

**Wednesday, December 2, 2009**

6:30-7:30 AM Women's Prayer Group  
3:30-5:30 PM 4th, 5th & 6th Grade Musical Rehearsal  
5:30-6:15 PM 4th-6th grade Homework Help-221  
5:40-7:30 PM FUMY-The Uprising-Basement  
5:45-6:15 PM WNF Meal  
6:00-7:15 PM UMW Executive Board Meeting-224  
6:15-7:30 PM Bible Study by Manish-125/127  
6:15-7:30 PM WNF Bible Study-Nancy Hinders-113  
6:15-7:30 PM Kids Clubs, Club 56  
6:30-7:15 PM University Handbell Rehearsal-001  
7:15-8:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal-001

**Thursday, December 3, 2009**

9:00-12:00 PM WOMS Bible Study-111

**Friday, December 4, 2009**

11:30-1:00 PM Noon Bible Study-113

**Saturday, December 5, 2009**

9:30-12:00 PM UMW Christmas Brunch  
10:00 AM Youth Winter Retreat-Dallas overnight  
6:00-7:00 PM FH Worship Team SET-UP-128

**Sunday, December 6, 2009 "Hanging of the Greens"**

8:30-9:30 AM FH Worship Team Reh-128  
8:30-9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship Service  
9:00-9:30 AM Costa Rica Burrito Breakfast  
9:30-10:30 AM Sunday School  
10:45-12:00 PM Sanctuary Worship Service  
10:45-12:00 PM FH Worship Service  
4:00PM Youth Return from Youth Retreat  
5:00-6:00 PM 9th Grade Girls Bible Study-111  
6:00-8:00 PM FUMY-The Uprising-Basement  
6:00-7:00 PM Children's Musical-Sanctuary  
7:00-7:30 PM Children's Musical Meal Celebration-FH (Immediately Following the Musical)

**Monday, December 7, 2009**

6:30-8:00 PM Visitation

**Tuesday, December 8, 2009**

6:30-7:30 AM Men's Prayer Group-123  
6:30-7:30 PM Knitting Ministry-103  
6:30-8:30 PM Couples Bible Study-222  
6:30-7:30 PM Juanelve Rose Circle-125/127

**Wednesday, December 9, 2009**

6:30-7:30 AM Women's Prayer Group  
3:30 PM Club 56 Afterschool Caroling  
6:00-7:30 PM FUMY-The Uprising-Basement  
7:00-9:00 PM Chancel Choir Christmas Party-125/127

**Sending a Christmas Card....Priceless**

Remember our wounded servicemen and women. When you send Christmas cards, send one or more to A Recovering American Soldier c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center 6900 Georgia Ave. NW Washington DC 20307-5001



**Concerns For This Week**

**Health Concerns:** Jason Keys, Kathy Tijerina, Richard

McDonald, Tom Rayome, D.J. Goldsmith, Kirby Culp, Ernest King, D'lynn McDonough, Bella Flores, Katie Chitwood, Jared Beatty

**In Christian Sympathy:** Lee McConnell passed away Monday November 23rd

**Other Concerns:** blessing to our SPRC Committee who are searching for the right people to fill the staff positions, continued prayers for decisions affecting a baby boy's future, continued prayer and concerns for peace in Juarez Mexico, prayers for our military until they come home, prayers for those soldiers who have been wounded and their families, urgent prayers for Tamarindo and district as well as prayers are needed over their church members, prayers for a clean bill of health at MD Anderson, those struggling with grief

**Joys for the Week:**

**Birthdays:** Dylan Brown, Addison Rae Tinsley

**Other Joys:** The Joy of the Christmas Season, time spent with family and friends during the Thanksgiving holiday, for our children returning home from Costa Rica, for the Shoe Box ministry, the Angel Tree Ministry, Irene Elder UMW Circle and all those who help give God's children a blessed Christmas

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns**

Rhonni Pletcher, George Bulman, Randy Banks, Mary Williamson, David Thompson, Anne Hubley, Brynn McPherson, Danny Knoll, Jim Davis(Nancy Biffle's brother), Regina Biffle, Lea & Ty Thurman, Dylan Brown, Chester Smith, Lauren Pennington, MacKenzie Cunningham, Franczesca Torres, Richard Barr, Libby Ford, Shelly Gross, Resa Joy, Milt Hudson, Dick Elliott, Keri Beth Cleavinger, Elmer Oberst, Catherine Schoonover, Harold Lenfestey, Will Lubaroff, Jack Jennings, Guy Thompson, Brian Mott, Malari Irlbeck, Charois Graves, Glenda Abernethy, Catlin Whitlow, Ahlene Findley, Sue Thomas, Lou Ann Barnhart, Jimmy Pearson

**Additional Intercessory**

**Prayers**

President Obama and our country's leaders, Costa Rica Team, Backyard Missions, War-torn Countries, the economy, people who have lost their jobs, those in the military

**Record of Attendance November 29, 2009**

8:30 a.m. Worship Service	71
9:30 a.m. Sunday School	226
10:45 a.m. Sanctuary Service	117
10:45 a.m. FH Worship Service	37
<b>Total in Worship</b>	<b>225</b>

**Thank You Notes**

November 24th marked a year since our dear Jeannie went to be with her Lord. During the months she was so ill, this Church Family was exceptionally caring, helpful and supportive. You showed such abundant love and kindness and I know she would want me to thank you once again for the prayers offered and the loving support you provided. She deeply loved each of you. You have continued to show the same Christian love and support toward me this past year. I have been deeply moved by your benevolent behavior and hope you can sense and feel the love and sincere appreciation I have for each of you. Your kindness, helpfulness and benignity warrants more than the feeble thanks I have tried to convey. My prayerful thanks to you.  
Ken Waugh

The Wesley Foundation would like to thank everyone for their participation in the 9th Annual Wesley Foundation Chili Cook-off and Cake Auction.

We appreciate everyone who helped whether it was by bringing chili, a dessert or through a donation. Through the generosity of this church and community we were able to raise \$2600.00. Thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,  
WTAMU Wesley Foundation

The Wesley Foundation would like to thank everyone who participated in the Wesley's Pie and Coffee room at the church Fall Festival. With your help we were able to raise \$264.46.

Thank you for the generous donations and delicious pies.

**The winners of the pie contest were:**

- 1st- Lynn Burns- Cherry Pie**
- 2nd- Brenda Havens- Cherry Cheesecake**
- 3rd- Mary Rice- Coconut Cream Pie**

Thank you,  
WTAMU Wesley Foundation



**The News**

**Blessings 'A Plenty at 120 from FUMC, Canyon December 2, 2009**

First United Methodist Church  
1818 4th Avenue  
Canyon, Texas 79015

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Canyon, Texas  
Permit No. 130

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE NEWS-The official newsletter of the First United Methodist Church, Canyon

First United Methodist Church Canyon, Texas 655-2851  
e-mail: fumc@firstchurchcanyon.com web-site: firstchurchcanyon.com

**Hanging of the Greens Hospitality**



Everyone is invited to "Ring in the Christmas Season" with hot cider, coffee and delicious confections prepared by the Crusaders Sunday School Class!  
Date: December 6, 2009  
Time: 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
Place: Searchers Classroom Room #125/127

**Hanging of the Greens**

Come "Ring in the Christmas Season" with us!

Date: December 6, 2009  
Time: 10:45 Worship Service  
Place: Sanctuary



**Church Staff**

Senior Pastor.....Rev. John McClean  
Associate Pastor.....Rev. Manish Shirley  
Director of Discipleship.....Dede Looney  
Director Youth Ministries .....Tyler Looney  
Director Children's Ministries.....Lee Ann Love  
Business Administrator.....Ross Hood  
Children's Administrative Assistant.....Christa Neal  
Church Secretary.....Shirley Leach  
Receptionist.....Robin Chandler  
Financial Secretary.....Christi Ybarra  
Music Director.....George Biffle  
Organist.....Margaret Skinner  
Interim Worship Leader.....Rochelle Wentz  
Church Librarian.....  
Custodian.....Bill Fetter  
Kitchen Coordinator.....Tara Hickman  
IHH Child Development Director....Brenda Shepherd  
IHH Administrative Assistant.....Venus Lawson

**Christmas Hang-ups**

**Performed By: Club 56 & Club 234**  
**Date: December 6, 2009**



**Time: 6:00 pm**  
**Place: Sanctuary**  
**Dinner following Musical**

**A-H - Christmas Desserts**  
**I-L - Chips**  
**M-Z - Sandwiches**

**Wednesday Night Fellowship Meals**

Who: Youth & Parents  
What: Hotdogs, chili, cheese & fixin's  
When: December 2, 2009 @ 5:45 p.m.  
Where: Fellowship Hall  
This is the last meal for the semester!  
Happy Holidays!

<b>First United Methodist Church</b> <b>Building God's Kingdom One Life At A Time</b> <b>Service Times</b> <b>8:30 a.m. in Sanctuary</b> <b>10:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary</b> <b>10:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall</b> <b>Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday Preaching Schedule</b> <b>Traditional Services in Sanctuary</b> <b>Rev. John McClean</b> <b>Contemporary Service in Fellowship Hall</b> <b>Rev. Manish Shirley</b>
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## “DECK THE HALLS”

The season of Advent has come! It has been quite interesting to me to

hear the initial reports in the media regarding the beginning of the Christmas shopping season. The first reports seem to be that more people are hitting the malls, but buying cautiously.

Why this captures my imagination is that those two contradictory, even seemingly mutually exclusive facts...

1. More people out and about
2. More people spending less

To me, there is good news to be share in this observation: that, perhaps, society as a whole is turning a corner. Maybe, just maybe, we are being forced to realize something we haven't before: that Christmas is not about all the 'stuff' given or gotten!

But then, better writers than I have made that point. You have heard me quote different lines from Dr. Seuss before, and I couldn't help but wonder of we are finally learning the lessons that the Grinch learned long ago:

He puzzled and puzzled till his puzzler was sore,  
 Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before!  
 "Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store!"  
 "Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more."

Christmas, in fact, means a great deal more! This Sunday, at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m., we will celebrate how the symbols of Advent and Christmas have brought home the meaning of the birth of Christ to us through the Centuries, and how they still do so today. Both sanctuary services will include the symbols and music of the season, presented by a wide variety of individuals.

And for the third year, we will have "Deck the Halls" during which our lovely church will be transformed into a Christmas wonderland. Sunday School classes will get into the act, and will enjoy refreshments in the Searchers' Classroom, provided by the Crusaders Sunday School class.

You won't want to miss it! I know I won't! I hope to see you here!  
John

Are YOU preparing to have a 'Credit Free Christmas'?



The Meaning of Advent - This weekend marks the beginning of Advent - but what does Advent mean? The word is from the Latin, *adventus*, which means, "to come." While Easter always played an important role in the life of the church, the importance of Christmas was secondary, in part because no one was certain when Jesus was born. Over time the celebration of His birth, and the theological concept

of the "incarnation" - that God became flesh and lived among us - came to be celebrated during the winter solstice, giving Christians a way of transforming a pagan holiday into a moment to reflect upon their faith. With the celebration of Christmas fixed, certain practices became a part of preparing for the celebration of the Christ-mass. Eventually a four-week period was set for special devotion and spiritual preparation to celebrate the birth of Christ. But the sole focus of advent was not simply preparing for Christ's first coming - the church also used this time to teach on and prepare for the Second Coming of Christ - His triumphant return when the world as we know it will end and when there will be a new heaven and a new earth.

During the season of Advent we "deck the halls" of the church and home with evergreen - a symbol of everlasting life; with poinsettias - their red flower a reminder of the blood of Christ; purple candles - purple being the color of royalty - remembering that the child who was born in Bethlehem is our King; and lights, a reminder that Jesus is the light of the world. Four themes are often lifted up on the four Sundays of Advent: Peace, Hope, Joy and Love.

I want to invite you to simplify your Christmas celebration this year by  
1. Spending less, 2. Giving more, 3. Worshipping fully, and 4. Loving all

I am grateful for Advent because it helps us focus on the significance of Christmas - something that tends to get lost.

See You in Worship!  
Manish



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Some people in the church are helping feed the WTAMU girls and boys basketball teams during the holidays.

If you are interested in helping, please

call Sharon Brown at 655-7560 or 236-1660 or you can email her at sbrown9003@aol.com

## Helping the Wesley Community Center

The Wesley Community Center is in need of toys for infant to age 2. If you would like to help, please bring your donations to the church by **December 3rd**. There will be a donation drop off in front of the church office. If you have any questions, please call Christi at the church office 655-2851 or email her at cybarra@firstchurchcanyon.com.

### UMW Christmas Brunch

10:00 a.m. December 5th

in the Fellowship Hall

All women of the church are invited

## Job Openings At The Church

### Librarian Position

FUMC of Canyon is taking applications for a part-time Librarian.

### Kitchen/Hospitality Coordinator

FUMC of Canyon is taking applications for a part-time Kitchen Coordinator.

**Please come by the church office to pick up an application.**

## Pictorial Directories are HERE!

Danna West has labeled each directory for those persons that are in the directory. You can stop by the church parlor and pick yours up TODAY.

If you were not in the directory, please contact Danna West on how to get a directory at 488-2399 or email her at dndwest@gmail.com



## Angel Tree Gifts

The angels will be on the tree ready for you to pick up Sunday, November 22. Be sure to fill out a yellow card so we know who has the angels. Gifts must be back, preferably wrapped with the angel attached, by December 13th. Any angels that are

left on the tree will be shopped for on December 14th. If you have any questions, please call Vivian Thurman at 655-9038 or email her at vthurman3@suddenlink.net.



### The Uprising

Schedule for Jr. & Sr. High

Sunday School

9:30-10:30AM

There is a snack breakfast then the Jr. High and Sr. High split up for Sunday School Classes.

Sunday Nights

6:00-8:00PM

We share a snack supper together, play a game together then discuss a movie clip

Wednesday Nights

5:40-7:30PM

Enjoy dinner at the Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal in the Fellowship Hall then head downstairs for gathering time and announcements-followed with Praise Time-then split to Jr. High activities and devotions and Sr. High devotion and lessons

## UPCOMING DATES

Dec. 6 6:00 "Christmas Hang-Ups"  
Followed by Meal in Fellowship Hall  
Please bring the following items if your last name begins with:

- A-H Christmas Desserts
- I-L Chips
- M-Z Sandwiches

Dec. 9 CLUB 56 Caroling After-school  
 Dec. 12 4:00-10:00 Parents Night OUT  
 Dec. 16 6:00 Children's Council  
 7:00 Children's Volunteers Christmas Party  
**REMEMBER TO INVITE A FRIEND!**

*Reminder!! Don't Throw Away That Empty Ink Cartridge!*

### Acolyte Schedule

December 6

- 8:30 Seth Rogers and Landry Nelson
- 10:45 Mason Curry and Scott Cornelius

## "Nothing But Nets"

Cooperation: working together to do more than you can alone.

- Kindergarten \$40
- 1st \$51
- 2nd \$16
- 3rd \$80
- 4th \$13
- TOTAL \$200

Praising God for His faithfulness.

Greetings!

I trust that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We sure did! I had the privilege to eat fried turkey (definitely a southern tradition!) and I enjoyed many homemade pies! It was nice to have a break as F.U.M.Y. is embarking on a winter retreat this weekend. We will be going to a place called Group Dynamix in Dallas, where we will fellowship with one another and grow as group. I know that this will be a great experience for our youth and I ask that you keep us in your prayers as we travel and engage in some incredible activities. Thank you for the way you support F.U.M.Y.!

Tyler L.

I encourage you to check out what we will be doing by going to groupdynamix.com (click on youth and lock ins).

## A "LOVE" NOTE "Christmas Hang-Ups"

*It's just before Christmas and the tree ornaments have been awakened from their yearly hibernation by the movement of their storage box. It's time! As they begin to prepare for another season on the Watson's Christmas tree, they are greeted by a rather strange and "un-Christmassy" ornament: A Hula-Girl.*

*The Star, the Snowman, the Angel and others don't understand what she has to do with Christmas and give her a rather cool reception. Then another significant figure from the mantelpiece shows up to explain to all of them what Christmas is about and how they each have significance in God's amazing plan of redemption through His Son, Jesus.*

*I hope that everyone can make it to the Children's Musical.*

*Serving An Awesome God,  
Lee Ann*

## Parents Night Out

Saturday, December 12th

4:00 - 10:00

\$10.00 for FIRST Child \$5 each child thereafter

Pizza, Crafts, Movie, and Games

Register in the church office TODAY!

Call 655-2851 or email

leeannlove@firstchurchcanyon.com

*First Look-1 year old - 4 year old*

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Key Question: How do we know God loves us?

Bottom Line: God gave us Jesus.

Memory Verse "God has given a Son to us." Isaiah 9:6

Dec. 6 "God told us He would give us Jesus."

The Angel and Mary > Micah 5:2; Luke 1:26-46

*252 Basics - Kindergarten - 6th Grade*

*3 Basic Truths "...and Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and favor with God and man."*

December: "252 Basics" Compassion: Caring enough to do something about someone else's need.

Memory Verse: "God loved the world so much that He gave His one and only Son.

Anyone who believes in Him will not die but will have eternal life." John 3:16

Dec. 6 "The Angel" (Gabriel appears to Mary)

Luke 1:26-38

Bottom Line: God saw our greatest need. Whose needs do you see?