



The Messenger

First United Methodist Church
of Carroll, IA 51401

(712) 792-1122

OFFICE HOURS:
7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
& 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

carrollumc@msn.com

Vol. 4, Issue 22 December 2, 2013

Times of worship —

Saturday Worship 6:00 pm
Sunday Family Worship 10:30 am

FUMC STAFF -----

Dennis Bailey, Pastor (790-4427)
Suzanne Olberding, Education Coordinator (792-1290)
Verona Fuller, Administrative & Financial Secretary (792-4886)
Nina Akin, Technical Sec. (792-9026)
Michelle Caltrider, Custodian (792- 5092)
Jacki Montgomery, Music Director (792-6509)
Jason Bush, Youth Coordinator (792-2084)

MINISTRY OF PRESENCE

Total attendance for services
Nov 23 & 24 6:00 p.m. 32
10:30 a.m. 165
Nov 30-Dec 1 6:00 p.m. 45
10:30 a.m. 149

The Messenger items are due at the main desk by Monday prior to printing. Watch bulletins for additional activities.

PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE

Next Messenger: Jan 6th

THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK--

He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree. – Roy Smith

One of the ways that clergy get a new position in the Church of England is to go down to London to see the clergy appointments adviser. The Rev. Gilly Myers went to visit this man before being appointed to Durham Cathedral. The adviser asked some very searching questions. Myers reports: "One of the questions he asked me provoked some speedy thinking. He said this: 'Of all the liturgical seasons in the year, which is most important to you, theologically speaking?' "I wonder what you would answer?" Myers said in a sermon later to his congregation. "I thought my way through a few..Christmas..Incarnation, God becoming human..Passion-tide..Christ's entering into the suffering of the world..Good Friday..redemption, forgiveness of sin..Easter..resurrection, death destroyed, new life, hope, Pentecost.. the empowering of the people of God for mission and service.. and so on.

Myers came to the conclusion that it is only in celebrating the whole liturgical year that we maintain a balance. You cannot skip a thing. If Christmas is ignored, then you are ignoring the truth that God is with us. If Lent and Easter are ignored, then we're stuck in our sins. If Pentecost is forgotten, then we're powerless to serve God. This month, we rejoice in the good news that we are not alone! Immanuel! God is with us! -Timothy Merrill

COMING WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday, Dec. 7th 6:00 p.m.

Matthew 24: 42-44 "Keeping Awake"
Reminder that we need to be watchful for Jesus Moments this Christmas season.

December 8th CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 14th & 15th

Matthew 11: 2-6 "The Good News has Come" Bells
The ministry on earth and the Incarnation of Jesus centers around the healing of the sick, the opening of the eyes of the blind, and the Good News of God's wonderful love and mercy and grace is with us now

Saturday, Dec. 21st 6:00 p.m.

Luke 2: 1-7 "God Becomes Human"
This will center on the God of all Creation becoming human for us – humbling Himself in order to be like us in every way. He came as an "illegitimate child" and he came to be born in the most humbling of circumstances.

Sunday, December 22th CHRISTMAS CANTATA
presented by our Choir

Tuesday, December 24th "CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT" 4:00 (Bells) and 7:00 p.m. (choir).

Matthew 1: 18-23 "God With Us" Our message is Jesus equals God with us. God is here. Let us open our eyes!"

Sunday, December 28th & 29th

Matthew 2: 13-23 "God on the Run"
From the very beginning the darkness of the world would try to extinguish the Light of the world. But it cannot do it. Yet let us never forget that the "world" is at odds with God (even the boy-child Jesus).

There will be no Friends Breakfast in January. Be sure to mark your February calendar for the 6th! Call Marsha Nuckels (792-9217) or Sara Anderson (792-4680) for ride.



Mary Lou Ware and family in the death of Bob. He will be missed.

Welcome New Members:
Tyler and Jenny Roetman

Presented for Baptism:

✚ Tyler Roetman
✚ Siddalee Roetman
✚ Ellyce Roetman

And
✚ Millicent Marie, daughter of Ashlee and Josh Pudenz

WE Team will take Fruit Bags to Fairview Apts. on Dec. 13th @ 5:00 p.m. All donations of bananas, apples, oranges, Quaker Bars or candy canes would be appreciated. We will bag them at 9:30 a.m. Donations, or help bagging or delivering would be appreciated!

If you are only receiving the complimentary photo from Lifetouch Pictures, you may pick up your picture at the front desk.



- Delores Eason
- Hazel Daniels

THE WARM TREE in the Overflow Room is ready to be covered!!! Bring items such as mittens, coats, hats gloves, snow pants, sweat shirts. They will be taken to Fairview School after Christmas.

THANKS to everyone for your cards and phone calls and delicious food brought to our home during the time of my accident and recovery. I enjoyed your visits so much. Special thanks for prayers and to Pastor Bailey for his visits and comforting prayers. God bless you all. LeRoy Albertsen

THANK YOU from Marie Hackett for prayers and concerns for Greg after his accident. (Please read the letter on the bulletin board). He is improving slowly but surely.

THE FINANCE BOOKS WILL CLOSE Dec. 29th.
Please make sure your pledges are current if you wish to have them included in 2013 giving. Thank you.

Remember the staff and show your appreciation to them for the past year. Donations may be left at the office, given to Jody, or placed in the offering plates. Be sure they are marked as such.

POINSETTIAS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:

- David Crouse and Paul & Ruth Crouse from George & Dixie Crouse
- Helen Powers from Peggy Griffith
- Bruce Fuller from Verona & family
- Russ & Jan VanDyke & Paul & Jean Schapman from Jim & Sue VanDyke
- Parents –Dean & Sharron Kirby and Hubert & Victoria Dorpinghouse from John & Carol Kirby
- Erin, H.K. & Ellen Richardson from Scott & Kathy Richardson, Michael & Jeff
- Jan Lahr from Emmett Lahr
- Parents Jerry & Alma Kramer and Etta & Clarence Hopper from Sandy & Dave Hopper
- Don Jones from Jody
- Bernard, Freda, Doug, Dean & Bob Ankenbauer from Diane Kitt
- Their family from John & Sally Norgaard
- Joe, Tom & Joel Mulloy
- Dick Tilton and Sharon Wolter from Cleo Tilton

Just because:

- Jeff & Lisa Honold & family
- Dick & Gloria Watson
- Max & Kelly Fischbach
- Harry & Sissy Van Zuiden

Thanks for Sharing!!!

Many thanks to the crew that put up and decorated the front entry Christmas tree. Randy and Vicki Anderson put up the tree. Sue VanDyke, Marsha Nuckels, Kay Chambers, and Sara Anderson decorated it. Many kudos!! Also, thank you to Suzi Olberding for planning and cutting all the lettering used in the Sanctuary this Christmas season.

OFFICE HOURS: 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 (noon) & 1:00 to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday

NOTE: Our Sunday services are now shown Monday through Friday on Mediacom CH. 6 at 1:00 and on WIN Ch. 36 Thursdays at 4 PM & Fridays at 9 PM

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

DECEMBER 7th

8:30 a.m. Girl Scouts
 1:00 p.m. Girl Scouts
 Noon NA
 6:00 p.m. Family Worship

Dec. 8th

9:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Program
 3:00 p.m. Girl Scouts
 Boy Scouts
 Community Chorus at Holy Spirit Church
 7:00 p.m. Compassionate Friends Candlelight Service

Dec. 9th

4:00 p.m. German Club
 5:00 p.m. TOPS

Dec. 10th

8:30 a.m. Alanon
 5:30 p.m. Mini Methodists

Dec. 11th

3:30 p.m. UM Kids
 4:30 p.m. Confirmation
 5:30 p.m. Youth
 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

Dec. 12th

5:30 p.m. Alanon
 7:00 p.m. NA

Dec. 14th

6:00 p.m. Family Worship

Dec. 15th

9:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Family Worship
 Bells play

Dec. 16th

12:30 - 6:00 Bloodmobile here
 5:00 p.m. TOPS
 7:00 p.m. CHS Concert at Carroll High School

Dec. 17th

8:30 a.m. Alanon
 11:00 a.m. Book Club at Queen Bean's



Dec. 18th

9:30 a.m. WEteam bags fruit for Fairview Apts.
 10:30a.m. Devotions at Swan House
 12:00 - 6:00 Carroll Community Blood Drive at National Guard Armory
 3:30 p.m. U M Kids
 4:30 p.m. Confirmation
 5:00 p.m. WEteam delivers fruit
 6:00 p.m. Youth party in Fellowship Hall
 6:30 p.m. Ad Board meeting
 Choir rehearsal

Dec. 19th

Noon Book Club at Queen Bean's
 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts – Wolf Pack

Dec. 21st

8:30 a.m. Girl Scouts
 6:00 p.m. Family Worship

Dec. 22nd

9:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal
 No Sunday School
 Choir Cantata

Dec. 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE
 4:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Dec. 25th MERRY CHRISTMAS

Office closed

Dec. 28th

6:00 p.m. Family Worship

Dec. 29th

10:30 a.m. Family Worship
 Closing of Finance Books

Dec. 31st

8:30 a.m. Alanon

JANUARY 1 – HAPPY 2014

January 5

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Family Worship
 3:00 p.m. Girl Scouts

January 8

3:30 p.m. U M Kids
 4:30 p.m. Confirmation
 5:30 p.m. Youth meetings



The Heavenly Bound Book Club is inviting you to come join the discussion and the fun we have every month. **December's date is Tuesday the 17th at 11:00 AM at Queen Beans or come the following Thursday (the 19st) at noon at Queen Beans. THERE WILL BE NO EVENING MEETING AT THE CHURCH THIS MONTH.**

December's book is **Christmas Jars** by **Jason F. Wright.**

Hope Jensen is a young, single women and an aspiring newspaper writer, and when she receives a much needed but anonymous Christmas gift, she's determined to find her benefactor. That search leads her to an unusual family with a longstanding Christmas tradition.

Destined to become a classic Christmas tale, *Christmas Jars* is a heartwarming story that will restore your faith in mankind and makes you want to start your own Christmas Jar tradition.

Christmas Jars is a very short read that received 4.7 out of 5 stars on Amazon.com.

Feel free to join us for discussion even if you didn't have a chance to read or finish the book.



Sunday School Schedule

December 8th - Christmas Program
 December 15th - All Classes together for an art project
 December 22nd - No Sunday School
 Christmas Break
 December 29th - No Sunday School
 Christmas Break
 January 5th - Sunday School starting the Lydia Rotation

UM Kids Schedule

December 11th - Finish up activity and Bible lessons to get badges
 December 18th - Christmas Party
 December 25th - Merry Christmas
 January 1st - Happy New Year
 January 8th - Starting on next set of Badges

Youth Group Schedule

December 11th - Caroling at Swan House
 December 18th - Christmas Party
 December 25th - Merry Christmas
 January 1st - Happy New Year
 January 8th - Getting back into the swing of things

THE MESSENGER

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 Carroll, IA 51401 (712)792-1122

Connecting people with God through Worship, Witness, Service, and Sharing

FUMC Staff:

Ext. 201 Financial-Membership Sec., Verona Fuller
 Technical Secretary, Nina Akin
 Ext. 202 Pastor, Rev. Dennis L. Bailey
 Ext. 203 Edu. Coordinator, Suzanne Olberding
 Music Director, Jacki Montgomery
 Youth Ministry Coordinator, Jason Bush
 Custodian, Michelle Caltrider

carrollumc@msn.com

pastor.dennis52@gmail.com

suziolberding@msn.com

jacki@soundandservice.com

kj_bush@msn.com

www: carrollunitedmethodist.org



WORSHIP

**10:30 a.m.
Sundays**

**6:00 p.m.
Saturdays**