



***P.O. Box 709, Watson, LA 70786
(225) 664-4801***

www.loumc.org - liveoakumc@aol.com

Sunday Worship - 8:00 AM., 10:00 AM., 11:30 AM.

Sunday School - 9:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Thursday Worship – 7:00PM

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Pastoral Care Director
Asst. Pastoral Care
Special Ministries
Youth/Missions Director
Assoc. Minister/Worship Leader
Music Director
Asst. Music Director
Education Director
Administrative Asst
Treasurer
Maintenance
Organist
Keyboard

Dr. Mark Crosby
Rev. Dickie Davis
Rev. Tom Bergeron
Rev. Rita Chiasson
Rev. Sam LoBello
Rev. David Orges
Rev. Trent Barnett
Melanie Rushing
David Easley
Terrie Crosby
Cathy Bermes
Jim Otken
David Drake
Carol Justice & Vickie Arbour
Brittany Bruce, Sammi Rushing

Live Oak

United Methodist Church | January 2014



From the Pastor's Desk

Happy New Year! Three words we share from New Years Eve and for several days in the month of January. Most of us want to be happy; however for some, happiness eludes them throughout the year. The Bible teaches us that Jesus came into the world that our "joy may be full."

The question is what creates and/or brings joy to the heart. What are the ingredients in the recipe for joy? The Bible reveals four things that bring joy and hope to the human heart. They are: 1) Thinking with the mind of Christ, 2) Praying the way Jesus taught, 3) Planning and Preparing for God's will in your life, and 4) Learning and Growing in the Word of God and the Love of God.

When we embrace these 4 areas of life, then joy and hope are often the result, and life's disappointments are fewer. When we look at some of the heroes of the faith found in scripture they were people who prayed, planned, grew in God's wisdom and gave thought to what God wanted for them in life.

The year 2014 (like every year) will be a year filled with challenges, opportunities, and problems. How we face these areas often determine whether we are a people of joy and hope or a people filled with bitterness and disappointment.

Many are making optimistic predictions about 2014. Some believe the economy will improve, and that jobs will increase and those in the military will come home. Others fear that there will be greater divide between people of faith and those who are opposed to faith. Others fear the national debt will



Yet those who wait for the
LORD will gain new strength;
they will mount up
with wings like eagles,
they will run
and not get tired,
they will walk
and not become weary.

Isaiah 40:31

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Continued – Pastor’s Desk

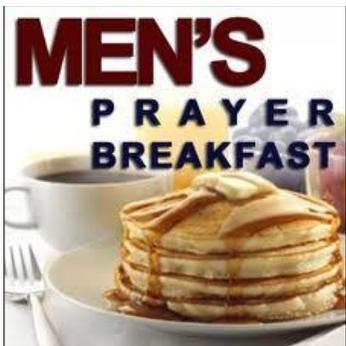
cause the economy to get worse and that immorality will eventually cause our culture to reach an all time low.

Whatever may come to us in 2014, the Bible teaches that we can have joy and hope if we follow God's formula.

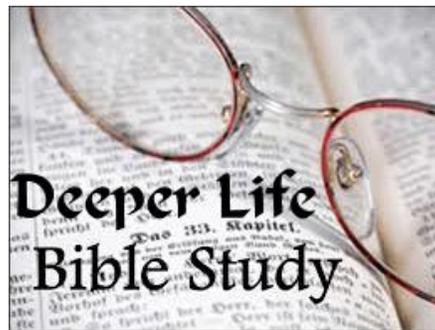
So come see us in 2014 and know the joy that God offers, as we teach on "Increasing our Joy and Decreasing our Disappointments".

I hope to see you Sunday,
Mark C.

“I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people.” – Luke 2:10



**Saturday
January 11th
7:30—9:00 a.m.**



**Deeper Life Bible Study
On Tuesday Nights
at 6:30 p.m.**

Men - Led by David Tate, meet in the Education Hall

Women - Led by Stormee Drake, meet in the Conference Room

Study of biblical womanhood. This is an eight week study that we are going to spread throughout a 20 week period.

Please join us as we discover our divine design.

Questions - Call Stormee Drake 362-0872

*“Your savior is born today in David’s city. He is Christ the Lord.”
– Luke 2:11*

Joyous News



Thursday nights
At 7:00 p.m.
Led by Rev. Dickie Davis
Nursery available!



Thursdays in FLC
at 6:30 p.m.
High School Age and Older!



Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary.

Isaiah 40:31

REFUGE

Addiction Recovery Groups
Thursdays at 7:00 PM

These are Christ centered groups helping people that experience a variety of different addictions. At **REFUGE** people meet to share and learn together. As a result they will have the opportunity to experience God's presence, comfort and strength. Men and women meet together initially and then separate into gender-specific groups.

Nursery available for infants to 8 years old.

Announcements



Thank You

Family of Master Sergeant Obie Edwin Philpot, Sr. would like to extend their thanks and sincere gratitude to all our friends and church families during our recent loss. Our husband of 71 years, our father, grandfather and great grandfather stood in the light of Christ and has now been called home. After-all "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands."

Sincerely,
Mary Philpot, Vera Howard, Jim Philpot, Ralph Philpot,
Roseanne Erwin, Jesse Philpot and our families.

Ed and Barbara Miller, who were great supporters of LOUMC 20 years ago, (now in their 80's, and living in Dickenson, Texas), need prayer and encouragement. Barbara recently fell and broke her wrist. They wanted to say "hello" to all their friends at LOUMC. Their phone number is (281) 534-2866 or (214) 729-2040.

Ed was a former Explorer Scout Leader, and taught many skills; one of which was building hunting rifles out of WWI rusted rifles.

WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Faith that increaseth,
walking in light;

Hope that aboundeth,
happy and bright;

Love that is perfect,
casting out fear;

These shall insure thee a
happy New Year.

Peace in the Savior,
rest at his feet,

Smile on his countenance,
radiant and sweet.

Joy in his presence, C
hrist ever near!

This will insure thee a
happy New Year.

—Frances Ridley Havergal

Nuggets from the Bible

Revelation 21:5

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me "Write, for those words are true and faithful."

At the beginning of a new year it is comforting to think of new things. Each day gives us a new opportunity to live our lives for God's glory. When tragedy and sickness comes we have a new chance to put our faith in God and trust Him!

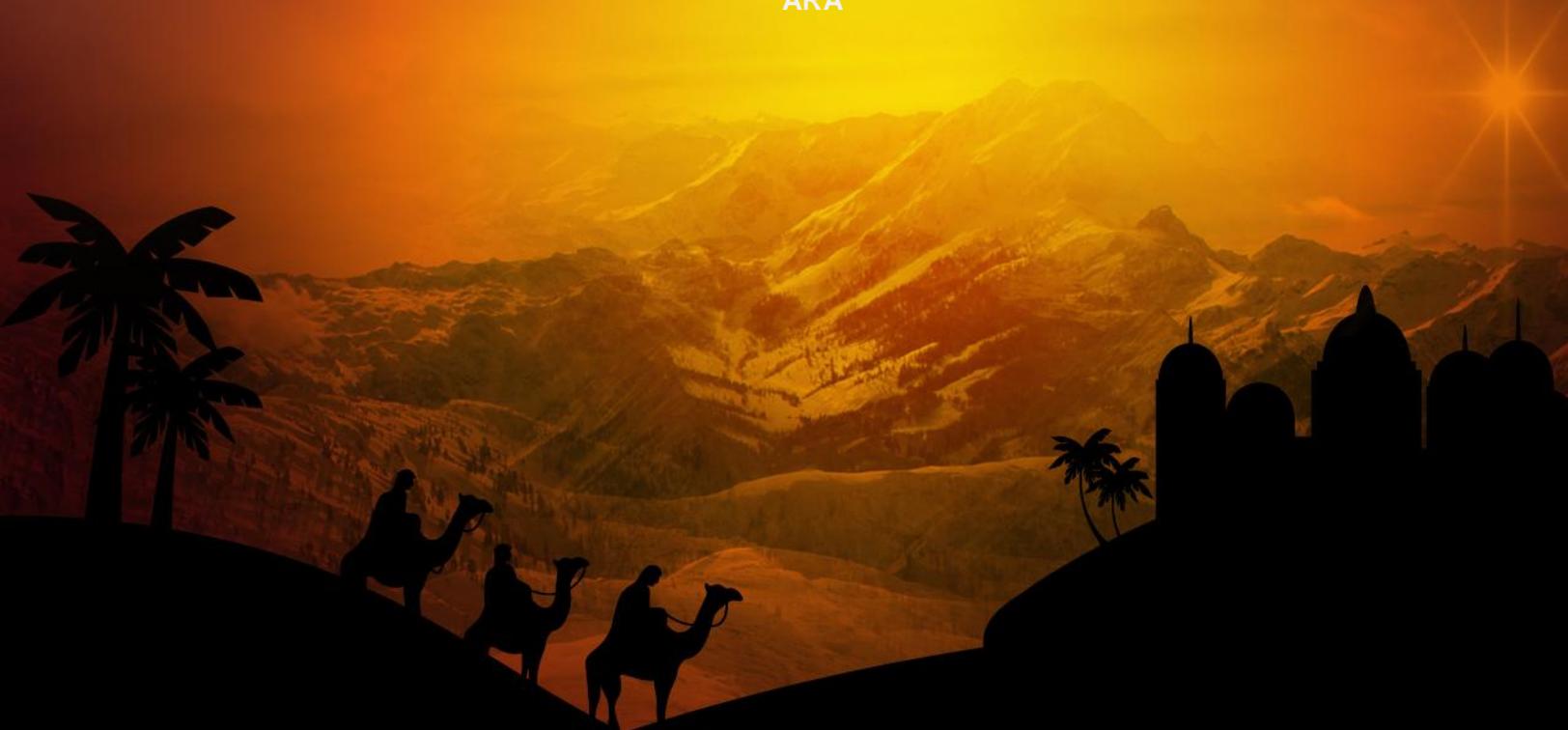
Our scriptures teach us about many new things. In Lamentations, Jeremiah tells us that God's compassions will not fail. They are new every morning. In Matthew, Jesus tells us that His shed blood made possible a new covenant, an agreement between God and man. In John 13:34, Jesus gave us a new commandment, that we love one another as He has loved us. Paul the apostle tells us in II Corinthians 5 that if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; old things have passed away and all things have become new. In Colossians, he tells us to put off the old man and put on the new man and teaches us how to do this. Peter tells us to look for new heavens and a new earth where righteousness dwells. John, in revelation 21, tells us that he saw new heavens and new earth in his vision.

In Revelation, Jesus tells us about a new name and a new song. A new year is an opportunity for a new beginning, a chance to press the restart button of life. In his grace, God gives us a new day every 24 hours and a new year every 365 days. He's the Lord of new beginnings and King of fresh hope.

Without Christ, we're like passengers on a doomed ship. But with Him in our hearts we're sailing under a heavenly flag with the Captain of our salvation at the helm and we know it will be a good voyage—a new year—even if there are choppy waters along the way.

**We can face the future without fear for we have God's promises
"Behold, I make all things new."**

ARA



Treasurer's Note

Thank you to all who have been good and faithful stewards with God's blessings. We are extremely thankful for your continuous financial support of Live Oak Methodist and its ministries.

Soon, we will be introducing a new offertory envelope. Hopefully the summaries below will clarify things. As always, please put your contribution in an envelope and clearly write your name, amount, member number and where you would like the money to go. These few details will allow us to properly record your donation.

"General" – these monies go toward paying salaries, utilities, insurance and other operation / ministry expenses of Live Oak UMC.

"Building" – these monies go toward paying the mortgage on the new sanctuary and other building improvements. Currently, our monthly note is approximately \$20,000, and the balance owed on this loan is approximately \$2,600,000.

"Other" – these monies are used exclusively for the special ministries (AWANA, 11:30 Praise Band, Missions, Music (Chancel Choir), etc.) that you designate.

Currently, Live Oak supports almost 70 special ministries.

God Bless,

Jim Otken

BLESSED

Mother-Daughter & Friends Tea

Tickets are now on sale for the 6th annual LOUMC *"Mother-Daughter & Friends Tea"* to be Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014, in our Family Life Center from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults (11 yrs. and up) and \$5 for children (4-10 yrs.) and will be on sale in the foyer before the 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Sunday services.

Various teas and food will be served. Marilea Spedale will present the program *"Are Your Roots Showing?"*

Ticket sales will be limited to 150 people. For more information contact Peggy Molcany at 664-9627.

January 11, 2014 | 11:30am-1:30pm
Family Life Center



*Valentine
Banquet*

Dates:

Thursday, February 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 14th at 7:00p.m.

Saturday, February 15th at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 16th at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, February 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 23rd at 5:00 p.m.

(Free Show)

Tickets will go on sale on Sunday, January 5th after the 8:00 a.m. service.

Tickets are \$25.00 each.

Get Connected

NEW EDUCATION MINISTRIES FOR 2014

Beginning February 2 we will be offering 4 new classes on Sunday mornings.

1. Preteen class

At 10AM, we will begin a new class for Preteens ages 10 through 12. Children's Church will remain as is for children ages 5 through 9.

This class will be studying from the **Children Desiring God Curriculum, "To Be Like Jesus"** Our new Preteen class will be led by Duane Leger and will answer questions like: What is salvation? How does someone become a Christian? What does it mean to become like Jesus? This curriculum helps answer these important questions by explaining elements of the Gospel message, its purpose, and promise. A major portion of this study focuses on the doctrine of sanctification - the process by which a Christian becomes more and more conformed to the likeness of Jesus.

2. Survival Kit For New Christians

This class will be offered at both 9AM and 10AM and will help new Christians learn the 5 keys to spiritual truths. In this class new believers in Christ will understand their new journey and learn the importance of quiet time, prayer, Bible study and Scripture memorization. Duane Leger will lead this teaching at 9AM and Sam Lobello at 10AM.

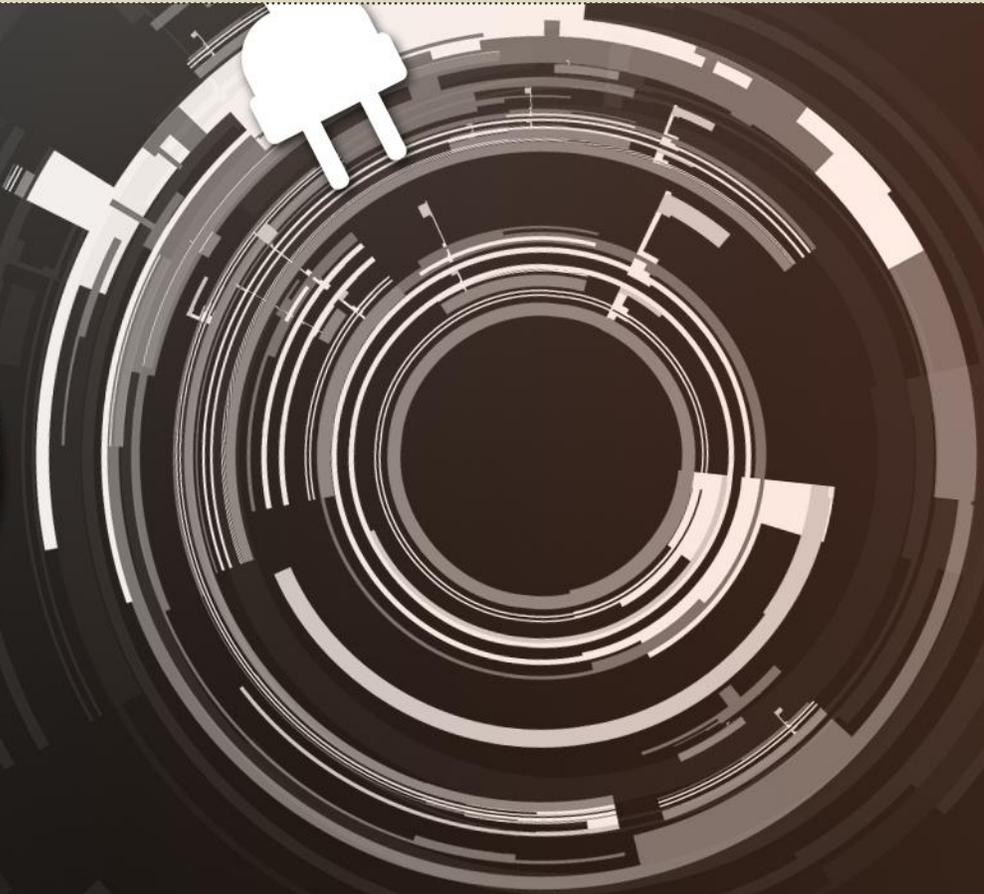
3. Living Your Christian Values

This class will also be offered at 9AM & 10AM and will focus on the teaching of Jesus in Matthew 6:21 that says "Where Your Treasure is, your heart will be also." This class will help Christians to sort out our values and replace inappropriate values with ones that honor God. Luke Wasson will lead this teaching at 9AM and David Drake will lead at 10AM.

4. The Gospel Project

This class will be offered at 10AM and will take the story of Jesus and show how it infuses Scripture from Genesis to Revelation, revealing God's redemptive plan to rescue us from sin and death. This class will be led by Casey and Dane' Long.

Our Education Ministries continue to offer opportunities to grow in Christ and equip the saints for the spiritual battles that face us all. Please consider adding Sunday morning to your New Year's Resolution to make 2014 a year that will draw you closer to God as He desires to draw closer to you. Please call Terrie Crosby at the church office for more information



Military/Veterans Funds

Because of the generosity of this Church Family and others who share our desire to honor and show respect for those who are currently serving and those who have served God and country, fund raising efforts produced enough funds to:

- 1) Shipped 22 packages to our troops overseas (mostly in Afghanistan). There are no stores overseas in battle zones so all those troops received blankets, heavy white work socks, hand and foot warmers, toiletries, snacks, candy and Christmas cards from our own Youth Group and the Denham Springs Junior High School Beta Club.
- 2) Shipped 11 packages those serving stateside. They received all LA products -- Community Coffee, Tony Chachere's seasoning, Tabasco sauce, Smoke House jambalaya and gumbo mix, beef jerky, candy, Christmas cards, etc. for a taste of home. No part of the country seasons like we do, and these kids sure look forward to showing their buddies how good LA food can be. At one time shipping costs to troops was free. Those days are long gone. But as long as we have troops on our mailing list, we will let them know we care and support them.
- 3) Our visit to the LA War Veterans Home was a tremendous success having 45 come to share Christmas cheer with the residents. Sad to say several on last July's list are no long with us. The new residents are mostly from the Vietnam era. It seems some of the men visiting had served in Vietnam and were able to share heartfelt exchanges. Christmas caroling and patriotic music was shared as residents and visitors sang the joys of the season.

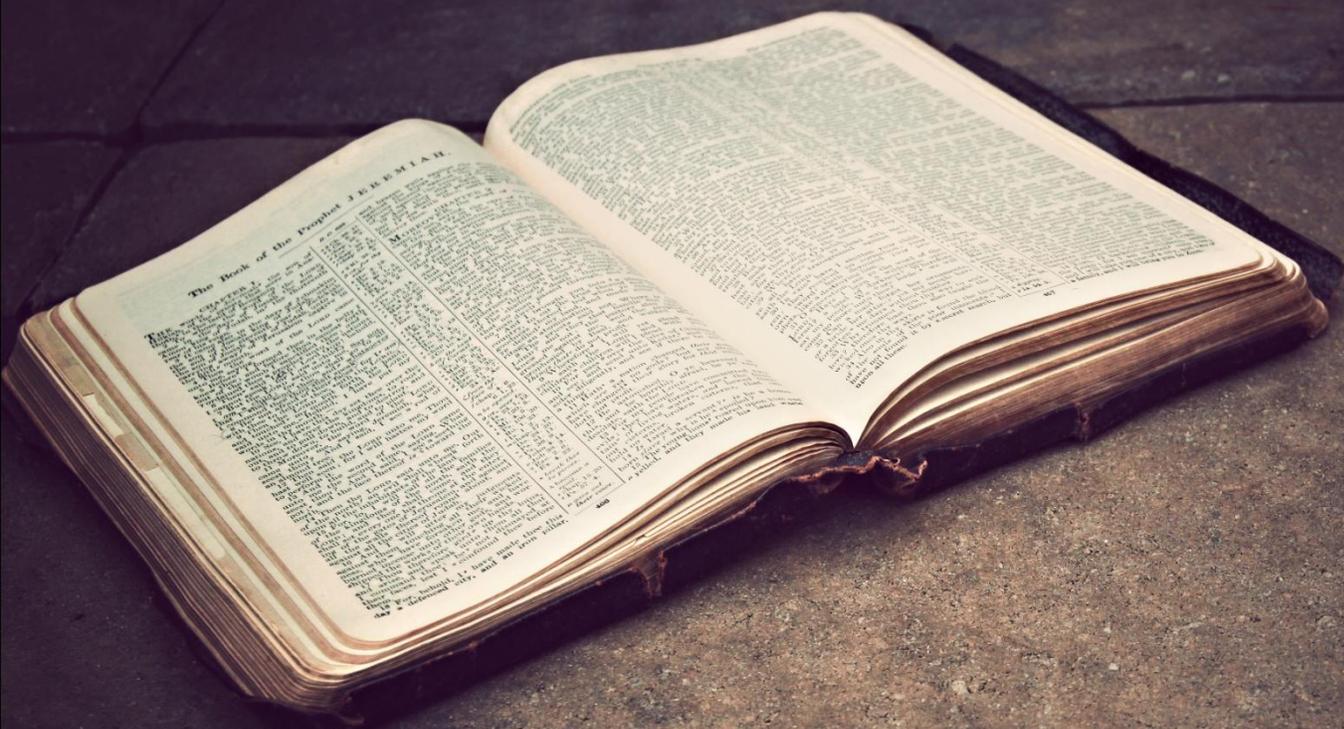
Music from each branch of the service was included. It was truly an emotional time. Each resident received \$50 to be deposited in his or her individual accounts. Some of the new residents were homeless, and what benefits they are now getting is not enough to cover their housing. They have no family. They share the Home with their "brothers" and a few "sisters". The new residents were surprised to receive goody bags and \$50 as part of the Christmas party.

In addition, our very own Quilters made 162 quilts. All residents received a new quilt and there were extras as new admissions arrive. The Quilters also sent bibs, lap quilts and handgrips, which protect fragile palm skin from causing infections. The nursing staff is most appreciative of these as they nurse the elderly. Our Quilters are a dedicated group who performed a remarkable feat! Our Heroes THANK YOU ALL!!

A major perk is that we went to bring them Christmas cheer, blessings and the love of our Lord. Those who went on this visit were truly blessed as well. This ministry could not function without YOU. On their behalf, thank you for your donation to the Military/Veterans Fund. Every penny is spent on our troops around the world and these Heroes at the LA War Veterans Home in Jackson, LA.

God bless America, one nation under God.





Please plan to join us!

Ladies' Bible Study

Thursdays 9:30 am | Melanie Rushing's Home

Join us Thursdays for Annice Ruth's teaching at 9:30 a.m.
at Melanie Rushing's home. Will resume January 16, 2014.

Please call 664-4801, 665-1571 or 665-6797 for more
information or email rushing1@cox.net.



Join Chancel Choir

Our Sunday morning Chancel Choir and special Easter Cantata Choir will resume rehearsals beginning on Wed. January 15th at 7:00pm.

A nursery is provided.
Come make a joyful noise!

Youth Band, Drums, Piano, and Youth Bells

The Youth Band & Singers and the **Jubilate Bells**, grades 5-12, will resume rehearsals on Jan. 12th.
Drum classes for grades 5th –college and piano classes are enrolling again for the spring semester. Contact Rushing1@cox.net for more info.

Children's Choir

The Music Maker's Children's Choir will resume rehearsals on Sunday, Jan. 19th.
We're singing our favorites from the previous year's musicals for our church services. Bring your friends and come sing and have fun!

*Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet;
Praise Him with the lute and harp!
Praise Him with the timbrel and dance;
Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes!
Praise Him with loud cymbals;
Praise Him with high sounding cymbals!
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Psalm 150: 3-6*



Puggles - Age 2
 Cubbies - Ages 3 & 4
 Sparks - Grades K - 2nd
 Truth & Training (T & T) - Grades 3rd - 5th

From
 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Listeners Needed!

Creation KALEIDOSCOPE

Make this fun craft to remember what our heavenly Creator made.

What you need:

- Adult help
- Tall chip can with lid
- Hammer and nail
- Acrylic paint; paintbrush
- Water, glitter, white glue
- Colored tissue paper
- Stronger craft glue (not hot glue)
- Star stickers or sequins
- Two 4" x 5" pieces of clear Con-Tact paper
- Scissors; pencil; permanent marker

What you do:

1. In bottom center of can, hammer a hole with a nail. Paint outside of can. Let dry.
2. Add glitter and a little water to white glue. With a clean paintbrush, glue tissue paper to bottom outside of lid.
3. Add stars to sticky side of Con-Tact paper. Place a matching piece on top, sticky sides together.
4. Put craft glue along edge of can opening. Glue Con-Tact paper square over opening. Let dry.
5. Place lid on can, over Con-Tact paper. Turn lid to get kaleidoscope effect.
6. With marker, write "In the beginning ..." on can.

PUZZLE

The Beginning

The start of a new calendar year is a great time to praise God for his amazing creation.

Directions: Read Genesis 1:1-3 (NIV), below. Place the underlined words into the crossword. One letter has been provided to help you start.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

Answers at the end of the newsletter!

In Loving Memory of:

12/1/13

Shirley Benton: Kirk & Mandy Benton

Julia Rasberry: John & Shirley Hay

Garrett Arnold: Scott & Julia Smith

Obie Philpot: Jerry & Debra Jenkins, Thrift Shop

Woodrow D. May: M/M Jimmie Smeltzer, M/M Charles Page,
Mike & Pat McCumsey, Mary Philpot, Roseanne Erwin, Vera
Howard

12/8/13

Euna Jolibois: Pairs & Spares Sunday School Class

Warren May: M/M L. W. Arnold, Peggy Langlois, Gail May Keller,
M/M Jim King

Cedo Joilbois' Brother: M/M Jim King

Obie Philpot: Peggy Langlois, Bobbie Nanney

12/15/13

Obie Philpot: M/M B.L. Fairchild

Warren May: Reba Lockhart

12/22/13

Amos Smith: M/M Bob Molcany

Warren May: Frank Devall

Julia Rasberry: M/M Leroy Dardeau

Foots & Clara Golden: M/M Alan Grown

12/24/13

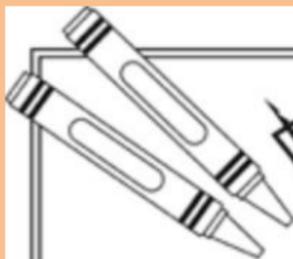
Foots & Clara Golden: Children, Grandchildren and Great
Grandchildren

Byron Linder, Jr., Pat Turner and Danda Foster: Vickie Linder

In Honor Of :

Mary Ann Allen on her birthday: M/M Kirk Benton





PUZZLE

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