

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10

also available on the church website, medfordumc.org

SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Worship: 8:15 = 40; 9:30 = 159; 11:00 = 132, Total = 331

Sunday School: 14 Teachers, 45 Students; 8 Adults; 5 Nursery Total = 72

FLC update: Total Amount Received: \$ 599,478 / \$1,013,520 (59% of commitments)

Amount Received Last Week: \$ 4,044

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun. 10th	8:15 am	Traditional Worship with Communion – Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Sunday School
	9:30 am	Contemporary Worship – Bowker Hall
	11:00 am	Traditional Worship – Sanctuary
	7:00 pm	Choir Candlelight Service - Everywhere, Everywhere, Christmas
Mon. 11th	2:00 pm	Caring Team #1 – Room 104
	7:00 pm	N.A. – B4/5
	7:30 pm	Busy Bees – Bowker Hall
Tues. 12th	4:30 pm	Chime Choir – sanctuary
	6:00 pm	Pack Gift Bags at Hammonton UMC
	6:00 pm	Yoga – Bowker Hall
	6:45 pm	Celebration Ringers – Sanctuary
	7:00 pm	Cub Scouts – B4/5
	7:30 pm	Jubilation Ringers – Sanctuary
Wed. 13th	7:00 pm	Advent Study Session #2 – Room 104
Thurs. 14th	10:00 am	Advent Study Session #2 – Room 104
	5:00 pm	Wrap gifts at Medford Police Station
	6:15 pm	Youth Bells – Sanctuary
	7:00 pm	Expansion Team – Room 104
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal - FLC
Fri. 15th	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal - FLC
Sat. 16th	8:00 am	No UMM Study
	9:00 am	Ushers/Greeters/Hospitality Rehearsal at FLC
	9:45 pm	Tech Rehearsal at FLC
Sun. 17th	10:00 am	Family Life Center Dedication
	4:00 pm	Handbell & Handchime Choirs Concert

ORDER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: It has been a tradition to have poinsettias given in memory or in honor of loved ones. Order forms are available outside the sanctuary and you have a choice of either red or white. Price is \$9.00. Please place orders in the red box outside the sanctuary or leave in the church office; deadline to order is Dec. 17.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

CHRISTMAS GIVING 2017: Every Christmas, parents have an opportunity to honor their child's Sunday school leader or any youth leader at MUMC. This year, gifts will go towards three missions our church supports: UMCOR, Urban Promise, and REACH. Simply place a monetary donation in a blue offering envelope, designate it as "SS Gift" and then place in the offering plate or drop it in the church office. Then, pick an ornament from the bulletin board outside Bowker Hall, personalize it, and give to the leader your child is honoring. We will be collecting gifts until January 7, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact Karen (asmeam825@gmail.com) or Erin (ebdixon526@aol.com).

THE SEASON FOR BRINGING JOY TO OTHERS: Please stop by the entryway outside the sanctuary to learn more about

Wesley UMC in Trenton reaches needy children in their church, in their surrounding community and those associated with local helping organizations. We have a number of angels that represent Christmas gifts for children in need. All gifts should be brought in no later than Sunday, Dec. 17th. Note: single service that day at 10:00 am in the new FLC and we can take your gift bags from you as you come through the main entrance or leave outside the sanctuary whichever is most convenient.

Migrant Workers – Thank you to those who have supported this program thus far as your financial gifts cover the cost of preparing gift bags and a dinner for migrant workers in the greater Hammonton area. We are pleased to be able to continue to partner with First UMC of Hammonton in this endeavor.

Serving Opportunities – Please see sign-up sheets in the narthex, *This Week at Medford UMC* e-mail and the December *Messenger*.

THE HAITI MISSION TEAM, which will depart on 1/6/18, is trying to take along 130 health kits. To that end, they packed up over 30 kits, but were short several items. Between now and January 5, 2018 our Medford UMC team is committed to gathering: 76 Nail clippers / metal nail files; 50 tubes of toothpaste; 83 washcloths and 98 hand towels. Questions? Contact Barbara Carlson; carlsonB2@comcast.net. There will be a suitcase for this collection outside the sanctuary between now and January 5. The Haiti Mission Team is very thankful for your generosity.

WORSHIP & STUDY

OUR ADVENT STUDY "UNDERDOGS AND OUTSIDERS" has begun as we explore the dawn of God's grace for five women in the lineage of Jesus. Read along with us even if you can't join in the conversation! See Pastor Kathleen; books are available in the church office for \$10. We meet in Room 104:

Wed. evenings December 13 and 20 . . . 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Thurs. mornings December 14 and 21 . . . 10:00 – 11:30 am

- Session 2: Ruth and Bathsheba –Ruth and 1 Kings 1 & 2
- Session 3: Mary – Matthew 1 & 2

FAMILY LIFE CENTER CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: NEXT SUNDAY is our BIG DAY. The AV team is working hard to complete their installation. Cleaners have been working to get things ship shape. We have been receiving deliveries of furniture and equipment. There are still some finishing touches remaining – and not all of those will be done – but we fully expect all systems to be a go on December 17.

AV TEAM TRAINING: This week, we will have an intensive video training for our team in a kind of train-the-trainers setup with the system installer. We will schedule the training for the full team as we move into January. If you would like to join our AV team to help us run video, projection, sound and lighting, please contact Wayne Adams (wadams5641@yahoo.com) or Pastor Joe.

WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT WEEK: Here are some details for the Family Life Center Dedication on December 17 at 10:00 am. Know that next Sunday there will be ONE worship service at 10:00 am with NO SUNDAY SCHOOL.

PARKING - will be at a premium, please bring ONE car per family. Don't forget about the spaces BEHIND the new facility. If you are able to walk, please consider parking at the outer edges of the lot.

THOSE WITH HANDICAPPED TAGS/PLACARDS - There are spaces in front of the new building as well as the existing building. We will assist you to enter by the ramp to a preferred seating area. We will have parking attendants to help park your car if needed.

CHILDCARE – Our new childcare room in the FLC will be open for infants-age 3. We will have a children's time during the service and then dismiss children ages preschool-grade 1 to a special program during the sermon, then bring them back to participate in the dedication.

STREAMING – Can't make it? We anticipate that we will LIVE STREAM the service on our Facebook page. Visit us at fb.com/medfordumc to like our page and then tune in on Sunday at 10:00 am.

ANGEL TREE – We will have volunteers ready to receive your gifts next week.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: Thanks to all those who have completed a commitment card. We want to give thanks for 140 individuals and families who committed \$351,626 toward our ministry in 2018. Thank you for your support of our ministry, which touches so many lives in so many different ways – not only here in Medford but literally around the globe through our support of the United Methodist Church. Thank you! And if you've not yet had a chance to respond, feel free to pick up a card in the pews, outside the sanctuary, or at the back of Bowker Hall and drop it in the offering plate.

BUSY BEES CHRISTMAS PARTY MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 7:30 PM: Our Junior Choir will be performing a wonderful concert of Christmas music led by Carol Reilly. Our Secret Pals are revealed this evening. Bring a gift valued at \$10 for your secret pal. If you do not have a secret pal, bring a gift wrapped and valued at \$10 for exchange, or donate to favorite charity. Please bring cookies or other favorite holiday desserts or any snack dishes to add to our table. Questions: Contact Janet Scheffler, scheffler13@comcast.net.

ATTENTION ALL READERS!: Our next Book Club selection is The Last Summer at Chelsea Beach by one of our favorite authors, Pam Jenoff. Join us on Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Annex. For more information, please contact Patty Rosvold, pbrosvold179@verizon.net or the church office. There is no official "membership" for the Book Club other than a love of reading.



to **Believe...**
is to hear the bells ring



Please join our Handbell & Handchime

Choirs as we board the
Christmas Express!

And enjoy an evening of seasonal ringing
as we help
Evan regain his Christmas Spirit

**Helen A. Kirby Memorial
Handbell & Handchime Choirs**
in Concert

Sunday, December 17th
4:00 PM in the Sanctuary

