



# *Morris First United Methodist Church*

## Upcoming Events:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup> - Kids Choir Practice          | Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup> – Angel Tree Wrapping 9 am        |
| Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Advent Bible Study           | Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup> – Advent Bible Study              |
| Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Youth                        | Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup> – Youth Christmas Party 5 pm      |
| Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup> – SASSY’S                      | Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup> – Kids Christmas Program          |
| Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup> – Kids Choir Practice          | Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup> – Christ’s Cupboard Open          |
| Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup> – Morris Christmas Parade 2 pm | Dec. 20 <sup>th</sup> – UMW Christmas Party             |
| Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup> – Advent Bible Study          | Dec. 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Kids Choir Practice             |
| Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup> – Youth 5-7:30                | Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Christmas Eve Service 5 pm      |
| Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting               | Dec. 29 <sup>th</sup> – Kids Choir Practice             |
| Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup> - Kids Choir Practice         | Dec. 29 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> – Youth Lock-In |
| Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup> – Angel Tree Shopping         |   |

## Children’s Christmas Program



**December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.**



## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Christmas is fast approaching and then we will be into the New Year before we know it, so the subject that I'm about to mention is probably not one you may expect but I feel that it is an important and timely subject.

After the shooting in the Texas Church, our leadership discussed what we need to do to keep our worshippers safe in the case of a shooter in our church or community. In the past, there was a committee appointed to look into an Emergency Action Plan for that type of situation, but as we tend to do we become complacent and think, "That type of thing will never happen in our church." And I have to admit, that until the Texas shooting, I had not considered the possibility. What I would like to say is that we want to balance safety while also being a welcoming church. We certainly don't want to scare people away, but we do want people to feel safe.

The shooting in Texas and really all over the United States has increased everyone's awareness that there are people in this world that feel violence is a way to solve their problems or to make them feel better. The Texas shooter's plan was to get back at his ex-wife for a failed relationship by shooting her parents and that escalated into a massacre of 26 people. If you think about that, there could be someone in our community who could accomplish this same type of massacre. With that thought, I asked our leadership what we should do.

The Morris area pastors and some lay persons were invited to a meeting with the Morris Police, and a representative from the Bacone College who is an instructor and works with the college to be prepared for an active shooter situation. This meeting was very enlightening and we learned a lot about how to prepare for emergencies in our church.

In the next month, I will be discussing with various leaders of the church concerning what we can and should do and develop an Emergency Action Plan. We want to know your concerns as well. What would help make you feel safer in worship and what would scare you? When we have a plan developed, we will make it readily available along with other information to help us be prepared and we will practice. (Maybe it's my military background coming out; we always practiced.)

Advent is here! I pray that you will be blessed this season. I'll see you in worship!

*Pastor Tracy*



**NURSING HOME MINISTRY**  
**KIDS CHOIR PRACTICE**



The kid's choir will be practicing every Friday evening at 6 pm.

**UMW**



**WED., DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**

**AT 6:30 PM**

**JACKIE VAUGHN'S HOUSE**

Bring a snack to share and a wrapped ornament for exchange.

**Christ's Cupboard**



The food pantry is in need of soup and crackers this month.



We will also begin collecting coats, hats, gloves, etc. to hand out at Christ's Cupboard.

The Thanksgiving Open Table was a true blessing. We served over 90 people thanks to your donations, food, serving and prayers.



## Angel Tree

Angels are ready if you would like to buy gifts or donate money.

Angel Tree shopping will be Friday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested, contact Annette or Sheri.

Angel Tree wrapping will be Saturday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.

### *Our Gifts to Jesus*



There will be a stocking for Jesus hanging in the church. Place notes in the stocking about friends and family who have done acts of love and kindness, acts like Jesus...to love one another. These are the gifts He wants for His birthday.



**Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Youth 5-7:30**

**Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> – Okmulgee  
Christmas Parade**

**Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – Youth 5-7:30**

**Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> – Youth 5-7:30  
(Christmas Party)**

**Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – No Youth**

**Dec. 29-30<sup>th</sup> – Lock-in**

**Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> – No Youth**

# Prayer Requests



Crystal Nolan	Darlene Walden	Caitlyn Mcosker	Jennifer Roper	Matt Davis
Bill Lee	Mark Stone	John Admire	Mike Bergevin	Lynette Baumann
Mike Vaughn	Larry Simpson	Elisha Sexton	Joyce McDowell	Marie
Lamont	Ray & Judy King	Ashley	Juanita Fitzgerald	Elise Mims
Jamie's nephew	June England	Lee Thomas	Rhonda Stephenson	Dixie Wilhite
Sheri	Nicholas Arnold	Jennifer	Rick Morris	Archie Wares
Tillis family	Samantha Lock family	Singrays	Backpack Program	Christ's Cupboard

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="font-size: small;"> <p>November</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">December 2017</div> <div style="font-size: small;"> <p>January</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
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