

THE PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

In 1667, the famous English poet John Milton sold the copyright to his poem "Paradise Lost" to Samuel Simmons, a London publisher, for the grand total of five sterling pounds. Additionally, in the contract, Milton had agreed for a sum of five pounds for each additional two editions that would be published. After Milton's death, the poet's wife sold the final edition that her husband penned for eight pounds. Thus, the Milton family sold the publishing rights to this great piece of poetry for a total of twenty-three pounds. Obviously this classic work has sold millions of copies of what is recognized as one of the great poems of all time. In reviewing not only the ways that Milton influenced his own generation and many that have come after him, I wonder what possessed the family to sell short this great work.

But, after a brief perusal of our own lives we may be in danger of selling something of infinite more value for a vastly cheaper price. Many of us may have been taken aback by the fact that so many consumer market indicators have drawn our attention not to November 24th but the day after. In watching the news this last week I was struck by how giddy the commentators were that this was the best 'Black Friday' in many years and I watched film of frantic shoppers storming the front doors of stores as they opened on the day after Thanksgiving. And with all that rushing around I wondered if we have not forsaken true values that would cause us to take time to value important things that will stay with us throughout many generations. Paul once wrote to the Philippians: "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things." (Phil. 4:8) I talked to some people working last Saturday and they were genuinely concerned that their employers would follow the trend of this year and ask them to work, or at least cause them to cut short their Thanksgiving holiday next year, all in the name of extra profits. I also wonder if in the season of Advent we are in danger of losing something very significant. We Americans have always rushed around during the Advent and Christmas season and maybe in some sense we have fallen prey to some type of Darwinian social conditioning. Maybe after years of conditioning by retailers, we now actually believe that this time of shopping frenzy is "in our blood." We have bought into the idea that these expenditures and profits sustain our economy and way of life in this country. And while there may be some economic truth in all this I still wonder if we may have sold out our souls. Did not Jesus ask what a person would sell in exchange for his soul? (See the passage in Matthew 16:24-27). (Con't page 8)



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U.M.W.

Sunshine Circle will meet Saturday, December 3, 6:30 pm at the home of Nita Wright, 203 Brookhaven Trail. Please bring a breakfast item to share and a \$10-\$15 gift with which to play Dirty Santa - AND WEAR YOUR JAMMIES!!!!

The joint UMW will have its annual Christmas celebration and ornament exchange Thursday, December 8, at 6:30 pm at the home of Nita Wright, 203 Brookhaven Trail. Please bring a covered dish (or two) to share and a \$10 ornament to exchange if you want to participate. We look forward to seeing you there!

The joint UMW will have a short business meeting Sunday, December 11, at 9:30 am in the Chapel. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the 2012 budget as well as some mission expenditures. Please be there if you can.

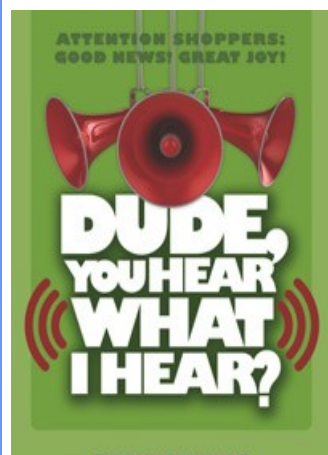
CHRISTMAS MUSIC PROGRAM



Please come join us Sunday **December 11 at 5:30 pm** for our Christmas music program. The praise band will start us off with several of our favorite Christmas pieces, followed by the Choir Cantata, "Mary Did You Know?"

Afterwards, please bring your favorite "finger food" item and join us for a "Finger Food Fellowship". This is a great way to celebrate the season of Advent!

DINNER AND A PLAY



Christmas time is filled with sound! Sometimes, so much sound and noise that we can hardly hear the message of Christmas.

"Dude, You Hear What I Hear?!" is a rollicking adventure that ensures that nobody will miss out on hearing the REAL Christmas story! The hippest music... a fun story....and the solid Biblical message....Dude, you've got to hear this one!!!

Dinner Theater Saturday, December 17th

Dinner 5:30 pm

Play 6:30 pm

Tickets \$10 meal and play
\$ 5.00 play only





From the desk of...

THE MINISTER OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK – DATE NIGHT CHALLENGE

A VALENTINE'S EVENT FOR COUPLES

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 6:00 P.M.

Focus on the Family is sponsoring a nationwide movement to encourage couples of ALL ages to build stronger marriages. Couples are pulled in many directions, but the fun, simple act of dating each other strengthens relationships long term. **The Date Night Challenge** is two hours of fun and laughter for couples, featuring comedian Jeff Allen, singer/songwriter Michael O'Brien and best selling authors Dr. Greg and Erin Smalley via web cast. During the event, the Smalleys will explain the power of dating your mate and encourage couples to take the "Date Night Challenge": go on three dates in three weeks.

So, what are you waiting for? Mark the above date in your calendars and come and enjoy a world-class evening of fun, laughter and entertainment via web cast. Watch more details regarding registration in our church's website, weekly bulletins and in the newsletter. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Felicia Kumar at felicia.kumar@smyrnafirstumc.org or call 615-459-2826, ext.13.

BETHLEHEM MARKETPLACE

You are invited to attend the 30th annual staging of the "Bethlehem Marketplace" held in the Family Life Center at Southeast Baptist Church (615-896-0940) located on 708 Minerva Drive, Murfreesboro, TN. Marketplace is a walk-through drama re-enacting how the village of Bethlehem might have appeared the morning after the birth of Jesus. Its atmosphere and surroundings are those of 2000 years ago. It features characters in historically accurate costumes such as Roman soldiers, prisoners, tentmakers, weavers, carpenters, merchants in shops, census-takers, and more. Live camels and other animals lend authenticity to the re-enactment. There is no admission fee and the event will be staged on 12/3, 12/4, 12/10 & 12/11 between 1:00-5:00 p.m. Tour time averages about one hour, even at times of peak crowds. This is an event for everyone. But I strongly encourage the parents to take their children and to be a part of this wonderful experience. Have a blessed Advent and Christmas season!

ADVENT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



"The Journey"

For those of you who are unable to attend Sunday School on a regular basis, we invite you to be a part of the new Sunday School class which will meet for the four Sundays in Advent - **November 27, December 4, 11 and 18**. This group will meet during the regular Sunday School time, 10:00-10:45 a.m. The book and the DVD that we will use for the class is: **"The Journey – Walking the Road to Bethlehem"**. The author of the book Adam Hamilton approaches the world-changing event of the birth of our Savior with thoughtfulness and wisdom. Using historical information, archaeological data, video excursions in the Holy Land, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth of Christ, the most amazing moment in history becomes more real and heartfelt as we walk along the same road. If you wish to purchase a book while it is still on sale, get in touch with Felicia ASAP. Please join us as we study and prepare our hearts during this Advent Season!

ADVENT

ADVENT - the first season of the liturgical year - includes the four Sundays and weeks prior to December 25. Advent dates from the fourth century, when it lasted 40 days and included fasting and solemnity, much like Lent.

Advent is from *Adventus*, Latin for "coming," referring to Jesus' birth in Bethlehem and also his second coming. The traditional colors of Advent are purple for penitence or blue for hope.



Observing Advent is a meaningful, adventurous way to prepare for Christmas.

PRAYER DURING ADVENT

We will again pray for each other during Advent. On Sunday, December 4, bring a white candle with your family's name labeled on the bottom and place it on the altar before church begins. When you come

down for communion, please pick up another candle and take it home. Please light the candle and pray for this family during the Advent season. Bring the candle back on Christmas Eve, give it back to the family

you've been praying for and let them know that they have been lifted up in prayer. Prayer is the most important thing we can do for ourselves and others - we hope everyone will participate in this.



A FAMILY ADVENT DAY APART

Advent is a time when we recall the Son of God coming down to this earth as a human being for each of us, and we prepare ourselves for His Second Coming. The Advent season should bring feelings of joy and anticipation, but we often get bogged down with cookies, parties, cards, and presents and stress is more common than wonderment. To help us get back on track, we will be hosting a **Family Advent Day Apart** led by Rev. Jackie Clevenger on Saturday, December 3 from 9:30-2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you wish to celebrate a stress-free Advent and Christ-centered Christmas season, please make every effort to attend and be blessed by the Advent Day Apart. The youth will join the adults for all sessions. A special program for elementary age children will be offered on that day while the parents are in session. Nursery care will be provided for children three years and younger. The cost for the lunch is \$5.00 for adults & youth and \$3.00 for children. There is no charge for children three and under.



Advent

Please contact Felicia Kumar if you have any questions: felicia.kumar@smyrnafirstumc.org or call 459-2826.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Faith Factory Sunday School

NOVEMBER 2011
Teachers and Shepherds

KINDERGARTEN & 1ST GRADE:
Pam Faulkner, & Patti Clark

2ND & 3RD GRADES
Cindy Page & Jan Schilling

4TH & 5TH GRADES:
Mary Lou Haynes &
Kelly Greenwood

Workers in Children's Church
December, 2011

December 4
Dismissed

December 11
8:00 am Sharon & Ashley Dickens
11:00 am Frankie Cashion & Ruthie Vaughan

December 18
8:00 am Gwen Graves & Nadina Tharpe
11:00 am Pat Campbell & Lydia Oliver

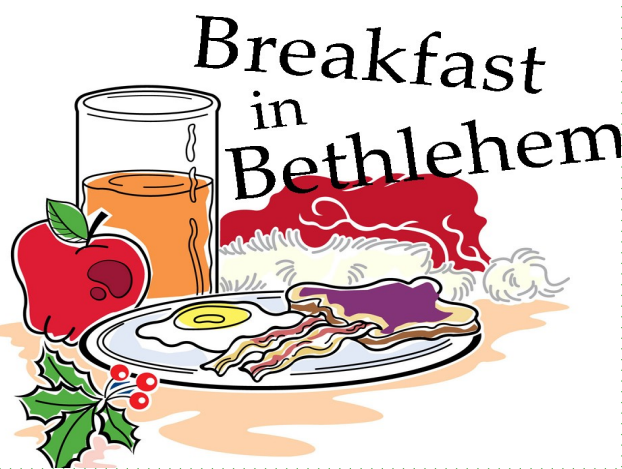
December 25
Dismissed



Breakfast in Bethlehem

Saturday, December 10th
8-10 am, Fellowship Hall

Tickets
\$5 per person
(maximum of \$25 per family)
Includes breakfast, crafts &
picture with Santa.



BIBLE QUIZ

Some parts of the Christmas story, as commonly told, aren't actually re-counted in Scripture. Which of the following details is recorded in the Bible?

- Mary rode a donkey to Bethlehem, and Joseph walked alongside her.
- Angels announced that a Savior, the Messiah (or Christ), had been born.
- There were three wise men.
- Shepherds and wise men (or Magi) worshiped Baby Jesus together.
- None of the above.

Answer: See page 9



ENCOUNTER YOUTH

"Helping youth personally encounter Jesus Christ and develop trust in Him!"

Weekly Youth Gatherings

Encounter Youth Group
Sunday 5-7 pm

Sunday Morning Bible Study
10:00—10:45 am

W.O.W. (A.S.K.)
Wednesday, 6:30

Sticky Faith in teenagers is not about "doing," it's about "trusting".

When we teach a faith that focuses on doing "the right things," kids [and adults] may feel they can sustain this performance style of Christianity (often motivated by a desire to please adults). This faith based on how well they "live" the gospel may sustain them [you]...for a season. But this gospel of sin management can only last so long. Almost inevitably, when kids [and adults] reach the awareness- through failure, pain, insecurity, or inner wrestling- that they do not have the power, capacity, and (often) interest in keeping the faith treadmill going, they will become either discouraged or complacent and put their faith aside.

To help our kids [and adults] discover and grab hold of a sustainable, long-term, and vibrant Sticky Faith, we must stay true to the words of Jesus and heed the council of Paul: Trust in the one the Father has sent and live convinced that the only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

Above is an excerpt from a book I have been longing to read since I first heard of its coming. I would like to share some of my thoughts with you regarding the above quotation from the recently published book *Sticky Faith*.

Instead of just teaching behavior modification (following rules, similar to how the Jews followed the Law of Moses) to youth/adults, what if instead we first learned ourselves how to constantly ask the question regarding situations/ circumstances we face and decisions we make, "How can I trust Christ in this?" I personally had to do some soul searching myself and I now believe this will be my approach to my personal faith and the discipleship of youth.

Do you take your situations/ circumstances and decisions to Christ?

Through Scripture: Look for your situation/ circumstance or decision in scripture. What does God show you in it?

Through Prayer: Ask God to help you find a way/ an example in scripture to trust Him.

We cannot implant nor make grow righteousness in others or ourselves (through behavior modification/ following the rules). That is God's job, ours is to trust in Christ (Jn 6:28-29). I believe we 'trust in Christ' by searching scripture for our situation or dilemma, seeing what God said/ did, also remembering what sort of character he wants to develop in us. Finding those examples and choosing to believe that behind all that God 'commands' is a loving God who desires to draw us close to himself we truly and deeply begin to trust in Christ. As our confidence builds in Christ, our trust will also and we will find ourselves caught up in deepest of loves in all of creation, the love of the Creator. So, are you managing your sin or trusting in Christ?



Matthew Johnson

Fire & Ice Retreat

Girl's Day Out

Guys' Day Out

Please refer to our web site: www.smyrnafirstumc.org/instruct for a recap of these youth events!!!



Important Dates to Remember:

Progressive Dinner Friday Dec 2nd 530-

The schedule is set and the day is approaching fast! Has your youth signed up for the Progressive Dinner? This is such a wonderful time, no programming, no agenda, just enjoying one another and getting to know one another even better! No

(Con't page 7)

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



Robby Hayes	12/1	Barbara Campbell	12/14
Jason Jones	12/1	Anita Teague	12/14
Matt Moody	12/1	Debby Faight	12/15
Stephanie Fish	12/2	Trish Nash	12/17
David Wills	12/3	Steve Picklesimer	12/17
Eric Ross	12/4	Maggie Williams	12/17
Dubbye Elliott	12/5	Candy Kane	12/19
Lynn Ray	12/5	Hannah Kirby	12/19
Jena Sweeney	12/8	Ken Cobble	12/20
Linda Powell	12/10	Rusty Fish	12/20
Ashley Smith	12/10	Marjorie Raborn	12/20
Chris Bolin	12/11	Sheila Upham	12/20
James Beard	12/14	Vera Harris	12/21
		Stacey Vogler	12/21
		Lydia Oliver	12/22
		Cindy Roe	12/25
		Becky Bowles	12/26

Camille Oglesby	12/26
Molly Lopp	12/28
Aimee McClain	12/28



Mark & Georgette Norman	12/9
Yousef & Elizabeth Abed	12/18
Dave & Becky Jenkins	12/18
Phil Carper & Belinda Fanning	12/21
Bill & Martha Hines	12/23
Alecks & Laura Kivilaan	12/28
Ben & Martha BeCraft	12/29
Tom & Barbara Huebel	12/31

ENCOUNTER YOUTH (CON'T FROM PAGE 5)

cost. For those who are not familiar, we go to 4 different homes where at each we eat a portion of a meal (appetizer, salad, main course, dessert). At the last home we eat dessert as we play a game of "Dirty Santa". Dirty Santa is a game where youth bring gag gifts wrapped up and they try to get the best one by a series of swapping. (NOTE: Youth aren't required to bring a gift in order to participate in the Progressive Dinner. Youth can either purchase something inexpensive or they are encouraged to wrap up something of theirs to bring.) Sign ups are at the youth bulletin board outside the youth room. **Deadline to sign up is Dec 30th.**

For Parents & Youth Leaders Dec 11th, 1:30-3pm



On December 11th, Matthew will be hosting an informative workshop lead by Brad Fiscus, TN UMC Conference Director of Youth and Young People's Ministry. He will be sharing with you priceless insights regarding Youth Culture. If you think you know what is going on with your youth, you'll be shocked to find out what you DON'T KNOW. Brad will also be sharing some ways of ensuring that your youth's faith sticks. Brad will also be sharing about Building a Faith That Lasts which will provide insights based on recent and insightful research. Parents, please make this a priority as this is provided for YOU. RSVP by emailing Matthew @ matthew.johnson@smyrnafirstumc.org

Warmth In Winter Pricing Schedule

Is your child planning on going to Warmth In Winter this year? You can save \$\$ by paying for their attendance **BEFORE December 27th**. Here are the deadlines to save.

- Early Bird Rate = \$55 until Dec 27th*
- I'm Coming Rate = \$60 until Jan 13, 2012
- I Hope It's Not Too Late Rate = \$65 until Jan 25th

*If you want to benefit from these rates you must submit a check 2 weeks prior to the deadline listed above. (Make checks payable to SFUMC, "Warmth In Winter" in the memo line)

Youth Worship in the Chapel

There is something new about to begin that we just wanted to let everyone know about. With the youth group growing and God providing we will begin having a Youth Worship Service each week on Sunday evenings starting at 5:30pm. This service is for the youth and will be held in the Chapel. You will be noticing some new equipment set up in the Chapel that will not only be used by the youth but also the Hispanic Worship Service as well.

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS (CON'T FROM PAGE 1)

One of the Bishops of the Methodist church, William Willimon, wrote several years ago in a little book of Advent meditations: "Faith is more a matter of imagination than blind belief. Our senses have been dulled by the everyday." That statement starkly tells me that if my spiritual life is not to be eclipsed into darkness I must be intentional about preserving it. Indeed, the real danger for Christian values may not come from the opponents of religion but from those who say they value it the most. In this light, I can choose to do some things that are different and filled with faith and life. Victoria and I have agreed to take a portion of our evenings together this Advent season and read thru a Christmas book of Scripture that is interspersed with portraits of how the great artists throughout time have pictured the Christmas story. Sometime gazing on the depictions of great art can stir deep emotions in my soul as I return back to a time and place not my own: A visitation of the angel Gabriel to Mary, and Mary to Elizabeth, the feelings of Joseph, and the birth of the Savior. I will also take time to pray and thank God for the opportunity to surprise someone with a special blessing and give them a special word of encouragement: "God loves you very much!" I will look for other ways to see and hear the Savior too because if there is anything that I do not want to do this Advent season it is miss the coming Christ!!!

I trust and pray that each person and every one of us takes the time to embrace the real meaning of this season for our life and work of faith. And may each and every one of us be captured by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ in fresh and wonderful ways.

In the Love of the Savior,

Pastor Robert




The **Lunch Bunch** will go to Millers Grocery. Meet at the church at 11:15 Wednesday, December 14 to car-pool. Please let Nita Wright know by December 7 if you plan to attend.



The "ROMEOs" men's group meets for lunch every Friday at 11:30 am: December 2 Cheddars; December 9 Maddy's Hot Dogs; December 16 Legends; December 23 Firehouse Subs; December 30 Toots.

Join us for a great time!!

 This year you may order a poinsettia and/or a mosquito net for the children in other countries. **The cost is \$10** for a poinsettia or net. Please fill in the order form and include a check for everything you order. The deadline for ordering is **Sunday, Dec. 4th.**

I would like to give a poinsettia
 mosquito net in honor of:

I would like to give a poinsettia
 mosquito net in memory of:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

FINANCE

Financial Status as of October 2011

- As of October 31, the following funds were reported:
 - Cash: \$41,807 in the checking account (up \$10,820 since Jan 1).
 - Savings: \$11,514 (down \$9,959); we borrowed \$10,000 from savings in September; we plan to take the additional funds now in checking to pay back savings.
- Income
 - Total income through October was \$500,331. Year to date income is down 5.3% compared to 2010. Preschool income is down \$2,421 for the year.
- Expenses
 - Expenses through October were \$509,065. Year to date expenses are down 1.1% compared to 2010.

Month	2010		2011		% Change	% Change
	Income 2010	Expenses 2010	Income 2011	Expenses 2011	Income	Expense
Jan	\$ 45,896	\$ 43,268	\$ 61,134	\$ 63,096	33.2%	45.8%
Feb	\$ 61,686	\$ 65,183	\$ 47,774	\$ 51,183	-22.6%	-21.5%
Mar	\$ 51,916	\$ 54,212	\$ 49,545	\$ 53,077	-4.6%	-2.1%
Apr	\$ 51,924	\$ 40,427	\$ 48,630	\$ 49,623	-6.3%	22.7%
May	\$ 59,582	\$ 57,413	\$ 57,726	\$ 49,203	-3.1%	-14.3%
Jun	\$ 47,096	\$ 52,740	\$ 37,161	\$ 45,012	-21.1%	-14.7%
Jul	\$ 44,110	\$ 37,800	\$ 48,940	\$ 43,304	10.9%	14.6%
Aug	\$ 58,067	\$ 55,198	\$ 43,262	\$ 56,181	-25.5%	1.8%
Sep	\$ 53,370	\$ 53,973	\$ 50,396	\$ 54,335	-5.6%	0.7%
Oct	\$ 54,701	\$ 54,749	\$ 55,763	\$ 44,052	1.9%	-19.5%
Nov	\$ 46,928	\$ 53,074				
Dec	\$ 52,251	\$ 55,322				
TOTAL (Oct)	\$ 528,348	\$ 514,963	\$ 500,331	\$ 509,066	-5.3%	-1.1%
Difference			\$ (28,017)	\$ (5,897)		

- Apportionments
 - To date we have paid \$95,331 in Apportionments. \$11,275 was paid in Jan to catch up 2010 and \$84,056 has been paid towards 2011. To date the Church is \$33,064 behind in 2011 Apportionments.
- 2011 Budget
 - The Church needs \$49,057 per month or \$11,321 per week to meet 2011 expenses. In 2011, income has averaged only \$10,374 per week. If trend continues we will fall \$49,000 under budget by end of the year.

Please e-mail me if you have any questions: lynnray@lynnray.net

“The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.” ~Martin Luther



BIBLE QUIZ Answer: B (See Matthew 1:18-2:12 and Luke 2:1-20, especially v. 11.)

MISSIONS

Mission Trip to Matamoros, Mexico

March 19-23, 2012

Construction

Church, Education Building, Clinic, or Home

We need *willing* (no experience) and experienced workers!

Medical Aid

Dental, Well-Baby, &

General Physical

We need doctors, nurses, dentists, and hygienists on EVERY trip!

Bible & Vitamin Distribution

Evangelism in *colonias* (neighborhoods)

Cost: \$650 per person

This fee includes transportation from Nashville to Austin, TX , Harlingen, TX, then via bus to Mexico. Lodging will be provided (dormitory style) by El Buen Pastor Iglesia. The fee also covers insurance and food in Mexico. You must pay for your own meals enroute.

\$350 Deposit due by January 1, 2012

Balance due February 28, 2012.

****Please note that your deposit is *non refundable*.** In the event the trip is cancelled due to weather, health conditions, or other unforeseen events, the airfare portion is refundable *ONLY* at the discretion of the airline.

Orientation

We will have two orientation meetings. Dates, times, and locations will be announced.

Please Note: Children **MUST** be 12 years old to participate with a parent. Teens 16 and older may participate with a designated responsible adult.

NOTE: The governments of Mexico and the United States now *require* passports. **Processing time often takes at least 2 months.** Apply immediately.

Mission Trip #1 Application Form

Name (as it appears on your passport/ photo ID): _____

Street _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Church _____

Birth date & Year _____ Medical Training? _____

General Worker (indicate any skills)? _____

Spanish Speaker? _____

Complete this form and send it with \$350 deposit (payable to the Smyrna First UMC – Missions Matamoras Trip) before January 1, 2012.

* **Please note that your deposit is **non refundable**. In the event the trip is cancelled due to weather, health conditions, or other unforeseen events, the airfare portion is refundable

Emmaus Reunion Group

Emmaus Reunion Group will have its monthly gathering on Sunday, December 4, when we travel to Andrew Price UMC for the Nashville Community Christmas gathering. Bring a covered dish (or two) to share; we will meet at the church and leave at 5 pm



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Friday morning Morning Glories and the Wednesday night Late Bloomer Bible studies will meet jointly Monday, December. 19, at the home of Nita Wright, 203 Brookhaven Trail. This will be our final meeting of 2011. Please bring a covered dish to share, your study material, and leave the labels at home!!!!

PRAYER LIST




Please Pray For

“Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.” James 5:14

Danny Acey (Cynthia Page's brother-in-law)	Delaney Faught	Richard Oglesby
Dorothy Ailey	Marty Genesi	Burma Peeler (Geri Mann's Mother)
John Argue	Jay Graham	Bob Page (Linda Powell's brother)
Jerry Baggett	Emogene Gregory (Sissy Motley's Mother)	Frances Page (Linda Powell's Mother)
Jane Barscz's Mother	Norma Hackler	Kathy Pitts
Delana Ballington (age 4)	Helen Hardiman	Jenna Pleasant
Debbie Batts	Cathy Harris (Vera's daughter-in-law)	Wayne Polley
Edgar Bayless	Jim Harris	Nicole Saling
Pat Bettini	Ben Harrell	John Sharp
Henry Brendle	Hayes Family	Helen Shipley
Opal & Wayne Bruce	Myra Huggins	Mattie Shay Sloan
Abby Burns	Ginger Ingersoll	Bart Smith
Amber Burt (Barbara Campbell's Grand-daughter)	Ann Jacobs	Linda Sprouse
Charlotte Bynum (Dempsey's Grand-daughter)	Jean (Jan Schillings' Sister)	Jenny Swofford
Ken Bourland family	Leda Junio	Dale Swofford
Barbara Campbell	Hilde Karns	Carol Tracy
Stephanie Cashion	Susanne Kennedy	Van Vanderpool
Steve Cashion	William Lambert	Brenda Vaughan
Abby Clapp	Doug Lester	Mary Walker
Joey Current (Frankie Cashion's Brother)	Malinda Lester	Kerri Webb
Randall Cunningham	Boyd Longyear	Ron Weber
Charles Dobbs	Marsha Longyear	Brian Whitt
Doug Dodge	Jo Ann Lynch's Family	Bob Willems
DePree-Kewley Family	Keith Maddox	Mary Margaret Willems
Maxine Ewton	Sally Matthews	David Williams
Mary Ann Eyster	April Mains	Herb Wimply
	Leslie Moody	Bonnie Woodard
	Heather Moore	Herschel Wray
	Morgan Family	Virginia Wray
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem	Linda Morris	John Wright
	Tom Morris	Our Military Men & Women
	Mary Rose Murphy	Our Country

Please help us keep our prayer list current by letting the church office know when someone has improved and can be removed from the list.



 Robert and I want to thank everyone who attended our open house. We hope you had a good time and were able to see how much love, time and effort was put in by the church to make a special home for your pastoral family. The open house was also our way of beginning the holiday season of Thanksgiving and sharing in the season with you. What a great day it was! In addition we want to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped with our open house. By providing food, serving and cleaning up, you all made the open house enjoyable for all. Thank you so much! Victoria Webster

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

8:00 AM Contemporary Worship
 9:30 AM Fellowship Time
 10:00 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
 4:00 PM Bilingual Latino Service
 5:00 PM Encounter Youth Group

TUESDAY SCHEDULE:

6:00 PM Sisters In Mission
 6:30 PM Intercessory Prayer

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE:

5:30 PM Meal
 6:30 PM WOW Classes
 6:30 PM Children's Choir
 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY SCHEDULE:

6:30 PM Praise Band

FRIDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 AM Women's Bible Study
 11:30 AM ROMEO's



REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

December 4 Pairs & Spares
 December 11 Motley Christians
 December 18 Crossworkers
 December 25 One Service-No Fellowship Time



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
**Bring a white candle to place at the altar.				1	2 11:30 am ROMEOs to Cheddars 5:30 Youth Progressive Dinner	3 9:30am-2 pm Advent Day Apart FH 6:30 Sunshine Cr.
4 Communion 4:00 EYM Youth Council 5 pm Emmaus Reunion	5	6 6 pm Membership Committee 7 pm Trustees Meeting	7 w.o.w	8 6:30 pm Joint UMW Covered Dish Celebration at Nita's	9 11:30 am ROMEOs to Maddy's Hot Dogs 6 pm Staff Christmas	10 8-10 am Breakfast in Bethlehem FH 10-11:30 am Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary
11 1:30-3 pm EYM Leadership Training 5:30 pm Praise Band Concert and Choir Christmas Cantata 7:00 Finger Food Fellowship FH	12 9:30 am UMW Business Mtg. in Chapel	13	14 w.o.w. 11:15 Lunch Bunch to Millers Grocery	15	16 11:30 am ROMEOs to Legends 6-8 pm Dinner Theater Rehearsal FH	17 Dinner Theater 5:30 pm Dinner 6:30 Play "Dude, You Hear What I Hear"
18 Children's Mission Offering 2:00 Church Council 	19 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study Groups At Nita's	20	21 w.o.w. DISMISSED	22	23 11:30 am ROMEOs to Firehouse Subs	24 Christmas Eve 5:30 Service 11:00 Service
25 10:00 Combined Worship	26 ← Church Office Closed →	27	28 w.o.w DISMISSED	29	30 11:15 am ROMEOs to Toots	31 New Years Eve

4-6 pm Dinner Theater Rehearsal

**Children's Mission Offering goes to Vision Trust

SMYRNA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 301 SAM DAVIS ROAD
 SMYRNA, TENNESSEE 37167

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



2011 Newsletter

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 AM

Contemporary
Worship

10:00 AM

Sunday School

11:00 AM

Traditional
Worship Service

Open Hearts

Open Minds

Open Doors

We are on the web...
www.smyrnafirstumc.org

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Robert Webster, Clergy Elder
 Minister of Christian Education & Spiritual Formation.... Rev. Felicia Kumar, Clergy Elder
 Youth Director.....Matthew Johnson
 Interim Director of Music.....Julie McDonald
 Office Manager.....Sandra Phelps
 Organist.....Bobby Medlen
 Pianist.....Gus Blackburn
 Financial Secretary.....Kelly Ginn
 Directors of Preschool.....Frankie Cashion and Sheila Upham
 Nursery Coordinator.....Ginger Davis
 Custodian.....Beverly Vaughan

Contact us for more information

Phone: 615-459-2826 Fax: 615-459-0825 Preschool: 615-459-2844

Vision Statement

Smyrna First United Methodist Church is centered upon the life of Christ, accepting and loving all persons and living out the life of Christ in the community/world.