

Here's What's Cookin'

As a child, like many children, this season of the year left me with great emotional expectations. We see this same emotion as children sit on the knee of Santa requesting some special gift. We hear it in the secular and spiritual songs of the season. There is a song in the air! Some are dreaming of a white Christmas! There is a feeling of Christmas.

As an adult who has accepted Jesus as the Messiah, the Christ of my life, there is a little different expectation and feeling about this season of the year. Though I have come to grips with certain realities and certain understandings about heaven's gift of God in flesh, there is still so much mystery about complete fullness of this gift. I am still expecting more of Christ to come into my world. So, making room for this arrival is a must for me.

I hope you and your household will have room in the Inn for the spirit and sanctity of the Christ who comes over and over knocking and requesting a place to abode. The great thing about this gift: it's free.

Blessed Christmas, *Roland*

Youth Corner

UMYF starts at 5:30 p.m. Sundays with a simple supper and ends at 7:00.

Dec. 17 – 4:00 Youth Rehearsal

5:30 Youth Dinner

6:00 Christmas Program

Dec. 29 – noon - Trip to Upper Room & Laser Quest

Dec. 31 – No Youth meeting

Jan. 26-28 – Warmth in Winter

Feb. 23-25 – Ski Trip

Thanks to all who came out to serve at the Candlelight Dinner hosted by UMW and the Cumberland District Clergy Christmas Dinner.

On Friday, Dec. 29, we will meet at the church at noon to go downtown to the Upper Room and then to Laser Quest for a game of laser tag. We will be back by 5 p.m. You should eat before you arrive and the cost will be \$10. Sign-up sheet is in the hall.

Coming up: Warmth in Winter is January 26-28, 2007. Cost is \$75 for the weekend and includes room and meals from Friday evening until Sunday breakfast. We will return about noon on Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet in the hall.

Judy Hader Director of Children & Youth

2007 Flower Calendar

Anyone wishing to provide flowers for worship services in honor or memory of someone or a special occasion may sign up on the 2007 Flower Calendar in the hall.

Please *print your name and the name(s) of person(s)* to be honored by the date and state occasion, if any. *A date may be shared with one other family.* Cost is \$15. Make checks payable to *Cook's UMC*, mark "Flowers" and put in offering.

Reserve a Cookbook

Reserve your copy of "Cook's Cookbook" offered by Stephen Ministry for \$15. Cookbook gift certificates are also available for Christmas gifts. The cookbook has over 200 recipes by Cook's members. Sign up sheet is on the hall shelf to reserve a cookbook.

2007 Officer Lists

Cook's UMC Officers for 2007 lists are available on the main hall shelf.

Walk to Bethlehem

Parish Nursing completes the Walk to Bethlehem for Jesus' Birth Dec. 24 with accumulated miles on a 19,120 mile route to Bethlehem. Each mile equals 100 on the map. Remember to turn in your final mileage forms to Jim Webster.

Yoga Holiday Schedule

Morning Yoga with Lisa Decker will not meet Dec. 26 or Dec. 28 or Jan. 2 but otherwise meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 10 a.m. Evening Yoga with Leighanne Buchanan continues every Tuesday from 5:10 to 6:10 p.m.

Celebrations

New Babies:

Zoe Faith and Zachary Shade Azbill was born Nov. 29. Zoe weighed 3 pounds, 13 ounces and was 18 3/4 inches long. Zach weighed 2 pounds, 5.8 ounces and was 15 inches long. They are the fraternal twins of Anna & Jeff Azbill of Jackson, TN. Big sister is Katie and big brothers are Ethan and Jake. Proud grandparents are Tom & Vickie Gibson.



We send our sincerest sympathy to:

Sylvia Cook and family and our church family, in the death of her husband, Lex Cook, on Dec. 6. He was a member of Cook's for 56 years.

Volunteers Needed

A group of volunteers will be needed on Saturday evening, Dec. 23, to set up for our special Christmas service on Sunday, Dec. 24 and thereafter on Saturday evenings to set up for 11 a.m. services in the Friendship Hall beginning Dec. 31. Those able to help, contact Bob Johnson or Joyce Gaines.

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the January 1 newsletter is **Wednesday, December 27.**

MISSIONS MOMENTS

(Spend a Minute to read about Missions Committee projects.)

Warm clothes are needed for Lebanon Help Center. Men's socks & T-shirts are needed for Community Care Fellowship. Put donations in boxes in main hallway.

Open House at Seats

Joan and David Seat extend an invitation to their Open House at 206 Whitnel Drive in Mt. Juliet on New Year's Day 2007, Monday, January 1. The very informal gathering will include the traditional blackeyed peas, ham, rolls and mashed potatoes. There will be plenty of food, so stop by to grab a bite and say hello or stay awhile to visit. Call 754-5595 for directions.

Children's Choir

It has been a while since Cook's had a Children's Choir. We are considering beginning a Children's Choir and/or Children's Handbell Choir in the New Year but would like input from parents concerning whether they are interested in their children participating (and whether their children are interested in being in a choir.) This is for elementary school-aged children and will meet weekly during the school year. If interested, call Joyce Gaines at 444-1739 or email kwgain@yahoo.com. If enough parents are interested, an organizational meeting will be scheduled.

Reading Glasses Needed

Rev. Bud and Nancy Harrub are visiting a very small, very primitive and very isolated Pacific Island called The Republic of Kiribati in January. It is a very poor country (per capita income about \$500) and the needs are many. One need is for reading glasses. A box will be placed in the sanctuary for donations of reading glasses through Sunday, January 7. A limited amount of saltwater fishing tackle, garden seed and a few books will also be accepted. Contact the Harrubs at harrub@tds.net or call 773-1622 for details.



CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Children & Youth Christmas Program

Christmas festivities will be presented by Cook's children and youth Sunday, Dec. 17 at 6 p.m. in the Friendship Hall.

The children's Sunday School classes will share songs & stories. Youth Drama Disciples will broadcast a live VBS Evening News Program with Barnabus Rather and Matthew Lauer, on-the-scene reporters and others on location. Refreshments of punch and cookies will be served afterwards.

Christmas Service & Cantata

Cook's Christmas Service & Choir Cantata, "Wonder of Christmas," under the direction of Joyce Gaines and accompanied by Marjorie Jennings, is Sunday, Dec. 24 at 10:30 a.m. in the Friendship Hall.

The 3rd-5th grade Sunday School class will join the choir on "Dona Nobis Pacem."

On Dec. 24, Sunday School classes will meet at 9:15 a.m. and there will be no worship services at regular times.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service is Sunday, Dec. 24 at 5 p.m. and repeated at 10 p.m. in the Friendship Hall. Nursery is available at 5 p.m. only. A special offering will go to Mt. Juliet Help Center.

Merry Christmas *from the staff at Cook's UMC*

39 Pledge Cards received to date (\$107,760) = 24% of 2007 Cook's UMC budget (\$446,209). Help with the ministry of Cook's by pledging financial contributions for 2007. Please submit pledge cards in the box in the sanctuary by Dec. 24. Stewardship goal for 2007 is to exceed 120 pledges. Pledge cards can be revised or cancelled at any time.

In Christ, Brooks Harper, Stewardship Chair

Bring apples, oranges & pre-packaged snacks
for Wilson County Jail inmates to the church by Tuesday, Dec. 19.

Remember our homebound this Christmas season.

Opal Bailey 74 E. Hill Street, MJ 37122	(Bobby) Charles King, Quality Care, 932 E. Baddour Pkwy. #B5 Leb. 37087
Lee Bickford 512 Pin Oak Place, MJ, 37122	Louise Moore 627 Westview Drive, Lebanon 37087
Joanna Dozier 926 Christina Drive, MJ 37122	Betty Parker 50 Quarry Loop Rd., Lebanon 37087
Virginia Edwards 304 Gay Winds Drive, MJ 37122	(Elizabeth) Libby Quinn, McKendree Village Health Care Room C-9 4347 Lebanon Pk., Hermitage 37076
Gordon Fly, Quality Care Nursing Home 932 E. Baddour Pkwy. #A5 Leb. 37087	Joan Seat (mail PO Box 1160, MJ 37121) 206 Whitnel Drive, MJ 37122
Myrtis Johnson, McKendree 1N Rm. 180 4347 Lebanon Pk., Hermitage 37076	