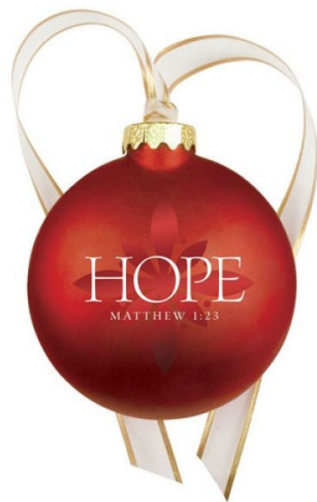


# DECEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov 27	Nov 28	Nov 29	Nov 30	1	2 BD: Dixie Saucier	3 BD: Marion Rose, Riley Young
			CLUB 3:16, 6pm			
4 2nd Sunday of Advent BD: Mary LaHaye Holy Communion THE JOURNEY, 9:30am Worship, 11am	5 BD: John David Rose	6	7	8	9 BD: Kristi Love	10
			CLUB 3:16, 6pm			
11 3rd Sunday of Advent THE JOURNEY, 9:30am Worship, 11am Choir Rehearsal, 3pm	12	13	14 Pecan Pick-Up, 3-6pm CLUB 3:16, 6pm	15 BD: Sharline Durio	16	17 Caroling Hayride, 5pm
18 4th Sunday of Advent BD: Aileen Darby THE JOURNEY, 9:30am Worship, 11am Choir Rehearsal, 3pm	19	20	21 BD: Shayne Young	22	23 BD: Jean McManus	24 CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION, 5pm
25 CHRISTMAS DAY Worship, 10:00am	26	27	28	29 BD: Abby Young	30	31
			CLUB 3:16, 6pm			

First United Methodist Church  
501 South Fifth Street  
Eunice, Louisiana 70535

Postage



[www.FUMCeunice.org](http://www.FUMCeunice.org)



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

First United Methodist Church

EUNICE, LOUISIANA

Ministering to the Eunice area since 1894

Rev. Willis Dear, Pastor

DECEMBER  
2011



Christmas  Worship

Dec 24, 5:00pm  
Dec 25, 10:00am

We will have our traditional **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service** on Saturday, December 24, 5:00pm.

Since Christmas is on Sunday this year, the three churches of the charge have agreed to have one morning service in Eunice on **Dec 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am**. We hope this will help to accommodate your Christmas family plans. Also, Rev. Dear plans to have a **Blessing of the Toys** on Christmas Sunday. Each child will be asked to bring one of their gifts to worship with them.

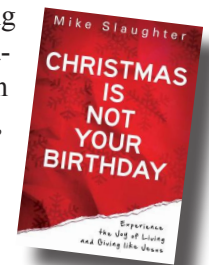


**A-Caroling We Go** Our annual **Christmas Caroling Hayride** will be on **Saturday, Dec 17, 5:00pm**. Meet at church. Thanks to Kelly Stanford for volunteering his huge, enclosed trailer...and for driving the group! We will make the rounds at the nursing home and to shut-ins. If you know of someone we should visit, please contact Dwight or Tammy.

**Christmas is not your birthday** Every year, we say we're going to cut back, simplify, and have a family Christmas that focuses on the real reason for the season- Jesus. But every year, advertisements beckon, the children plead, and it seems easier just to indulge our wants and whims. Overspending, overeating, materialism, and busyness rob us of our peace and joy and rob Jesus of his rightful role as the center of our celebration.

This Christmas, cut through the hype that leaves you exhausted and broke at the end of the year. Instead, experience the peace of knowing that God is truly with us, the joy of giving sacrificially, and the love of a Savior who gave everything he had for us. In five short, engaging chapters, Pastor Mike Slaughter inspires readers to approach Christmas differently and to be transformed in the process.

Rev. Slaughter is the pastor at Ginghamburg Church in Tipp City, OH, one of the ten largest United Methodist Churches in the United States. More at [www.ginghamburg.org](http://www.ginghamburg.org)



## 2012 CHURCH OFFICERS

PASTOR Rev. Willis Dear

CHURCH COUNCIL CHAIR David Reed

LAY LEADER Keith Jodon

LAY MEMBER TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Anita Griffiths (Kinder) [David Reed, alternate]

SPR CHAIR Beverly Guillory

TRUSTEES CHAIR Buddy Jones

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Brenda Francois

TREASURER Shirley Jodon

FINANCIAL SECRETARY Pat Dossman

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES Elise Velez and Parker Jodon

OUTREACH Barbara Deger

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES Tammy Stanford

ASSISTANTS Joy Jodon & Mary Frances Matherne

YOUTH STAFF David Reed, Michelle Reed, Tammy

Stanford, Pat Dossman, Sharon LeDoux, Mary Frances

Matherne, Dwight Jodon

MUSIC DIRECTOR Dwight Jodon

NURTURE Erin Van Horn

UM MEN Jules Gaspard

UM LADIES Brenda Francois

WORSHIP COMMITTEE Rev. Dear, Dwight Jodon (Ch.),

Mary Frances Matherne, Pat Dossman, Martha

Guempel, Keith Jodon, Suzanne LaHaye, Shirley Jodon,

Jeanell Hudson, Erin Van Horn, Joyce Gaspard, David

Reed

RECORDING SECRETARY Suzanne LaHaye

## FINANCE

-Million Penny Total: 170,971 (\$1,709.71)

### DONATIONS

-Eunice Food Bank (Nov Communion Altar Rail): \$187

-Jim Moore Memorials by M/M Jacque Pucheu and M/M Charles Aguiard

-Gideon Offering: \$558

-Garage Sale: \$387.10

-CLUB 3:16: Mike & Angelle Driggs, Sharon & Dickie LeDoux, Charlotte Perron, John & Miki McManus, Sylvia & Dave Ruppert, Hope Brown, Beverly Guillory

**Nov Communion Rail** The communion rail offering for **Sunday, November 6** benefited the Eunice Food Bank.

December communion rail offering will benefit our church's food drive.

**Choir Practice** is held every Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm. Join us!

**Gifting angels** May God richly bless everyone who participated in this year's Angel Tree program -- for the children at the United Methodist Children's Home in Ruston, LA. Your gifts were delivered with love and appreciation.

*Every church is an Embassy for Heaven, not for any nation.*

Pastor Rick Warren



*On Nov 9, David Reed led CLUB 3:16 in a traditional Cajun dance lesson!*

**Prayer List** Ethan Moser, Cindy Owen, Allen Manuel, Mary Ann O'Brien, Isaac Stanford, Martin Adams, Jackie McBroom, Earl Courville, Jackie Deshotel, Creighton Stanford, Robert Hodge, Bobbie Stiglets, Craig Fontenot, Matthew Ruppert, Darryl Cart, Dale Domingue, Carter Bertrand, Claudia Courville, Ilene Armond, Hope Dupont, Jeanne Soileau, Lisa Thomas, Albert Miller, Susan Domingue, Sophie Doucet, Youth & Children's Ministry, Mary Fuselier, Ken Chapman, Brett Young, Germaine Stagg, Charles Bowie, Raymond Pilar Parrie, Pastor Doug Milliron, Joey Ortego, Freeda Polk, Richard Davis, Sandy McGaha, Emmet Carter, Pat Dossman, Dusty DeVillier, Sheila Burnet Young, Will LeJeune, Sister Bea DeRouen, Shane Spears, Brett Faulkner, Bernice Guillory, Beth Manuel, Lisa Renee' Harelson, Isaac Bergeron, Tommy Morris, Sue Hargrover, Ray Pitre, Jim Witkowski, Kathy Fontenot, Belinda Aguiard, Germaine Stagg, Michelle Stelly, Darrell Courville, Pauline Fruge, Lou Martin, Craig Fontenot, Laure Law, Bruce Baker, Amanda Faulkner, Paula Guillory, Homeless, J.W. Karlin, Jennifer Robicheaux, Toby DeVillier, Ted Hudson, LeDoux Family, Baby Mackenzie, Aileen Darby, Beth Reed, Merita Guillory, Steven Guillory, Jeff Guillotte, Phyllis Ortego \* Please notify us if there are additions or removals.



**Building the manger** During worship each week during the Advent season, a different family will light the Advent wreath with a special reading. Also, at this same time during the service, we

will add characters to the nativity scene on the altar.

On the First Sunday of Advent, Brenda and Jimmie Francois lit the wreath and Connor Jodon carried in the nativity's stable.



EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW

## Contacting FUMC

**Phone** 337.457.2208

**Email** fumc@fumceunice.org  
youth@fumceunice.org

**Web** www.FUMCeunice.org

**Rev. Willis Dear, Pastor**

H: 337.457.2208

C: 318.210.1120

E: pastor@fumceunice.org

## Regular Activities at FUMC

**SUNDAYS** Iota Worship, 8:00am  
Eunice Sunday School, 9:30am\*  
Kinder Worship, 9:30am  
Eunice Worship, 11:00am\*  
Eunice Choir Rehearsal, 3:00pm  
\* Nursery Provided

**WEDNESDAYS** CLUB 3:16, 6:00-7:30PM

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Served during morning worship on the 1st Sunday of each month

**CHURCH COUNCIL** 6pm, 2nd Wednesday, even months

**Who's Your Daddy??** We never know what one kind word can do for another person.

A seminary professor was vacationing with his wife in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

One morning, they were eating breakfast at a little restaurant, hoping to enjoy a quiet, family meal. While they were waiting for their food, they noticed a distinguished-looking, white-haired man moving from table to table, visiting with the guests. The professor leaned over and whispered to his wife, "I hope he doesn't come over here." But sure enough, the man did come over to their table.

"Where are you folks from?" he asked in a friendly voice.

"Oklahoma," they answered.

"Great to have you here in Tennessee," the stranger said. "What do you do for a living?"

"I teach at a seminary," he replied.

"Oh, so you teach preachers how to preach, do you? Well, I've got a really great story for you." And with that, the gentleman pulled up a chair and sat down at the table with the couple.

The professor groaned and thought to himself, "Great...just what I need...another preacher story!"

The man started, "See that mountain over there? (Pointing out the restaurant window). Not far from the base of that mountain, there was a boy born to an unwed mother. He had a hard time growing up, because every place he went, he was always asked the same question, 'Hey boy, who's your daddy?' Whether he was at school, in the grocery store or drug store, people would ask the same question, 'Who's your daddy?'"

"He would hide at recess and lunch time from other students. He would avoid going into stores because that question hurt him so bad. When he was about twelve years old, a new preacher came to his church. He would always go in late and slip out early to avoid hearing the question, 'Who's your daddy?'"

"But one day, the new preacher said the benediction so fast that he got caught and had to walk out with the crowd. Just about the time he got to the back door, the new preacher, not knowing anything about him, put his hand on his shoulder and asked him, 'Son, who's your daddy?'"

"The whole church got deathly quiet. He could feel every eye in the church looking at him. Now everyone would finally know the answer to the question, 'Who's your daddy?'"

"This new preacher, though, sensed the situation around him and using discernment that only the Holy Spirit could give, said the following to that scared little boy. 'Wait a minute! I know who you are! I see the family resemblance now, you are a child of God.'"

"With that he patted the boy on his shoulder and said, 'Boy, you've got a great inheritance. Go and claim it.'"

"The boy smiled for the first time in a long time and walked out the door a changed person. He was never the same again. Whenever anybody asked him, 'Who's your Daddy?' he'd just tell them, 'I'm a Child of God.'"

"The distinguished gentleman got up from the table and said, 'Isn't that a great story?'"

The professor responded that it really was a great story!

As the man turned to leave, he said, "You know, if that new preacher hadn't told me that I was one of God's children, I probably never would have amounted to anything!" And he walked away.

The seminary professor and his wife were stunned. He called the waitress over and asked her, "Do you know who that man was -- the one who just left that was sitting at our table?"

The waitress grinned and said, "Of course. Everybody here knows him. That's Ben Hooper. He's governor of Tennessee!"

Someone in your life today needs a reminder that they're one of God's children!

*The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of God stands forever.* Isaiah 40:8

CONTRIBUTED BY SCHARLOTTE JOHNSON - True story. Ben Hooper was Governor of Tennessee from 1911-1915.

# HOLIDAY PECANS 2011

**1lb Bag \$9.00**  
**3lb Box \$24.00**  
**5lb Box \$39.00**

SHELLED, CLEAN  
Available WHOLE or BROKEN for same price

SUPPLIER: BERGERON PECAN CO.  
(Pointe Coupee)

**PICK-UP DATE:**  
**December 14**  
**3:00-6:00pm**

501 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Eunice

**DEADLINE TO  
PLACE PECAN  
ORDERS:**  
**Friday, Dec 9<sup>th</sup>**



**Wednesdays**  
**at 6pm**

## Upcoming Programs...

**Dec 7, Wed, Mystery Movie Night**  
**Dec 14, Wed, Latin Dance Lesson**  
**Dec 17, Sat, Christmas Caroling Hayride**  
**Dec 21, Wed, Christmas Party!**  
**Dec 28, Wed, TBA**

Average attendance for the past month: 36!

**CONFIRMATION** Rev. Dear is preparing to have Confirmation Classes beginning in January, 2012. He will be speaking with parents over the coming weeks in order to finalize dates and times. Children who feel led to join the church at the conclusion of these classes will have the opportunity to do so in the spring of 2012.

## Weekly SERMONS

	<u>Title</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
December 4	Watch	Luke 21:25-31
December 11	Prepare	Luke 3:1-6
December 18	Rejoice	Philippians 4:4-7
December 25	Emmanuel - God is With Us - Is God's Gift To Us	Luke 2:1-20

**Community Concert** The Eunice Community Concert Band & Choir wishes to thank the congregation of FUMC for providing rehearsal facilities for the community choir and community children's choir. The organization's Christmas concert will be **Thursday & Friday, December 8 & 9, 7:00pm, Liberty Center** (downtown Eunice).

**Blood Drive** SUCCESS AGAIN!! Our annual blood drive was a huge success on November 6. We had 25 heroes answer the call to donate and were able to get 22 product credits. Our goal this year was 15 so we really proved ourselves as a "giving" congregation.

Under our group coverage plan, Blood Replacement Coverage is issued to the entire congregation on a one-for-one basis. Any member, spouse, dependent children and the donor's parents and grandparents if they are over 65, are covered.

If any member is in need of blood replacement, please contact Martha Guempel at 337-457-8933 for more information.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS OUR DONORS



**FOOD DRIVE** Watch the Sunday bulletin, the church website and the FUMC Facebook page for information about how our congregation and CLUB 3:16 will assist with the Eunice Rotary Club annual food drive, delivering food boxes to needy families in the community.



**Flower Chart** Not sure if/when you signed up to place flowers on the altar? The chart is now available for viewing on the FUMC homepage: [FUMCeunice.org](http://FUMCeunice.org)

### December Flowers

**11th:** The Petersons  
**18th:** Moser/Pucheu Family  
**25th:** Fusilier Family

### January Flowers

**8th:** OPEN  
**15th:** Barbara Deger & Dusty DeVillier  
**22nd:** Dixie Saucier  
**29th:** Keith & Joy Jodon

*Alger Flowers*

*Flowers placed on the altar each Sunday serve to remind us of the beauty of God's creation, and they help to enhance the worship experience. Thanks for participating.*

# The Journey

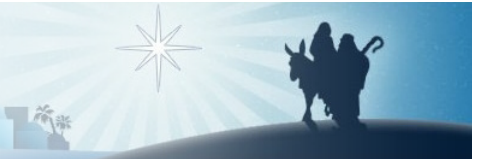
Walking the Road to Bethlehem



**The Journey** began on November 20! Members of the group are enjoying the study of the Christmas story on a whole new level! Through video segments, participants are able to tour the very sites in the Holy Land that are important to Mary and Joseph's trip from Nazareth to the little town of Bethlehem. **SUNDAYS, 9:30am, FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**Simply Beautiful** Thank you to Erin Van Horn, Jeanel Hudson, Buddy Jones and others who helped with decorating the sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season!

**Advent & Christmas Resources** Refer to the link at the top of our homepage ([www.FUMCeunice.org](http://www.FUMCeunice.org)) for a variety of resources that may assist you and your family with your journey through the Advent and Christmas season this year.



**Christmas Poinsettias** You have the opportunity to place poinsettias in the sanctuary for Christmas. Donations can be made in honor or memory of someone. Each \$25 donation will place one poinsettia plant, which can be taken home following our Christmas Eve Service. If you would like to help defray the cost of the plants (\$8), make your donation \$33. Names will be recognized on boards located near the front of the sanctuary. Order forms may be returned by placing them in the offering plate on Sunday mornings, or by mailing to the church at 501 S. 5th Street. *Form enclosed.*



### TOMORROW'S FORECAST:

God reigns and  
The Son shines!