Second Sunday of Advent
Welcome to Grace United Methodist Church
We are glad you are here!

9:30 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Sunday School December 6, 2009

The Gathering
Gathering music, fellowship, sharing with family and friends, announcements.

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

UMH 211 (vs. 2 without refrain) O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. Luke 1:11-15

And all that the angel spoke of took place. When John was presented at the temple his father spoke of the loving mercy of our God pouring down on his people.

The light of Hope has awakened and renewed our spirits. This week as we light the second candle of Advent, a candle of Love, prepare our hearts to accept all the love you wish to pour out on us. Help us to take that love and pour it out on those around us without reserve.

UMH 211 (refrain) O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Opening Prayer (Malachi 3)
Blessed is the Lord, and blessed are God's people to whom God sends a savior, the Messiah, who is Christ the Lord. Blessed is our God, and blessed are God's gifts, that grace us with forgiveness and every good gift. Lord, you have come to dwell within us. Build your temple within our hearts. Amen.

*Hymn UMH 220 Angels from the Realms of Glory

Children's Moment

Anthem Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Chancel Choir

The Word

Scripture Lesson Luke 3:1-6 Elizabeth Ahlquist, Reader

Witness to the Word Pastor Mike Fender

Prayers of the People

Prayer Hymn: UMH 349 Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Offering and Offertory Mr. Andrew Salyer

Doxology

Great Thanksgiving UMH 13

Benediction

*Choral Benediction: UMH 419 I Am Thine, O Lord

Postlude

ADORNING THE ALTAR
The flowers this morning are in observance of the 59th Wedding Anniversary of Floyd and Edna Anderson

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers of Thanksgiving: for all those that have helped with Walk Through Bethlehem.
Prayers for our Active Duty Military Personnel: Tom Alexander and Jamie Perry.
Prayers For Upcoming Events and Our Community: The Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle Drive.
Prayers for: Our Home Bound and Nursing Home Members; All Congregations in Jacksonville; Our Bishop; Our District Superintendent; Our Pastor; Our Church; Its Ministry; and Its Stewardship.

MISSION EMPHASIS

In December, we are looking for donations for Jacksonville Area Food Center. Because of the economy, the Food Center is serving more first-time families. It is reported that their food provisions are very low, so if you can, please contribute anything you are able. They need canned foods such as vegetables, fruits, soups, and canned meats as well as packaged "dinners" and "Helpers." Thank you in advance.

The Advent letter should have been received by now. If you didn't receive a letter, please notify the office. You will note that there are four recipients this year. They are: Volunteer Health Clinic, Crisis Center, Jacksonville Area Food Center, and Woodhaven Hospice. Your donation can be put in the offering plate on Sunday morning or sent or delivered to the Church office anytime during Advent, before Christmas Eve.

CHICK FLICK

Our December Chick Flick will be Monday, December 7th. This will be a chance for the ladies to relax, forget about the work they have left to do and come and enjoy a heart-warming movie. The movie will show at 6:30 pm. Come early for soup and a sandwich.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH ALL NIGHT BAKERY

The Senior High Youth Group will be having an All Night Bakery on December 11. They will be making Christmas favorites, such as peanut brittle, chocolate toffee, and peppermint bark. They are taking advance orders and the forms are available in the office, in the Parlor or from Sara Corder. All orders will be ready for pick-up on December 13th.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH CANDY SALE

The Jr. High is planning a candy sale, but not all night and they are not taking orders. They will have their goodies in the Parlor to sell December 13th, the same day you are to pick-up bakery goods ordered from our Senior High.

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

All Women of Grace, "It's that time of year…" for our annual Women's Christmas Brunch. It will be held on Saturday, December 12th at 9:30 am. Mark your calendar. Bring a friend. You could win a basket filled with items designed to "pamper" yourself. Rod Nicholson will be the entertainment. Homemade goodies will be available for purchase. It's some Christmas fun; we hope you'll come. If anyone needs a ride, please contact the Church office 245-9521.

YOUNG DISCIPLES

Young Disciples will meet on Sunday afternoon, December 13th from 1:30 -3:30 pm. We will be busy with various Christmas activities and we look forward to a special time together this Christmas season.

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY TEAM

You will want to come to the December Wednesday afternoon program on December 16th at 1:00 pm. A well-known Jacksonville entertainer, Robert Sampson, will be here to share his talents with us with Christmas carols and songs. Please put the date on your calendar because it promises to be an afternoon of joy and fun. Remember we have Worship and Food & Fellowship every Wednesday, starting at 11:30 am.

BLUE CHRISTMAS, A SERVICE OF HOPE

We are planning a special service for those who find this season difficult. We want to make it a service of hope and fond memories. Please come and invite friends from the Jacksonville community. It is a season to give of ourselves to help those around us.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

December 23 – Close at 4:30
December 24 – Closed

The church office will also be closed the week between Christmas and New Years. Correspondence, Advent offerings, payment of pledges and Grace Notes articles can be put in the Christmas Eve or December 27th offering plate or dropped by the office anytime before Christmas. The office will open again on January 4, 2010.

WINTER LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS 2010

Leadership training for all United Methodists in the LaMoine River District will be Sunday, January 24 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Winchester UMC in Winchester, IL. A pamphlet outlining the speakers and their subjects and the registration form can be found in the church office.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
Blood Pressure Checks
9:00 a.m. Fellowship - Parlor
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship – Deaf Faith Community
1:00 p.m. Deaf Youth Ministry
2-6 p.m. Walk Through Bethlehem
4:30 p.m. Service of Carols @ MacMurray College
7:30 p.m. Hope for the Holidays, A Christmas concert by Greta McKelvey @ Wesley Chapel

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7
6:30 p.m. Chick Flick
7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8
6:00 p.m. Men of Grace
7:00 p.m. Deaf Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9
11:30 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Food & Fellowship
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10
6:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
6:30 p.m. JYF Candy Making @ Charlotte's
7:00 p.m. SYF All Night Bakery

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
9:30 a.m. UMW Christmas Brunch