

THE MESSENGER DECEMBER 2023 MERRY CHIRSTMAS EDITION First Methodist - San Angelo, TX A GMC Congregation LOVE, WORSHIP, WITNESS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Wesley Soup Kitchen. 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Volunteers welcomed.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tour of Lights on the Concho River sign up in First Place Cafe
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Pancake breakfast served from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Benefits Crossroads Youth Group. Contact Mark Noworatzky for more info at the church office.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Holy Communion at all services.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Rust Street Lunch Ministry 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Volunteers welcomed.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Advent by Candlelight 6:00 p.m. Celebration Hall/Sanctuary
- 5<sup>th</sup> Methodist Assistance 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. Library.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Emmaus Gathering 6:30 p.m. at Sierra Vista UMC.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Advent Sermon Series & Lunch. Begins at 12:05 p.m. Sanctuary.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Goliad Christmas Party @ Goliad. See Page 13 for more information.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Charge Conference @ 5:30 p.m. in the Cheers classroom.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Surprise Brunch at Lakeview Lighthouse for clients. See Page 8 for more info.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Advent Sermon Series & Lunch. Begins at 12:05 p.m. in Sanctuary.
- 14th Cut off for staff bonus donations
- 16<sup>th</sup> Twin Mountain Tonesmen 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary
- 17<sup>th</sup> Twin Mountain Tonesmen 5:00 p.m. Sanctuary
- 19<sup>th</sup> Methodist Assistance 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. Library
- 20<sup>th</sup> Advent Sermon Series & Lunch. Begins at 12:05 p.m. Sanctuary
- 21<sup>st</sup> Methodist Assistance 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. Library
- 24<sup>th</sup> Regular Sunday services @ 8:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.
- 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Service 5:00 p.m. in Celebration Hall
- 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Service 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Offices closed
- 26<sup>th</sup> Offices closed

#### <u>Services & Sunday School Hour</u>

8:30 The Bridge - Sanctuary 9:30 - Sunday School for all ages 10:45 Traditional - Sanctuary 11:00 11<sup>th</sup> Hour - Celebration Live streaming services <u>Firstmethodist.net</u> - Tap for Sunday streaming 37 East Beauregard \* San Angelo, Texas 76903 325-655-8981 \* Fax: 325-655-7039 Email: info@firstmethodist.net

# FIRST METHODIST San Angelo A Global Methodist Congregation

# OUR PASTORS

# SERMON SERIES FOR DECEMBER

8:30 and 10:45 a.m. services <u>FOCUS:</u>

- 12/03 Um, Mom, Dad? We Need to Talk
- 12/10 Unplanned Road Trip
- 12/17 Oh, My Baby is Kicking
- 12/24 Should We Start a College Fund?





Rev. Scott Bradford Senior Pastor



<u>Rev. Cyndi Young</u> <u>Associate Pastor</u>

<u>Rev. Jim Noble</u> <u>Associate Pastor</u>



<u>Rev. Dale Weise</u> <u>Associate Pastor</u>

# SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS

- <u>Childcare</u> is available all services.
- <u>Children</u> are welcome in services. We provide activity bags in the Sanctuary (front and back doors) and in Celebration Hall.
- **<u>Coffee</u>** is in First Place Café Hall.
- <u>Hearing Assistance</u> devices are available in the back of the sanctuary.
- Holy Communion is served the first Sunday of each month in all services.
- <u>Live Streaming</u> All services live streamed through the website
  <u>https://firstmethodist.net</u>
- <u>Messenger Newsletter</u> Hard copies are available in the Sanctuary and at the Service Desk near First Place Café. Also available online if you send a request to the church.
- <u>Sunday School at 9:30</u> for all ages. Adult, youth, children, infants & toddlers. See directional signs at church or call the church office at 655-8981 or visit
  - www.firstmethodist.net
- Upper Room Devotionals are available in the Sanctuary and at the Service Desk near First Place Café.

To access the 2023 Methodist Lectionary, go to <u>Discipleship Ministries | 2023 Revised Common</u> Lectionary – Sundays &... (umcdiscipleship.org)

# **REV. SCOTT BRADFORD – Senior Pastor**

Luke 2:13-14 "<sup>1</sup>Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

I can only imagine what that angelic choir sounded like when the birth of Jesus was pronounced! Words come to mind like greatness, majesty and grandeur, but I don't think they capture the event. Acclamation and praise might better fit the description, but one minute a single Angel voice breaks the silence of the night, and the next a multitude of heavenly hosts are singing praise to God!

This past Sunday (November 12<sup>th</sup>) y'all overwhelmed me with a response to the GTG Foundation project. At the 8:30 service, I announced I still needed about \$3,600 in donations and by time the dust settled on Monday, \$5,340 had been given bringing the total raised to (get this) \$11,777. There is a side story that someone gave an extra \$2, a completely different person gave \$5, and I wondered about this in the scope of appealing for ten-dollar donations. God used that to put seven single dollars in place for a "777" number to appear.

After church, I rushed over to GTG to give them the news. When I shared it, they erupted in a praise and thanksgiving gospel song I had never heard before! They rose to their feet and began shouting, singing, and praising God with the most wonderful heartwarming joy!

Wait a minute! Maybe I do know what that moment the shepherds experienced was like. There is a normalness about life, as you are doing your job tending the lambs for slaughter, when an interrupting shout something glorious happens pronouncing the birth of a Savior, the lamb that takes away the sins of the world! Starry skies suddenly filled with angelic hosts all singing and giving praise and glory to God!

The only better moment would be seeing Jesus for yourself lying in a manger and wrapped like a spotless lamb.

Then, in Verse 20, "The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told."

May your Christmas be filled with glorious wonder and praise!

Pastor Scott

# **REV. JIM NOBLE – Associate Pastor**

Hello Church! Lisa lovingly informed me the theme for this month is Joy! One of my favorite passages about joy is as follows:

John 16:21-22: "When a woman gives birth, she has pain because her time has come. But when the child is born, she no longer remembers her distress because of her joy that a child has been born into the world. In the same way, you have sorrow now; but I will see you again, and you will be overjoyed. No one takes away your joy."

I pray that, amidst whatever pain and difficulty you face, you have an unquenchable joy due to loving people in your life, blessings to be thankful for, and who our Savior is!

When thinking on Joy, I suddenly thought of Joye. Joye Reed, that is, a rich blessing to my ministry during our time in Alice.

Look at that smile! That smile was a symbol of the joy that Joye lived with! She was truly one of the most joy-filled people I've ever known. Now, Joye had an extremely difficult life at times. Her first husband was not a kind man and Joye feared for her life numerous times. After getting away from him, she met Retired Lt. Colonel George Reed, WWII veteran and thankfully, he was a tremendous man and they had 29 joy filled years together. George just died late in September at 101 years of age! Visiting them often brought me a tremendous amount of joy!



One of my favorite Joye stories, which still brings me joy, happened about halfway through my Alice appointment. Joye entered the office and promptly told the office manager and me,

"I'm not speaking to you," with a big grin on her face.

"What?" the office manager inquired.

"I came in last week to see you and my makeup was a total mess. I had lipstick halfway across my cheek, and ya'll didn't tell me, so I'm not speaking to you."

Then she broke out in the biggest smile, and we all laughed. All was forgiven! Nothing was going to extinguish Joye's joy! So many of you bring me joy and certainly my appointment here at First Church does! I pray you all have a joy filled Christmas and New Year season! The forthcoming preaching schedule for 11<sup>th</sup> Hour looks something like this:

•December 3-24 – Advent •December 31 – TBD •January 7-Feb 11 – Guts! (Why we should be proud and bold Christians)

It is a privilege (and a joy) being one of your pastors!

#### Rev. Jim Noble

# **REV. CYNTHIA YOUNG - ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

#### **SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES - ONE ANOTHER SHARING MINISTRY**

#### Making Room for Christmas . . .

We are busy at the church these days as we make room for Christmas! Transformations come as we prepare for this glorious season. Too often we are so engrossed in making room for all the decorations and events that we inadvertently fail to make room for the Christ of Christmas.

Our Savior's weary earthly parents repeatedly heard there was no room for them long ago. Sorry...no room in the inn. Sorry...no room in our busy calendar to extend compassion to a teen girl facing childbirth.

As we consider making room for sharing the Christ of Christmas, it becomes an intentional choice to make time for others. Here are a few gifts you maybe can share with one or many of our older church members. It will bless them....and it will certainly bless you as well!

\*\* Pick up some soup or warm muffins and stop by to visit awhile. Ask them to share Christmas traditions they cherish from their childhood. It's wonderful to relive old memories!

\*\* Offer to help with some chores - change lightbulbs or smoke detector batteries.

\*\* Give them a gift to enjoy such as a bird feeder outside their window. Plan to refill the seed often throughout the year just to stay connected.



\*\* Put together a gift basket of personal items – warm hand lotion or word-search games.

\*\* Take them for an afternoon or evening to see the Christmas lights. They will enjoy getting out of the house awhile!

\*\* Pick up the phone for a nice visit.

\*\* Take two or three seniors out for lunch. Friendships and laughter bring such joy at this season!

\*\* Send a card letting them know how their life has blessed you.

The best Christmas present they can receive is knowing they are not forgotten!

"O come, let us adore Him" is still the call from God who sent His only Son. As we make room for Him, transformations always follow! My vocabulary fails me as I try to thank you for the joy it is to serve here in this remarkable church!

Much love to you this Christmas season!

Pastor Cyndi



# Children's Ministries

Barbie Hari - Director Children's Faith & Formation Ministries <u>barbiehari@hotmail.com</u>



## **DECEMBER EVENTS**

3<sup>rd</sup> - Singing in 10:45 service & 11<sup>th</sup> Hour. 15<sup>th</sup> - Parents night out/ Kids Christmas party 5:30-9:00pm. In Celebration Hall.



DROP OFF THE KIDDOS IN CELEBRATION HALL FOR A FUN CHRISTMAS PARTY! Dinner, games, a movie, and snacks. Wear your CHRISTMAS JAMMIES. Ages 6 months to 11 years. Youth are welcome to come and help us celebrate. Please sign up by emailing Ms. Barbie with the number of children and their ages. Sign up by December 11<sup>th</sup> at <u>barbie@firstmethodist.net</u>.

24<sup>th</sup> - Birthday party for Jesus during Sunday school 31<sup>st</sup> <sup>-</sup> New Year's Eve party during Sunday school.

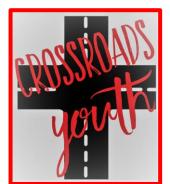


Children's Bibles for all. On 11/12,Pastor Scott joined in on the Bible distribution for our little disciples. They were awed by his signing each Bible!

# Don't forget about Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

<u>3 - 5-year-olds, Kinder, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2nd graders</u> in Room E201. <u>3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> graders</u> are in Room E203. All groups are currently practicing for their singing debuts, and Advent lessons. A new study will begin in January.

You can check your child in on the 2nd floor just down the hall from the office!



# **Youth Ministries**

Mark Noworatzky Director of Youth <u>Mnoworatzky@gmail.com</u>

# YOUTH FUND RAISER -12/3 PANCAKE BREAKFAST & PHOTOS WITH SANTA

**From 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m**., hot steaming pancakes will be available for breakfast. Dining available in Heritage Hall or you can take to go. Love offering bucket available for donations. Photos with Santa for one and all!







**Yard Flamingo Fundraiser**—The FMC youth group is still flocking and rocking to raise funds for their March ski trip. If you'd like to have a yard flocked (**a great Christmas gift for someone you love and provides fund for the youth**), call Mark at (325) 518-5039.





**Hitting the slopes.** During Spring Break (March 2024), I, along with Sidonna Hartmann, Pastor Jim and wife Melanie, will be escorting members of our youth group to the slopes of Winter Park, Colorado.

Do you like teenagers? Skiing? A relaxing cup of hot chocolate with a picturesque mountain view? I still need two more adult sponsors. You can contact me at 325-518-5039 if you are interested.





#### Methodist Healthcare/Wesley Nurse **Health Ministries** <u>lparry@mhm.org</u> - Lesa Parry If you need to reach her, please call 325-215-4835. First Methodist Church - 37 East Beauregard or Lakeview Lighthouse 263 E. 40<sup>th</sup> Street

**LIGHTHOUSE UPDATE**: Thanksgiving for the staff at Goliad Elementary which was served 11/4/23. Teachers oohed and awed at the facilities and learned of the resources which this tiny mission church has available for this neighborhood. Among those serving lunch were Pastors

"MY HEALTHY CHILD": Is an on-going class and space is limited. To check availability and register, call Lesa Parry, Wesley Nurse, 325-215-4835. The program needs pullups size 4T-5T, pullups size 3T-4T and size 6 - Huggies brand only. (These are for children with alleray to other brands).

Scott, Jim, and Cyndi along with staffers Lesa Parry, Sherrie Walker, Barbie Hari, Lisa Lesosky and volunteers Laurel Bradford, Joe & Barbara Rollo, Candis Hicks, D'Ann Kuhlmann, Janelle Grimes, Lesa Parry, and Trudi Bozeman. Delaney Grimes was present also since she is currently student teaching at Goliad.



Last year, the empty room after new flooring added. This year, a room full of people utilizing the updated Lighthouse.

Child Program will be part of a presentation on self care, eating brunch, and opening gifts. Nineteen parents (women) are enrolled. Gifts might include gift cards, journals, devotional book or other items that encourage self-care. If you would like to assist or donate, please call me @ 325-215-4835.

Volunteers will be needed for Into the Warmth congregate shelter if temperatures drop 32 degrees 0% precipitation OR 36 degrees with 50% precipitation. Scan QR code for more info



If you are interested in **adopting** families for Christmas, I have several young families in my programs Please contact me at the number at the top of this page.

Thankful & Blessed,









**Surprise Brunch 12/12/23**. Parents of the My Healthy

Lesa Parry

# You Become What You Study.

<u>Tuesday Morning Group: The Morning Glories</u> – Pastor Cyndi will be leading an Advent study beginning 11/28 aptly named *The Wonder of Advent. Delighting in the Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love of Christmas.* Class meets on Tuesdays at 10am in the Journey Classroom (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor). Anyone interested is welcome to attend. FMI contact Lori Francks at (325) 234-0375 or <u>Ifrancks@hotmail.com</u>.

<u>Wednesday Night Group</u>: During Advent, the class will be opening the book Almost Christmas. A Wesleyan Advent Experience by Magrey DeVega, Ingrid McIntyre, April Casperson & Matt Rawle. Class will return to the previous study of Holy Roar. Seven Words That Will Change the Way You Worship. Written by Chris Tomlin and Darrin Whitehead, the study provided insight and encouragement to deepen your practice of praise after Advent. FMI, visit <u>holyroar.com</u>. Contact Sherryann Miller @ angelo.edu or the church office for more information.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL ADULT STUDIES

<u>Bayith/Fellowship</u> – The Bible, The Whole Bible, and Nothing but the Bible, led by Buster Peek. This class studies the Bible to understand who God is, gain wisdom, learn to receive guidance, and to see and follow Jesus. Meets on the  $3^{rd}$  floor.

<u>Cheers</u> – You Were Made For This Moment, by Max Lucado, led by John Walker. The study was born in a hard season-a pandemic that locked down the world, compounded by the ancient sin of racism and the volcano of rage it ignited. Have you wondered if the lingering effects of this season would ever end. If so, God has a six-letter work of encouragement for you. E-S-T-H-E-R is a book written to be read in hard seasons. If was crafted for those who feel outnumbered by foes, outmaneuvered by faith, and outdone by fear. The message God wants us to take to heart is relief will come. Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

Chi Rio – Led by Giovanna Lecroy, the class is studying *Unoffendable* by Brant Hanson. Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Education Building.

Harmony – During Advent, the class will be opening the book Almost Christmas. A Wesleyan Advent Experience by Magrey DeVega, Ingrid McIntyre, April Casperson & Matt Rawle. Led by Evelyn Coley. Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Follow signs posted on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors.

<u>Journey</u> – 1<sup>st</sup> John led by Virginia Eschman. Meets in person on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

<u>Seekers</u> – *Romans* by Max Lucado, led by various class members. In this epistle, Paul explores all the wrong directions and takes us to the only right one. The wrong solutions are pleasure and pride, and the correct solution is Christ Jesus. Class meets in the church office conference room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

<u>S.T.E.R.</u> – Study Topics vary weekly and are led by various class members. Meets in person on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Contact Cathy Hubbard for more info.

<u>Union</u> – Current study is The Heart that Grew Three Sizes. Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch by Matt Rawle. For more information, contact Meagan Hunnicutt or the church office. Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Education Building.

#### WEEKDAY CLASSES – Tuesday & Wednesdays

#### TUESDAYS - Morning Glories (Women's class) 10:00 a.m.

The MG's began an Advent study November 28<sup>th</sup> with Pastor Cyndi Young leading. Come and learn more about the season of Advent and Delighting in the Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love of Christmas. For more information, contact Lori Francks @ 325-234-0375.

#### WEDNESDAYS - The Friends Group

Wednesday Night Group: During Advent, the class will be opening the book Almost Christmas. A Weslevan Advent Experience by Magrey DeVega, Ingrid McIntyre, April Casperson & Matt Rawle. Class will return to the previous study of Holy Roar. Seven Words That Will Change the Way You Worship. Written by Chris Tomlin and Darrin Whitehead, the study provided insight and encouragement to deepen your practice of praise after Advent. FMI, visit <u>holyroar.com</u>. Contact Sherryann Miller @ angelo.edu or the church office for more information.

#### JOIN UP FOR SINGING THAT GOOD OLE' CHURCH MUSIC

Wesleyan Handbells - Led by Laura Burkhalter. Practice is Wednesday evenings @ 6:00 p.m. in the handbell room – 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Contact Laura for more information @ burkhalterl@vahoo.com.

Sanctuary Choir - Led by Adam Chappell. Rehearsals are held @ 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor near the sanctuary. For more information, contact Adam @ adamchappell@hotmail.com.

#### The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Praise & Worship Band

An eclectic group of various aged musicians who present contemporary music in a casual service. Practice in Celebration Hall. Looking for new musicians and vocalists. Contact Pastor Dale (655-8981) at the church office for more info.

#### The 8:30 Bridge Musicians

Various musicians contribute to a blended musical style of both traditional and contemporary songs. Practice is called as needed. You may contact Pastor Cyndi at the church office (655-8981) for more information.

New Members & Bountiful Baptisms



& 11 yr. old Allyssa joined at 11<sup>th</sup> Hour on 11/5/23



James Zabecki Micah Vera Cruz & Breanna Flores joined & all were baptized including son Calvin at 11<sup>th</sup> Hour on 11/19/23



Briggs James during 11<sup>th</sup> Hour on 11/26/23. Parents: Haley & Aaron James, Grandparents: Kevin & Stephanie James



Colson & Logan Lecroy (10:45 on 11/26/23. Parents: Autumn & Colt Lecroy, Grandmother: Giovanna Lecroy. 10

### TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT

NURSERY WORKERS & VOLUNTEERS - Sunday mornings and other times as needed. Contact Barbie Hari @ 325-655-8981.

**SOUND TECHNICIANS** - Will train. Contact Pastor Scott at the church office @ 325-655-8981. This is a <u>paid part-time position</u>. For more information, go to <u>https://firstmethodist.net/careers</u>.

## WAYS TO ASSIST MY CHURCH

**<u>BLESSING BOX</u>** - Located in the front of the church outside the courtyard. Nonperishable foods can be taken to the church office. Please only pop top cans and snack size items. Please do not purchase family size items.

<u>CHANCEL FLOWERS</u> - You can honor or memorialize someone, or a specific group, by placing flowers at the chancel area in the sanctuary. Call Dori Wegner (254-718-6189) or email her @ <u>dori@swcia.com.</u>

**CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES** – Meals for children temporarily removed from homes. Call Brenda Stone for more information @ 325-656-0679.

<u>COMMUNION STEWARDS</u> – Need at 8:30 and 10:45 services. Call Cathy Hubbard @ 325-450-3590.

**LAUNDRY LOVE-** Contact Candis Hicks for more information @325-763-7387 or email her at <u>heritageparksanangelo@gmail.com</u>.

**METHODIST ASSISTANCE** - In First Place Café, a basket is available to drop off canned foods that are donated to those in need who stop by FUMC during the week. Joe & Connie Jeffers are managing the ministry.

**NEIGHBORS CAFÉ** – Rust Street monthly lunch prepared by members of the Journey SS class. Contact Stephanie Sayers for more information if you would like to help on the first Mondays of each month. Dates are: 10/2, 11/6 and 12/4.

**SOMEBODY'S RUSTY** - Contact Candis Hicks @ <u>heritageparksanangelo@gmail.com</u> or call 325-763-7387 for information. Always a need for good walking shoes (tennis shoes), underwear and new socks in the packaging.

**SOUP KITCHEN** – December date is 12/1. Wesley UMC – 301 W. 18<sup>th</sup> MLK Blvd. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Contact Beth McCrea at <u>edgemama@hotmail.com</u> or the church office @ (325) 655-8981.

#### TEXAS RAMP PROJECT



Contact Pastor Dale at the church for forthcoming dates @ 655-8981. Images are from the November build located in Carlsbad.



# PLANNING AHEAD. SAVE THESE DECEMBER DATES!

Light Tour Hosts Needed – <u>One Night Only</u>

Sign up in First Place Café or call Sherrie Walker. Workers for all shifts needed. 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. & 8:00 – 10:00 p.m. & 10:00 – Midnight



### <u>Youth Fundraising Breakfast – Sunday, December 3rd</u>

7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Heritage Hall. Santa will be available for photographs. Bring a friend.

## <u>Women's Advent By Candlelight - Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup></u>

The 20th Annual Advent by Candlelight for Women will be held in Celebration Hall beginning @ 6:00pm. Speakers are Brandy Hopper – HOPE, Lisa Hirschfeld – PEACE, Ginny Fuchs - JOY and Delaney Grimes– LOVE. There will also be beautiful music throughout the evening following each speaker. Our service ends by singing "Silent Night" and the lighting of candles. If you do not have a seat, please call Sherrie Walker at the church office.

### <u>Goliad Elementary Christmas</u> @ Goliad Elementary – Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

We have another opportunity to serve at Goliad. This is the day they have designated as their <u>San Angelo READS</u>! Day (see below), and the theme of their reading event is *The Polar Express*. We will provide hot chocolate and cookies that day.

We will need folks to be there in shifts to keep tabs on the hot chocolate and cookie distribution. There are 550 students at Goliad, so the primary goal is to have some folks there all day. If you are interested in helping with this project in any way, contact **SHERRIE WALKER** and let me know what you'd like to do and for how long or sign up in First Place Cafe.

### What is San Angelo READS?

San Angelo READS! is a community-wide literacy initiative that was founded to promote and encourage reading and the futureready learner profile attributes among our students and greater community. The goal of San Angelo READS! is to increase awareness of the importance of literacy and to inspire a love for reading.



### <mark>The Twin Mountain Tonesmen</mark>

Mark Clark & the men of Twin Mountain Tonesmen will be performing **Saturday**, **December 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00** p.m. and **Sunday**, **December 17<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00** p.m. in the Sanctuary. Join them for time of singing and rejoicing with beautiful selections well known to all. For more information, contact the church office.



# MESSAGE BOARD

**Bulgaria and Mid-Texas GMC Partnership - International Ministry Partnership -** Do you want to be part of what God is doing in the GMC around the world? Visit with Pastor Jim Noble or go to this website for more information. <u>https://midtexasgmc.org/bulgaria-partnership</u>

### PICKLE BALL

This fun indoor game gained momentum during Refuel Wednesday nights, so much that the Pickle Ball Program is continuing Wednesday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in playing, contact **Clay Hubbard @ 325-650-2556** for additional information.

<u>One, two, three!</u> 123 shoeboxes have been mailed to places unknown (only God knows where they will go). Merry Christmas to the recipients and may you begin to love the Lord through these small gifts. Thank you to all First Church shoe boxers.

While on a Meals for the Elderly route, Pastor Scott noticed a wheelchair ramp in need of resurfacing. Pastor Dale & team didn't hesitate to make the necessary repairs. On another note, the team has almost completed **1 MILE OF RAMPS OVER THE COURSE OF THEIR WORK.** 

The season of Christmas began with an Avent Service & Luncheon as well as **ADVENTURE** with our children and families. Spaghetti supper, crafts, cookie decorating, Advent wreaths, an impromptu reenactment of Christ's birth, and full, full day of celebrating with Hope.









**Luke 2: 8-12** "And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in



a manger.'















# COME, LORD JESUS, COME. HEAR OUR PRAYERS.

### PRAYER & HEALING SERVICES

No scheduled service in December.

The next prayer service will be January 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Chapel @ 6:00 p.m.

### PRAYERS FOR HEALING (HEALTH CONCERNS)

Alan Gregston, Bob Barnes (Hospice Care), Claire Adams, Cynthia Johnson, Rev. Dick West, Fender Harkey (The Harkey's grandson), Francie Coffee (Claire Adam's sister), Grace Copeland (Cook Children's Medical), Janis Noble (Rev. Jim Noble's mother), Lisa Lesosky, Mark Sisson (Mark Lesosky's bro-in-law), Merlene Malloy (Kelly Riley's sister), Pat Adams, Rev. Nathaniel Hankins, Ralph Thompson, Shannon Robbins (wife of Rev. Tom Robbins), Shirley Mohler, Shirley Riddle, Vickie Spydell (Hospice care), and the families of Glenn Snodgrass, Beth Kopecky, and Carolyn Weatherby.

### PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

<u>National Guard</u>: Cody Smith; <u>National Guard Texas</u>: Daryl Bradford; **U.S. Air Force**: Tyler Barden, Chris Cavaness, Josh Mort, Josh Rodriguez, Ryan Gandy, Zane Jarvis; <u>U.S. Marine Corp</u>: Danielle Pozun; <u>U.S. Army</u>: Johnny Goldthrite, Randall Tye Graham, Ryan Tallant, Savanah Gideon; <u>U.S. Coast Guard</u>: Weston McIntire; <u>U.S.</u> <u>Navy</u>: Jason Bird, Matt Kuehhas. Thank you all for your service and dedication to our country.

### PRAYERS FOR THOSE WITH CANCER

Barry Kleypas, Bill Humble, Bonnie Kennedy, Briana McCall, Carol Smith, Caryl Guisinger, Connie Weams, Dawn Jackson, Duder Duderstadt, Ethan Miller, Fred Gudmundson, Jay Moore, Jeff Peters, Jeff Ward, Jennifer Cooper, Jerry Tindel, Joe Lynch, Jo Ann Motl, Jose Perez, Kevin Halfman, Kinsley Baker, Linda Rogers, Lisa Melton, Lynda Hughes, Maria Roberts, Mark Sisson, Melissa James, Michaela Rigsby, Michelle Elkins, Nicole Kleinsmith, Pamela Adams, Pat Adams, Raul Najera, Ron Hoelle, Rosura Gonzales, Roy Shannon, Sherrie Walker, Sheryl Bragg, Shirley Kennedy, Susan Armstrong, Todd Cummings.



IN MEMORANDUM Glenn Snodgress November 7, 2023 Beth Kopecky November 14, 2023 Carolyn Weatherby November 19, 2023

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14:3-4.

# NOVEMBER 2023 MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF:	GIVEN BY:	<u>FUND:</u>
Wally Harkey	Lee & Jan Pipkin	Love & Care
	Cheers SS Class	Massey Trust
	Gary & Mignon Gammage	Methodist Asst.
	Linda Gay Fender	Massey Trust
Judith Hirschfeld	Sue Sims	Love & Care
	Linda Cahill	Love & Care
	Charles & Cheryl Fleming	Love & Care
	Joe & Connie Jeffers	Food Pantry
	Roger & Martha Doliver	Food Pantry
	G. Shelton Kierman	Love & Care
	John & Sharon Alexander	Love & Care
	Tommy & Carol Hiebert	Love & Care
Polly Waterhouse	Sue Sims	Love & Care
	John & Sharon Alexander	Love & Care
	Carol Santry	Youth Ministry
	ouror surrery	rouch withistry
Kaye Pfluger	Roger & Martha Doliver	Food Pantry
Beth Kopecky	Lee & Jan Pipkin	Love & Care
	Jones, Hay, Marschall &	
	McKinney, P.C.	Love & Care
Melba Cox	Carol Santry	Youth Ministry
Carolyn Weatherby	Camille Santry	Youth Ministry
	Gary & Mignon Gammage	Youth Ministry
Katie Stoll	M & M Donald Stoll	Somebody's Rusty
IN HONOR OF:	GIVEN BY:	FUND:
>		
Sandy Pederson	Camille Santry	Somebody's Rusty
1. AND		
De la compañía		

# <u>Advent Programs (Brief sermon, music, & Lunch for \$5.00)</u> <u>Meet in Sanctuary @ 12:05 p.m.</u>



December 6th, 2023

Guest Pastor: Rev. Jim Stanley, San Angelo Bible Church Special Music: Dr. Pamela Lee, Patti Wetzel, soloist

Menu: Taco Soup, Four Cheese Grilled sandwich, dessert & drink.

<u>December 13, 2023</u>

Guest Pastor: Rev. Mark Krause, Mertzon Methodist Church Special Music: Glenn Middle School Choir Ensemble

Menu: Broccoli Cheese Soup, Ham Sandwich, dessert & drink.

December 20, 2023 Guest Pastor: Rev. Cecilia Granadosin, Miles Methodist Church Special Music: Mr. James Hari, soloist

Menu: Potato Soup, Smoked Turkey Sandwich, dessert & drink.



#### Check out our website online giving option

We offer online donations and tithing opportunities, but did you know that you can also make a *"Memorial"* or you can support a *"Ministry of your Choice"* directly from our website. Take advantage of the convenience online giving offers. You can make a one-time donation or sign up for regular monthly donations. Check us out at https://firstmethodist.net