



OUTREACH



Volume 30, Issue 11

First United Methodist Church

November 29, 2018

Greetings in the Name of Christ!

Christmas is coming! The season of Advent is upon us and begins on Sunday, December 2nd this year and culminates on Sunday, December 23rd. The season of Advent is a season of four weeks that we prepare our hearts, minds, and souls on the coming Christ child. The word 'advent' comes from the Latin word 'Adventus', which means "coming". The Advent season proclaims the coming of Christ- whose birth we prepare to celebrate once again, who comes continually in Word and Spirit, and whose return in final victory we anticipate as Christians. Each year during the season of Advent, the church focuses on a particular part of or person related to the Christmas story, the story of Jesus birth. Inasmuch, this year we will focus on Jesus' earthly father, Joseph.

There is little written about Jesus' earthly father, Joseph, and he speaks no words in the scriptural text related to him, but his actions speak louder than words, and so we can take what we do know of him and relate it to a better understanding of the man that God chose to be God's only Son's earthly father, Faithful Joseph.

Below are the themes for each week of Advent regarding Faithful Joseph:

- * Week 1; Sunday, December 2nd- "A Carpenter Named Joseph"
- * Week 2; Sunday, December 9th- "Whose Child is This?"
- * Week 3; Sunday, December 16th- "Raising a Child Not Your Own"
- * Week 4; Sunday, December 23rd- "The Journey to Bethlehem"

This year, I invite you to be a part of one of the study groups that will meet weekly during this special season of Advent, as we prepare for Christmas...especially if you or a family member has experienced adoption in your family tree. This study is especially meaningful to me because Theresa and I, in addition to our three other children, have two adopted children. Additionally, within my immediate family, I have an older brother and sister-in-law that adopted two children, and one of Theresa's sisters adopted a child. In our church family, we have those who were adopted and those who adopted children as their own. There are also many families that due to death or divorce or other family issues, are raising children who are 'not their own'.

Our stories of adoption are affirmed and offered as holy blessings, just as Joseph adopted Jesus as a holy blessing long ago. Still, there is more to Joseph than that. Not only did he adopt Jesus, but he loved Jesus' mother, Mary, so much that instead of 'quietly divorcing her', he strongly stood beside her, enduring the whispers and rebukes of a community of people, many who would have taken his betrothed, Mary, to the city gates and stoned her to death. The kind of love, kindness, compassion, and courage that Joseph displayed is what Christmas is truly about.

If you want to learn more about this kind of love, I will lead study groups on Sunday mornings at 9:35 a.m. in the Chapel and Wednesday, evenings at 6:15 p.m. in Room 207 (Milers Classroom) beginning December 2nd. Please email your requests for the study to christchildstudy@firstumc.org by Sunday, December 16, 2018. Please place the name "Outreach" in the subject line...or place your item, clearly labeled **for the Outreach**, in the office by **Sunday, December 16, 2018**. The next Outreach should be received by **December 20**.
Grace and Peace, Pastor Mike

Thank You

You are a piece of God's plan

In the happy moments
PRAISE GOD

In the difficult moments
SEEK GOD

In the quiet moments
WORSHIP GOD

In every moment
THANK GOD

Thanks to Hannah Barrett for donating her mother's electric piano for use in the chapel. Hannah's mother was Jeanne Burdsall.

The Celebration Sunday Potluck for the stewardship campaign is Sunday, December 2nd after the 2nd service. Current Finance Committee members will bring pot roast. Church members are asked to bring a favorite side dish to share.

Sympathy

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family & friends of

Joyce Black, sister of Randy Goodale and aunt of Jerod & Jeremy, who died October 27.

Bev Lowen, whose husband **Bob** died November 16th.

Congratulations

to our newest member, Dylan Bryant, husband of member Ellen. Wesley & Evelyn were baptized on November 11.

to Betty Swanson who celebrated her 90th birthday on November 13th.

to Harold & Virginia Kraus on their 50th wedding anniversary.

All women of the church are invited to the UMW Smorgasbord and Advent Service on Monday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the church dining room.

For Camp

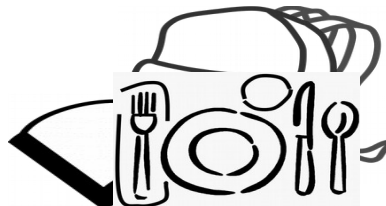
Sunday, December 16

9:00 - noon



, grab a box and voice of delicious, es. Proceeds will ls to camp.

1/2 doz. cookies, \$4



Circle News

Naomi Circle met on Wednesday, November 14th in the home of Traci Kennemer with Debra McDonald co-hosting. Debra McDonald presented the program, "The Sacred Space of Sharing Food." Naomi Circle will purchase two gift baskets for the Community Assistance Center. The Circle will decorate four tables for the dinner followed by the Advent Service on December 3rd. UMW Singers, directed by Nancy Jones, will provide music for the Advent Service. Tremendous thanks were lifted up to all those who gave tirelessly of their time and talents for the annual Peddlers' Fair which was held on Saturday, November 3rd. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 12 in the home of Debra McDonald.

Cathedral Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 2, 3:30 p.m.

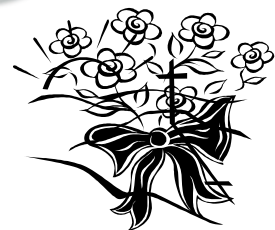
The Choirs of FHSU will be joined by the Smoky Hill Chorale and the HHS Chamber Singers. FHSU music faculty members, FHSU Brass Choir, Brass Quartet, String Quartet, and organist Tom Meagher will also be performing.

FHSU Singers Holiday Dessert Show

Friday, Dec. 14 at 6:30
Sunday, Dec. 16 at 1:30



Call 785-639-3200
785-635-2101
to reserve your \$10 ticket



INTRODUCING OUR STAFF PROGRAM STAFF

Pastor: Pastor Mike Rose
Congregational Care Director, Troy Miller
Director of Music: Johnny Matlock
Special Music Coordinator: Meredith Cory
Organist:: Charlotte Rathke
Pianist: Alexis Robinson
Handbell Choir Director: Shawn Henderson
Children's Ministry Director: Jo Swayne
Asst. Children's Director: Melissa Pyle
Youth Ministry Director: Matt Dumler
Outreach Editor: Wendy Beougher

SUPPORT STAFF:

Administrative Secretary: Beverly Bearley
Administrative Assistant: Wendy Beougher
Financial Secretary: Don Forssberg
Director of Care: Sandy Henningsen

Max Haverfield will be presenting a Christmas Concert at the First Presbyterian Church, 2900 Hall on Thursday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

KIDS CORNER
 What an awesome Children's/Youth Sabbath!! The Youth did an amazing job of planning and leading both worship services on November 18. The children added their artistic flair to the Sanctuary with fun artwork and they sang with the Youth Prayse Band for special music. For anyone that missed it, Matt has posted the worship service on our Facebook page and YouTube.

It's time for Christmas....casting that is! All children of the church 5th grade – preschool are invited to join us for our annual Christmas Pageant. Catherine Miller is once again writing our Johanna Jones! A flyer with all rehearsal dates can be found online or in your



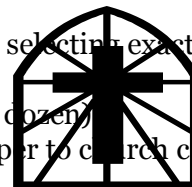
We will be sharing our Christmas Pageant at WOW on Wednesday, December 15. We will have a special worship service on Sunday, December 16. Please make plans to be here to experience the message of Jesus' birth!

Cookies for Camp! The Children's Advisory Board is asking at least 50 cookie bakers to provide four dozen, homemade cookies, any variety. If you'd like to bring more, please do!! Do not package your cookies because we will be loading tables in the gym with a variety of all flavors. We will also have a special table for any

cookies. Cookies welcome early! Just put them in the kitchen freezer on Saturday, December 16 beginning at 9:00 in the Dining Room. Here's a rundown of the cookie sale.



1. We will hand you a box and plastic glove.
2. You shop through all the tables of cookies, selecting exactly what you want to put in your box.
3. Pay for your cookies. (\$7/dozen or \$4/half dozen)
4. Support a great cause and help send a camper to church camp!



Thank you for caring about the children of our church. If you ever have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact either Melissa or I at (pyle_melissa@hotmail.com or jswayne33@gmail.com).

A Good Reason to Not Sit with Your Husband at Church

Rebecca McLaughlin describes a regular choice she makes on Sunday mornings: noticing visitors and sitting with them during the service (rather than with her family). She reaches out-even if the interactions feel awkward-to offer a tangible welcome to others. Whatever one's church tradition, welcoming, reaching out, and stepping outside of our routines to know and be known can be awkward and challenging. May God continue to bless us with such discomfort!

Marriage & Family, Kelli Trujillo

Need a hostess gift or stocking stuffer? Delicious Fair Trade cocoa and coffees bring the warmth of the season while supporting small farmers in developing countries. Items are available in the church office.

Thanks to Laura Haffner, Marcia Bannister, Melissa Pyle, Kathy Albers, Marilyn Wood, Karen Wilson, Jolie Green, Donna Weaverling, Karen Owings, Wendy Beougher, Brett Whitaker, Brad & Sarah Schumacher, Marilyn Davidson, Jill Arensdorf, Shauna Zweifel, Jacine Matlock, Susan Dumler, Patty Nicholas, Linda Beech, Catherine Miller and Hannah Barrett for providing food for the United Methodist Campus Ministry's Thanksgiving worship for the Fall semester.



Thanks to the following businesses for contributing to this year's Peddlers' Fair gift card basket:

Centennial Lanes	Gellas	Golden Q	Gutch's
JD's Chicken	McDonald's	Pizza Hut	Precision Valley
Thirsty's	Wendy's	Whiskey Creek	Jalisco's

Thanks also to the City of Hays and Hays Regional Airport for donating canvas shopping bags, Tri-Central for donating reams of paper, and 8th Street Liquor for donating cardboard beverage flats for shopping convenience.

Healthy Congregations

Classic Pecan Pie

Ingredients:

Crust:

1 cup all-purpose flour
2 Tbsp. sugar
1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 cup fat-free milk
1 Tbsp. butter or stick margarine, melted
Cooking spray

Filling:

1 large egg
4 large egg whites
1 cup light or dark-colored corn syrup
2/3 cup packed dark brown sugar
1/4 tsp. salt
1 cup pecan halves
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

To prepare crust: Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, and 1/4 tsp. salt in a bowl. Add milk and butter, toss with a fork until moist.

Press mixture gently into a 4 inch circle on heavy-duty plastic wrap; cover with additional plastic wrap. Roll dough, still covered to an 11 inch circle. Freeze 10 minutes or until plastic wrap can be easily removed. Fit dough into a 9 inch pie plate coated with cooking spray. Remove top sheet of plastic wrap. Fold edges under and flute.

To prepare filling: Beat the egg and next 4 ingredients at medium speed of a mixer until well blended. Stir in the pecan halves and the vanilla. Pour the mixture into the prepared crust.

Bake at 350 for 20 minutes, then cover with foil. Bake an additional 20 minutes or until a knife inserted 1 inch from the edge comes out clean. Do not overbake, Cool on a wire rack.

Calories-288; fat-9.2 g; protein 4.3g; carbohydrates 48.1 g; fiber-1 g; cholesterol 25 mg.; sodium 253 mg.; Calcium 52 mg.

In the midst of movement and chaos, keep stillness inside you.

Deepak Chopra





Dear friends & family,

I pray this letter finds you well as the end of 2018 quickly approaches. Thank you so much for all your support for God's work in Thailand for the past year. I moved to Bangkok 15 months ago now, and it has been an incredible season of challenges, growth, and victories working with NightLight International and women in the Thai sex industry.

Your prayerful support on this journey has been greatly appreciated.

NightLight has been working with women in Thailand for 13 years now, specifically in the Nana red light district. We offer employment opportunities for women who choose to leave the sex industry, including jewelry production, t-shirt screen-printing, and coffee barista positions. My role at NightLight is in the outreach center located in the heart of the red light district. At the outreach center, our aim is to build and maintain relationships with the women currently working in prostitution so they know where they can turn if they choose to leave their current situation. Our outreach center staff comprises of both Thais and foreigners, and we facilitate various activities such as English classes and salon services while creating a safe, nonjudgmental environment for the women to come and relax or seek help.

This position is challenging, and we face many difficult cases and situations every day. Another component to our ministry is going to the bars, clubs, streets, and brothels on a regular basis to meet women, build relationships, and invite them to the center. We do not approach the girls in an accusatory way, condemning them and telling them to leave their current occupation. Rather, we approach them with the love of Christ, meeting them where they are at, and build relationships based on trust and security.

My original commitment with NightLight was for 18 months, until February of 2019. However, I have decided to extend my time to a full two years, until August 2019. I came to Thailand to learn about outreach and intervention strategies in order to be equipped with skills and knowledge to take back to Africa in the future. I have learned so much so far, and I am confident there is more on the horizon. I am learning about anti-trafficking efforts through conferences and other organizations.

My position at Night Light is fully support-raised. In order to extend my time in Thailand, I will need \$575 of monthly support, plus funds for plane tickets and a visit home. I would appreciate your continued prayers and financial support.

Rachel Palmberg

The **Audio Team** is still needing two or three volunteers to help with the audio and/or video equipment on Sundays. If you might like to explore the possibility of joining our merry band, get in touch with Tony Anthony, Mark Kellerman, Marsha Swanson or Mike Cooper (or call the church office, 625-3408).

The light of the Christmas star to you.

The hope of a childlike heart to you.

The joy of a thousand angels to you.



Missions Corner:

From December 1 through December 31, 2018, the Missions Committee will be supporting the Ronald McDonald Houses of Wichita through filling their wish list. We are working with Hays High DECA to collect the wish list items and deliver them to the houses in January.

Each year RMHC of Wichita helps over 1,600 sick children and their families through two Ronald McDonald Houses and the Ronald McDonald Family Room. They rely on Wish List donations to help make families lives a little bit easier. Thank you in advance for caring and sharing!

Priority Needs:

- * Gift cards for Walmart, Dillon's, Target & Office Max for purchasing Items needed for operations
- * Coffee (Grounds & K-cup)
- * Individual Snacks, Crackers, and Chips
- * Laundry Soap (HE)
- * Disinfectant Wipes
- * Deodorant

Wish List Items

- * Fruit, Jell-O, & Pudding Cups
- * Cookie / Muffin Mix
- * Frosting
- * Pepper
- * Disposable Cups & Bowls
- * Canned fruits and Vegetables
- * Disposable Razors (Men's/Women's)
- * Paper Towels
- * Crock Pot Liners
- * Multipurpose Spray
- * Travel Size Shampoo & Conditioner
- * Hair Ties
- * Computer Paper
- * Chip Clips
- * Chocolate Syrup
- * Disposable Aluminum Pans (9x13)
- * Microwave meals in boxes like Hamburger Helper



**RONALD MCDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES**

Mission News

Hays High School Food Pantry

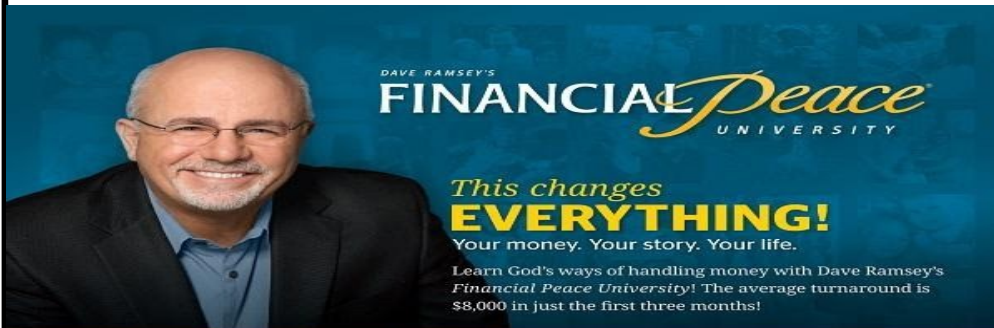
Thank you for your support of the Hays High School Pantry that you have offered this year. We are continuing to collect food items through this holiday season. You will find a list of suggested items on the mission board in the parlor. Many families will go without food over the holidays, so as part of the mission of the church, we are asking for your continued support in sharing our blessings with others. Food items can be placed on the pantry shelves in the parlor at the church.

USD 489 Mitten Tree

The focus in November for the Missions Committee has been the Mitten Trees found in the parlor and in the entrance at the back of the church. You can only imagine how cold children without coats, or mittens and hats are with the low temperatures we are experiencing, The Mitten Trees will remain up through the first week of December, so we are asking the congregation to help us fill the trees with warm mittens, hats and scarves, prayers and warm thoughts for the children in our community.

Financial Peace University

Planning for the future is hard when you're still paying for the past! Listen-there's a better way! Join my *Financial Peace University* group, and we'll learn how to beat debt and make a plan for the future...together! Interested? Join me at First United Methodist Church starting 1/14/19. Feel free to message me your questions at samgrossrd@yahoo.com or 620-617-8247 or sign up at <http://www.fpu.com/1078760>.
Sam Gross, Healthy Congregations Committee Member



Financial Peace University. We were familiar with Financial Peace University (FPU) as it was being offered through the church. The advice was given in an enlightening format; we were able to work to help guide us through his

able to pay off almost \$9,500 toward our total debt during this time frame. We have always believed in the concept of being debt-free but now we have the tools to actually achieve this goal. In addition, we have grown spiritually by understanding how wealth and faith can work together to do amazing things. Overall, this minor investment of dollars and time will pay off big for us in the near future. Thanks to Sam Gross for sharing his insight, experience and training so that we can live a life that is debt free!

Tammy Wellbrock
Executive Director
Hays Area Chamber of Commerce

God, grant me the serenity
to stop beating myself up
for not doing things perfectly,
The courage to forgive myself
because I'm working on doing better,
And the wisdom to know that you already love me
just the way I am.

“The Other Serenity Prayer’ by Eleanor Brown

November OUTREACH

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haysumc@hotmail.com

www.kaysradio.com

www.HaysFirstUnitedMethodistChurch.com

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 2, noon
Monday, December 3, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 4, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 9, 4-5:30 p.m.
Monday, December 10, 12:30-6:30
Wednesday, December 12, 6:15
& Sunday, December 16 at 10:45
Friday, Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m.
& Sunday, Dec. 16 at 1:30 p.m.
Friday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 27, Save the Date

Church Celebration
UMW Smorgasbord
Loving Hands/Loving Hearts
Children's Pageant dress rehearsal
Red Cross Blood Drive
Children's Christmas Pageant

FHSU Singers Holiday Dessert Show

Longest Night Service
Workday at Camp Lakeside

