

Faith in Action



Christmas at Faith



Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 9th @ 2:00 p.m.

Go Christmas Caroling with Faith! Meet at the church at 2 p.m. Followed by home made chicken soup. Bring a finger food to share.



Children's Nativity Parade

One Service

Sunday, December 16th @ 10:00 a.m.

Come to see the children's Nativity Parade followed by Brunch in the Fellowship Hall.

Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24th

5:00 p.m.

Candle Nativity- where Kids are invited to help tell the story of Christ's birth

7:00 p.m.

Traditional carols and candle lighting
Christmas Mission.



Inside this edition:

Birthdays, TYs & Anniversaries	2
Nurse's Notes	3
Children & Youth	4
Schedules	5
FYI	6
Announcements	7
Events & TYs	8
Calendar	9

Receive your newsletter in **COLOR** via email!

Send your email address to faithumc@kdsi.net.



THANK YOU to all who donated blankets during November for our Children & Youth's Blanket Drive Mission Project! You helped us bring God's love and comfort to our community through cozy blankets.

THANK YOU to all who volunteered their time & energy at the annual LIVE Nativity on the Bricks.



Pastor Michelle & FUMC:
Heartfelt thanks for the beautiful prayer shawl/fleece blanket Kathy Larson made for me and you all prayer over. I am overwhelmed with this evidence of God's love in you all. Most of you don't even know me, although some of you are my classmates and Kathy is my colleague in Parish Nursing (Health Ministries). My late mother belonged to Faith UMC

until her death in 1995 (She quilted with the Thursday group for years). The prayer shawl gives evidence to being "One in Spirit, One in the Lord and they'll know we are Christians by our Love" as the song goes. The warmth of this lovely fleece and knowing you all have and are praying for me is very comforting. God is giving me much improved health and strength. I hope to "flunk" Hospice in mid December. Prayer has made all the difference.

With deep appreciation & thanksgiving, Lela M Cornelius Claussen

Happy Anniversary

9
Dick & Kathy
Larson

16
Phillip & Pat
Hilty

18
Dan & Leigh
Spellman

21
Larry & Sherri
Peterson

30
Bob & Corinne
Olmsted

31
Forrest & Tanya
Holoubeck

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1- Tylo Spellman | 17- Jimmy Tallent |
| 2- Briggs Stubbs | 18- Ed Foley |
| 3- Allie Clausen | 19- David Forney |
| 5- Lyle Henderson | Wanda Enns |
| Dixie Obermiller | Keegan Ramer |
| 6- Carolyn Forney | 21- Clarence Cafferty |
| Michael Streeter | 22- Emily Wisch |
| Carter Graham | Mario Grim |
| 7- Sherilyn Hendricks | 23- Gertrude Beatty |
| 8- Angela Arentsen | 23- Bryan Royle |
| 10- Marlys Bauer | Moriah Chandler |
| 12- Holly Curtiss | 24- Nina Croskrey |
| Crystal Duester | 25- Ruby Fish |
| Melanie Brockhaus | 26- Forrest Holoubeck |
| Cassidy Tennant | 27- LaMoine Meester |
| 13- Ila Loebig | 28- Tyler Divan |
| Don Hendrickson | 29- Bret Pettit |
| 14- David Runge | Brinlee Pettit |
| 15- Randy Shackleton | 30- Sandy Townsend |
| 16- Sean Evans | Marji Shackleton |
| 17- Annette Harris | 31- Esther Burgland |





Eat Better

Navigating the Holiday Dessert Table

There's a good chance many of us will attend a holiday party or two (or three!) this season. Be realistic and know there will probably be an abundance of good food to enjoy. Come prepared with a game plan. Before digging into the buffet, especially the dessert buffet, think through your strategy:

1. Give yourself permission. Know that walking past the dessert table isn't realistic for many of us. Instead of planning to completely avoid desserts, allow yourself a small taste. You can satisfy your craving in a healthy way without having to spend the evening fighting temptation.
2. Leave room. You know you'll want some pie after dinner, so plan ahead. Ask for a smaller dinner plate and be mindful of your portion sizes. Remember to eat slowly and pass on seconds. You'll be able to enjoy dessert much more if you don't feel uncomfortably full beforehand.
3. Choose wisely. The dessert table has so many delicious options, so take your time selecting. Only choose one or two favorites or those treats that only appear once a year.
4. Sit down. When you've chosen your dessert, make sure you find a seat before engaging in conversation. Standing and talking while eating increases the likelihood that you'll lose track of how much you've consumed.

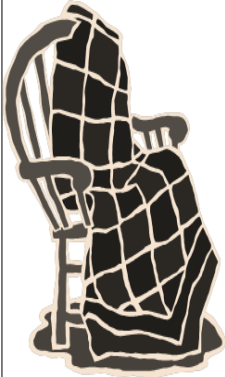
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Children & Youth

Schedule Note: NO activities on Wednesday, December 26 - Merry Christmas OR January 2, 2013 - Happy New Year!



C.C.F. (Children's Christian Fellowship)

The month of December brings an end to our Blanket Drive Mission Project and the beginning of our Advent exploration. Kindergarten through 5th Grade is invited to join us at ANY TIME on Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30pm.

Nativity Parade

On **December 16 at 10am** the children of Faith will be celebrating Christmas by presenting a Nativity Parade that will be followed by a brunch. All Kindergarten through 5th Graders have been rehearsing since the beginning of November at C.C.F. and Sunday School. Join us as the children parade through the Sanctuary to song, creating the Nativity one character at a time.



Kids' Night In

On **Friday, DECEMBER 14 from 6:30-8:30pm**, we will be gathering potty-trained Pre-school children thru 5th grade for a night of games, crafts, and a Christian film! We hope that parents will take advantage of this and plan a night-out. Registration will be at the door.

U.M.Y.F.

(United Methodist Youth of Faith)

We'll kick the month off by preparing the blankets from our Blanket Drive for delivery in the Kearney community. Then we'll continue to focus on service and how it ties into the Advent season, our everyday lives, and our summer Mission Project.



Summer 2013 Mission Trip

Please be in prayer for our staff, sponsors, parents, and youth as we begin planning our July 2013 Mission Trip!

Youth Lock-In

Friday, DECEMBER 28 starting at **7 pm** until **Saturday, December 29 at 8 am**, ALL youth (6th-12th grade) are invited to experience a lock-in at Faith! There will be life-sized Pac-Man and other games, movies, a service project, food, and more. It is **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to leave all electronic devices at home but come in comfy clothes, bring a Bible, your smile, and positive energy. Registrations are available so we can get a 'guesstimate' but we'll have some at the door as well.



Chancel Choir Practice
Wednesdays
7:00 p.m.



CCF

Wednesdays
3:30 p.m.

ONE SERVICE ONLY

Sunday, Dec. 16
10:00 a.m.
For the
Children's
Nativity Parade



Due to the holidays, there will be no Community Meal In December.

USHERS

THIS MONTH

8:45 AM

- 2** - Rick & Jacque Triplett
- Scripture** - Penny Buettner
- 9** - Steve & Suzann Christensen
- Scripture** - Zeanna Odens
- 16** - Please Volunteer
- Scripture** - Sue Divan
- 23** - Please Volunteer
- Scripture** - Rachel Brown
- 30** - Please Volunteer
- Scripture** - Suzann Christensen

11:00 AM

- 2** - Lee & Patty McQueen
- Scripture** - Patty McQueen
- 9** - Rishel Family
- Scripture** - Brooke Rishel
- 16** - Lester Family
- Scripture** - Mindy Lester
- 23** - Brewer Family
- Scripture** - Emma Brewer
- 30** - Please Volunteer
- Scripture** - Sam Reed

Bus Ministry Available

Bus transportation is available to church services in the local area. Contact the Church for times and locations.



December Bus Driver Schedule

- 2** - Pat Garrelts & Dan Odens
- 9** - Jim Brewer & Pat Slack
- 16** - Mike Fox & Jake Greder
- 23** - Tony Miller & Ryan Findley
- 30** - Pat Garrelts & Dan Odens

Ways to Increase Worship Attendance



Prepared by Robert Crossman

Make worship Accessible to Newcomers

1. Make your worship bulletins or screens visitor friendly. Include the actual words or at least the page numbers for any songs or responses commonly known to members but not newcomers.
2. Preach sermons that don't assume familiarity with the inner workings of the church or a high level of previous biblical knowledge.
3. Consider adding an additional worship service to reach new people who would prefer a different time; or to reach new people who would prefer a different style of worship and music.
4. Start a new church or a second worship site at a different location as a way of increasing attendance.

Follow Up with Visitors

1. Develop a systematic plan for following up with visitors after their first, second and third visits.
2. One model some use includes 1) Follow up with first time visitors with a doorstep visit before 3 p.m. that same Sunday, a letter or telephone call from the pastor within 2 days and placement on the newsletter and email lists; 2) Follow up with second time visitors with a telephone call within 36 hours from someone related to the visitor's interests or needs—for example, a Youth Minister, Sunday School Teacher or Choir Director; and 3) Follow up with persons who visit a third time with a telephone call to request a home visit.
3. Invite newcomers who have visited in recent months to an informal coffee with the pastor or other social gathering that includes fellowship and information.



Power-Packed Prayers for Public Schools

1. **Christian teachers.** "Grant wisdom, Lord, for the Christian teachers in this school as they seek to live out their faith. Help them be salt and light. Protect them from doubt and fear. Strengthen their faith by drawing them into Your Word, prayer and fellowship with other believers." (Heb. 10:25)
2. **Support staff.** "Father, may the social workers, psychologists, speech therapists, nurses, custodians, aides and other professional support staff treat students with dignity and respect. May all their interventions be based on truth and not on human theories." (1 Cor. 1:19-21)
3. **Special education decisions.** "Lord, may those involved in making decisions for children with special learning and emotional needs make those decisions based on what is best for the child and according to what is right." (Is. 56:1)

Announcements

The Bryant Store

We have adopted the after school program at Bryant this year for Christmas. We are going to have a "store" for the kids to shop in for their parents & siblings. We are asking that you give the following items: \$3-\$5, wrapping paper & tape. Also any "re-gift" items in VERY GOOD shape will be accepted. If you are unable to get our or would prefer to give me cash, I will get gift cards for the older kids & parents. Please bring your donations by Dec. 16th. Call Dayla at 208-234-4225 with questions.

Holiday Candy

Renovation Committee is again selling their annual peanut brittle, toffee, anise candy and cinnamon candy. You will be able to purchase candy between services on Sunday mornings through Advent. We are also adding Chocolate Peanut Clusters this year so plan to stock up for your family gatherings in November and December. All the proceeds will go toward Renovation projects at our church.

A New Face!

Please welcome my mom, Pam Houchin, to the Faith Team while I am on maternity leave. She will be in the office to assist you from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Thank You!



Notes

from the Office

Bryant KCLC "Shop & Wrap"

In need of people to help with the Bryant kids "Shop & Wrap" on Tuesday, December 18th @ 3:45 p.m.-5:00
Contact Dayla @ 308-234-4225

Christmas Poinsettia

We would like to once again decorate our sanctuary and altar with Poinsettia. However we will be doing the process a little differently this year. Because of the rising costs and the lessening quality of the plants we have been ordering from the nurseries/florists we are asking you to purchase and bring your own Poinsettia to the church. You can get some very nice plants at a very inexpensive cost at many local stores. If you are giving your plant in honor or in memory of someone please fill out the attached form and bring it to the church with the plant, or there will be forms available at the church. Please do not bring the plants before the week of Dec. 17 as we would like to keep them looking fresh as long as possible, especially for Christmas Eve service. If you are wishing to take your plant home after Christmas please be sure to put your name on it somewhere.

Name of Giver

In Honor, Appreciation or Memory of



When: Sundays

Time: 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Where: Overflow Room

What: Join us for fellowship & morning beverages after and before services, or somewhere in between.

World AIDS Day Service

Saturday, December 1st @ 4:00 p.m.

Join us in the Sanctuary.

Church Wide Advent Study

"A Different Kind of Christmas: Living and Giving like Jesus"

- Worship series at both services
- Sunday School Classes for all ages
- Evening Study on Sundays at 6:00 p.m.
 - Begins December 2nd

Have Coffee With the Pastor

When: 4th Sunday of each month, beginning December 30

Time: 10:00—10:45 a.m.

Where: in the Overflow Room



Many Thanks

Thank you Faith United Methodist Church for the Prayer Blanket! Our sweet Mallorie is still inside and growing strong! We are praying to make it four more weeks so she doesn't have to go to NICU!

Thank You! The power of prayer is amazing!! We are truly blessed!

Thank you, Brian, Mallorie and Lisa Hopkins from Fort Collins, CO.

God bless you Tari Maaske! Thank You! You are a wonderful friend!

I am back home from the hospital following surgery on my left lung. To receive a diagnosis of cancer was a complete shock, and treatment following that diagnosis was painful, but my hospital experience was made so much better knowing I had so many prayers said on my behalf and many church family members supporting me. The prayer blanket made by Rowene and Zeanna and prayed over by many of you has given me great comfort. One night—my first back home, I woke up feeling very cold, so I found some socks, fixed a large bowl of soup and wrapped that BEAUTIFUL prayer blanket around myself, so I could fall asleep, thoroughly warmed both outside and in!

Your cards, phone calls, visits and some meals are much appreciated and are all helping me in my recovery. Thank you all so much!

With love and appreciation.

Valerie

