



# THE SPIRE

News of New Haven United Methodist Church

*"Making Disciples for Jesus Christ in the world,  
by being God's Love in Action."*

VOLUME XXIV Number 47

December 19, 2014

## Cindy's Chalkboard

Here it is, Christmas week already. We've journeyed through Advent, preparing for the birth of the Christ child.... and it's only a week and a few days away!

Christmas for most of us is one of our favorite times of year. There are presents to buy, cards to write, and lots of feasting to do! Then, of course, there are family gatherings and last minute trips to the store. In the end, on that Christmas morning, we celebrate a year full of bountiful blessings with gratitude and joy.

In the midst of the joy most of us feel, I am reminded that not everyone's experience of Christmas will be like this. As much as we want others to know the joy of the season, it will be different for them.

There are those who have lost loved ones and will look with sadness at the empty seat at the table. Others in their lives may be ill, or hospitalized.

privilege we have to help them especially at this time of year. Special thanks and gratitude to Allyson Cauthon for all of her hard work, organization and

### *Blessed to be a Blessing*

This year more than ever, there will be more families than we want to imagine not having a single gift under the tree... much less... a tree. Some may not have a meal on the table, or a place to call home for a night.

New Haven UMC never hesitates to step in and help those in need. The filling of the backpacks for Remington Elementary School this past Sunday after worship was a blessing for all of us. We know there are children in need at this school, and what a

effort to make this happen.

When we count our blessings, please remember that there are others in need. Ask God to speak to your heart. I can't tell you what to do, or how it is that you might help. But I am certain of this - God can. God can help us bring joy to someone else's life this year. So let's all open our hearts and listen. Its then, I believe, we will truly understand the meaning of blessing and joy.

With joyful anticipation of Christ's birth.— Pastor Cindy

## *Children's Musical a Resounding Success!!*

Did we have a wonderful treat during both worship services this past Sunday? You bet we did!! Our children were simply the stars of the show—and we couldn't have been more blessed.

I tell you, I don't think any other musical program for children could hold a candle to what we

were blessed to enjoy this past Sunday. Our children worked long and hard at learning music, choreography, and reading their lines—and it showed!

The song and spirit of the "Miracle at the Christmas Café" will be in our hearts and minds for years to come!

Special thanks to Pamela Prescott for her wonderful leadership of our precious children, and for all of her hard work and effort that went into the presentation of this fun program. New Haven UMC was blessed beyond measure.

With gratitude and thanksgiving for God's hand that is at work in our midst!

### "DESERT ROSE DISHES"

Are you looking for a unique Christmas gift? Or needing something new for your table to entertain over the holidays?

The New Haven United Methodist Women are offering our congregation the chance to purchase place settings of the Desert Rose China, purchased by the UMW decades ago, and no longer in use at the Church. Many remember when the UMW and Church used these dishes for so many big and special events!!

We have numerous place settings, some with cups and some without. We are asking \$100 for an 8 piece place setting with the cups and \$50 for those without.

All of the funds raised from the sale of these dishes will directly benefit the New Haven Youth fund for their mission trip in Spring 2015.

Please contact the church office or Susan Lamkin if you are interested. We are hoping to have a display soon.

Thank you for your support of our missions!  
Susan Lamkin, New Haven UMW President  
918-557-9148



### Upcoming Advent and Christmas Events

December 21<sup>st</sup>: **Chancel Choir Christmas Program  
"The Christmas Story"**

Children caroling during Sunday School hour

December 24<sup>th</sup>: **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services**

**5:00 pm:** "Impromptu" telling of the Christmas Story by children  
Instrumentalist  
Live Nativity by children

**7:00 pm:** Felt Story Board for Children  
Instrumentalists



### ALLYSON'S ANNOUONCEMENTS



I am always so blown away by the generosity of you all, and this season is no exception. The way you've given this year to help the children at Remington Elementary is beyond awesome! Thank you to those that gave either financially or thorough prayer. I also want to thank those of you that stayed after to help pack the bags! It's chaotic, but there are always people there to help me stay sane. A huge thanks goes to Karen Gibbs and Betty Hodge for helping set up; Becky and Barry Puryear for helping with setup and cleanup; Paula Fox and Pat Thomas for going back through the bags... I'm sure there are some I'm forgetting and I apologize for that! Know that this project could NEVER be completed without the help of the New Haven members and I am forever grateful!

Also, the Remington staff members that were here expressed several times how much they appreciate the gifts and efforts of those involved. They want to make sure you know that they say **"thank you"!**

### FROM PATRICK'S DESK...

Hello church family!

It's getting closer. Can you feel it, and hear it? You have to listen very closely for it. Through the hustle and bustle of the season you have to strain your heart to feel it. Don't miss it. The message carries with it everlasting salvation for each of us, our families, friends, and every man, woman, and child around the world. In the quiet, still night the message of our Lord and Savior's birth draws near. As I've had the opportunity to attend several Christmas gatherings over the past week I'm reminded how blessed I am to be surrounded by a network of loving Christ filled folks that I know are not only hearing the good news, but also going out and sharing that news. Let us not forget the build up to, the magical of the miracle of this season, and our subsequent responsibility to move beyond the wonder and awe to carry the message of salvation to all those whose path's we cross.

Blessings,  
Patrick

A little boy was asked whether he was excited about the new baby his mother was expecting.

"Yes!" the 4-year-old said, "and I know what we are going to name it, too. If it's a girl we're going to call it Christina, and if it's another boy we're going to call it quits!"



### Demonstrate your thankfulness this season!

Each holiday season, New Haven UMC anticipates and relies on a seasonal increase in contributions. It is through the donations of every individual and family in the congregation that we are able to carry on our work now and throughout the year.

If you need a convenient way to make recurring contributions or plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. To set up a recurring giving schedule or to make an end of the year contribution, visit us online [[www.newhavenumc.org](http://www.newhavenumc.org)] and locate the Online Giving button. Or if it's easier, complete a paper authorization form and return it to the church office.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...



### Our Members:

Bob Durkee  
Bobbie Scott

Linda Parmele

Bob Schwartz  
Marion Wilkerson

### Friends & Family of New Haven UMC

Dodie's son-in-law, Mark Baggetto; Mark Nicholson, Mary Ann Cunningham's mother and sister; Danny Hall's sister, Lillie; Linda Gregory's daughter-in-law, Lea; 6 yr. old McKinley with cancer; Bill Mote; Melba Turner's sister; the homeless; our world, our country, city, and leaders.

### Covenant Care (prayers & visits appreciated)

Maxine Loyd, Fran Palm, Marjorie Stewart, Rosemary Tarr, Vetus Vanderwiele; Dot and Kelly Haynes; Bob Schwartz; Bob & Dorothy Thacker; Laurie & Mahcoe VanDyke; Dorothy Koons

### NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER AT THE DAY CENTER!

We will once again sponsor a New Year's Eve dinner of pot roast & potatoes & carrots for our brothers & sisters at the Day Center for the Homeless.

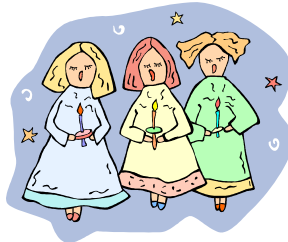
You may sign up in the hallway on Dec. 14, 21, or 28 to help. If you plan to cook, please bring your warm food to the main kitchen by 4:00 pm on Dec. 31st. If you want to help serve, be here by 4:45 pm. Monetary donations are appreciated to buy a large festive cake and sparkling cider.

Hello Church!

I just heard from Livia Gosnel who is the volunteer coordinator for Grace Hospice where I volunteer (contact email address is [livian@gracehospice.com](mailto:livian@gracehospice.com)). They have an immediate need to find musicians, Christmas carolers, instrumentalists, etc. to visit facilities where hospice patients are residing. I just wondered if you would put the word out to our church musicians to see if any of them have an extra hour or two to sing or play at a nursing home or other facility where the hospice patients live. If so, and it's only for the Christmas season, Livia said she can arrange it without the usual training prerequisite.

Thanks for considering passing this request on to your musician friends!

Lou ([louise-lindsey@utulsa.edu](mailto:louise-lindsey@utulsa.edu))



### Upcoming Advent and Christmas Events

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Children caroling during Sunday School hour

December 24<sup>th</sup>: **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services**

5:00 pm: "Impromptu" telling of Christmas Story by children

Instrumentalists

Live Nativity by children

7:00 pm: Felt Story Board for Children

Instrumentalists



### Your Church Staff Thanks You!!

Thank you for your generous end-of-the year love offering! What a blessing it was to receive your gifts this week – we are so grateful for your steadfast support throughout the year, and for thinking of us at this time of year. It is a joy to work alongside you in ministry. Many blessings to each of you at Christmas!

## Opportunities of the Week December 21 ~ 28

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

#### Chancel Choir Christmas Musical

- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship and Children's Church
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship and Children's Church
- 1:30 pm Finance Committee/Parlor
- 3:30 pm Liturgical Dance/Sanctuary
- 4:30 pm Bible Experience (Children)
- 5:00 pm Disciple II
- 5:00 pm Jr. High Bible Study
- 5:15 pm Children's Choir
- 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship Dinner
- 7:00 pm Sr. High Bible Study

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 6:00 pm Writer's Group/185
- 6:30 pm Girl Scouts/Upstairs Kitchen

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts/Gym
- 7:30 pm AA/ 185,205,209,210

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

#### (Church Office Closed Dec. 24-25)

- 5:00 pm Contemporary Candlelight Communion Service
- 7:00 pm Traditional Candlelight Communion Service
- 7:00 pm ACOA/206

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

#### MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

- 7:30 pm AA/Gym

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

- 8:45 am Contemporary Worship and Children's Church
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship and Children's Church
- 3:30 pm Liturgical Dance/Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm Disciple II
- 5:00 pm Jr. High Bible Study
- 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship Dinner
- 7:00 pm Sr. High Bible Study



## December Birthdays

1. Shirley Wolfrom
3. Natalie Coulombe
7. Jim Harris
8. Seth Amos  
Evan Stevenson
13. Tammie Johnson  
Jennifer Lawrence  
Tracy Walker
14. Kevin Scruggs
16. Linda Blackford  
Susan Lamkin
17. Kathryn Stevenson  
Dee Kemp
21. Cathy Amos  
Kelly Sartain  
Bob Schwartz
23. Johnnie Green
24. Mark Williams
25. JESUS  
Christene O'Toole
26. Peppa Smith
30. Meghan Lamkin



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](mailto: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

## ATTENDANCE

**DECEMBER 14, 2014**

**8:45 am-83**

**11:00 am-127**

**TOTAL—210**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL—**

**71**

**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**  
"Ancient & Medieval Religions"

**Parlor: Christian Living Class**  
Adult Bible Study Curriculum

**Room 161 Interlude Class**  
"Making Sense of the Bible" by Adam Hamilton

**Room 205: Journeys Class**  
"God is Closer Than You Think" by John Ortberg. A study on Revelation

**THE UMW HAS  
PECANS FOR  
SALE ON  
SUNDAYS!!!  
\$12./BAG**

### New Haven Staff Members

Rev. Cindy Havlik	Senior Pastor
Rev. Suzanne Davis	Associate Pastor
Allyson Cauthon	Children's Director
Patrick Grafton	Youth 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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