



*"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."  
- Isaiah 7:14*

## Advent 2013 Events

- Dec 1 - Hanging of the Greens at 6pm
- Dec 6 - Dickens Christmas
- Dec 7 - Journey with Jesus Trip
- Dec 8 - Children's Christmas Presentation
- Dec 14 - Children's Christmas Craft Day
- Dec 15 - Christmas Cantata
- Dec 18 - Family Christmas Dinner
- Dec 21 - Family Caroling
- Dec 22 - Children's Birthday Party with Jesus - 11am  
Youth Christmas Party - 6 pm
- Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Services
- Dec 29 - 12 Days of Christmas Celebration

## Christmas Services



Hanging of the Green will be at 6pm Sunday December 1.

come forward as they prepare themselves for the Coming of Christ.

Come join us in our Christmas Eve Services. We will have a 4:00 P.M. Worship Service that will begin our 2 hour Christmas Eve Open Communion Service. Families and friends are welcome to join us for the service at 4:00 or anytime following until 6:00 P.M. as we have Open Communion. There will be someone on hand to serve Communion to those who

Additionally, we will have a traditional 11:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Service which will close with a Candlelight Communion Service. The service is open to the whole community and you are encouraged to bring your family and friends with you to this time of celebrating the gift of Christmas.

December 24  
11pm



## "Christmas Past, Present, and Future"

Could it be that our society has lost touch with Christmas? How easily we are drawn away from the meaning and message of Christmas. I find that the longer I think about it the more complex and money driven the Christmas holiday has become. It is about money for gifts and money for traveling, money for movies, money for every charity known to our society, money given and money received. How I relish the old days when times were simpler. That sort of sounds like an old TV Commercial about lemonade I heard one time. But it is the truth that we have lost much of what made us who we are today.

LET US KEEP CHRISTMAS

*Whatever else be lost among the years  
Let us keep Christmas still a shining thing;  
Whatever doubts assail us, or what fears,  
Let us hold close one day, remembering  
Its poignant meaning for the hearts of men:  
Let us get back our childlike faith again.*

--Grace Noll Crowell

I remember when it seems that Christmas was, at least for my family, was more about Christ and giving and less about our wants and desires. There was that short visit with Santa Claus, who was always ready to give us presents and asked for nothing in return. We would go out singing Christmas carols and taking gifts to the missions, nursing, and children's homes. I even remember having a child, from the Kentucky United Methodist Children's Home, coming and spending Christmas with us and that child, who was my age, receiving gifts from my family and I. Of course with the world the way it is today that could probably never happen today. I remember being Kris Kringle for the children at the Home of the Innocents, with all the hugs and kisses and slobbering that they would give to the patron saint of Christmas. Christmas vacation from school and praying for snow to play in and hoping there would be enough to build a snowman.

Most of all I remember the expectation that waiting for the presents. Wondering what was in that big box and whose was it anyway? Watering the Christmas tree and turning on the lights, while making sure to add a prayer that the tree wouldn't burn down the house. It almost did one year and we bought an artificial one before the next Christmas!

Church was the most significant part of my Christmas experience. Celebrating the gift of God, that came down at Christmas, was always the center of our celebration. Then there was Christmas Play Practice and preparing for our big production on the Sunday before Christmas. In my teen years it was all of that plus choir practice for the Christmas Cantata. That Sunday was always a high time in the life of the church. Everyone was full of joy. Not to mention that we all were full of more food than anyone should ever eat. So, like the famous scene from "A Christmas Charlie Brown" where Linus shares the real meaning of Christmas:

*"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for behold, I bring unto you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'" Luke 2:1-14 KJV*

Now , let us all remember what Christmas is all about! Merry Christmas and God bless us everyone!

--Pastor Ken Jessee



## Music Notes

The adult choir has been very busy working on their Christmas cantata, "Bethlehem Morning."

It is a wonderful musical that we have enjoyed practicing each week. There are several new songs, and some familiar carols as well. It is a very moving, and inspirational musical that we hope will touch your heart during this wonderful celebration of our Lord's birth.

We are excited to have numerous folks joining us this year for the Christmas cantata that include: Nancy and Rob Spragens,

Jenifer and Billy Hill, Gloria Parker, Menla Marlowe, Maura Clark, Sarah Brussell, Bev Harmon, and Haley Parman and we are delighted to have our pastor Ken and Jana Jessee join us as well. This will be the first time in my ministry that a pastor and his wife will be singing in a cantata.

Pray for us as we continue to work on this music to be presented on Sunday morning at the 10:50 service, December 15th.



**Merry Christmas  
and Happy New  
Year!**

**From the Staff**



## Kitchen Shower

The Seekers in Missions Circle is hosting a kitchen shower for the Caring Place through mid January. The center is asking for assistance for clients when they leave the center to begin living in their new home. Suggestions are pots, pans, glasses, silverware, dishtowels, - anything that can be used in the kitchen. Many of these items can be bought at the Dollar Tree. There will be a laundry basket in the Fellowship Hall for collection. As the basket is filled, the items will be taken to the Caring Place. Let's see how many baskets can be filled during the holiday season! Thank you!

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We are planning Christmas decorations for the sanctuary. If you wish to **HONOR OR REMEMBER** a loved one at Christmas with a Poinsettia, please complete a form from the bulletin or call the church office. Forms along with your check (made out to LUMC) can be placed in the offering plate or return to the church office. Please make a notation on your check that it is for Poinsettias. Poinsettias are in 6.5 inch pots and are \$10.00 each. Orders due Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### To all 2014 Chairpersons:

Please contact Pastor Ken to schedule a meeting to begin our year off right. Each Committee, Board, or Team will need to finalize their officers.

### Live Nativity

Please join us in supporting the Live Nativity during Dickens Christmas, December 6 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.

Watch for another opportunity for the whole family to celebrate and share the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. All ages are welcome to participate. Look for more information in the bulletin next.

SON OF DAVID, say thou to  
ee Mary thy wife: "for that  
onceived in her is of the

shall bring forth a son, and  
call his name <sup>2</sup>JESUS: for  
e his people from their sin  
all this was done, that  
which was spoken  
the prophet, saying,  
the virgin shall be with child

## Lifeworks Directory 2014!

We are going to be making a directory of all the families that are a part of the children and youth ministry.

Come to our blog or Facebook for more information. We will also be sending the form via mail. Please send your form in before December 22.

We will send out this and also the Spring Schedule the last week of December.

# Life Works

The children will present their **Christmas Story Presentation** next Sunday, December 8 at the 10:50 service.

**Youth Christmas Party** - White Elephant Exchange! December 22 at 6 pm. Bring a white elephant gift and a snack to share.

**Youth New Year Eve Lock-In!** December 31! 6th grade - 12th grade are invited to bring a friend and come to our New Years Eve Lock -in starting at 6 pm and going till 8 am! Permission slips are required for this overnight activity.

**Birthday Party for Jesus** on December 22 during our Kid's Worship time.

**Come caroling with us!** We are going caroling to our shut in and a few other friends on Saturday, December 21 from 3 to 6 pm. Every one is invited! Please sign up today so we can get enough transportation for everyone. Signup sheets are located on the bulletin board by the ladies restroom on the first floor, youth room and front pew.



*During this season of Advent we will be going on an Adventure! Pick up your Adventure In Advent packet today!*

**We need your help!** Our youth and children are hungry for our love and food. How can you help? *Sign up to bring food for the kids.* We have made it easy with the Take A Meal website. Go to [TakeThemAMeal.com](http://TakeThemAMeal.com) locating the schedule by recipient last name (Ministry) and password (1228). You can sign up for one of the open weeks and see what others are bringing too! If you just want to donate money, sign up for a week and put in the meal line "donating money."

*Volunteer with our children or youth:* We're using VolunteerSpot (the leading online signup and reminder tool) to organize our upcoming activities. **Please sign up for Life Works - here's how it works in 3 easy steps:** 1. **Go to this link** to get to our invitation page on VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/RYhiSs> 2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on VolunteerSpot) 3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots - VolunteerSpot will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!



## DECEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 KW – 11am  Hanging of the Greens/ YG – 6pm	2 Angel Tree Gifts Due	3 Ladies Bible Study 6pm	4 Bible Study 11 am and 6:30 pm  Kid's/ Youth Worship 6pm	5	6 Dicken's Christmas	7 Renfro Valley Trip (reservations required)
8 Children's Christmas Presentation – 11am  YG – 6pm	9 Poinsettia Orders Due	10 Ladies Bible Study 6pm	11 Bible Study 11 am and 6:30 pm  Kid's/ Youth Game Night 6pm (X-Mas games)	12	13	14 Men's Breakfast 7:30am  Family Christmas Lights Trip 4 pm
15 Cantata  KW – 11am  YG – 6pm	16	17 Ladies Bible Study 6pm	18 Family Night Supper 6:30pm	19	20	21 Family Caroling 3pm – 6pm Supper provided
22 KW – 11am Birthday Party for Jesus!  YG Christmas Party – 6pm	23	24  Communion 4pm  Christmas Eve 11pm	25  Merry Christmas!!	26	27	28
29 12 Days of Christmas Presentation  YG – 6pm	30	31 Youth New Year's Eve Lock In 6pm – 8am				

**KW – Kid's Worship; YG – Youth Group**