

Deerfield United Methodist Church December 2013 Newsletter

A Note From the Pastor

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” (John 1:1-5)

I suppose I did it this year because last year my house was so dark. We had just moved in and we were up to our eyeballs in boxes! We did manage to get the tree up though, *before we moved in*, with the help of our children.

This year our outside lights began with a simple Hanukkah Menorah and some blue/white lights on the holly bushes nearby during the 8 days of the season. Somehow it blossomed from there... Christmas tree using the flagpole, snowflakes, more lights, garland, and an angel.

This year I'm drawn to the light and for the need to have light everywhere, especially at this dark time of year. The Christmas star is particularly important as I pray with the metaphor of light and darkness. I want to follow the star...you know... just like the wise men to see what I can find, and to figure out what gift I can bring.

Scripture tells us that no darkness can overcome “The Light” of the world! The darkness that we face in our lives will dissolve into the light of the Christ Child totally one day. This Advent I am calm and peaceful as I sit in the dark with all the lights of Christmas on all around me. I know that this Light means Life for always.

So...I went looking on-line for a star...just one more important light for all the world to see!

(Well, perhaps for our neighbors to see!) I found it and with the help of dear friends (in the form of a tall ladder) and my husband, I put it up and



turned it on for the first time last night. The “starlight” is a beautiful visual reminder of our search for Jesus and our need to follow and connect with people and places that point us to the light and not the darkness. Then, when we find darkness, the light in us can shine and point the way for others. Let your light shine for all to see, and I'll see you in church!

Advent Blessings to All!

Pastor Jackie



Christmas Eve Service begins at 7 PM. It is a family friendly service of the story of Christmas, singing the familiar carols, and lighting our candles while singing “Silent Night.” Please join us to celebrate Christ’s birth!

Passionate Worship in December

(Sundays, 11:00 a.m.)

We are right in the middle of thinking “fresh out of the box” for Advent. Each Sunday the children are in church worshipping and after the Children’s Moments are off to their Sunday School rooms where they are preparing for the pageant on December 15, at 6:00 PM.

- December 15 - Earth Movers
James 5:7-10 & Matthew 11:2-10
- December 22 - Do the Right Thing
Romans 1:1-7 & Matthew 1:18-25
- December 24 - Lessons & Carols Candlelight Service
(7:00 PM)
Isaiah 9:2-7 & Luke 2:1-20
- December 29 - Narrow Escape
Isaiah 63:7-9 & Matthew 2:13-23
- January 5 - In Search of... (Epiphany)
Isaiah 60:1-6 & Matthew 2:1-12

December Birthdays

- 2 - John Young
- 4 - Cindy Delaney
- 10 - Penny Cesco
- 11 - Roy Dixon
- 17 - Luke Royer
- 19 - Lauren Reed
- 28 - Tom Reed
- 29 - Gail Prather
- 30 - David Marshall



December Anniversaries

- 12 - Nick & Betty Wik
- 31 - Terry & Cindy Delaney



If your birthday or anniversary was not listed, please either call the church office or send an email to deerfieldumc@zoomtown.com.

Let Us Pray!

Prayer Group

Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Everyone is welcome! For information, contact Margie Burke.

E-Prayer Group

Wanting to help in the power of prayer? Join the Prayer Team! If you are interested, contact Karen Long (543-0965, Karen.long@scripps.com). You'll receive emails sent from the weekly prayer requests submitted at Sunday service, as well as helping when a member of DUMC is in need.



Prayer Concerns

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| <i>Denise Bailey</i> | <i>Becky</i> |
| <i>Judy & Al Billock</i> | <i>Jay & Bri Bloom</i> |
| <i>Marsha Brashear</i> | <i>Teri Brashear</i> |
| <i>Cates/Ettensohn Family</i> | <i>Copley Family</i> |
| <i>Bill Daugherty & Family</i> | <i>Lou Duvelius</i> |
| <i>Hershey Family</i> | <i>Rebecca Hershey</i> |
| <i>Judy Janning</i> | <i>Scott M.</i> |
| <i>McCord Family</i> | <i>Terri McCoy & Family</i> |
| <i>Bill & Mickie Montgomery</i> | <i>Pam</i> |
| <i>Carole Renter</i> | <i>Shaughnessy Family</i> |
| <i>Mike Shaughnessy</i> | <i>Wayne Steinspring Family</i> |
| <i>Thomas Family</i> | <i>Ron & Aixa Thompson</i> |

Births



Congratulations to Luke and Stephanie Copley on the birth of Joseph Carl Copley on November 22, 2013. Joey was born at 6:30 PM weighing 9 lbs. and was 21½ inches long. Proud big brother is Teddy.

Our Sympathy

Our Christian sympathy to:

- ⇒ The Ettensohn Family on the passing of Betsy’s father, Bill Cates on November 17, 2013. His memorial service was on Saturday, December 7, where he will be buried at Arlington Memorial cemetery in Mt. Healthy.
- ⇒ Cheryl Beardslee on the passing of her mother in November.