



Yes, I KNOW it’s not Christmas yet, but very soon, the

movie “A Charlie Brown Christmas”, along with a host of other Christmas movies, will make their annual appearances on TVs across the country!

Many generations have grown up loving “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” but did you know that this beloved Peanuts Christmas special almost didn’t air? According to Debbie Holloway at Crosswalk.com, there were some issues that CBS had to overcome:

It seems Charles Schulz put together a very unconventional program. First, children voiced over the children’s parts. Word has it that CBS executives were not happy with that. The second difference was there was no laugh track. Schulz didn’t believe we should be coaching people when and where to laugh. The most important issue was the scene where Linus goes up on stage and narrates the Gospel of Luke.

Holloway says the network thought their American audience wouldn’t like the “overt religious references.” They also

Cindy’s Chalkboard

expected audiences would be confused by the jazz-heavy score of the special.

Chuck Colson describes the lasting appeal and charm of “A Charlie Brown Christmas”, which succeeded where so many thought it would fail:

I’m guessing it’s no coincidence that out of all the Christmas specials that claim to tell us all about ‘the true meaning of Christmas,’ this little cartoon is the one that everyone remembers and watches over and over again – the one that really gets the meaning.

...It’s not heavy-handed, it’s not an altar call, and it’s not sentimental or sappy in the least.

It’s just a straightforward sharing of the gospel, as a direct response to the emptiness, frustration, and despair that are all that commercialism can provide. It demonstrates what truly brings hope to the hopeless, not just at this time of year, but all year round. And it’s a beautiful example of the power of Christ to infiltrate and transform culture.”

As we approach this busy season of Thanksgiving that leads into the most glorious time of the Christian year, remember Who it is that comes to bring us hope and great joy!

Giving thanks.—Pastor Cindy

‘Tis Almost the Season!



CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **PECANS FOR SALE SOON!** The UMW will once again offer pecan halves and pieces for \$12/lb. They will be available right before Thanksgiving. If you want to reserve some, please email Susan Lamkin at susanlamkin@cox.net. You may also buy them at the church when they become available!
- The UMW will meet on Thursday, November 10th at 10 am in the Parlor. We will work on our Card Ministry and 2017 budget. Kelly Sartain will provide a devotional.

CHURCH FAMILY CHRISTMAS CANDLE

It's a *new* idea! We are asking each family to bring a candle from your home, any size, shape, color or condition is OK! You might consider bringing a candle that has actually been used from a Christmas event if you wish. Once we have collected them all, we will melt them down and create a "Church Family Candle"! During Advent, we will light this candle along with the Advent candles. A collection box is in the hallway!



CLUSTER CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our annual "Cluster" Charge Conference will take place at Will Rogers UMC on Monday, Nov. 14th at 6:00 pm. Will Rogers UMC is located at 1138 S. Yale. Our One Spirit Choir will be part of a combined choir from our district and they have worked very hard on this music.....it will be lovely! And we will present a slide show with music showing our activities from this past year, too!

Come early at 5:30 for refreshments!!!

Down to Earth Advent Study

Thursday's December 1st - 22nd
4 weeks 10:30 - 11:30
Leader: Rev. Suzanne Davis

Nothing about the Christmas story is ordinary. Jesus intentionally positioned himself as a mere servant, identifying with the lowest of the lows. Jesus, the down to earth God, demonstrates in the flesh the full love, humility, obedience and sacrificial lifestyle that we as Jesus' followers are in turn called to live out and embrace. We will look at this story as God's great surprise changes everything.

Sign up for this class in the hallway now!!!

LAY THANKSGIVING SERVICE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH 6:00 PM IN THE SANCTUARY

Come join us as several members of New Haven UMC share a testimony of what God has done in their lives. This is always a wonderful time as we sing lots of our favorite hymns and hear what our friends share with us, and you will even have an moment to say something that's on your heart, too! It's a very special time in the life of our church.....don't miss it!

HANGING OF THE GREENS!!!

It's hard to wrap your head around the fact that Advent is upon us very soon! But the first Sunday of Advent is only 3 Sundays away!!! **November 27th** is Advent Sunday and we will have our traditional "Hanging of the Greens" at **ONE COMBINED SERVICE which will take place at 10:00 am.** This is such a fun time as we sing traditional Christmas carols and place our poinsettias and candles in the Sanctuary and hang the Chrismos on the Christmas tree. Come and bring your friends!



ADVENT CATERED LUNCHES!

Every Thursday in the Parlor during Advent

Dec. 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd

11:45 am – 12:30 pm

\$8.00 (Reservations required!)

Come during your lunch hour for a wonderful meal and short devotion as we welcome this sacred time of year!

Hello church family!

It's only 49 days until Christmas believe it or not, and we're only a few weeks away from Thanksgiving, and as your youth director I'm so grateful for an incredible church family! During this past year you have made leading our youth SO MUCH fun, and a real blessing to me. And for those of you that might say well all I do is go to church on Sunday remember that our youth are there, and THEY see that you make worship an important part of your faith life. And that leads right into what I'm trying to show them – that it's more than just youth group, more than individual prayer time, more than reading the bible and devotionals. It's what we heard in Pastor Cindy's message this week that it's about community, and companions on this walk called life. So thank each and every one of you for all that you do to support our youth.

As we near the Christmas season this year we're kicking off our annual wreath sale fundraiser so for all those on your list that may live far away, or those that have everything already and you don't want to get them something they don't need consider a wreath this year. The funds that we raise with this year's sales will go toward each student's cost for church summer camps that they attend as well as to help pay the costs for a Spring Break mission trip that we're planning to Camp Egan where we'll get to help Josh Pulver (Egan's Director) to help freshen up our beloved camp with painting, raking of leaves, and even some possible pouring of concrete. Along with that we'll have the opportunity to pray, praise, and of course play together in one of our favorite places – Camp Egan! And remember that with the wreaths you can even place direct mail orders that the nursery will ship straight to your family member or friend with a Christmas message all your own.

Again, we thank you for your continued prayers and support as we close out this first semester of the 2017 school year, and pray that as this year closes out you find yourself overwhelmed with the multitude of blessings that God has put in your lives.

Make it a blessed week,
Patrick

Opportunities of the Week

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship & Children's Church
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Traditional Worship & Children's Church
 3:30 pm Liturgical Dance/Sanctuary
 4:00 pm Tiger Cub Scouts/Gym
 4:30 pm Celebration Singers
 4:30 pm Disciple I/Parlor
 5:00 pm W.E.B. (Children)
 5:00 pm Jr. High Bible Study
 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship Dinner
 7:00 pm Sr. High Bible Study

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 6:00 pm Cluster Charge Conference at Will Rogers UMC
 6:00 pm Writer's Group/185
 6:30 pm Bluegrass Band Rehearsal

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- 1:30 pm Women's Grief Recovery Group
 6:00 pm Invitation to Romans Study/Parsonage
 7:00 pm Boy Scouts/Gym & Parlor
 7:30 pm AA/ 185,205,209,210

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- 6:00 pm Youth Group
 6:00 pm One Spirit Choir
 6:30 pm Trustees/Parlor
 7:00 pm Bell Choir
 7:00 pm ACOA/185

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- 6:00 pm Praise Band/Sanctuary
 7:15 pm Yoga/Parlor

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- 7:30 pm AA/Gym

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- 8:30 am Men's Breakfast Bunch/Parlor

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship & Children's Church
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Traditional Worship & Children's Church
 1:30 pm Finance Committee/Parlor
 3:30 pm Liturgical Dance/Sanctuary
 4:30 pm Celebration Singers
 4:30 pm Disciple I/Parlor
 5:00 pm W.E.B. (Children)
 6:00 pm Lay Thanksgiving Service

November Birthdays

3. Carol Berry
Samantha Hensley
4. Carolyn Welch
5. Linda Gregory
8. Debbie Green
10. Mary Lou Black
13. Roger Jaeger
14. Phil Roberts
15. Pat Graf
17. Kerry Beebe
20. Cynthia Mabrey
21. Dennis Jaeger
Betty Fine
22. Rachel Gotcher
Max Nightingale
25. Christine Riffin
28. Dorothy Koons



PLEASE PRAY FOR. . .

Beverly Vincent
 Carolyn Toalson
 Robin Stevens
 Kelly Sartain
 Greg Gotcher
Friends & Family of New Haven UMC
 Mark Nicholson; Peppa Smith;
 Linda Gregory's daughter-in-law,
 Lea; Mary Ann Cunningham's
 brother, Bob; the homeless; our
 world, city, country, public
 servants & leaders.

Covenant Care (prayers & visits appreciated)

Marjorie Stewart
 Ovella Followell
 Rosemary Tarr
 Dot and Kelly Haynes
 Dorothy Koons
 Lewis Cappellairi

ATTENDANCE

November 6, 2016

8:45 am - 60
 11:00 am - 117
Total: 177

Sunday School

Adults - 63
Youth - 9
Children - 7

Adult Sunday School Come join us at 9:45 am!

Room 185: Discovery Class
Galatians

Room 209: Fellowship Class
Adult Bible Study Curriculum

Room 210: New Friendship Class
"The Lives of Great Christians" by William Cook

Parlor: Christian Living Class
Adult Bible Study Curriculum

Room 103 Interlude Class
"Revival" by Adam Hamilton

Room 206: New Beginnings
"In the Footsteps of St. Peter"

Gym: Roundtable "The Gospel According to Starbucks" by Leonard Sweet

You may email articles for the Spire (no later than Sunday evenings, please.) Sending your article on a "Word" document as an attachment works best. Please email your article to pat.bates@newhavenumc.org. Please note "Spire Newsletter" on the subject line. While we make every effort to include your request, we reserve the right to edit or delete articles due to space availability.

New Haven Staff Members

Rev. Cindy Havlik	Senior Pastor
Rev. Suzanne Davis	Retired Pastor
Jennifer Payton	Business Manager
Stephen Merrick	Music Director
Patrick Grafton	Youth Director
Paula Fox	Children's Director
Pat Bates	Adm. Assistant
Ann Martin	Financial Secretary
Mary Ann Cunningham	Nursery Director
Teresa Roberts	Organist
Rev. Jeanette Boyd	Retired Deacon
Kacie Kendrick	Day School Dir.
Joan West	After School Care
Oscar Sturgeon	Custodian

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