



# MUMC

## *message*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | DECEMBER 2019

## Pastor's Pen

### ***What is a "good gift"?***

Over the years, my definition of a "good Christmas gift" has changed several times. As a young child I really didn't have much of any idea as to what made a good Christmas gift. If I had a good new toy to play with, I was generally happy. Through my childhood, however, I developed the standard "kid good gift policy".

Clothes? Bad gift  
Something for school? Bad Gift  
Book? Bad gift  
Toy or game? Good gift  
Money? Good gift  
Something I saw on TV that I had asked for? Amazing gift

Many a Christmas passed under these sets of guidelines. Many parents can identify with them as you witness your own children go through this as well. My oldest child has now also officially entered this stage. This stage, sadly, is a making of our own consumer culture. We want more and more, bigger and better, and only what we want.

As an adult, however, I find myself longing for the opposite of what I desired as a child. I want the warm sweater and new pants. I look forward to the cookbook or new bible research material. I love the kitchen gadgets that I can use every day. The new toys and tech? Well, they're nice and all, but often they end up relegated to a closet and destined for a future yard sale. It's weird how our expectations change so drastically.

You are no doubt by now fully enthralled in the preparation and getting ready for Christmas. You may already have your tree up, you may be getting ready for parties and events, or looking for those special gifts for you loved ones. As the events and moments approach, another truth looms: Jesus is coming. Yet, he doesn't come to bring the fancy and the ostentatious, he comes to bring us what we need. The Christ child comes to share love, joy, peace, and hope. The Christ child doesn't bring us what we want, but what we truly need. He upends our expectations and implores us to give as he has given.

This Christmas, I ask you in that spirit to consider:

What do you need?  
What does your family need?  
What does your church need?  
What does your community need?  
What does your neighbor need?

Christ is coming. What do you need to give, receive, and share this Christmas?

Andrew Kjorlaug

# Christmas

## WORSHIP SERVICES



### Christmas Eve Services / Noon and 6:00 p.m.

**December 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

***"Longest Night Worship" at 5:00pm***

Have you lost someone recently? Is the Christmas season difficult and worrisome? Come find comfort and peace in this service of hope and healing.

**December 24<sup>th</sup>:**

***Christmas Eve Worship Services***

12:00pm: Midday Christmas Eve Service

6:00pm: Candlelight service

(both services will have communion and candlelight)



#### December Sermon Series

Mary and Joseph were greeted in Bethlehem by a "No Vacancy" sign. There was no room for them in the inn and they had to make do with what they had. However, they are not the only ones who would have found themselves on the outs.

This December we will look at who else would have been left out by culture of the day and how Jesus now opens the doors to new people.

**December 1<sup>st</sup>:**

**No Room for John the Baptist**

**"Too Much Truth"**

Mark 1:4-8

**December 8<sup>th</sup>:**

**No Room for Shepherds**

**"Unclean"**

Luke 2:8-20

**December 15<sup>th</sup>:**

**No Room for the Magi**

**"Who Are These Guys?"**

Matthew 2:1-12

**December 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

**No Room for Mary and Joseph**

**"You're Not Welcome Here"**

Luke 2:1-7

**December 24<sup>th</sup>:**

**You're All Invited!**

**"You're All Invited!"**

Matthew 1:18-25

# Reading the Bible in 2019

In 2019 we as a congregation will read a different book (or short espistles) of the bible each month. Listed below are the books we will read and at the beginning of each month you will receive an outline for each book. Let us join in reading scripture together!

For December, we'll end the year by reading through Ezra and Nehemiah. These books focus on the rebuilding of the Temple and the return of the people following the Babylonian exile. Begin in Ezra and read 1 chapter a day (excluding Sundays and Christmas).

## Poinsettias

Red Poinsettias will be available for purchase in honor of or in memory of loved ones through December 20th. The poinsettias will line the stairs located in the front of the sanctuary on December 22nd until Christmas Eve. If you would like to place one or more poinsettias in the church during this time, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Order forms can be found on the round table in the Narthex. Please complete the form and submit to the office. Price per poinsettia is \$16.00. You may take your flowers home following the Christmas Eve Service.

### Mitten Tree

Please bring gloves, scarves and toboggans for the Mitten Tree. The items will be donated to the schools after Christmas.

### Cross Tree

The Cross Tree will be decorated with crosses from each family in our church. If your family does not have a cross, please add a cross for your family to this tree. The tree will be located in the narthex.

## Memorials for May Ferguson

- J.L. and S.W. Marshall
- John Paul and Cissie Pendergrass
- Tad and Seth White
- Margaret Fogleman
- Billy and Vesta McNeely
- Allen and Frances King
- Lannie and Holly Lancaster
- James and Dorothy Sample
- Frank and Gail Fogleman
- Neal and Elizabeth Williams
- Roger and Rita Gilmore
- Cyndi James
- John and Char Griffiee
- Joe and Patsy Catt
- Mike and Julie Molloy
- Bartt and Beverly Vaughn
- Judge John and Nancy Fogleman

## CHURCH EVENTS

Reoccurring Events:

Dec. 4 and 11 / WWF / 3:00 p.m.

Dec. 4 & 11 / Wed. Communion / 5:30 p.m.

Dec. 4 / 6:00 p.m. / Wednesday Night Dinner  
NOTE: No Dinner Dec. 11, 18 & 25

Dec. 5 & 12 / Bible Study Fellowship / 6:20 p.m.  
Education Building / Upstairs  
Enter through Ed Hall Doors

Dec. 12 Chili and Cinnamon Roll Sale  
Youth Building during  
Christmas Parade / 5:30 p.m.

Dec. 15 Children's Program  
"The Nativity Story" 4:00 p.m.  
AND  
The adult choir and guest orchestra  
Perform "Have You Heard"

Dinner will follow the  
performances in the gym

Dec. 22 Cookies with Santa

Dec. 24 Noon Service and  
6:00 p.m. Service

Dec. 25-27 Office Closed

## Wednesday Night Dinners

### December 4th

Our youth group will be cooking a breakfast bar to raise money for Hope for the Holidays.

### December 11th

No Dinner due to youth cooking chili and cinnamon rolls for the parade on Thursday December 12th.

### December 15th

This will be a dinner following the Christmas Program. Dinner will include a variety of soups, a baked potato bar and salad bar.

## MUMC Youth Prepare and Deliver Thanksgiving Meals

The holidays are a unique time of the year which allows us to reach out to others in many ways and display the love of Christ to a watching world. Thanksgiving in particular is a great time to show gratitude for our good fortune by giving to those who are less fortunate. This year our youth will once again prepare and deliver plate lunches to 100 shut-in and elderly individuals.

Each year, the youth group works with the Arkansas Council on Aging to seek out individuals who, without our assistance, would not enjoy a typical Thanksgiving meal. Our youth group plans to meet on Wednesday, November 27th at 8:00 p.m. to begin preparation of the food to be delivered the following day. On Thanksgiving day, the youth will pull together to warm food, prepare plates and deliver the meals to all the individuals on the list by noon.

## Turkey Dinner 2019

The first "turkey dinner" was held around 1953 (65 years ago) when a church addition containing our first kitchen was built. The first dinner was cooked mostly in church members homes and brought to the church kitchen and served on card tables with probably 25-50 people in attendance. The key founders of this tradition at the time were Helen Williams, Mamie Olive Stokes and Mary Beth Rieves. Around 1963 the turkey dinner side dishes which includes the traditional sweet potatoes, green beans and cranberry relish were prepared in the church kitchen. We have come a long way in 63 years to evolve from 2 or 3 turkeys to 900+lbs of turkey and 480 lbs. of sweet potatoes. We serve 900 people for dine in and carry out.

Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's Turkey Dinner such a success from cooking cakes, pies and cornbread to cooking and carving turkeys, buying and selling tickets. The planning extends from one year to the next and really cranks up about a month before the event. The week of the dinner is a flurry of duties on a daily basis. We have a lot of good fellowship but the fruits of our labor are evident the day of the dinner as everyone enjoys the "treasured first turkey dinner" of the holiday season.

God Bless you and your families this Holiday Season.

Jerri Crase, UMW President  
Debbie Scola, Turkey Dinner Coordinator

### Turkey Dinner Final Numbers

#### INCOME:

Ticket Sales	\$ 13,520.00
Contributions	\$ 180.00
Leftover Sales	\$ 830.00
	\$ 14,530.00

Less Expenses: \$ 4,649.12

PROFIT: \$ 9,880.88

### Hullabaloo Final Numbers

#### INCOME:

Concessions	\$ 1,339.00
Games	\$ 919.00
Meat Sales:	\$ 18,003.00
Country Store:	\$ 7,625.00
Silent Auction	\$ 4,262.00
Fishing Tournament:	\$ 600.00

Less Expenses: \$ 6,823.25

PROFIT: \$ 25,324.75



# Children's Ministry



Marion United Methodist Church  
Children's Ministry

## Children's Update!

What an exciting and blessed Fall we have had in the MUMC Children's Ministry!

Sweet, new faces have joined us on Wednesday afternoons for our weekly after-school program! More volunteers than ever have shown up faithfully and helped to lead our children in their growing relationships and fellowships.

Our WWF children will end the year with some fun and fulfilling experiences. We will continue our mission work and special elves will help our kiddos make gingerbread houses!

Children will bless us all with their upcoming Nativity Story they share Sunday, December 15, at 4:00 p.m. This will be a special combined service with the MUMC Pre-school, WWF Children's Choir, and the Adult Chancel Choir. Dinner will follow in the gym at 5:30 p.m.

Dust off your aprons and check the pantry for supplies!! It's nearly time for Cookies with Santa on Sunday, December 22! Cookies will be set up and swapped in the Narthex immediately following church service. Please plan to bring two dozen of your very best and tasty treats!

Please consider taking a stint and volunteering for Children's Church one Sunday! Children's Church needs volunteers so parents may enjoy worship while young ones are able to worship with their friends.



Practicing for the Christmas Program

# Youth



MUMC Youth

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Don't forget we need volunteers to help with our Chili Sale and Hope for the Holidays.

December 12th: The youth will have a Concession Sale during the Christmas Parade beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the youth building and in front of the youth building. We will need volunteers to not only cook chili, but also help with the event that evening.

Hope for the Holidays is just around the corner. Kolby Jones has received our list of families for this year. The family adoption process will begin soon, but please remember we also need volunteers to help shop, wrap and bag gifts for the families.

Please contact Kolby Jones ([kjones@marion-umc.com](mailto:kjones@marion-umc.com)) to help

We are collecting can goods for our families for Hope for the Holidays. If you would like to help, a list of items and dates are below:

Week Nov. 25-Dec. 1 / Peanut butter and Jelly

Week Dec. 2-8 / Mac n cheese and cereal

Week Dec. 9-15 / Saltine crackers and 2 lb bags of rice.

## Preschool and PDO



Preschoolers helping with the Backpack Mission Program:  
No more rumble in their tummy.



PDO celebrating their own "Friendsgiving". They made their choice of favorite foods for Thanksgiving. Mac and cheese and chocolate pie was top on the list!



Preschoolers made calm down jars..... Just in time for the holidays.



## Member Spotlight :

### Ashley McNeely

#### How long have you been a member of MUMC?

I started attending MUMC in 2013, when Van and I married and I moved from Little Rock to Marion. We officially joined on December 6, 2015. I have (almost) been a lifelong Methodist with previous memberships in Maumelle and Little Rock.



#### Tell us about your family.

My husband, Van, is a Sales Director with RiceTec. I have 3 wonderful stepsons: Hunter is 26 and lives and works in Jonesboro, Michael is 21 and a student at Arkansas State, Taylor is 17 and a Junior at Concord Academy in Memphis.

#### Tell us about your job.

I'm the Controller of SouthernSun Asset Management, a "boutique" asset manager located in downtown Memphis. Prior to that I worked in Corporate Accounting at Medtronic in Memphis and Alltel/Verizon in Little Rock.

#### What are your hobbies?

I love to travel – I'm always in the planning stages of my next adventure! We also love spending time on Greers Ferry Lake – boating in the summer and soaking up the woods & nature in fall/winter.

#### What are you involved in at MUMC?

I'm a member of the Mary Virginia UMW Circle and have served on the Finance Committee for the past three years.



#### What is your favorite thing about our church?

I love how involved the members are and the many opportunities available for service and fellowship. My favorite events of the year are Hope for the Holidays and Hullabaloo (especially the country store and silent auction!)

#### What is your favorite Bible Verse?

Psalm 100: 1-5 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. <sup>2</sup> Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. <sup>3</sup> Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. <sup>4</sup> Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. <sup>5</sup> For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

This verse has special meaning to me because it was a favorite of my late grandfather and he took every opportunity to instill the importance of this message to all of his grandchildren.



## 2020 Church Council

Chairperson	Matt Entrekin
Vice Chairperson	Brian Doyle
Sec. of Council/Charge Conf.	Jerri Crase
Treasurer	Frank Fogleman
Finance Chair	Shelby Cole
Financial Secretary	Sheila Henderson
Lay Leader	Matt Entrekin
Lay Member/Annual Conf.	John Fogleman
Sup. Of Sunday School	Scott Fogleman
	Sally Streeter
SPRC Chair	Scotta Allen
Trustee Chair	Marty Cooper
Youth Director	Kolby Jones
Children's Director	Straley Owen
Music Director	Blake Owen
UMW President	Jerri Crase
Membership Secretary	Sheila Henderson
Hullabaloo Coordinator	Allison Wehrum
Usher Coordinators	Tony Gardner
	Scott Carpenter
Wedding Liasons	Dawn Brenner
	Nancy Fogleman
Missions	Syndi Landry
Church Administrator	Cyndi James

### Members at Large

2020	Jenny Knych, Holly Lancaster, Beverly Moore
2021	Sandy Nelson, Jane Ellen Whittington, Neal Williams
2022	Brian Doyle, Chloe Harrison, Jay Salter

## 2020 Committees

### Trustees:

2020	Jack Avery, Bart Turner, David Wallace
2021	Vance Bacon, Tracy Brick, Marty Cooper
2022	David Fogleman, Steve Ford, Stacy Parker

### Finance Committee:

2020	Garrison Hardke, Cathy Horton, Mike Walker
2021	Kelly Fogleman, Michelle Schwartz, Nick Sutton
2022	Shelby Cole, Josh Doyle, Mitch Shidler

### Staff/Parish Relations Committee:

2020	Scotta Allen, Shanna Boney, Andy Rawls
2021	Pat Crase, Cindy French, Rachel Vaughn
2022	Lannie Lancaster, Farah McFarland, Bartt Vaughn

### Nominations Committee:

2020	Shelbi Cole, David Fogleman, Beverly Vaughn
2021	Paul Allen, Doc Johnston, Cassie Morris
2022	Nancy Fogleman, Betsy Laughter, Tim Parker

## THANK YOU!

We would like to extend a most gracious thank you to all of those rolling off committees this year:

Joe Catt, John Griffiee, Matt Hale, Thomas Gerrard, Ashley McNeely, Justin Rikard, Matt Coe, Susan Hale, Beth Sutton, Paula Moore, Lannie Lancaster and Kristi Doyle.

## December Birthdays

Dec 1 Nick Chrisman  
Megan Conrad  
Lorelai Kay Harrison  
Tinlee Mae Harrison  
Collin Wade Knych

Dec. 3 Les Callan  
Beth Sutton

Dec. 4 Anna Caroline Fesmire  
Chasity Johnston  
David Wallace  
Glen Whitmarsh

Dec. 5 Waverly Kate Gray  
Mary-Ann Ford  
Taylor Fowler  
Mary Inman  
James O'Beirne

Dec. 6 John Griffiee  
James Williams

Dec. 7 Wyatt Entrekin  
Sallie Streeter

Dec. 8 Matt Entrekin  
Robin Fesmire  
Destiny Henderson  
Jenny Knych

Dec. 9 Chase Chafin

Dec. 10 Pat Crase  
Elizabeth Hardke  
Debbie Scola

Dec. 12 Lauren Catt  
Marty Cooper  
Wilson Henderson

Dec. 13 Brenda Melton

Dec. 14 Josh Doyle  
Lauren Miller

Dec. 15 Lannie Lancaster  
Layton Scarbrough  
Brooklyn Sims

Dec. 16 Scott Carpenter  
Rachel Vaughn

Dec. 18 Mary Alice Gerrard

Dec. 19 Lucas Peyton  
Samuel Kjorlaug  
Claire Wallace

Dec. 20 Ryce Smith  
Allison Wehrum

Dec. 22 Jane Hartley  
Miller Owen

Dec. 23 Nathan Castle  
Jimmy Williams

Dec. 24 Vernon Luedke  
Samatha McAnally

Dec. 25 Anna Elizabeth Entrekin

Dec. 26 Mario Baratti

Dec. 28 Rachel Coe  
Sean Gray  
Rick Preslar  
Jackson Rawls

Dec. 29 George Andrew Myers  
Gary Wehrum

Dec. 30 Joe Catt  
Stoy Long  
Wayne Nelson

Dec. 31. Ben Gerrard



## December Ushers

Frank Fogleman      Cliff Lafitte  
Steve Ford          Andy Rawls  
Tony Gardner        Neal Williams

## December Acolytes

1st      Cooper and Conner Allison  
8th      Sam and Mollie Owen  
15th     Davis Fowler and Jackson Rawls  
22nd    Witt Kennedy and Sullivan McKewen  
29th    Harper Doyle and Abby Simmons

## December Greeters

Crossroads Sunday School Group

## December Altar Flower Calendar

1st              Chrismon Tree  
8th              Chrismon Tree  
15th             Office Staff  
22nd            Poinsettias  
29th             Open

## Prayer List

Patsy Catt, Leigh Garrett, Dee Helton, Scott Bonds, Mart Thaxton, Mason Fowler, and Tim Williamson.

## VISION STATEMENT

*A church on fire for Jesus Christ,  
setting the world on fire for  
Jesus Christ.*

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Being disciples; Making disciples.*

## SUNDAY MORNING

9:00 a.m.	Prayer Service
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
10:45 a.m.	Worship Service



Marion United Methodist Church

## Church Staff

Reverend Andrew Kjorlaug, Pastor  
kjorlaug@marion-umc.com  
andrew.kjorlaug@arumc.org

Sheila Henderson  
Administrative Assistant  
Marionunitedmethodist@gmail.com

Cyndi James  
Business Administrator  
cjames@marion-umc.com

Blake Owen  
Music Director  
bowen@marion-umc.com

Gary Talley  
Maintenance

Gary Wehrum  
Recreation Director  
gwehrum@marion-umc.com

Teresa Gardner  
Preschool Director/Teacher  
preschool@marion-umc.com

Elizabeth Williams  
Preschool Teacher

Pam Scarbrough  
PDO Director/Teacher  
PDO@marion-umc.com

Kristi Stotts  
PDO Teacher

Straley Owen  
Children's Director  
sowen@marion-umc.com

Kolby Jones  
Youth Director  
kjones@marion-umc.com

Marcia Sutton  
Pianist

Debbie Wallace  
Organist

