A monthly publication of the First United Methodist Church

The Voice

Rev. Donny Haywood, Pastor
(940) 627-3362; info@decaturmethodist.org

Issue 1 of 12
January 1, 2022

Children's Director: Meredith Lyons
Youth Director: Gabe Rangel
Administrator: Bonnie Wohlleben
Secretary: Linda Hudler

Happy New Year!

I pray that this letter finds you full of all the peace, hope, love, and joy that the Christmas season offers. I hope that you had some time to relax, be with family, nap, and any other things that you might have wanted to do.

I have been thinking and praying about what 2022 will look like at The Decatur First United Methodist Church. I think we have been through a storm. 2020 and 2021 have been taxing on everyone. We have seen friends come and go. We have buried loved ones. We have seen churches close and the birth of widespread virtual ministry. We have also seen changes in leadership and staff.

From the outside looking in, it might seem like a train wreck. But I believe that God has been preparing us for something great. God has been working on us. God has brought key people and placed them strategically in the church. That combined with a common goal, complementary personalities, and a unified desire to grow the church and to serve God and God's people in Decatur and Wise County, have given us our arsenal for the new year.

My theme for 2022 is going to be "Revival."
Everything that we do should focus on the revival of the church, our hearts, our relationships, and our mission statement, "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."
Ephesians 3:20 says, "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."

God can do immeasurably more. As we come together, seeking God, looking to meet the needs of a broken world, God is going to work through us. We cast aside our biases, our arguing, our notion of "this is the way it's always been done," and we open ourselves to what is needed. Instead of offering what we think is needed, we ask questions. And we listen.

I'm excited about this new year. I'm excited to see what God will do through us.

Write it down somewhere - ***Revival***

Peace,

Pastor Donny

Common Ground Book Study
Mondays
5:30 p.m., MAC Patio

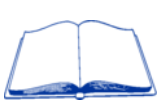
Wednesday Morning Bible Study
Wednesdays
10:00 a.m., Room 209

Lunches for Seniors
Tuesdays
11:00 a.m., Room 100

Decatur Cares Mobile Food Pantry
Saturday, January 8
7:00 a.m., FUMC Parking Lot

Children's Council Meeting
Sunday, January 16
12:00 p.m., 3rd Floor

Church Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 18
6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall


Learning

Growing

Giving

Serving

CHURCH FRIENDS & FAMILY

Tim Woodruff, Williams Family, Glen Rhine Family, Thomas Kemp, Dave Zumar Family, Cody Ohl, Roger Ellis, Family of Eddie Badger, Family of Officer Richard Houston, Caraway's Adoption, Chris Fostel, Pat Higgins, Family of Jim Richards, Family of Tom Tumelty, Family of Charles Long, Karla Hartley

In the Military:
Matthew Roberson, Jake Logue, Keygun Beaver, Nathan Darington, Bryce Dudley, Chris Hammond, Gavin Cox

Email requests to prayer@decaturmethodist.org

1 - Garry Johnson, Derrick Minor, Kurrie Murphree
2 - Richard Bastian
4 - Clark Allen, Christi Haywood, Tanaya Lunday, Mark Null, Dena Silvers
6 - Eddie Allen, Becky Lyles
7 - Amber Ramsey
10 - Don Stephens, Clarence Winn
11 - Linda Hudler, Lily Rosenbaum
12 - Kaylee Flaniken, Jennifer Smurthwaite, Cathy Tally
15 - Sharon Meyer
16 - Loretta Vick
18 - Joe Miller, David Murphree, Clark Waggoner
19 - Adelyn Summers
21 - Sharon Montgomery, Charlie Rodgers
22 - Blanca Galindo, Roy Wilkinson
24 - Paula Null
25 - Ruby Helm, Cheryl Renfro
27 - Logan Cullop, Patrick Murphree, Guy Robinson
28 - Cheryl Fostel
29 - Christopher Caballero, Reetah Lovelace, Payton, McAlister
30 - Norm Reuther, Randall Watson
31 - Kreid Hafer

Have you seen the new bus?

The church received a great deal from a fellow UMC Church AND received a generous gift that paid for the bus in it's entirety!

Calling all Approved Drivers!

Everyone that drives a church vehicle or that drives people (other than their family members) in their own vehicle for church events is required to be on the approved driver list.

If you have been approved in the past, it is that time of year to submit an updated type 2-A driving record. The link and a copy of the policy are on the church website.

Questions? Contact Bonnie at 627-3362 or admin@decaturmethodist.org.

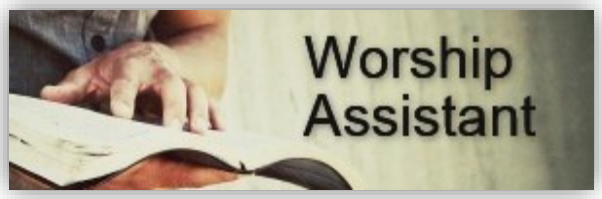
MinistrySafe®

We love our Children and Students!

All Youth and Children volunteers are required to be Ministry Safe certified.

If you have been certified in the past, watch for your recertification email that comes directly from Ministry Safe.

Not sure if you're certified? Call the church office or email admin@decaturmethodist.org to check.



January 2
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Barbara Haley
Communion Servers:
Sharon Meyer, Gay Corn, Gabe Rangel
Communion Set Up: Cornerstone Class
10:50 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Coyne Flatt
Communion Servers: Fred & Cheryl Renfro

January 9
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Gabe Rangel
Communion Servers:
Virginia Caraway, Jim Henderson, Jamie Milliman
Communion Set Up: Gay Corn & Sharon Meyer
10:50 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Sally Rieger

January 16
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Bob Pangrac
Communion Servers:
Mickey Pangrac, Debra Walker, Kathy Silvey
Communion Set Up: Kathy Silvey & Virginia Caraway
10: 50 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Sally Rieger

January 23
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Penny Holt
Communion Servers:
Jane Pemberton, Sharon Meyer, Gabe Rangel
Communion Set Up: Debra Walker
10: 50 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Chad Berardi

January 30
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Virginia Caraway
Communion Servers:
Gay Corn, Kathy Silvey
Communion Set Up: Jim Henderson
10: 50 a.m. Worship Service
Lay Reader: Trumanell Maples

January Communion Set Up: Cornerstone Class

February Communion Set Up: Seekers Class

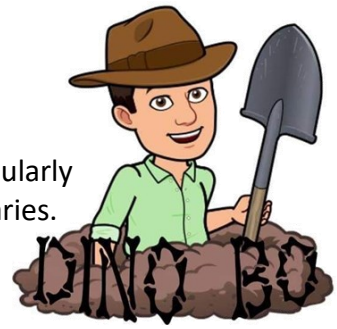
Decatur Kids

December was an exciting month in the Children's ministry!

The children celebrated advent with a special Family Movie Night each week. Our wonderful young people showed up, brought friends, and even invited people they had just met at the park. Each week, along with crafts, activities, games, and a movie the children learned about the advent themes of Peace, Love, and Joy. They shared the peace, love, and joy of Christmas with their church family by working each week to make crafts for our homebound church members.

The Children's ministry is looking forward to an active January!

Dino Bo, a science teacher and amateur paleontologist will be bringing his dinosaur bones and fossils to share with our children's ministry on Wednesday, January 19th. Dino Bo regularly gives presentations at the Explorium Children's museum in Denton, schools, and area libraries. Come learn about God's amazing creation with us.



M25

In response to Mathew 25:37-40, the children will be focusing on feeding the hungry during the month of January. The children's ministry will be collecting food and snacks to keep our FUMC Decatur blessing box full. If you would like to contribute or participate please email Meredith Lyons at meredith@decaturmethodist.org.

Kid's Worship will be resuming on January 8th. Kid's Worship will be an exciting time of worship, Bible study, and hands-on activities, crafts, and dramas for children K-5th during the 10:50 service on Sunday mornings. We will need volunteers to make this program a success. In fact, everything our children's ministry does depends on volunteers. If you would like to volunteer to work with the children's ministry, email Meredith Lyons.

Please encourage your children to join us on Sunday morning at 9:40 for Sunday School, at Kid's Worship during the 10:50 service beginning January 8th, and on January 19th to learn about God's amazing creation with Dino Bo.

Meredith Lyons - meredith@decaturmethodist.org

STUDENTS

Decatur Methodist Students

Join Us In January!

- Jan. 8 - Sr High at Trinity St
- Jan. 9 - Youth Game Night 5pm
- Jan. 14- 16 - Confirmation going to Bridgeport Camp for Retreat
- Jan. 16 - Youth MAC Night (Worship/Group)
- Jan. 19 - Sr. High at Trinity St. 6pm
- Jan. 23 - Confirmation Sunday in 10:50am service
- Jan. 23 - Youth Movie Night 5pm
- Jan 30 - Youth Mission Sunday

Students in action!

Want to know more? Contact Gabe at gabe@decaturmethodist.org

2021 Budget: $661,692 · 2021 Offerings: $610,410

2022 Budget: 654,212 · 2022 Weekly Budget Need: $12,581

Ways to Give: Online @ decaturmethodist.org/give

Mail checks to: P.O. Box 302, Decatur, TX 76234

Text decaturmethodist to (833)844-1375 or the Kiosk in the foyer

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WORSHIP WITH THE DECATUR METHODIST FAMILY

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Traditional @ 8:30 & 10:50 am
Modern (PSM) @ 10:30 am

WORSHIP VIA LIVE STREAM

Facebook FUMCDecaturTX
www.decaturmethodist.org/Live

CHANCEL CHOIR

I would like to extend a special thank you to our Chancel Choir members.

Our Chancel Bells performed eight of our favorite Christmas carols at the early service on December 19th.
It was a splendid performance, ringing in the Christmas spirit!

Our Chancel Choir performed the Christmas cantata "Heaven's Child,' with Fred Renfro as our narrator. It was a moving work demanding many hours of preparation and they did a magnificent job.

We are so fortunate to have so many talented people in our congregation who are willing to give of their time and talents.

Lastly, a huge thank you to our pianist, Karen Forbis and our organist, Kathy Sisk. Their expertise in accompanying the Chancel Choir adds support and depth to every performance.

~Lynda Trow, Choir Director

PECAN STREET MISSION

- *New Series called "Love Hard" Starts Jan. 2*
- *New time for Gathering on Sundays is 10:30am*
- *Common Ground Book Club starts Jan. 10th at 5:30pm*
- *Pub Theology Dates Jan. 11 and 25 7pm at Trinity St*

Join us for any or all of the PSM happenings!

Contact: Gabe Rangel gabe@decaturmethodist.org

In 2011, the UMC LEAD Conference was founded in the Desert Southwest Annual Conference in response to leaders of young adult ministries in the United Methodist Church desire to be more effective leaders in ministry with young adults.
The first LEAD Conference was held in early 2012 in Las Vegas, Nevada at University United Methodist Church. This conference was modeled around TED style talks about new and creative ways to engage in young adult ministry in the UMC. Since then, the conference has been held annually in cities across the United States. The conference has maintained a similar format, however, speaker topics have expanded to a number of ministry areas like starting new churches, self care, creativity, leadership challenges, lay ministry, urban and rural ministries, and more.
Over the years LEAD has become more than an annual conference, it has become a community of leaders.
This year Gabe has been selected to be one of the speakers at this year's conference in San Diego, January 23-26.
Please be in prayer for Gabe as he seeks to be a resource for young adults of the United Methodist Church.

Members of Common Ground Book Club visited the African American Museum

Join the Common Ground Book Club Monday evenings at 5:30 on the MAC patio.
gabe@decaturmethodist.org

Want to get more involved?
So many opportunities! And we need you!
There is something for everyone.

Care Corp *Audio/Visual* Nursery **Children**
Youth Voice Folders Outreach Special Events

and More!

Contact the church office for more information. 627-3362 or admin@decaturmethodist.org

First United Methodist Church
104 South Miller Street
Post Office Box 302
Decatur, Texas 76234-0302

THIS NEWSLETTER CREATED ESPECIALLY FOR

YOU!

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FUMC Decatur, Texas

Follow us on Twitter
@fumcdecaturtx

Follow us on Instagram
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Instagram

Newsletter

DEADLINE!

Thursday, January 20

Wednesday, January 26
8:30 a.m.—Room 209

For any submissions you would like put in The Voice, call the church office at 627-3362 or email administrator@decaturmethodist.org.

If you want to see your church event pictures in The Voice, send them to us! We would love to include those for all the church members to enjoy.