

Notes From The Journey . . .



Fall is upon us and winter is not far away. And just as the seasons of the earth change, so do the seasons of the Church year. The season of Advent begins at the end of November and leads us on to Christmas. It is a time of anticipation and preparation. We remember again that

We remember again that God comes into our lives & into our world in very real, very personal ways.

God comes into our lives and into our world in very real, very personal ways. We will re-tell the stories. We will act out the rituals. We will sing the songs. And we will remember. Join me on the journey as we celebrate yet again the mystery of God's presence in the midst of us!
 - Roger



Thanksgiving Vigil - November 22nd - 5:30 p.m.

The Moscow Interfaith Association is sponsoring a Thanksgiving Vigil on Tuesday, November 22nd, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in Friendship Square. This will be a simple, brief opportunity to come together as a community to express our thanks. Please bring a candle to light and a donation for the Moscow Food Bank.



Advent Begins Sunday, November 27th

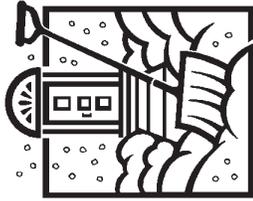
Advent is the season which includes the four Sundays preceding Christmas. This year the season is as long as it ever gets, because Christmas is on Sunday. Be sure to join for worship during this meaningful season in the life of the Church. There is also a complete list of Advent / Christmas / New Year's Opportunities on an insert in this newsletter.



Roof Work Completed

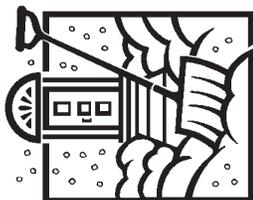
We now have a new roof over the sanctuary! This work was completed by RMR Construction. Also included in the project was a new skylight window above the pulpit (replacing the old one which was cracked and leaking). Now all that's left to do is pay for it. If you would like to make a contribution to help offset this debt, please write "Roof" in the note line of your check.





Snow Removal Sign Up

There is a sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board for volunteers to remove snow from the church walks on Sunday mornings when it snows. To join this brave cadre of workers, please sign up or send an e-mail note (snow@unitedchurch.cc) with your preferred date(s). Sign up early before all the good dates are taken.



Opportunity to Contribute

We are in the process of making it possible for you to donate appreciated stocks and securities to the church. If you have appreciated stocks or securities, there may be a significant tax advantage for you to donate them to the church. We are establishing a brokerage account which will facilitate such gifts. This would allow you to make a generous gift to the church and possibly realize a tax benefit at the same time. For more details, you can contact *Roger Lynn* or *Karen Davis*.



Special Law May Benefit Your Charitable Giving

The Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005 (KETRA) was signed into law on September 23, 2005, and provides numerous tax relief provisions in response to Hurricane Katrina, including provisions designed to encourage contributions to both Katrina relief and to other charities. Please note that this is not limited to just Katrina-related giving, but to any qualified non-profit (including The United Church of Moscow).



What tax relief does KETRA provide?

- KETRA temporarily eliminates the 50% adjusted gross income percentage limitation on charitable deductions for individuals.
- KETRA temporarily eliminates the 3% itemized deduction reduction for charitable gifts.
- Donors can deduct up to 100% of their adjusted gross income for qualified gifts with any excess carried forward for up to five additional years under the usual provisions.

What gifts qualify?

- Gifts made between August 28 & December 31, 2005 AND
- Made only in cash AND
- Made to public charities

Please check with your tax advisor to see if you can benefit from any of KETRA's provisions.



What's Happening at the Campus Christian Center

Yes, *Food for Finals* is coming up during the week of December 12! Last Spring a whopping 440 plates of food were served to starving students! We are invited to provide bread and chips. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board if you can help with this.

Also, there is a *Holiday Open House* on Friday December 9th. The Center will be open from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. with light snacks and refreshments. This is a time to come and share the spirit of the Christ with friends and acquaintances - and maybe to make a new friend!

And finally, *January* is our month to provide cookies for the Center. We need 40 dozen. If you can help with this, please contact *Roger Lynn*.

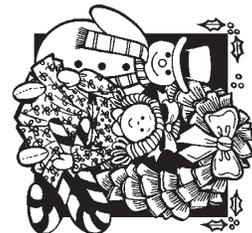


Personal Glimpses

Caroline Germain had knee replacement surgery earlier this month and is now home and recovering well. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

Iris Manning also had knee replacement surgery earlier this month and she is also home and recovering well. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

Virgie Read spent some time in the hospital in November and is now back at Good Samaritan. Prayers and visits are both welcomed.



Celebrating Birthdays . . .

. . . In November

1st - Bonnie Wallace

2nd - Shaun Barber

11th - Jeanette Talbott

12th - Kalena Suquet

. . . In December

5th - Charlotte McCallum

11th - Ed Goforth

17th - Lois Bradberry

21st - Pat Gentry

. . . In January

2nd - Lisa Hawley

5th - Mariah Talbott

13th - Iris Manning

16th - Lou Stevens

21st - Naomi Blacker

21st - Agnes Kottke

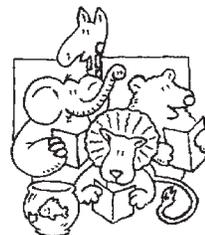
22nd - Dale Gentry

28th - Scotte Hecht

*If we've missed your birthday, please let us know so we can update our records.
We want to include you.*

New Staff for Children's Church

Tamra Herschbach is now working with us as Children's Church coordinator. Welcome Tamra! She and her mother (*Deanna*) have been worshipping with us for several weeks. She expressed an interest in working with children and we just happen to have a wonderful opportunity where she could get involved. If you haven't yet had a chance to meet Tamra and Deanna, please find an opportunity to introduce yourself.



Roger Lynn's Sermons Now Available on the Web in Audio

We have recently started posting Roger Lynn's sermons on our web-site (www.unitedchurch.cc) in audio (mp3) format. They are also available as podcasts through the iTunes Music Store (and other podcast sites). There is more information about this on the web-site. This also means they can be made available on CD if there is interest. Please contact *Roger* if you are interested.



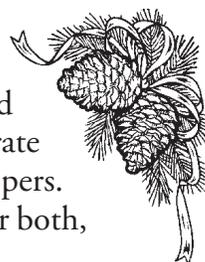
Christmas For Kids
Again this year we will be participating in the Christmas for Kids program.
Gift tags will be available for you to pick up in the next few weeks.
Your help will allow us to make a difference
in the lives of several families in our community.



- Advent / Christmas / New Year's Opportunities -

Hanging the Greens - December 4th

Because Advent is so long this year, we are delaying the hanging of the greens until the second Sunday in Advent. Hopefully this will minimize the dry greenery at the end of the season. Join us on Sunday, December 4th, beginning at 8:30 a.m. to help decorate the sanctuary for the season. Bring work gloves if you have them, as well as pruning clippers. We need greenery and a large tree for the sanctuary. If you would like to donate either/or both, they would be gratefully received. Please contact *Roger Lynn*.



Caroling Hayride & Chili Feed - December 11th

Plan to join us for a fun evening of singing, laughter and eating. We will gather at the church at 4:30 p.m. for a caroling hayride. We will travel around Moscow, singing for several of our homebound members and friends. Dress warm. Then we will return to the church for a chili feed. If you would like to provide one of the pots of chili, please contact *Bob and Lois Leonard* or *Roger Lynn*.

Christmas Music - December 18th

On the Sunday before Christmas our morning worship will feature a special musical presentation by our choir.



Christmas Dinner - December 18th

The turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy and rolls are provided (and are being prepared by designated volunteers). The rest of the meal is potluck. This is our "church family" holiday feast. It is a great time to bring family and friends. The evening will also include a time for singing favorite carols, and maybe even a visit from a large jolly gentleman from the far north country.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship - December 24th

This traditional service is a simple, quiet evening filled with candles, carols, scriptures, stories and communion. It provides an opportunity to reflect on the wonders of God's gift of love.



Christmas Morning Worship - December 25th

For the first time since 1994, Christmas will fall on Sunday this year. Our morning worship will be a relaxed, informal, family gathering featuring lots of music, stories and sharing. There will be no Faith Exploration Classes that morning and no Children's Church during worship. Please plan to join us at 11 a.m. for a worshipful Christmas experience.

New Year's Morning Potluck Brunch - January 1st

The first day of the new year will be on Sunday. Help us welcome in the new year with a potluck brunch at 9:30 a.m. Bring your favorite breakfast goodies to share. This is also a great time to bring a friend.



Tree Burning Party - January 1st - 5 p.m.

We end the season with a bonfire which reminds us of the light and warmth of God's love. We will gather to burn the tree and holiday greenery from the church. You are also invited to bring your own tree and greenery from home to add to the fire. There will be chili and other goodies to eat and drink. The location is still being worked out. Plan to join us. If you would like to come and need a ride, please contact *Roger Lynn*.



Nov / Dec

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
20	21 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	22 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 5:30 PM, Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Vigil (Friendship Square) 	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27 1st Sunday in Advent 	28 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	29 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	30	1 7:00 PM, Elders & Deacons December 	2	3
4 Fellowship Fund 2nd Sunday in Advent 8:30 AM, Hanging the Greens 2:00 PM, Care Center Worship (Clark House / Good Sam)	5 7:00 PM, 4-H 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	6 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	7 10:00 AM, Watercolor 7:00 PM, Choir 	8	9	10 10:00 AM, Watercolor
11 3rd Sunday in Advent 4:30 PM, Caroling Hayride 6:00 PM, Chili Feed 	12 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	13 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	14 12:00 PM, Cancer Support 2:00 PM, Sunshine Club 7:00 PM, Board Meeting 	15	16	17
18 4th Sunday in Advent 11:00 AM, Choir Christmas Music 6:00 PM, Christmas Dinner 	19 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	20 5:30 PM, AA Meeting	21 7:00 PM, Elders & Deacons 	22	23	24 7:00 PM, Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 
25 Christmas! No Faith Exploration Class (today only) 	26 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	27 5:30 PM, AA Meeting	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve.
1 New Year's Day Fellowship Fund 9:30 AM, New Year's Potluck Brunch 5:00 PM, Tree Burning Party	2 7:00 PM, 4-H 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	3 5:30 PM, AA Meeting	4 10:00 AM, Watercolor	5	6	7 10:00 AM, Watercolor

2005



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• Return Service Requested •

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