

January 2019

REFLECTIONS

Monticello First United Methodist Church

317 South Main Monticello, AR 71655

fumcmonticello.org

Office Phone 367-2471 Pastor's Cell 501-944-9719

Pastor: Hammett Evans



LESSONS FROM A SNOWFLAKE

“God roars with his wondrous voice; he does great things we can't know. He says to the snow, ‘Fall to earth,’ and to the downpour of rain, ‘Be a mighty shower.’ He stamps the hand of every person so all can know his work.”—Job 37:5-7 CEB

God's creation never ceases to amaze me. Did you know there are over 35 different types of snowflake? Most of them aren't the pretty ones we imagine, either. They're just sand-like globs. Snowflakes usually have 6 sides, sometimes 3, rarely 12, never 4 or 8. The old adage “no two snowflakes are alike” probably isn't true, either. Scientists think if you could examine every snowflake in the world, you would find some that were virtually identical.

I learned all that from an NPR podcast I heard several years ago. It reminded me of a story I like. One day a sparrow and a dove were talking to each other, and the sparrow asked, “How much does a snowflake weigh?” The dove replied, “Nothing more than nothing.” The sparrow said, “One day, I was sitting on the branch of a fir tree, close to the trunk, when it began to snow – not heavily, like in a blizzard – but like in a dream. Since I didn't have anything better to do, I began counting the snowflakes that landed on my branch. There were exactly 3,741,952. When the 3,741,953rd dropped onto the branch – nothing more than nothing, as you say – the branch broke off.” Having finished her story, the sparrow flew away.¹

Scripture tells us that God uniquely designed each and every one of us and put us here for a reason. If you feel overwhelmed by problems in the world, our church and community, or in your own life, don't despair. Together we can make a big difference.

James Hewett, *Illustrations Unlimited*, pp. 404-405.

Happy New Year!



Our 2018 books will close January 6, 2019

*Special thanks to The Chancel Choir
Director, Kathy Lyon
Organist, Mary Donaldson.*



Thank you for the beautiful Cantata, "God With Us".

Three Wise Men from afar will visit the children during the Sunday School hour on December 30th. Special thanks to Larry Fuller, Greg Fallon & Michael James.

Thank you for allowing us to use the church for our Pancakes with Santa!

The Monticello Fire Department

Mark Your Calendars

January 1 Happy New Year!
January 6 Sr. High Youth leave for Ski Trip
January 8 Wilma Hankins Circle 10 AM
Libby Annulis Circle 6 PM
January 9 Child Choir Resumes
FUMY after school Hangtime
Fellowship Meal
January 12 FUMY to Winter Rally
District Meeting in FLC
January 13 Communion Sunday
January 14 Lynne Russell arrives!
January 16 Circle #5 at 6 PM
January 19 Wedding celebration of Beth
Thomasson & Tyler Staten
January 21 Martin Luther King Day
January 24 The Call meets in FLC
January 26 Quilters Club in Fellowship Hall
January 28 Scout Pack Meeting
Finance Committee 6 PM
Administrative Board 7 PM

Thank You, Children's Choir

*...for spreading God's love to so many at Belleview
Estates through your gift of Christmas caroling.*

May God bless you always!



SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO RANG THE BELLS FOR THE SALVATION ARMY. WE HAD A RECORD DAY!

PROCEEDS WILL HELP FEED THE CHILDREN OF DREW COUNTY.



Acolyte Schedule

January 6 Thomas Holland & Alex Martinez
January 13 Max Efird & James Pierce Breedlove
January 20 Addy Maxwell & Ryne Gosdin
January 27 Lillie Green & Macy Tolin

Warmest Holiday Wishes! First United Methodist and it's members are special to us! We love and miss you. Keep us in your prayers!

With Love, *Wes & Monteene McCoy*

DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY - Teaches God's ways of handling money. Practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. No cost for the class and child care is provided. Please call the church office if you are interested (367-2471). We would like to start a class in mid January if we have enough interest.

SMALL GROUP—NEW CLASS STARTING IN JANUARY! If you are not already a member of a small group we encourage you to participate in an eight week “Class Meeting” starting the middle of January. During these eight weeks you will be instructed and understand how a small group works and why it is so effective. Please call the church office 367-2471 if you are interested in attending.

Volunteers are needed on Thursdays to help prepare food for **Feed Our Neighbors**. Volunteers arrive at 4:00 PM to heat the food and serve from 4:30 to 5:00. We are feeding up to 35!

We invite you to go to our conference website at arumc.org for all the latest news and information in our conference. We especially encourage you to sign up for your free copy of The AR United Methodist newspaper online.



JENNIE ELIZABETH THOMASSON AND CHARLES TYLER STATEN

You are invited to the wedding celebration of
Beth Thomasson & Tyler Staten
5:30 PM
Saturday, January 19, 2019
First United Methodist Church

CONGRATULATIONS
Sandy & David Funderburg
Celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary



Poinsettias given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Mr. & Mrs. George White, April Abston, William & Jim Abston by: Barbara, Alan, Suzanna, Clark, Anna & Claire Abston
Jerry Akin by: Belinda, Laura & Carrie
Mr. & Mrs. D. A. Anderson by: David & Sue Anderson
Dr. Bob & Joan Burch & Dr. Bobby Burch by: LeAnne, Trey & Ashley, Katelyn, William & Henry
Bob, Joan & Bobby Burch by: Steve & Debbie Morrison
Bob, Joan & Bobby Burch by: Patty Ross
Our Parents, Leo & Lillian Bullock, Noel & Cora Cash Boyd by: John & Carolyn Bullock
Lee Everett & Joyce Calhoun & Loyd E. Oxner, Sr. by: Loyd & Jaci Oxner
Vilma Crain by: James & Kathy Tumlison
Stephanie Harvey by: Randy & Ryker
Stephanie Harvey by: Jerry & Rene' Johnson
Elva & Dean Hutchinson by: Dr. Charlie Jackson, Jimmie Jo Leech, Lucy Cyphers, Deborah Jackson & families
My parents, Dr. C. Lewis & Wanda Hyatt by: Charlotte Hyatt McGarr
Charles & Jo Jackson by: Dr. Charlie Jackson, Jimmie Jo Leech, Lucy Cyphers, Deborah Jackson & families
Kirk Ruth & John Loyd Ruth by: Robert & Ruth Langley
Bob Leech by: Mary & Richard Johnson, Bob & Pat Leech, David & Jimmie Jo Leech
Herman Nickolson by: Michelle & Jack Nickolson
Joseph & Sally Pauwels by: David & Sue Anderson
James & Molly Ross by: Elgenia & Jim Ross
Henry Lee Ross by: David & Sandy Funderburg & family
Henry Lee Ross by: Patty Ross & family
Thad Smith by: Paul & Louisa Smith
Carl & Beatrice Snipes by: Elgenia & Jim Ross
Robbie & Doyle Stephenson by: their children & families
Jim & Mary Tumlison by: James & Kathy Tumlison
William Matthew Wisener by: Bill & Mary Jo Wisener

Poinsettias given to the glory of God and in honor of:

LeAnne Burch by: Sydney & Mallory Fallon
My children & grandchildren: Diantha & Scotty Beer, Kelly, Will & Kolton by: Charlotte Hyatt McGarr
Ken Crain by: James & Kathy Tumlison
Kelley Grubbs by: His Small Group
Joleah & Harper Huntsman & Seth, Meggan & Cheslee Oxner by: Loyd & Jaci Oxner
My children & grandchildren Carole & Roger Martin, John Michael & Max & Brittney Ann by: Charlotte Hyatt McGarr
Russell Langley Family by: Robert & Ruth Langley
Louine Leech by: Mary & Richard Johnson, Bob & Pat Leech, David & Jimmie Jo Leech
Our Children & Grandchildren by: Paul & Louisa Smith
Our Mimi, Charlotte McGarr by: Kolton, Max, John Michael, William, Kelly, Brittney Ann & Seth
Our Pastor and his wife by: Ed & Isabel Bacon
Betty Jo Ross Pruett by: David & Sandy Funderburg & family
Betty Jo Ross by: Patty Ross & family
Tommy Smith Family by: Robert & Ruth Langley
Dalene Stephenson by: Ed & Isabel Bacon
Jane Thomasson by: Beth Thomasson & Tyler Staten





FUMY News

January 2019



December was busy! We took the time to find Bethlehem amongst the Bedlam in our lives. On Wednesdays we followed the “Redemption of Scrooge” series and even watching “A Christmas Carol” together one night. On Sunday nights we focused on finding what it means to “Go Beyond” by looking at where God is leading us today. We packed 300 bags for “Feed the Kids” mission and we rang the bell for the Salvation Army the third weekend of December. On December 8 we had our annual Progressive dinner and Christmas caroling plus we had a lock-in at church complete with SNOW outside! Our 2018 ended with prayer stations... we gave to the Samaritan’s Feet fund, gave God our distractions, prayed for each other and tried to come up with where we would be if we had been alive at the birth of Jesus.



Important Reminders:

- **December 30 - January 5** - FUMY Ski Trip to Winter Park, Colorado
- **January 6** - FUMY resumes.. All FUMY 6 - 8 pm with supper
- **January 9** - FUMY afterschool plus supper at 5 pm & Mid-week from 5:30 - 7 pm
- **January 12-13** - FUMY to SEDCYM Winter Rally (cost is \$30), FUMC Stuttgart
- **January 20** - ALL FUMY Scavenger Hunt (weather permitting) or Movie Night 5 - 8 pm
- **January 25** - 7:01 am Prayer Breakfast

An extra-special **Thank you** to all of the parents that cooked and cleaned and donated and hosted our courses. Special **THANK YOU** to Maggie Brown, Greg Fallon and Kevin Grant for going caroling with us and to Amy & Chris Harper, Carole Martin & Diantha Beer for opening up their homes to us for our appetizer and entrée course and to Renee’ Holland & Valerie Harvey for hosting our dessert course at church and to Jill Brown & Kami Griffin for hosting our breakfast the next morning. You all are very appreciated!

We end 2018 and the very beginning of January with 11 of us heading to Winter Park, Colorado for a week of fun for our Senior High Ski Trip! When we return we’ll begin with new lessons about Life Choices and continue our lessons about what it means to “Go Beyond.” We invite all 7th - 12th graders to come join our awesome group!!! We have fun while learning what it means to be the hands & feet of Jesus plus understanding more about ourselves!

It is a blessing to be in ministry with all of the young people. Please keep them in your prayers. May you find JOY and peace in Christ as this new year begins. Shalom!

Christ above all, Lori



Snack Supper List:

January 6	FUMY
January 13	Natalie Gosdin
January 20	Renee Holland
January 27	Kristi Meeks



Dear Church Family,

We thank you so much for the wonderful Christmas bonuses. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. It is our privilege to serve in the ministries of First United Methodist Church in Monticello. What a blessing you are to each of us.

*Br. Hammett Lori Dalene Kathy Mary
Kathy Jennifer Michael Fern
Shelly Paula*

CONGRATULATIONS



Ember & John Davis
on the birth of their daughter

Grace Anne

born December 3, 2018
We rejoice with her parents
and big brother, John Lee.
We wish God's richest
blessings upon her life.

*We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Chris Harper in
the loss of his Grandmother, Audrey Pryor.*

*Memorials were given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of:*

Elvin Bates by: *Andy & April Davis*

Mildred Blocker by: *Randy & Gail Cockrell*

Vilma Crain by: *Kathy & James Tumlison*

Nola Johnson by: *David & Sandy Funderburg*

Susan Pemberton by: *Randy & Gail Cockrell,
Buck & Bennie Henderson*

Ronnie Twyford by: *David & Sandy Funderburg*

James White by: *Carl & Diane Lucky, Patty Ross*

Donations were made in honor of:

James Tumlison to the Prayer Garden Fund by:
anonymous giver

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