

## Celebration Service

December 3, 2017  
9:00 AM

### I WOULD LIKE MORE INFO ABOUT:

- Sunday School
- Wednesday Night Activities
- Children's Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Music Ministry
- What UM Christians believe
- Committing My Life To Christ
- Being Baptized
- Becoming A Member
- Joining a Connexion Group

### Poinsettia Order Form \$17/plant

Donor's Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Poinsettias Ordered:

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount of \$ enclosed:

\_\_\_\_\_

*Orders must be placed by December 17th*

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY

# 3

9:00 am	Celebration Service
10:00 am	Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall
10:15 am	Sunday School
11:10 am	Traditional Service
3:00 pm	Christmas Play Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

### WEDNESDAY

# 6

5:30 pm	Timothy Team (grades K-6th)
6:00 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
6:45 pm	Basement Student Services (7th-12th)
6:45 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:45 pm	Celebration Team Rehearsal

### SUNDAY

# 10

9:00 am	Celebration Service
10:00 am	Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall
10:00 am	Communion in the Sanctuary
10:15 am	Sunday School
11:10 am	Traditional Service
4:00 pm	Christmas Play Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)
5:30 pm	Christmas Play and Potluck

## SERMON

### Under Wraps: God Is Expectant *Isaiah 9:6-7 & Luke 1:39-45 (NIV)*

During this season, many people have high hopes and great expectations; they expect joy to fill their lives, expect the month of December to be filled with holiday cheer. What expectations do you have this Christmas season? Are these expectations any different from those in the past? If so, how?

#### God is a God of Surprises, God is a God of Expectation Have you ever been surprised by God?

What were the reactions of Zechariah and Elizabeth when the Angel Gabriel announced they would be the parents?

What was Mary's reaction to her news?

#### God is Expectant of Us

If God is expectant, does that mean God waits on us humans? Why or why not?

What specific expectations might God have of you?

#### God expects us to...

\_\_\_\_\_ in our faith.

\_\_\_\_\_ His Word.

\_\_\_\_\_ with people outside our normal spheres.

God expects us to \_\_\_\_\_ to the great gift of Jesus.

God expects us to \_\_\_\_\_ by being watchful and waiting.

God expects us to \_\_\_\_\_ the story of Jesus, a story we should never get tired of telling or hearing.

God is Expectant.



# Under Wraps

THE GIFT WE NEVER EXPECTED

## First Sunday of Advent



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • SILOAM SPRINGS, AR

# WELCOME

## Message from the Pastor

The table is cleared; perhaps the hectic pace of the season has begun. What are you expecting for Christmas this year? What are your hopes for the season?

Christmas was God's master plan to change the world in a way no one expected. Jesus' birth would only be the first of many ways that God defied everyone's expectations. Jesus was a Messiah who surprised us. Immanuel—God with us. Jesus was the gift everyone needed but no one expected.

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning as we kick-off the Advent/Christmas season and we encounter an Expectant God.

  
Rev. Clark

# WHO WE ARE

## Our Vision

We believe that God has put us here at this time to faithfully seek Him and make Him known through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

## Our Values\*

Prayer, Love, Worship

## Bible-Based Preaching & Teaching

Children & Youth Ministry

Discovering God's vision for our church

## What We Believe

Many people believe they are Christian because they were born into a religious home or they go to church, tried their best, or are a moral person.

However, the Bible teaches that these things do not make you a Christian.

You become a Christian simply by:

1. Acknowledging that you, like all people have sinned and fallen short of God's standards. The Bible calls sin a desire to live independently of God. (Romans 3:23)
2. Personally believing that Jesus Christ died for your sins on the cross and rose again. (Romans 6:23)
3. Repenting (turning away from your sins), confessing, and accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. (Romans 10:9)

You may express your desire and belief in prayer, asking Jesus to come into your life, and receiving grace as God's gift to you. The Bible is clear that we all enter into a relationship with God through His mercy and grace.

\*Bold = Focus of Today's Message

# QUIET TIME GUIDE

You can incorporate a little of today's worship into your daily quiet time as easy as 1-2-3-4.

1 = Begin with reading Inviting God's Presence and Action

2 = Read the day's Scriptures from the Feed on the Word list

3 = Pray through the Joys & Concerns

4 = Finish with the Benediction/Blessing

## 1. Inviting God's Presence and Action:

O Christ our hope: May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel. Amen.

## 2. Feed on the Word:

Genesis-Revelation	Chronological
181. Psalms 86-89	181. 2 Chronicles 19-23
182. Psalms 90-95	182. Obadiah; Psalms 82-83
183. Psalms 96-102	183. 2 Kings 1-4
184. Psalms 103-105	184. 2 Kings 5-8
185. Psalms 106-107	185. 2 Kings 9-11
186. Psalms 108-114	186. 2 Kings 12-13; 2 Chronicles 24
187. Psalms 115-118	187. 2 Kings 14; 2 Chronicles 25

## 3. Joys & Concerns:

### God Sighting:

- Liam and Journey helped serve meals at the 1stUMC Thanksgiving Community Meal!

### Sympathies:

- We extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Leila McVay, a long time member of 1stUMC. She went to be with her Lord on Thanksgiving Day.

### Joys:

- Happy Birthday wishes for the week Nov 26-Dec 3: Emily Atkins, Mary Peabody, Bob Sikes, and Deb Sikes. Enjoy YOUR day!
- Thank you, David Graves and team, you served approximately 500 meals on Thanksgiving Day. These are great memories for Siloam Springs and our church.
- Dawn Hill Connexion Group reviewed the prayer concerns and joys during this Fall semester, God has been faithful and good even if the answers were not in our timing or our way.
- Elisha Comfort is thankful for time with family and friends.
- Susi Gilbert's eye surgery was successful, and is home recovering.
- Glenda Gorszcyk's brother's heart stint surgery went well.
- Steve and Mary Peters praise God and His people for His provisions during the holiday.
- Barbara Akins is scheduled to go back to her home this weekend after several months of physical therapy at the SSNH. She is very excited to go home and thankful for all the prayers for her endurance and healing. Please continue to pray as she can not return to the SSNH for 60 days, if she has a relapse in walking.

### Continuing Concerns:

- The ongoing US Disaster Relief & USA Leadership.
- We can remain faithful to our commitments offered in the Joash Chest.
- Those in our congregation in desperate need of a job.

Pray for healing, [Those on this list have ongoing medical issues and doctor appointments]

- Barbara Akins
- Larry Dodgen
- Sue Farley
- Daisye Howell
- Joallen Moose
- Karl Mounger's sister, Ruth
- Cecilia Peer
- Mary Peters
- Pam Rasmussen
- Don Richards
- Miranda Stephens
- Al Waggoner
- Randy Murphy

## 4. Benediction:

The Lord bless you, and keep you; The Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FINAL CHRISTMAS PLAY REHEARSALS

Today there is play practice in the Fellowship Hall at 3pm. There will also be the final dress rehearsal for the Christmas Play next Sunday (Dec. 10th) at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall.

## CHRISTMAS PLAY & POTLUCK

Next Sunday, Dec. 10th will be our annual Christmas Play & Potluck! The play will start at 5:30pm, followed by the potluck. Bring a dish to share! There will also be treats given to the children.

## POINSETTIA ORDERS

You can now order a Christmas poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one. They are \$17/plant. Please fill out your information on the back of your Connect Card and turn in with your money. The last day to order them is Sunday, Dec. 17th.

## THANK YOU!

To all the crafty volunteers who helped on October 29th during mission hour; and to Rebekah Lindstrom and Carolyn Coffelt for their countless hours since to complete the NEW Chrismon Tree decorations. They are displayed on the new tree we purchased last year at the front of the Sanctuary.

## OZARK MISSION PROJECT

If your student wants to go on the OMP trip, deposits are due December 17th.

## BASEMENT CHRISTMAS FIESTA!

On Sunday, December 17th at 6pm the Basement students will be having a Christmas Fiesta! Bring a fun/cheap wrapped gift.

## COMBINED SERVICE DECEMBER 24TH

Sunday, December 24th we will be having a combined worship service at 10am. We hope you will join us as we celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent. After the service we will come together for a time of fellowship and Christmas cookie decorating!

## CANDLES, CAROLS & COMMUNION

Join us for our Christmas Eve service, Sunday December 24th at 5:30pm. We hope to share this special time with you!

## NURSERY

Childcare for infant, toddler, and preschool aged children is provided during both services. There is also a nursing mothers room located just off the Fellowship Hall. While the nursery is available for our youngest members, parents with school-aged students are encouraged to bring their children to the worship services. Kids activity packs are available on the table in the Narthex.

## ✦ EXTRA DOLLARS

There is a brochure with the story of the "Extra Dollar" in the Information Rack in the Welcome Center.

# CONNECT CARD

## Celebration - 12/3/17

We are so glad that you are here and hope you feel at home as you join us in worship. Whether you are a guest, or a member, please fill out and return this card so we can know you were here!

Please Check Appropriate Box:

- First Time Guest\*
- Repeat Guest
- Member
- My address has changed

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of children ages 0-18 in attendance

today: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you would like to be

added to our weekly email list.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Joys, Concerns, God Sightings: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Check box if you do not wish to have

your prayer requests published.

*\*If you are a first time guest today, we have a gift for you! Please go to the welcome table outside the chapel where your completed "Connect Card" may be traded for a gift certificate to Barnett's Dairyette.*