

First United Methodist Church

Searching for dignity, honor and happiness thru Jesus Christ
Buscar para la dignidad, el honor y la felicidad por Jesucristo

January 1, 2012 – Christmas 1 – Happy New Year!

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please fill out & pass REGISTRATION PADS in each row.)

GREETING (Repeat) I am God's beloved Child! I bring God great joy. I am loved! I am forgiven! I am accepted! Thanks be to God. Amen

OPENING SONG We Three Kings of Orient Are UMH254
RESPONSIVE READING Isaiah 60:1-6 (NLT) Remain seated

SONG OF PREPARATION The First Noel UMH 245

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING Open the Eyes of My Heart

SCRIPTURE & MESSAGE Matthew 2: 1-12 (NLT)

MESSAGE A Story by Leo Tolstoy Barry
Jones

MEDITATION

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

How can this be, Holy One of Advent? We would put the powerful on pedestals, but you send the lowly to remind us of our call to be servants. We would stock our pantries with more and more, but you send our friends to our door, collecting for those who hunger and thirst for hope. We would listen to seasonal sounds of sales, but you send the angels to carol to us of the promises made to all.

Forgive us, Hope of the world. As we watch for your coming, may we see the need around us; as we prepare to celebrate your birth, may we live with open hearts; as we long for healing and hope, may we discover it in the Babe of Bethlehem, Jesus the Christ, sent for us.

The good news is not just announced to all people, it is indeed, for all people. For the proud, as well as the humble; for the rich, and for the poor; for those who have found faith, and those who long for it.

Our hearts rejoice in the promises, and our souls rejoice in the One who has come to us, bringing hope, joy, and peace into our lives. Thanks be to God. Amen.

OFFERING

Give Thanks

TFWS 2036

INVITATION TO RECEIVE CHRIST/INVITACION PARA RECIBIR A CRISTO

Lord God, I know that your Son died and rose again because you want to be in a relationship of love with me forever. Come into my heart. I give my love and my life to you. Amen.

Dios, yo se que tu hijo murió y resucito para que tu y yo tengamos una relación de amor por siempre. Ven a mi corazón. Te doy mi amor y mi vida. Amén.

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

EL PADRE NUESTRO

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom & the power & the glory forever. AMEN

Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos □ santificado tu nombre. □ Venga tu reino Hágase tu voluntad, en el cielo, así también en la tierra. El pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy. Y perdónanos nuestras deudas, como también nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores. □ Y no nos dejes caer en tentación, mas líbranos del mal; porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la gloria, por todos los siglos. AMEN

* **CLOSING SONG**

Go, Tell It On The Mountain

UMH 251

Closing Scripture: Jeremiah 29: 7

BENEDICTION

Financial Report

Needed each week:

Received last week:

John Wesley's 22 Questions

22 questions early Methodists asked themselves everyday more than 200 years ago:

1. Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I really am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?
2. Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?
3. Do I confidentially pass on to another what was told to me in confidence?
4. Can I be trusted?
5. Am I a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
6. Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
7. Did the Bible live in me today?
8. Do I give it time to speak to me everyday?
9. Am I enjoying prayer?
10. When did I last speak to someone else about my faith?
11. Do I pray about the money I spend?
12. Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?
13. Do I disobey God in anything?
14. Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?
15. Am I defeated in any part of my life?
16. Am I jealous, immoral, critical, irritable, touchy, or distrustful?
17. How do I spend my spare time?
18. Am I prideful?
19. Do I thank God that I am not as bad as certain people?
20. Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold a resentment toward or disregard? If so, what am I doing about it?
21. Do I grumble or complain constantly?
22. Is Christ real to me?

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Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

We Three Kings of Orient Are UMH254

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star
O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy Perfect Light

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign
O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Pray'r and praising, all men raising
Worship Him, God most high
O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes of life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb
O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and Sacrifice
Alleluia, Alleluia
sounds thru the earth and skies
O Star of wonder, star of night

Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

The First Noel **UMH 245**

The First Noel, the Angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

And by the light of that same star
Three Wise men came from country far
To seek for a King was their intent
And to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

This star drew nigh to the northwest
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both Pause and stay
Right o'er the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

Then entered in those Wise men three
Full reverently upon their knee
And offered there in His presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You I want to see You

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You I want to see You
To see You high and lifted up, Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your pow'r and love; As we sing holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy I want to see You

Give Thanks **TFWS 2036**

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's
given Jesus Christ his Son.
And now let the weak say "I am strong";
Let the poor say "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us."
Give Thanks.

Go, Tell It On The Mountain **UMH 251**

Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching Over silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens There shone a holy light

Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born

The shepherds feared and trembled When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angels chorus That hailed the Savior's birth

Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born

Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation That blessèd Christmas morn

Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

Isaiah 60:1-6 (NLT)

¹ "Arise, Jerusalem! Let your light shine for all to see. For the glory of the LORD rises to shine on you.

² **Darkness as black as night covers all the nations of the earth, but the glory of the LORD rises and appears over you.**

³ All nations will come to your light; mighty kings will come to see your radiance.

⁴ **"Look and see, for everyone is coming home! Your sons are coming from distant lands; your little daughters will be carried home.**

⁵ Your eyes will shine, and your heart will thrill with joy, for merchants from around the world will come to you. They will bring you the wealth of many lands.

⁶ **Vast caravans of camels will converge on you, the camels of Midian and Ephah. The people of Sheba will bring gold and frankincense and will come worshiping the LORD.**

Matthew 2:1-12 (NLT)

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, ² "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him." ³ King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. ⁴ He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?" ⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote: ⁶ 'And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.'" ⁷ Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. ⁸ Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!" ⁹ After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! ¹¹ They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

Isaías 60:1-6 (NVI)

¹ »¡Levántate y resplandece, que tu luz ha llegado! ¡La gloria del SEÑOR brilla sobre ti!
2 Mira, las tinieblas cubren la tierra, y una densa oscuridad se cierne sobre los pueblos. Pero la aurora del SEÑOR brillará sobre ti; ¡sobre ti se manifestará su gloria!

³ Las naciones serán guiadas por tu luz, y los reyes, por tu amanecer esplendoroso.

⁴ **»Alza los ojos, mira a tu alrededor: todos se reúnen y acuden a ti. Tus hijos llegan desde lejos; a tus hijas las traen en brazos.**

⁵ Verás esto y te pondrás radiante de alegría; vibrará tu *corazón y se henchirá de gozo; porque te traerán los tesoros del mar, y te llegarán las riquezas de las naciones.

⁶ **Te llenarás con caravanas de camellos, con dromedarios de Madián y de Efa. Vendrán todos los de Sabá, cargando oro e incienso y proclamando las alabanzas del SEÑOR.**

Mateo 2:1-12 (NVI)

¹ Después de que Jesús nació en Belén de Judea en tiempos del rey Herodes, llegaron a Jerusalén unos sabios procedentes del Oriente. ² —¿Dónde está el que ha nacido rey de los judíos? —preguntaron—. Vimos levantarse su estrella y hemos venido a adorarlo. ³ Cuando lo oyó el rey Herodes, se turbó, y toda Jerusalén con él. ⁴ Así que convocó de entre el pueblo a todos los jefes de los sacerdotes y *maestros de la ley, y les preguntó dónde había de nacer el *Cristo. ⁵ —En Belén de Judea —le respondieron—, porque esto es lo que ha escrito el profeta: ⁶ »"Pero tú, Belén, en la tierra de Judá, de ninguna manera eres la menor entre los principales de Judá; porque de ti saldrá un príncipe que será el pastor de mi pueblo Israel." ⁷ Luego Herodes llamó en secreto a los sabios y se enteró por ellos del tiempo exacto en que había aparecido la estrella. ⁸ Los envió a Belén y les dijo: —Vayan e infórmense bien de ese niño y, tan pronto como lo encuentren, avísenme para que yo también vaya y lo adore. ⁹ Después de oír al rey, siguieron su camino, y sucedió que la estrella que habían visto levantarse iba delante de ellos hasta que se detuvo sobre el lugar donde estaba el niño. ¹⁰ Al ver la estrella, se llenaron de alegría. ¹¹ Cuando llegaron a la casa, vieron al niño con María, su madre; y postrándose lo adoraron. Abrieron sus cofres y le presentaron como regalos oro, incienso y mirra. ¹² Entonces, advertidos en sueños de que no volvieran a Herodes, regresaron a su tierra por otro camino.