



THE CHIMES

Village United Methodist Church

Volume 1, Issue 1

December, 2011

In Lay Leader's Language



WOW!!
December is al-

ready upon us and the "busyness" of the season is well underway. I hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. It's hard to focus on that special holiday when the Christmas trees are already displayed and Christmas music is playing.

As we approach the Christmas season I want to share two love stories. My Mom passed away on Christmas Day 1994. It was not only Christmas Day it was Mom and Daddy's 51st wedding anniversary. As she lay in her hospital bed, Daddy, all four kids, and the grandchildren surrounded her. Christmas was Mom's favorite holiday because that was the one time all the kids were together! Daddy had Christmas music playing softly in the background. As she took her last breath one of her favorite Christmas carols was playing; Ricky Van Shelton's "Pretty Paper" I still smile when I hear that

song and yet still cry when I try to sing Silent Night. (Don't watch me too closely at the Christmas Eve service, Okay?)

Another love story at Christmas is about Coach Frank Broyles and his beloved wife of 59 years, Barbara. Barbara had suffered with Alzheimer's for several years. In the beginning Frank was in denial; nothing could be wrong with the 'love of his life'. As he accepted it and learned more about it he became an advocate for not only Alzheimer's patients, but their caregivers. Barbara's legacy continues. BUT what I want to share with you most about their love story is the Christmas card he sent out the first Christmas after her death. The poem in the card is titled 'My First Christmas in Heaven'.

As we named the members of our congregation who have passed away since January 1st in our All Saints service, it occurred to me how many of our living members will be without a loved one this Christmas for the very first time. Whether we have lost spouses, parents, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, grandparents, nieces, nephews or dear friends since last Christmas there will be grieving and loneliness this Christmas.

As we celebrate with our families, let us take some time

in our day to realize there are people hurting. There are voids in their 'Merry Christmases' and their 'Happy New Years'.

VUMC will hold a special service on **Sunday, December 18th at 2:00 p.m. entitled, "The Longest Night Service"**. It will be offered to our church members and the entire community. It is our hope it will help people through the holidays with a 'Service of Light in the Midst of Darkness' featuring special music and scripture readings. Please tell your friends and family about this special service. Hopefully, the service will shine a light of hope to those grieving and be a reminder to us to reach out to those hurting and lonely.

Hymn of Promise -In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

I hope you find comfort in the poem sent by Coach Broyles.

Lee Ann Branch, Lay Leader

(continued on page 4)



INGATHERING REPORT

A big thank you to all who participated in the Ingathering for our church. Many spent hours assembling kits, gathering items, cutting, sewing, knitting and crocheting and especially "giving from the heart!" I want to thank **Glenn & Susan Wortham** and **Bill & Barbara Horgan** especially, for their work on Ingathering, making sure that our kits were turned in, and the work they did at Rice Depot. Our church can be very proud of our mission outreach through the giving of our time and our finances.

Health kits	43	Gifts distributed locally	\$ 24,803.30
School kits	90	Cash to conference	10,843.00
Cleaning buckets	12	for Mission	
Layette kits	6	TOTAL	\$ 38,066.20
	\$2,419.90		

Volunteer hours 8,061

We are very involved through volunteering in our community.
THANKS

There will be a complete report in the Library.

Audrey Powell
UMW Coordinator for Mission Education & Interpretation, Ingathering Coordinator

HEAR YE! HERE YE!

It's coming...this years most mouth watering event! It's the **UMW CANDY AND COOKIE SALE**. Sunday, December 18th, 8:30—9:30; 10:30— 11:00; and after service till there are no more customers. Come to Steel Hall; don plastic gloves, pick up a box, choose your goodies and have them weighed, see the cashier.

(Price is \$4.00 a pound). All men and women are invited to bake and make goodies. Bring them in disposable containers to the church on Saturday, December 17th from 9:00-12 or 1:00-3:00 p.m. Please label if they have nuts or are nut free, sugar free or gluten free.



TRUSTEE REPORT

The Trustee garden committee started their fall plantings working on the Memorial slope south of the portico. We were only able to work the left side of the slope due to the exhausting work of digging in the rocks. Thanks to the following crew members for their devotion: **Scott Luchesi, Steve Matthews, Harold Randol, Jim Tanner, Jim Swindle, and Don McLaurin** We hope to complete the right side of the slope on the 17th of

November. The holly stumps on the right side of the slope will be removed. **Chris Swindle and Karen Johnson** continue to direct this program.

The Trustees have approved a relighting of the parking lights. We have many lights out in the parking lot. We will upgrade the system to sodium vapors lights which are more efficient than the present mercury vapor system we

have in the parking lot. As soon as the parts are in the updates will begin.

Bruce Peterson was able to fill out a Risk Management credit program thus saving the church 15 percent on the church's 2012 insurance coverage cost.

Peter Hassialis ,
Trustee Chairman



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/3	Ingrid Fitschen	12/20	Barbara Dunbar
12/6	Lois Harder	12/22	Rev. Tom Jarrell
12/6	Sue Kott	12/23	Delores Hoover
12/6	Jack Wells	12/26	Terry Mussman
12/9	Connie Feddersen	12/28	Gertrude Burgess
12/9	Ann Hughes	12/28	Gary Kistler
12/10	Diana Reeves	12/29	Lamar Cowger
12/11	C. W. Miller	12/29	Floyd Hoover
12/13	Edith Dowell	12/29	Betts Kranzush
12/14	Nancy Long	12/29	Camilla Troth
12/17	Bonnie Thompson	12/29	Maxine Wyatt
12/18	Lonnie Elliott	12/30	Ann McAllister
12/18	Opal Penson		
12/18	Glen Wortham		



Hats off to our December Birthday members.

Financial Report As of October 31, 2011

	Current Month	Monthly Budget	Over (Under)
Income	\$64,683.47	\$47,776.17	\$16,907.30
Expenses	51,366.04	47,776.17	\$3,589.87
Net	\$13,317.43		

	Year To Date	YTD Budget	YTD Over (Under)
Income	\$485,191.11	\$477,761.67	\$7,429.44
Expenses	461,707.38	477,761.67	-\$16,054.29
Net	\$23,483.73		

Detailed Financial Reports are available in the Library and the Church Office. Contact Treasurer Marilyn Lihs at 922-1030



My First Christmas In Heaven

(Continued from page 1)

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below,
With tiny lights, like heaven's stars,
Reflection on the snow.

The sight is spectacular;
please wipe away that tear,
For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear,
But the sounds of music can't compare with the Christmas Choir up here.
I have no words to tell you the joy their voices

bring. For it is beyond description to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me.

I see the pain inside your heart. But I am not so far away...we really aren't apart.
So be happy for me, precious ones. You know I hold you dear. And be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I send you each a special gift from my heavenly home above.
I send you each a memory of

my undying love.

After all "LOVE" is the gift, more precious than pure gold. It was always most important in the stories Jesus told. Please love and keep each other as my Father said to do, For I can't count the blessings of the love He has for you. So, have a Blessed Merry Christmas and wipe away that tear.

Remember, I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.



This poem was written by a 13 year old boy who died of a brain tumor that he had battled for four years. He died on December 14, 1997. He gave this to his mom before he died. His name was Ben. Aren't we blessed she shared it with the world?

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

It is time again for the Christmas Potluck following the late service on Sunday, December 11th. This year the Fellowship Committee will provide the meat and gravy. We will rely on you to pick your favorite dish to complement turkey & gravy. We hope that some of you will choose to bring your favorite dressing, vegetable, casserole or salad. We are also looking for desserts for the season. A sign-up table will be in the narthex before



and after each service, so please let us know you are coming to allow us to provide enough meat and seating for all. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask a committee member or the person at the sign-up table. We look forward to seeing all of you at the Christmas Potluck!

Steve Matthews,
Fellowship Chairman

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

As of **January 1, 2012**, the church office will be open Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. The **office** will be **closed** on **Fridays**.

RADIO MINISTRY

Christmas day service is open for sponsorship. We are now taking sponsorship reservations for 2012.

It cost \$75.00 to sponsor a half-hour program of our Sunday service. Call or come in to the church office for information or to sign up to sponsor a program on our Village station KVRE, 92.9 FM.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Helen Seuss
Garland Nursing & Rehab
610 Carpenter Dam Road
Hot Springs, AR 71901



Merry Christmas
from your church staff!



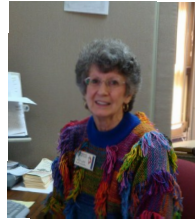
Randy Lusk
Music Director



Dr. George McCoy
Pastor



Rev. Tom Jarrell
Associate Pastor



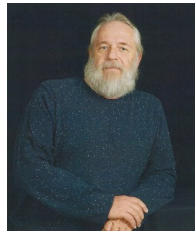
Carolyn Riley
Communications
Secretary



Glenn Kelkhoff
Custodian



Diane Reynolds
Financial Secretary



Bruce Peterson
Facility Manager



Patsy Natho
Church Hostess



Mary Lynn Pollard
Librarian



Marilyn Lihs
Treasurer



Cindy Parker
Web Site Director



Craig Lihs
Sound System



Ellen Nagode
Organist



COMING EVENTS

- November 30th, 5:30 p.m. Advent Service—Lay speaker Lee Ann Branch
- December 6, 1:00 p.m. Charge Conference
- December 7, 5:15 p.m. Wednesday Night Live Advent Service—Dr. McCoy
- December 10th, 10:30 a.m. UMW General Meeting
- December 11th, Choir Program; 12:15 p.m. Christmas Potluck
- December 14th, 5:30 p.m. Advent Service—Rev. Andy Anderson
- December 18th, Cookie & Candy Sale
- December 21st, 5:30 p.m. Advent Service—Lay speaker Rosetta DuBose
- December 24th, 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
- December 25th, 11:00 a.m. Sunday Service
- January 1, 2012, 11:00 Sunday Service



NEWS FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE

The Missions Committee wishes to thank all of you who participated in the fall food drive for Jackson House. They were certainly thankful for the food donations.

It is the time of year that the Mission Committee makes its annual collection of the "Love Offering" to help those less fortunate and other missional organizations such as Camp Aldersgate, Glenhaven, John & Ana Lamon, missionaries to Honduras, and

UMCOR. Since you may be reading this by way of the internet, you will receive or have received your "Love Offering" envelope by way of the mail. There will also be some in the pews. We appreciate your continued and prayerful support and generous contributions for these worthy causes.



Publicity Planner

Are you good at planning and organizing? Can you delegate tasks to talented volunteers?

VUMC needs a Publicity Planner to coordinate writers, photographers, and ad designers who will publicize events for the church.

Call the church office at 922-1030 if you are willing to make this your volunteer mission for 2012.

MORE NEWS FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE

Another important mission is the "baskets" for five families again this year. We will be taking food to them for Thanksgiving and Christmas. There are a total of 12 children. If you would like to give one of these children a gift, you can find their names on little



cards on a "Mission" Christmas tree located in Steel Hall. Attached will be a suggestion as to what is needed and the size. There will be an accompanying signup sheet where you can list your name and the name of the child. The labeled, wrapped gifts should be brought to Steel

Hall and put in a large open, decorated box next to the tree by Sunday, December 11. The committee will deliver the gifts with the food baskets.

Again, a big thank you to each and everyone of you for your support.

The Mission Committee

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

There will be a **Called Church Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 6th at 11:30 a.m.** to vote on the church budget for 2012. **At 12:00 noon** there will be a luncheon for Council members and their spouses, and the Annual Charge Conference will begin around 1:00 p.m., conducted by South Central District Superinten-

dent, Reverend Mike Morey. The Charge Conference is open to all church members.

On **Wednesday, January 11th, 2012**, there will be a **Church Council Workshop**, facilitated by C. W. Miller, from 1:00 p.m.— 3:00 p.m. for all members and staff. Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend.

VUMC Church Council





TO BEARS OF CARE DONORS

Thank you for all your donations to our “Bears if Care” ministry. For many years, members and friends of VUMC have given bears to the Hot Springs and Hot Springs Village Police Departments . These bears ride in the police patrol cars ready to be given to a child or person in a stressful situation. Both Police Departments have thanked our church for these bears and have commented on the effect when your bear was given for comfort .

One year a policeman in Hot Springs was in a restaurant and felt a tug on his jacket. He looked

down at a small girl who said, “I remember you cause you gave me a bear when our house burned down”.

One night in the Village an elderly woman became disoriented and lost. The police found her and gave her your “bear of care”. She cuddled that bear during the ride to the emergency room and refused to part with it when she was examined.

Your donations have been so generous that we’ve expanded the outreach to the children at Potter’s Clay (a Hot Springs crisis center for women and children)

and to the patients in the Alzheimer’s unit at Good Samaritan Society in the Village.

The “Bears of Care” donated by you are really “Bears of Comfort”. God bless you all.

Irene Smith



DINNER GROUPS

We are shuffling names for the next round of the **Dinner Group**. The dinner groups of 5- or 6 people coordinate their busy schedules between their small group, choosing dates that work for everyone— couples and singles. The participants shall hosting and cooking duties over a period of four months, January–April. This is an informal way to have dinner and visit. The menu is up to you, a chance to show off



that favorite family casserole or recipe. Typically, the host provides the home, beverage, and main course, while others bring the salad and dessert. All names currently participating will remain on the list unless I am contacted for any change. Call Sharon at 922-5753 or email sfickes@sbcglobal.net to add your name to the Dinner group list or ask questions, a new schedule will be sent out the first part of January. Sharon Fickes

IN APPRECIATION

Many thanks to all of you who helped create a surprise birthday party for me at the Austin Hotel on Sunday, November 6th. It’s a memory that will last forever. Chris Swindle

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

We are extending a special invitation to all of the ladies in the congregation to be a part of our December General Meeting and Luncheon on Saturday, December 10th starting at 10:00 a.m.

A spiritual and holiday program has been planned by the UMW

Program committee.

Naomi & Rebekah Circles have planned a very special lunch (cost is \$7.00) and will be serving the ladies in attendance.



Call the church office at 922-1030 to make your reservation.

We look forward too sharing this special season with all of you!

Village United Methodist Church

200 Carmona Road
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Phone: 501-922-1030
Fax: 501-915-9294
E-mail: vumc@villageumc.org

Dr. George McCoy, Senior Minister

We're on the
web! www.villageumc.org

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors



**Christmas
Concert**

Sunday, December 11th

Sunday, December 11th



Christmas Dinner



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS



Bake Sale

Sunday, December 18th