2-3-4	5-16-27	19-18-29-30	69-79-89	80-92-103-104	125-135-134-124-123-133-134
40-51-62-39	37-47-59	105-95-84-96		124-125-126-127-128	69-80-91-102-103
				129-130-142-141-129	141-140-128-129

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
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34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
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45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
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56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77
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78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88
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89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99
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100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143