

# CHURCH MATTERS

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 23

DECEMBER 2, 2014

## MARY DID YOU KNOW?

Have you ever seen the stick figure families that some of us put on the rear windows of our vehicles? We are trying to show the world the kind of people we are, yet in the Christmas story we are struck that Mary faced less than ideal situations on multiple facets. We wonder did Mary know what her son would do. Did Mary know how much her son would change the world? This leads us to wonder what Mary's car rear window would potentially look like. As we wonder about Mary, we will find how this relates to our lives today. How is your life different with Christ? How is the world different because of Christ? Does any of this genuinely change how we interact in the world? We hope you will join us as we explore the transformative mysteries of the season. This year we are trying something a little different; and have printed an Advent Book. This book has all of the orders of worship for the



season, all the Advent devotionals, and an Advent calendar. The entire book is also available online. Get ready to have a great season and try something new. It is also available online.

Here is the Advent Calendar for you to plan your December.

**December 6 –Pastor's Open House** 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Heyduck home, 10033 Daly Dr. Hurst, TX . **Euless Holiday Parade**, 6:30 p.m. in Euless.

This parade will have a float from the Preschool with our kids on it. Come out and see!

**December 7 –Grief in the Midst of Joy Bible Study** 5:00-6:30 p.m., Join Pastor Steve as he looks at grief and the sorrows of life during a time when the world says you are to be happy. This study will be *December 7 & 14*. **Youth Progressive Dinner** 5:00 p.m. beginning at the

Polenz residence.

**December 13 –Choir Christmas Cantata Rehearsal** 9:00 a.m., **UMM Ham pick-up** 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**December 14 –Choir Christmas Cantata**, with the Chancel and Children's Choir. **Classics Christmas Luncheon** 12:00 p.m.

**December 15 –Night of Wonder** 6:00 p.m. at South Euless Elementary

**December 20 –Children's Christmas Movie** 1:00 p.m. Come in your PJ's for fun and a movie.

**December 21 –Blue Christmas Service**, 5:00 p.m. Join us for a time to remember the love of Christ in the midst of hurting and change.

**December 24 –Christmas Eve: Children's worship** at 5:30 p.m., **Communion and Candlelight** at 8:00 & 11:00 p.m.

**December 25 –Christmas Blessing** 3:00 p.m. Children are welcome to bring a new toy!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRAYER LIST	2
THANK YOU/ASSISTANCE/ BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES	2
FOOD PANTRY NEWS	3
NIGHT OF WONDER	3
UMM HAMS	3
CHRISTMAS CAROLING	3
FLOWER CALENDAR	3
YOUTH MINISTRY	4
PRESCHOOL	4
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	4
A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM	4
FROM THE PASTOR	5
POINSETTIAS	5
HIGHWAY UPDATE	5
ABUNDANCE	5

## PASTOR'S OPEN HOUSE

**What:** A time for your pastors to welcome you into our home for Christmas.

**When:** December 6, 2:00 –4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Our home at 10033 Daly Dr., Hurst, TX 76053

## PASTOR'S OPEN HOUSE



All year long, Euless First's congregation opens their hearts and their doors to care for this congregation. They regularly check on each other, love each other, and show each other the face of Christ. During this

holiday season, your Pastors Steve & Rachel want to thank you for all you do by inviting you into their home. Pastors Steve and Rachel invite you to our annual Christmas Open House on December 6, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Drop by and share a warm cup of cocoa and cookies in our home.

We hope you have time to drop by, and let the Heyduck's thank you for all you do. The Heyduck residence is 10033 Daly Dr. Hurst, TX 76053. If you have questions, please ask Rachel or Steve. Hope to see you there.

PRAYER LIST

If your prayer request has been left off, please resubmit it. All requests are for 30 days only and will need to be resubmitted after that time.

All in active addiction	Family of Scott Guay,	Kevin and Donna	Milford Roop	Shane Zelis	Colton Hardaway and
Alton and Reta Ray	Helen Davies' friend	Hardwick, Barbara	Mrs. E.E. Roop,	Shayla Herigan,	Kayla Davis, son
Arnold Murdock,	Family of Virgil	Collier's cousin	Milford Roop's	Eileen Mode's	and daughter of
Marla Williams'	Kersey, Darlene	Kevin Maines	mother	friend	Michael and Lore
brother	Carter's brother	Laura Chang, Les	Myrtle Wood, Rex	Stan Clarke, Sue &	Osborn
Betty Hardwick and	Felicia Wisner,	Foley's student	Wood's mother	Richard Morrow's	Devan DeBoyington,
family, Barbara	Charlotte Everett's	Lester Lawler,	Nick and Lisa	friend	Robin Biles' friend
Collier's aunt	sister	Charlotte Everett's	Schoenberger, Ron	Stovall family	Dirk Van Ingen, Katie
Bill Farmer	Forrest Powell,	son-in-law	Coats' friends	Susan McGehee	Lucas' friend
Burton family	Marjorie Haddock's	Lisa Moffatt, Lynne	Nolan Hardwick,	Sydney Marie Peel,	Eric Sherrer, Justin
Cameron Mode	father	and Alan Moffatt's	Barbara Collier's	Pat May's great	Sherrer, Patric
Carla Miller	Gordon and Linda	daughter-in-law	father	niece	Owen, and Alan
Caro and Pierre	Roberts, Nancy	Lois Weems, Joyce	Odessa Reed	T. White	McClelland,
Kenyon	Bickel's friends	Humphrey's	Ollie O. Sallis,	Terron Muller, Les	grandnephews of
Carol Rust, Dottie	Homeless and Hungry	mother	Christopher, Sean,	Foley's niece	Vic and Judy Torres
Rust's daughter	Honor Vaughn, Teresa	Margaret Baker,	Steven, Latoya, and	Tim Roop, Milford	Gail Worofka
Cristi Honea, Bill	Sprague's mother	Kristy Gatica's	Andrea	Roop's brother	James Fiaccone, Sue
Farmer's daughter	James Wood, Marla	friend	Pat Holland, Cindy	TJ Pepper	Fiaccone's grandson
Dana Hibler	Williams' friend	Maria Shrake, Kathy	Balentine's sister	Warner Muirhead	Josh Crow, Annette
David Viggiano,	Jay Suggs	Knowles mother	Pat May	Warren Bennet, Judy	Kelleher's son
Nancy Bickel's	Jennifer Little	Maurine Padgett,	Paul Marmen, Sally	Mulholland's	Justin Knighton
cousin	Joan Owen, Darlene	Nancy Bickel's co-	Rhymer's father	friend	Sam Weatherby, Gary
Doris Alexander,	Carter's sister	worker	Pierre Tshimanga's		and Carol Turner's
Dottie Rust's sister	John Lewis	Maxine and Bill	family	<b>Military:</b>	nephew
Family of Deborah	Judy Mulholland and	Wallace, Kimberly	Rafael Suarez, Linda	Carl Miller	Stephen Tate
Lynch, Charlotte	family	Knighon's friends	and Don Martin's	Charles Everett,	Travis Thomas
Everett's sister	Kandi Stewart, Sara	Michael Mulholland	friend	Charlotte & Larry	William Crowder,
Family of Robert	Taylor's friend	Michele Heroux and	Robbie Breaux,	Everett's nephew	Yvonne Rohlfig's
Ledbetter, Barbara	Katherine Mack, Mimi	family, Amber	Audrey Coats'	Chris Mulford, Pat	son
Ledbetter's father	Maloney's friend	Hawthorne's friend	friend	Bailey's grandson	Charles Everett,
Family of Sarah	Kellsey Abbott,	Michelle and Baker	Roger Ivey		Charlotte & Larry
Yager, Katie	Sherwood and Cheri	Ingram	Ruby Stevenson, Susan		Everett's nephew
Tindel's best friend	Abbott's	Mike Sprague,	Downey's		
	granddaughter	Stephen Sprague's	grandmother		
		brother			

THANK YOU

Dear Friends at Eules First UMC: Well, we had a great turnout at our special event sale, and an awesome response from the community! We are so happy that we get to help support the wonderful work that you are doing for families in the community. We

believe in the work you are doing, and we think you're awesome! Hopefully we can do something like this again in the future. Wishing all of you a very joyous holiday season!

Sincerely, Ron & Kate Allen

Your friends at Allen Wholesale Foods

ASSISTANCE

In the three months of 2014, Eules First assisted 43 families in our local community for a total of \$1819 through the Pastors Emergency Fund. And this is without any Lord's Acre money yet received! Thank you, Congregation. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

BIRTHDAYS

**December**

12 –Megan Roberts

13 –Norma Lively

1 –Maggie Lucas, James Putnam

2 –Millie Richter

3 –Iris Elliott

4 –Noel Mason, Michael Osborn, Kent Polenz

9 –Luke Worofka, Berkley Wren

10 –Sarah Roberts

ANNIVERSARIE

6 –Rex & Paula Wood

7 –Jay & Billie Bradford

## FOOD PANTRY NEWS

**Needed Food Items:** Boxed  
Saltine Crackers and Ramen  
Noodles

Here is the Food Pantry schedule:

**December**

5 –Helen Davies, Linda Lewis,  
Hedy Taylor, Judy Tribble

12 –Darlene Carter, Gloria Daves,  
Maggie Lucas, Judy Torres

19 –Phyllis Augustus, Marie Bean,  
Sheri Roberts, Jill Schaneberg

26 –Closed for Christmas

We need your donations for  
stocking stuffer items and your

unused Christmas decorations  
beginning the first week of  
December. We are grateful for all  
of your help and donations for  
Thanksgiving and Christmas.



## NIGHT OF WONDER

Advent is here. It is a time to  
prepare our hearts and lives for  
the coming of our Lord. Best of  
all, it is a great time to share the  
love of Christ with others.

Eules First United Methodist  
works closely with neighboring  
churches and others in our  
community to care for our  
neighborhood families, primarily  
with the assistance of 6 Stones  
Mission Network. This year is no  
different. Together, the Night of  
Wonder’s goal is to share the joy  
of Christmas with over 3200  
children in the HEB School  
District. Eules First United  
Methodist has agreed to help with  
this endeavor by providing gifts

for children and hosting a  
Christmas party at our Adopted  
school South Eules Elementary  
School, on Monday, December 15  
at 6:00 p.m.

Here is how you can help:

1– Adopt a child. You can choose  
how many you wish to shop for. It  
is suggested that each child receive  
2 gifts: 1 practical gift and 1 fun  
gift. Sizes will be provided. Please  
limit to \$60 per child.

2–You can also sponsor a family,  
by making a donation to 6 Stones  
and they will do the shopping for  
you. If you want to make a  
donation through our church, you  
can write a check to Eules First

UMC with Night of Wonder  
designated in the memo line and  
place in the offering plate.

3– Volunteer to help with the  
“Night of Wonder” Christmas  
Party on December 15.

Volunteers are needed to help  
with refreshments, decorations,  
crafts and distribution of gifts and  
food.

**To adopt/sponsor children  
or to volunteer, sign up at  
6stones.org/now.**

If you have any further questions,  
please contact Rev. Beverly  
Springer at 817-283-4421.



## UNITED METHODIST MEN’S HAMS

It is time again for the Eules First  
United Methodist Men to sell  
hams. It is always a nice treat to  
support a ministry that we love  
and also get a wonderful treat for  
our holiday meal.

This year’s hams will be ready to

be picked up on December 13  
from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Hams will be 16 to 20 pounds in  
weight and cost \$60.00. If you  
would like 1/2 of a ham, the cost  
is \$35. If you need two halves the  
cost will be \$70..

This is a wonderful annual  
ministry that supports missions  
and ministries that the United  
Methodist Men support. Please  
order your ham by calling the  
church office at 817-283-4421.



## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Save the Date! December 11 at  
6:00 p.m. the United Methodist  
Women invite you to go  
caroling. Everyone is invited,

young or old, male or female.  
Watch for more details soon. What  
better way to have a Merry  
Christmas, time to share the joy of

the season, and celebrate the  
Lord’s Birthday than to spend time  
with others! Mark your calendars  
for caroling on December 11.



## FLOWER CALENDAR

The flowers that grace our  
sanctuary each Sunday are a  
beautiful contribution to worship  
as well as a special way to honor  
or remember your loved ones or

special events.  
Now is the time to make your  
reservations for the 2015 Flower  
Calendar. Please contact the  
church office to reserve your

special dates, request a special kind  
of arrangement, and designate who  
you want to honor/remember in  
2015. You can also send an email  
to: church-office@fumceules.org.

## YOUTH MINISTRY



Upcoming Dates to note for Element Students:

### December

7 –Progressive Dinner Party  
14 –Element Christmas Gift Exchange

### January

18 & 19 –Element Service Retreat  
25 –Chili & Soup Cook Off

## PRESCHOOL



Euless FUMC Preschool completed their Thanksgiving units by having a Pow Wow and a friendship feast. We were fortunate to have one of our parents, LaDonna Wadsworth, share with us at our Pow Wow. LaDonna was an Indian Princess with her tribe in Oklahoma. LaDonna spoke and sang in her

Native American Seminole language. She sang Jesus Loves Me and Ten Little Indians. It was a wonderful event.

On November 20 & 21 the children dressed as Pilgrims and Indians and shared a feast made of friendship trail mix, which each class brought a part to share in remembrance of the first

Thanksgiving.

Now that we are back from break, we will begin diligently working on our Christmas program entitled *Someone Has a Birthday!*

Don't forget to save your Labels for Education and BoxTops for us. It's an easy way to help the preschool!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



The Thanksgiving luncheon was wonderful! I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving week, I am so very thankful for all of you. We are in the Advent season! Here are a few dates to keep on your calendar:

**December 13** is the Christmas Cantata rehearsal. Any children that wish to sing with the choir on Sunday, December 14 are asked to come to the sanctuary at 10 a.m., so they can practice with the choir. December 15 at 6 p.m. is the 6 Stones Night of Wonder at South Euless

Elementary. Interested? Go to [www.6stones.org](http://www.6stones.org) to volunteer or donate! Saturday December 20 we will be watching a Christmas movie in the Swor Parlor at 1 p.m. Come in your PJ's for a good movie and hot chocolate. Helpers will be needed to pass out hot chocolate and cookies. If you would like to help, please let me know before the event. Sunday December 21 is the Birthday Party for Jesus in the Sunday school rooms. Remember to bring a snack to share with your child's class. Christmas Eve (December 24) at

the 5:30 p.m. worship service, The Spontaneous Nativity will be presented! There are many parts for your family to participate in. I need cows, sheep, pigs, donkeys, and angels! I am also in search of a Mary and a Joseph, if you or your child would be interested in any of these positions, please contact me at [children@fumceuless.org](mailto:children@fumceuless.org). Thank you for your involvement in the children's ministry, it is going to be a wonderful Advent season! -Aubree Marlow

## A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM

Euless First has been invited to participate in *A Night in Bethlehem*, December 13, 6:30-9:00 p.m. at United Memorial Christian Church, 1404 N. Main St. 76039. They are seeking shopkeepers, shepherds, tour guides, choir participants, storytellers and village keepers.

Most of the shops will be enclosed in a 30' x 30' (revival style) tent. The bakery and village home will be in the fellowship hall, and the nativity will be in an outdoor stable.

Those who would like to participate in this wonderful event can call 817-571-0231 or

email the Memorial Christian church office at [unmemfam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:unmemfam@sbcglobal.net). Please include a name, phone number or email where you can be reached. They look forward to hearing from you! Mark your calendars and plan to join them!

## FROM THE PASTOR

Advent is not Christmas!

Remember when Thanksgiving used to start the "Christmas Season," but now you'll find Christmas decorations available by mid-October, if not earlier?

Christmas is BIG business! Many retailers depend on hefty sales on the final 35 or so days of the year to make a profit. They want you to buy!

And yet, those of us who follow Jesus are challenged to remember that on the calendar of the Church, the days leading up to Christmas are Advent, not

"the Christmas Season."

What's the difference?

Advent is a season of preparation. The way God looks at things, Jesus coming into creation as God Incarnate is a radical break from life-as-usual. We ought not expect to "get it" easily. It means change. It means things - everything - is going to be different from now on.

It takes time, and effort, and patience, to make the adjustments that Jesus' birth call for.

On the other hand, if Christmas is really about shopping, then just go

spend. Everyone you spend money on will appreciate it - in the short term, anyway.

Sometimes they make it sound like the American Economy depends on you and me running up debt for Christmas. If this is true, then something has to change!

Something will change. In fact, the change began about two thousand years ago. For the next four weeks, we get to prepare for how we are going to be people who live in response to the change God is already bringing to the world!

## POINSETTIAS

We are taking orders for poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary December 14-24. They are \$15 each. If you wish to place a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone, please

complete the form found at the welcome desk and place it in the offering plate or turn it in at the office. You can also make a donation to pay toward church apportionments or to the general

budget in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The form has a designated section to do so. Deadline to order is December 7.



## HIGHWAY UPDATE

Have you resumed your old driving patterns from before the recently completed project was finished? When that project started, it probably seemed like it would take forever. And now it is finished. Sometime in the next year or so, a similar project will

take place along the north side of our church. We don't know yet exactly when it will start or when it will finish or exactly how it will affect us. We do know it means change— traffic, building, dust, noise. We also know God is going to be with us through it all.

God has brought us to this time, and God will see us throughout. Whatever inconveniences we will face, we will face together. Whatever changes are coming our way, with God's help, we can, and will, face together.



## ABUNDANCE

Eless First's annual stewardship campaign concluded on Sunday, November 26 with our Thanksgiving Dinner. It was a wonderful month of learning about *Abundance: Giving is Receiving*.

Throughout the five-week series we learned about God's love being so great! Your response

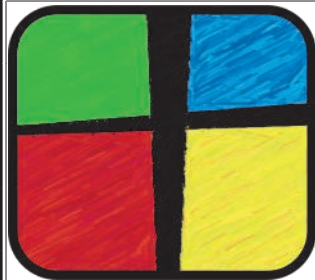
was wonderful. We live in a community that is working to follow Jesus a bit better than yesterday, and your giving is a symbol of our efforts. We are currently processing all of the pledge cards, and will give you those numbers as soon as possible. Your response to God's abundance is wonderful! We have received

enough pledges to meet the *Burn Our Debt* challenge, and just need you to fulfill your commitment.

If you have not yet submitted your *Abundance* pledge card, please do so at any time. Cards are available in the office.



Online Giving Link



# Euleless

**First United Methodist Church**


**Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

106 N. Main St.

Euleless, TX 76040


Phone: 817-283-4421

fumceuleless.org

 [Twitter.com/EulelessFirstUMC](https://twitter.com/EulelessFirstUMC)

 [Facebook.com/EulelessFirstUnitedMethodist](https://facebook.com/EulelessFirstUnitedMethodist)

 [Youtube.com/sheyduck](https://youtube.com/sheyduck)

 [Pinterest.com/EulelessFirstUMC](https://pinterest.com/EulelessFirstUMC)

 [Instagram.com/EulelessFirstUMC](https://instagram.com/EulelessFirstUMC)

**Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

---

Return Service Requested

Euleless, TX 76039

PO Box 967

Euleless First United Methodist Church

76039

Euleless, TX

Permit No. 2

NPA# 225165

U.S. Postage

Non-Profit Org.