

December 2010

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Senior Pastor's Note

Dear Church Friends:

I am so excited about Christmas this year. You will want to be sure and make plans to be in worship each week. During Advent we will be looking at the Blessings of Christmas. Look at the scripture and the sermon series:

- **Nov. 28:** Matthew 24:36-44: *The Blessings of Faithfulness*
- **Dec. 5:** Matthew 3:1-12: *The Blessings of Peace*
- **Dec. 12:** Matthew 11:2-11: *The Blessings of Waiting*
- **Dec. 19:** Matthew 1:18-25: *The Blessings of God with us*
- **Dec. 26:** Luke 2:1-20: *The Blessings of Christmas*

One added blessing for me this year, I

have been invited to attend my grand-daughter's Christmas program at Jasper, Indiana on Dec. 2. Jayden is nine and this will be the first program I have been invited to attend. I believe at First U.M. C. there will be other unexpected blessings this Christmas. Get ready to be blessed this Christmas.

I am Blessed,

Pastor Dennis



Power of Prayer

Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 6:18

As we prepare our hearts to move into a new calendar year, we are reflecting on our prayer journey in 2010. We are a blessed ministry knowing our hearts & voices are being used as your intercessors revealing the true power of prayer.

Many personal & private requests have been offered to our prayer team & we believe this list continues to grow as you place more trust & faith in our commitment to pray continuously at all times & in all places. We are prepared to serve where we are called. There is now an added option to request prayer through our new web page connection. Visit our web page & follow the instructions.

As our prayer lists grow, we are reflecting not only on the growth of the prayer lists but the continued answers from God. We lift your requests & He sends His answers. All prayers are answered in His timing through his Godly wisdom.

We pray faithfully for our worship leaders & ministers, those who care for our church home, those who develop & grow & spiritually feed others, those who invite us into worship through their music, our Tomorrow's Promise preschool, our military soldiers & families, new births & those experiencing the grief of loss, our many mission programs & missionaries who serve abroad & those experiencing temporary or long-term illness battles. God is good, all the time. We welcome you into our midst & ask you to serve where you are called by God. Amen.

Our Ministries Reporting

Grief Ministry

Are you grieving the loss of a life, a relationship, or a job? There are resources available for you here at First UMC.

1. The Grief Resource Library is located in Room 108 by the office.
 - a. Books are donated by the Ben Elo Memorial Fund
 - b. Resources can be signed out and returned as needed
 - c. Resources focus on Grief and Heaven and have been recommended by folks who've read them.
 - d. *PLEASE remember to return them when you are finished so others can enjoy them.....we've had a few outstanding for awhile.*
2. GriefShare on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:45 in Room 110



Either way, there is comfort and healing in the company of other parents. We invite you to join either group as you are able.

The Mom's Group Breakfast meets the last Saturday of each month at 7am at the Bob Evan's in Camby. For more information please contact Melanie Elo at 727-8190 or Melo@BenElo16.org

The Men's Grief Breakfast group meet EVERY Thursday at 7am at the Bob Evans in Greenwood on 135 near Meijer. For more information please contact Brian at 690-2888 or Brian.Elo@Omnice.com

The Compassionate Friends meets at St. Thomas More on the 4th Wednesday of every month in the Good Shepherd room. This specifically caters to grieving parents. Additional information may be found by visiting

www.compassionatefriends.org.

You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. Led by people who understand what you are going through and want to help, you'll gain access to valuable Grief Share resources to help you recover from your loss and look forward to rebuilding your life.

The loss of a child is unlike any other. A parent grieves their past, their present and their future when a child is lost. It is a loss that cannot be understood by anyone who has not felt the depth of pain and loss personally.

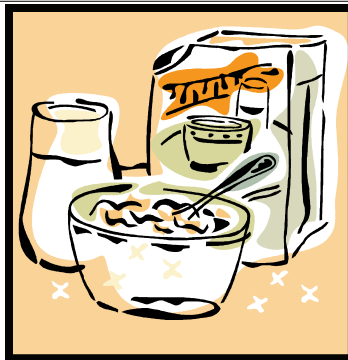
The Mom's Grief Breakfast and **Dad's Grief Breakfast** provides a place of understanding and sympathy like no other. You can attend the breakfast and sit quietly and listen or you can choose to share. The choice is yours.

Open Grief Group sponsored by Carlisle and Sons and held every Tuesday at 10am at the Mooresville Public Library. This group is lead by ministers within our community and runs in 8week segments. Folks can come at any time, however. Visit <http://www.Carlisleandson.com> for more details.

Is God calling you into service by caring for others in their grieving? If you're willing to pray daily and write notes of encouragement to the grieving then this Ministry is for you. Please contact Melanie Elo for more information at 317-727-8190 or Melo@BenElo16.org.

Children's Ministry

Preschool News Preschool is on Christmas Break from December 20 through January 3rd. Preschool resumes Tuesday, January 4th. We wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a blessed New Year.



Children's Ministries The Sunday school children are collecting empty cereal boxes to use in a project. Boxes can be left in Lydia's office. Any donations are appreciated.

Vacation Bible School If you are interested in planning the 2011 Vacation Bible School theme, please contact Lydia Rychtarczyk @831-1787 or 838-5946.



Associate Pastor's Notes

As of the writing of this article, we have all but some fresh-made gifts done for Christmas (because they are fresh, they have to wait!). We have always kept Christmas simple but this year I have heard more talk about simplifying and sustainability than in previous years. Some people said it with sorrow as if less plastic-stuff and new-year-debt surrounding Christmas would be, somehow, a travesty. Others seemed excited about the possibilities that were opened up by tighter budgets.

Where are you? Are you trying to make Christmas time a time of celebration of family or of the material stuff that

will played with and forgotten soon after? Gifts are great; however, the self is far better a gift to give. I pray we give ourselves away to our families and neighbors that God's blessings would multiply and the Kingdom of God be more a reality among us than ever before.

Shalom. Rev. Kurt



Youth Group Notes

Here is the schedule of things upcoming. For all those who helped make Las Posadas a success, thank you. Please be praying for our youth as we look into the New Year and discuss what it means to be men and



January

This month, our emphasis will be on being men and women of God month. WE will be utilizing *Wild at Heart* and *Captivating* books by John and Stasi Eldredge. We will be doing the retreat over the Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. Jr. High will be from Friday to Saturday and Sr. High from Saturday to Monday morning.

December

- 4 (NOTE change in date) Baking Cookies @ Kurt's sign up beforehand if attending.
- 5 Youth
- 11 No cookie baking. Schedule change required.... Oops.
- 12 Children's Concert—Youth meet before
- 17 Christmas Break begins
- 18 3rd Saturday—Mission Day @ 2 p.m. followed by Progressive Dinner
- 19 Christmas Cantata—"sledding" in the parking lot 3-5 p.m.
- 26 NO Youth—Someone can host a movie night.

Thank You Note!

Family of Barbara Combs

Thank you for your kindness you've shown to our family during our mother's passing. Thank you for the wonderful dinner that was prepared by the ladies of the church. It was truly appreciated. We are going to miss her a lot, but she will always be in our hearts. Thanks again for everything you and your staff have done.

God bless all of you

Greg Combs & family

Family of Barbara Combs



eNewsletter—Sign-up!

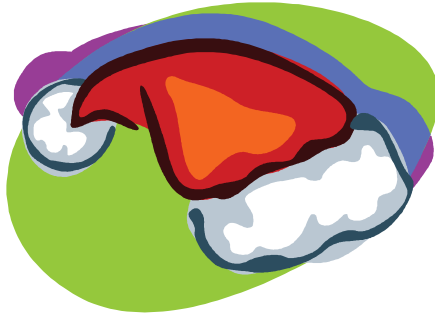
Have you signed up to receive your Sonburst online? Only 4 more issues until we will be going green. It's so easy - just go to the church website www.moorevillefumc.org, click on the tab "Current Events" and sign up to receive the monthly newsletter.

If you have already signed-up, ask your friend's if they have! Encourage others to sign-up today!

Getting Ready for Christmas

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 11, from 9:00-11:00 am. Come enjoy breakfast with Santa. There will be breakfast, games, face painting and much more.



Children's Musical

Sunday, December 12 at 6:00 pm the Children's Choir will present "Arrest These Merry Gentlemen." It seems that the Peace Officer of Bethlehem has stumbled upon the caper that changed the world! Come and enjoy the children as they present this fun and biblical story as only children can tell it.



Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 19 at 6:00pm the Adult Choir will present "I Hear the Prophet Callin'". Hear the Christmas story from prophecy to fulfillment. There will also be a dessert buffet following the program.



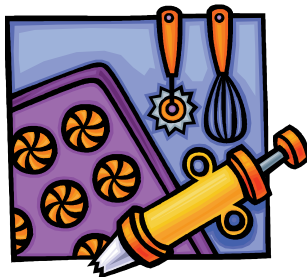
Blue Christmas

Blue Christmas service is Thursday, December 23, 2010, at 7:00 pm. This is a community event for those grieving during the holidays; this can be a difficult struggle. This service honors the emotions of those who've lost loved ones while remembering the promise of Jesus' birth. This service includes a candle lighting opportunity for folks to light a candle in remembrance of their loved ones. For more information please call FUMC at 831-3376.



Help with the UMW Cookie Sale

Mark your calendars for our final fundraiser: **The Christmas Cookie Sale!** Yes, it is nearly that time of year again. The Cookie Sale will be Sunday, December 19, during the church services. Once again, The Cookie Lady would like to ask you if you could spare a batch of your favorite cookies to donate for this event. This is the perfect time to "shop" for those special people who do things for you. Buy a tin, load it up with cookies, and surprise that special someone who brings your mail, delivers your paper, drives you to the doctor, or rakes your lawn. Of course, you can buy a second tin to fill up for yourself to enjoy! See you at the Cookie Sale! Now, go get that oven warmed up for your cookie baking! If you have questions, please give Nancy Watson a call.



UMW Cookie Sale

Sunday, December 19 from 9:30-11 am, the UMW will sponsor their annual cookie sale. Come purchase a tin and fill it with delicious home made treats.

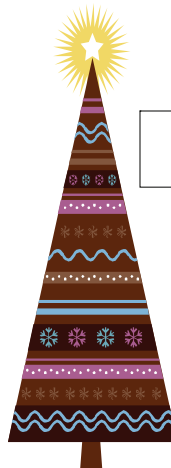


Christmas Eve Services

Friday, December 24, two Christmas Eve Services:

5:00 pm Contemporary service

11:00 pm Traditional service with candlelight



2010 Advent Calendar

Daily Scripture and Reflections in Preparation for Christmas

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>28</p> <p>November Home Sweet Home Lord, may we enter your house eagerly, for there we are close to you. <i>Psalm 122</i></p>	<p>29</p> <p>Repent and Believe O Lord, do not judge me harshly, but in your mercy wash my sins away. <i>Isaiah 4:2-6</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p>Prepare the Way May our Advent preparations testify to the reign of Jesus in both word and deed. <i>Rom. 10:9-18</i></p>	<p>1</p> <p>December All We Need God fills the needs of his people; let us send our wish lists to him in prayer. <i>Isaiah 25:6-9</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p>A Home for Jesus In what will Jesus find us this year. A stone chapel? A wooden house? A straw hut? <i>Matt. 7:21-27</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>Soon and Very Soon Soon a dying autumn landscape will transform into a living nativity scene. <i>Isaiah 29:17-24</i></p>	<p>4</p> <p>Being Apostles As Christ healed us and sent us out, let us shepherd the lost back to him. <i>Matt. 9:35-10:1, 5-8</i></p>
<p>5</p> <p>God's Seed Jesus is filled with every gift of the Holy Spirit, and in his goodness they overflow upon the earth. <i>Isaiah 11:1-10</i></p>	<p>6</p> <p>Bringing Glad Tidings God promises the world peace and love, both in this life and the next. <i>Psalm 85:9-14</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>By Our Side Emmanuel comes to us whether we enjoy the best times or suffer the worst seasons. <i>Isaiah 40:1-11</i></p>	<p>8</p> <p>Blessed are You God trusted Mary to carry his Son and Spirit within her. May he do the same for us. <i>Luke 1:26-38</i></p>	<p>9</p> <p>His Glory As trees begin to twinkle and candles glow, let us recall the divine light waiting to break forth. <i>Isaiah 41:13-20</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>Wise Ways Whether you attend a crowded party this year or simply wrap a gift, you celebrate Christ's birth. <i>Matt. 11:16-19</i></p>	<p>11</p> <p>A Straight Path Looking for a sure way to Jesus? Turn from sin and believe in the Gospel. <i>Matt. 17:9-13</i></p>
<p>12</p> <p>Waiting on God If Advent isn't what you expected, be assured: Jesus is approaching, and hurriedly. <i>Isaiah 35:1-10</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p>Divine Vision As we seek God's face, he reveals the beauty and love of those near and far. <i>Numbers 24:2-17</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>The Good Son Christ humbly obeyed the Father, coming down to save sinners of every nation. <i>Matt. 21:28-32</i></p>	<p>15</p> <p>Look and See We know the Lord is near when we see healing, wisdom and justice. <i>Luke 7:18-23</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p>Present-day Prophets May our lives emulate John the Baptist's and lead others to the Lord. <i>Luke 7:24-30</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p>Son of David Gather and honor your families this season, recalling your ancestors in faith. <i>Matt. 1:1-17</i></p>	<p>18</p> <p>Family When spouses, parents and children support and protect each other, holiness comes to life. <i>Matt. 1:18-25</i></p>
<p>19</p> <p>Source of All Good God provides our gifts, whether given or received, and works through them. <i>Psalm 24</i></p>	<p>20</p> <p>Faithful Servant When we believe in God's Word, we find the trust to ask for what seems impossible. <i>Luke 1:26-38</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>Rejoice! Sing a joyful carol today, because the Lord comes to you and me this Christmas. <i>Luke 1:39-45</i></p>	<p>22</p> <p>Giving Back God has been generous with his blessings; therefore, let us share our bounty with others. <i>1 Samuel 1:24-28</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p>Refining Fire Christmas is not a time for judgment, but a season for reunion and offering. <i>Malachi 3:1-24</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p>Promised Savior Jesus is every sacred promise come true in the flesh—a marvel to behold. <i>Luke 1:67-79</i></p>	<p>25</p> <p>Throughout the World The Good News is among you now. Make it known in your towns and homes. <i>Luke 2:15-20</i></p>

Parish Nurse Notes

Note from Cheryl Howard

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. But I ask: Did they not hear? Of course they did..." Romans 10:17

Can you hear me now? This popular phrase is very pertinent in our day and age. You see people walking around with head sets, ear buds, cell phones and earphones. Historically, we have become a noisier society- concerts, surround sound, iPods, power tools, even traffic is louder! Approximately 15% of people age 20-69 experience high frequency hearing loss caused by cumulative effect of loud noises. Over time you may notice sounds are more muffled or distorted- suddenly you realize you are having trouble understanding people talking to you or that people are mumbling. Noises louder than 85 decibels can cause noise-induced hearing loss with prolonged exposure. To put this in perspective: normal conversation is

60 decibels, hair dryers are 90 decibels, car racing, sporting events are 110 decibels and ambulances are 130 decibels.

To protect your hearing: wear protection if you cannot hear someone a foot away because of noise. With iPods- keep them no louder than 60% volume for 60 minutes at a time. If you can hear someone else music from their earphones- it is way too loud. Distance from high volume sound helps- walk away.



Be safe in this season of joyful noises!

In God's Care, Cheryl

Wellness Awareness

Is caffeine bad for you? Not in moderation such as 1-2 cups per day. Caffeine has been shown to help prevent Parkinson's and cirrhosis of the liver, possibly protect the brain from Alzheimer's and decrease the risk to develop Type 2 diabetes.

September 23 was the day that some important changes happened in health-care reform through the Affordable Care Act:

- Kids up to age 26 (and their spouses) can be added to your insurance.



- Insurers must cover routine preventative care (like mammograms -- make an appointment today!)
- Insurers will not be able to charge you more for using out-of-network hospitals for emergency services.
- Lifetime limits on your insurance go away.
- All plans will now be required to let you appeal denials. (Before, many plans were exempt from this requirement).

New Fun Fitness Class

We are offering a fun fitness class in the Fellowship Hall from 10-10:45 a.m. , Tuesday mornings. This is a class for all fitness levels from those with limited mobility to those who are already active. All you need is a comfortable pair of shoes and dressed in clothes you can move in comfortably. For more information, contact Stacy Nelson ymcastacy@att.net or 834-1681.



SonBurst Newsletter

Don't forget that articles for the SonBurst Newsletter are due on the 15th of each month. Send your articles to Dana Forester, Office Manager, dana@moorevillefumc.org



December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9&12:15 Pre School 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 WWW meal 6:30 Children's Choir & Classes	2 9 & 12:15 Pre School 9:00 Mom's Connec- tion Band Practice 6:30 Adult Choir	3 Tri Kappa Decorate All Day 9 5 Pre School 6:00 Staff Dinner 8:00 AA 8:00 Alanon	4 2:00 Tri Kappa Christmas Tea
5 8:15-9:45-11:10 Wor- ship 9:45 Sunday School 11:10 MORE 3-5 Children's Choir Reh. 4:00 AA 4:30 Women's Study 5:00 Youth	6 9& 12:15 Pre School 5:30-8 Soccer Prac- tice 7:30 AA meeting	7 7:30-8:30 Prayer 9 & 12:15 Pre School Quilting Christmas Party 10:00 Fitness Class 11:30 Asbury Christmas Lunch	8 9 & 12:15 Pre School 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 WWW meal 6:30 Children's Choir & Classes	9 9 & 12:15 Pre School 9:00 Mom's Connec- tion 5-8 Pre School Christmas Program Band Practice 6:30 Adult Choir	10 9 Pre School Decorate for Break- fast 8:00 AA 8:00 Alanon	11 8:00 Men's Breakfast 9-11 Breakfast with Santa 11-1 Children's Choir Practice
12 8:15-9:45-11:10 Wor- ship 9:45 Sunday School 11:10 MORE 4:00 AA 4:30 Women's Study 5:00 Youth 6:00 Children's Musical	13 9 & 12:15 Pre School 11 Pre School Christmas Pitch-In 5:30 Soccer Practice 7:30 AA meeting	14 7:30-8:30 Prayer 9 & 12:15 Pre School 9:00 Quilting 9:00 Sewing 10:00 Fitness Class	15 9 & 12:15 Pre School 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 WWW meal 6:30 Classes	16 9 & 12:15 Pre School 9:00 Mom's Connec- tion 6:30 Adult Choir Band Practice	17 Pre School Begins Christmas Break Adult Choir Re- hearsal 8:00 AA 8:00 Alanon	18 Adult Choir Rehearsal Youth Mission Day & Progressive Dinner 4-H Christmas party
19 8:15-9:45-11:10 Wor- ship 9:45 Sunday School 11:10 MORE 12:00 Family Christ- mas 4:00 AA 3:00 Youth Sledding 6:00 Choir Cantata	20 5:30 Soccer 7:30 AA meeting	21 7:30-8:30 Prayer 9:00 Quilting 9:00 Sewing 7:00 Girl Scout Leader meeting	22 9:30 Bible Study	23 Band Practice 6:00 Adult Choir 7:00 Blue Christmas	24 5 & 11pm Christmas Eve Services 8:00 AA 8:00 Alanon	25 Christmas Day Merry Christmas 
26 8:15-9:45-11:10 Wor- ship 9:45 Sunday School 11:10 MORE 4:00 AA	27 Office Closed 7:30 AA	28 7:30-8:30 Prayer 9:00 Quilting 9:00 Sewing 2:00 UMW Exec meeting	29 9:30 Bible Study	30 Band Practice	31 New Years Eve 8:00 AA 8:00 Alanon	

Small Groups for Adults

Questions? Contact Tammy Payton AdultEd@moorevillefumc.org

Sunday Groups

Group Name	Time	Location	Leader	Start Date	Description of Study
Booster Sunday School	9:45 a.m.	Room 110	Richard Kellum/ Lois Curry	Meeting now	Living God's Way: The Book of Romans
Seekers Sunday School	9:45 a.m.	Room 111	Diana Sparr/ Susie Crocker	Meeting now	Book Study "Epic" by Jon Eldredge
Friendship Class	9:45 a.m.	Room 113	Jim Harris/ Karen Yeager	Meeting now	The Nooma series: Rob Bell DVDs
CORE Class	11:10 a.m.	Room 113	Rob & Erin Probus	Meeting now	Studying the Gospel according to Mark
Women's Bible Study	4:30 p.m.	Room 140	Sue Klinger	Began Sept. 12	Exercise 4:30-5:15; Bible study (book of Esther) 5:15-6:15 p.m.

Tuesday Groups

Group Name	Time	Location	Leader	Start Date	Description of Study
Quilters	9:00 a.m.	Room 111	team leaders	Meeting now	Bring needle and thread
Sewing Ladies	9:00 a.m.	Parlor	team leaders	Meeting now	Bring your sewing machine
Fitness Class	10:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hall	Stacy Nelson	Meeting now	Fitness class for all ages

Wednesday Group

Group Name	Time	Location	Leader	Start Date	Description of Study
Henning Bible Study	9:30 a.m.	Room 110	Todd Henning	Began October 6	Studying the Book of Revelation

Thursday Groups

Group Name	Time	Location	Leader	Start Date	Description of Study
Mom's Connection	9:00 a.m.	Parlor	Kim Webster	Meeting now	Book Study Life on Planet Mom
Adult Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.	Music Room	Brooke Sweets	Meeting now	Fun & fellowship while preparing special music for 8:15 worship
High Street Connect	7:00 p.m.	Snyder's Home	team leaders	Meeting now	Meets 1st & 3rd Thurs.; J. Wesley and the People Called Methodists
Discipleship	7:00 p.m.	Beal's Home	Gene Young	Meeting now	Meets 1st & 3rd Thurs.; Disciple- ship is a year-long study



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