



# Epworth News

*God's Love in Action*  
*Growing Disciples through Compassionate Relationships*

**December 2013**

**Sunday Worship**

**8:30 a.m. Worship**  
**9:30 a.m. Sunday School**  
**10:30 a.m. Worship**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Church Phone**  
**740-387-8344**

**Rev. David L. Hoffman**  
Pastor

**Meredith Farson**  
Administrative Assistant

**Sharon Gilbert**  
Director of Ministries to  
Children and Families

**Paula Aparis**  
Financial Secretary

**Pat Murphy**  
Choral & Bell Director

**Kathy Walczak**  
Organist

**Connie Slob**  
Head Custodian

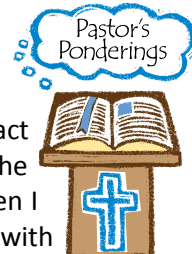
**Gerald Hanshaw**  
Custodian

**Sarah Daum**  
PS/DC Director

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**A Gift Given – A Gift to Give**



My twin brother, Doug, and I were used to getting the same, exact gifts each year for Christmas. If he received a toy, then I received the same toy—the exact same toy. If he received a shirt or a sweater, then I received the same shirt or sweater – the same design – sometimes with only a variation in color. This was just the way twins or multiples (or even siblings) were supposed to be treated or so I began to believe.

This lasted until we were around six years old when one Christmas, my grandfather gifted my twin brother with a toy rifle and me with a toy bow and arrow. I didn't verbalize it at the time, but I remember--instead of being thrilled and elated with joy--instead of being thankful for the gift, on the inside, I was devastated. How could my twin brother receive something different than me? How unfair! What was my grandfather thinking? The competition and arguing started almost the moment we unwrapped the gifts. Immediately, we were out to prove to each other that we--individually-- had the better gift, and in essence, had been showered with more love and attention by our grandfather. This was turning out to be something more than just the gift we had expected.

As if he had somehow planned it all along, our grandfather watched our reactions to his gifts. Then, he called us over, sat us down, and explained to us that even though we were twins – who looked alike and acted alike (this is still somewhat debatable)--that we were still individuals. He explained that as we grew up, we would have different needs and wants, and interests, and that was how it was supposed to be--and that it was okay. He told us that regardless of those things that made us similar or different, it would not change his love for us. That was a great gift – much more than the gift that we had expected to receive.

As we enter this season of gift giving, remember that gifts come in all shapes and sizes. The one that comes wrapped in a swaddling cloth has given all of us the greatest gift – the gift of love. Remember that regardless of those things that made us similar or different--God loves us! Let us share that love with others!

In Joyful Anticipation,

David

As we begin to look towards the New Year, you are invited to mark your calendars now for the Church Leadership Day that will take place on Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 12pm at the church. Everyone who serves on a committee of the church is invited to attend. This will serve as your committee's first meeting of the New Year. Thank you for your faithful service!

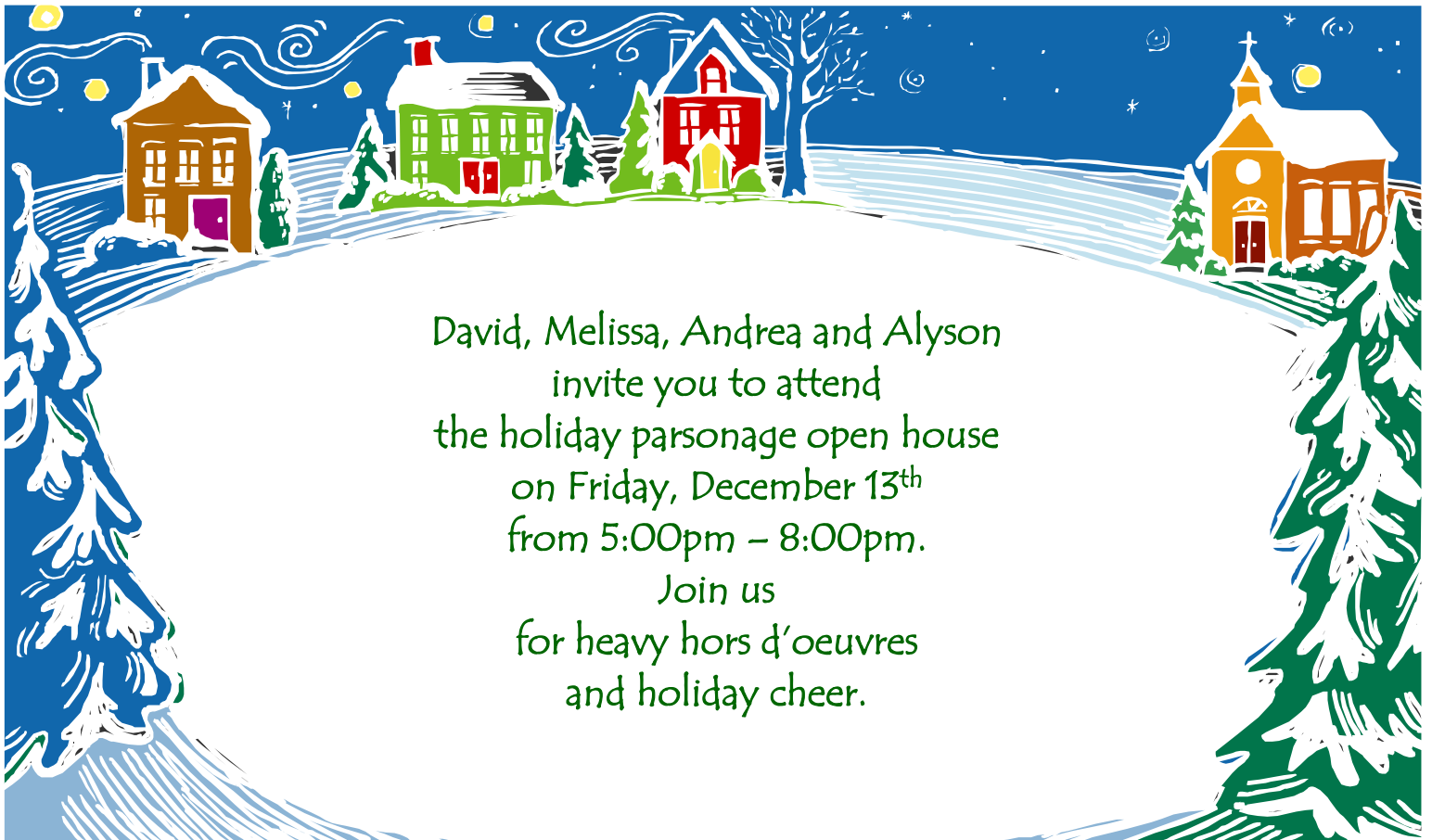




# Epworth Staff



*Wishes you a  
Joyous Christmas  
and a  
Safe New Year*



David, Melissa, Andrea and Alyson  
invite you to attend  
the holiday parsonage open house  
on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>  
from 5:00pm – 8:00pm.

Join us  
for heavy hors d'oeuvres  
and holiday cheer.

## Generosity Moment

One of my earliest memories of Sunday school at Epworth is bringing pennies on your birthday. I would bring in one penny for every year of age and it would be put in the little church bank. The steeple would light up as the class counted each penny you put in.

Generosity is something that is planted in our hearts as young children and grows as we grow in faith. Both our parents taught us that we share what we have and help other people as part of our faith. But sometimes, we are caught off guard by how generous others can be.

While working with our girls on some of the local and long distance work camps sponsored by Epworth, we met many people who despite having very little showed us great generosity. Whether it was a gift of cookies, a glass of Coke, a song or story they gave back so much more than we could give them.

Although we don't give of our time and resources to get something back, these encounters help us grow both in our faith and generosity. We learn about sharing what we have is important no matter what that happens to be. We also learn to be open to the generosity of others because the gifts that they are sharing may be just what God knows we need.

Dennis Williams

## Skipping Christmas...

Join Rev. Hoffman for a book discussion on John Grisham's short novel, *Skipping Christmas*, on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Rev. Hoffman has several copies of the book and it is also available at the Marion Public Library and on Amazon.

"Imagine a year without Christmas. No crowded malls, no corny office parties, no fruitcakes, no unwanted presents. That's just what Luther and Nora Krank have in mind when they decide that, just this once, they'll skip the holiday altogether. Theirs

will be the only house on Hemlock Street without a rooftop Frosty, they won't be hosting their annual Christmas Eve bash, they aren't even going to have a tree. They won't need one, because come December 25 they're setting sail on a Caribbean cruise. But as this weary couple is about to discover, skipping Christmas brings enormous consequences—and isn't half as easy as they'd imagined. A classic tale for modern times from a beloved storyteller, John Grisham's *Skipping Christmas* offers a hilarious look at the chaos and frenzy that have become part of our holiday tradition."



There are many opportunities to celebrate Christmas Eve at Epworth. Bring family and friends and join us in Celebrating the Birth of Jesus

4:30 pm Neighborhood Community Christmas Eve Service

5:15 pm Community Christmas Dinner  
◇ Open to everyone—no cost

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service  
◇ Pre-service music begins 6:45  
◇ The Children's Choir will sing during this service  
◇ Holy Communion and Candlelight Service  
◇ Child care is provided

11:00 pm Christmas Eve Services  
◇ Pre-service music begins at 10:45  
◇ The Bell Choir, Chancel Choir, and Brass Quartet will be a part of this service  
◇ Holy Communion and Candlelight Service





## Carey Ecumenical Christmas Concert

On Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm in the afternoon, there will be a concert of sacred Christmas music at the Basilica and Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey. Several of Epworth's Chancel Choir members are participating in the concert. The address for the Basilica is 315 Clay Street in Carey. Following the concert, there will be food available for purchase in the Shrine Cafeteria - directly across the street. An evening of beautiful music, plus dinner out!!! You can't beat that!!! Hope to see many of you there!

## Christmas Sanctuary Tour

PRESENTED BY LOVE INC OF MARION COUNTY

On Saturday, December 7, 2013, from 1:00—3:00 pm, Love Inc. will again present The "Christmas Sanctuary Tour". Churches who will open their Sanctuaries are:

First Presbyterian  
Prospect St. UMC  
Emanuel Lutheran  
Trinity Baptist  
First UCC  
St. Paul's Episcopal  
Epworth UMC

All churches will be open during the two hour period...visit where and when you would like.

All proceeds will help local people in need.

For tickets: \$10 per family / \$5 per individual  
Call Love Inc @38203340

Tuesday-Friday from 9:-11:30am

Tickets also available the day of the event at First Presbyterian Church and Emanuel Lutheran



## Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata Shout the Good News

The Epworth Chancel Choir will be presenting a cantata on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 Worship Service. Shout the Good News by Lloyd Larson tells the familiar Christmas story through song and narration. Kathy Walczak, our organist, will be using the piano, organ and keyboard to accompany the work. Wendy Weichenthal and Mark Murphy will serve as the narrators, and several members of the congregation will bring the characters mentioned in the narration to life. Choir members who will be singing special numbers are Jennie Dranschak, Kip Beals, Val Hedges, Ruth Coldwell, Don Coldwell, Bill Swihart, Juanita Shuck, Angela Hosp, Rick Baird, and Amy Erickson.

We hope you will join us for this special presentation of the Christmas story. Also, friends are welcome!!!







## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

When the advertisers are grabbing your kids' attention with ubiquitous slick toy ads, and your shopping list is nearly as long as your to-do list, it's a challenge to keep Jesus in the family Christmas. Yet, a simple child-friendly hands-on nativity set will encourage kids and parents to retell the story of the first Christmas. Epworth's traveling Las Posadas figurines will be making brief visits to homes in our congregation - another opportunity to keep the focus on the journey to Bethlehem and the birth of a new King. The Epworth Advent Family Workshop on December 7<sup>th</sup> will have Santa sharing his favorite story - the story of the first Christmas. Perhaps your family will participate in the Live Nativity at the fairgrounds on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Maybe this will be the year when each member of the family will do something kind for others as a birthday gift for the Christ child. Praying for the peace of Christ to be present in your home,.

Sharon



## THE ADVENT FAMILY WORKSHOP AN EPWORTH TRADITION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DEC. 7<sup>TH</sup>

Mark your calendars for the morning of Saturday, December 7, 10:00am for the Advent Family Workshop. Each year the Children's Council plans a morning of activities to share the meaning of the first Christmas. Children, ages 3 - 12, and their parents/grandparents (or other special adults) will hear *Santa's Favorite Story*, told by Santa himself. Each child will create Chrismons - special ornaments that are beautiful symbols of the life of Jesus - to decorate Epworth's children's tree and their tree at home. A special play area will invite our youngest children to pretend they are caring for the baby

Jesus in the nativity. Music and a lunch of mac and cheese will complete the morning. At Epworth, children and their special grownups will experience the message of love and hope that came with the birth of a new kind of King.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Children's Choir will sing for Christmas worship at Kingston of Marion at 6:00pm on Monday, December 23. Parents are asked to provide transportation to Kingston and to arrive at 5:45pm. Following the worship service, the choir will be treated to a pizza party.

The Children's Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Ruth Coldwell, will also sing on Christmas Eve at the 7:00pm service. Thank you, children, for celebrating the birth of Jesus with the gift of your music!

## CALENDAR DATES FOR BUSY PARENTS

### Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Children's Council @ 6:30pm

### Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

Advent Family Workshop @ 10:00am

### Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

Living Nativity at Marion Co. Fairgrounds @ 6:00pm

### Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

Children's choir sings during the 10:30am worship

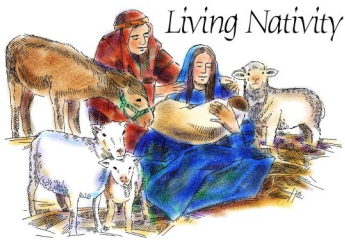
### Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>

Children's choir @ Kingston, at 6:00pm followed by pizza party for the Children's Choir

### Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

Children's choir sings @ 7:00pm worship





**Christmas by Candlelight  
- Live Nativity at the  
Marion County  
Fairgrounds**

Epworth UMC has been invited to staff the Living Nativity at the Marion County Fairgrounds on Sunday, December 15th from 6:00-7:30p. We will do two 45 minute shifts and need volunteers to work from 6:00pm-6:45pm or 6:45pm - 7:30pm. Dress warmly. All costumes go on over the top of your winter wear. Or volunteer for both shifts and we will have enough people to offer breaks every 30 minutes. We are also looking for food donations for workers for when they take a break to warm up!

We need at least:

1-3 angels .....2-4 shepherds .....Mary & Joseph  
Wisemen- 3 .....Carolers – optional

Please email me [alyorcena@gmail.com](mailto:alyorcena@gmail.com) or call 740.386.2193 to sign up.

**REMIND 101**

Parents, grandparents, and children's ministry volunteers: Want to get text reminders and updates about Epworth children's ministry happenings? Remind 101 is our new one-way mass text messaging service. With this free service, we can send short text messages to your phone (or email, if you prefer) that will let you know of children's ministry event dates, times, details, last minute updates, Sunday School happenings, musical info, what to bring, etc. *You must sign up to receive these messages.* It's easy! It's free - though your regular texting fees will still apply. Grab your cellphone.

- Text 614-347-1689.
- Then, enter this code for "Epworth kids" messages: @epwort
- Enter this code for "Children's Choir" messages: @9655d

This is a "Safe Sanctuary" system, so if your older children have cell phones, you may sign them up, too. Epworth's Remind 101 will be used for events and activities that are appropriate for children and their families.

**PHOTO POLICY**

In order to protect children and youth, it is our Safe Sanctuary policy not to identify minors by name when we use a photo in which they appear. However, parents, if you prefer that we not use photos of your child/youth, please contact Sharon Gilbert, Director of Ministries to Children & Families. [sgilbert@epworthumc.org](mailto:sgilbert@epworthumc.org)

**THANK YOU**

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the many cards and messages at the time of my retirement. I have appreciated your sentiments of love and kind thoughts. It has been a joy for me to serve my church in such a meaningful way for the past twenty seven years. I am enjoying my time with my family and look forward to serving God in the next adventure.

Onward and upward!

Love,  
Robin Rick

Thank You,

Thank you Epworth Church for my new Adventure Bible. It came in handy later Sunday evening when the tornado warnings came through and my family went in the basement. I took it down there for safe keeping and just in case we needed it. I look forward to reading it and using it in church. Thank you.

Nicholas Orcena





### United Methodist Women Women-In-Action

The leaves have all been swept away and all around us we see the signs of Christmas. The jars from the soup sale have been washed and put away for another

year, the lovely Buckeye quilt adorns the home of Amy Hayes (a devout Buckeye fan!), the delicious baked goods have all been eaten, and the craft items will be cherished gifts. So ends another year's fundraiser for missions, both local and global. At our last meeting, a list of beneficiaries included: Marion Homeless Shelter, Salvation Army, Turning Point, Christmas Eve Dinner, Chapel Hill House, and UMCOR for relief in the Philippines, Epworth Preschool and Daycare will be recipient early in the New Year. A full year-end report will be posted on the UMW bulletin board with thanks for all the church family support.

The four weeks of Advent are a period of grace-giving preparation for the greatest of Christian festivals...Christmas. Each week another holy candle glows in the Advent wreath reminding us, in all its simplicity, to be ready for the Christ Child. According to an old church liturgical calendar, a Collect was read on the first Sunday of Advent.."Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the grateful hearts of thy faithful people"...It has been said that some took this as a reminder to begin their Christmas baking!

May the words remind us to 'stir up our hearts' to the meaning of Christmas. Amidst all the many invitations that vie for our time...put the date of December 9 at 7:00 pm on your calendar right now...and join the women of Epworth at the home of Amy Hayes (2902 Smeltzer Rd. Marion; tel: 225-0672) for a fantastic evening of fun, food, and friendship. Bring a snack to share and a Christmas ornament for a gift exchange (\$5 maximum cost)

GOD BLESS YOU...EVERYONE.

Joy Boyer

**\*\*Mark your calendars now for the SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT...May 14-15, 2014, at Our Lady of the Pines, Fremont, Ohio. Kathy Swanger will be the Retreat Leader. More details will be included in the January newsletter, but space is limited, so be ready to sign up!**



### PRAYER QUILTS WERE MADE FOR

- ◇ **David Thompson** for recovery and good health
- ◇ **An 8-year old girl** for healing, recovery, strength and comfort as she recovers from brain surgery
- ◇ **Bill Kimpton** for continued healing, comfort and freedom of pain
- ◇ **Marty Dunn** for healing, remission, and strength

### Epworth United Methodist Church 2014 Grant Application

Recognizing the importance of higher education, Epworth United Methodist Church will award grants to church members for the pursuit of their first undergraduate degree at a 2 or 4 year college or university.

Any person who is a member of Epworth United Methodist Church may apply.

The Grant Committee will choose recipients based on the following criteria:

Church Involvement  
Financial Need  
Personal Statement  
Family Involvement at Epworth

Scholarship amounts are determined each year by the number of qualified applicants and the funds available.

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RETURNED BY MONDAY,  
FEBRUARY 10, 2014.**



## ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UPS

The Worship Committee is instituting an annual Flower Calendar and everyone will be given the opportunity to participate in providing Altar Flowers in memory or in honor of Loved Ones. The Flower Calendar is posted outside the Church Office. You will receive a reminder from the Church Office that you have signed up to provide Altar Flowers at least one week prior to that Sunday. At that time, you will be asked the name(s) of the individual(s) that you would like to memorialize or honor. Sign up today.



It is Christmas every time  
you let God love others  
through you...yes, it is  
Christmas every time you  
smile at your brother and offer him your hand.

### --Mother Teresa

Last month, Epworth Preschool and Daycare collected food and personal hygiene products that were donated to the food pantry at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. We urged our students' parents to talk to their children about the fact that not all people have the comforts of a warm home and food to eat. We believe that teaching children to care for others is an important job for parents and educators. Thank you to all of you who opened your hearts and gave generously for this worthy cause.

Epworth Preschool and Daycare celebrated Grandparent's Day on November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. We had an enjoyable time sharing with these family members what a typical day is like here at Epworth. Time was spent with Connie Slob in Music and Motion class, grandparents got to experience the classroom environment and routine, and we delighted in one another's company over snacks and crafts. A special thanks to our Grandparent's Day volunteers: Jack & Kathy Shoaf, Jed and Linda Middleton, Donna Coale, Pam Douce, Peg O'Brien, Jeannine Caudill, Andy Harper, and Jeanne Howison.

Thank you to everyone that participated in our holiday greenery sale. We appreciate the effort and time that everyone put in. All proceeds from this fundraiser go toward the betterment of our children's educational experience here at Epworth.

This month Epworth Preschool and Daycare will be hosting our Annual Gingerbread House Event. The Daycare will be celebrating this event December 10<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30 in Fellowship Hall. The preschool will be celebrating this event on December 11<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 1:30 in Fellowship Hall. Children are welcome to bring with them two special adults. We will be serving yummy food, decorating our ginger bread houses, and making memories with loved ones. This is a fun tradition and we look forward to seeing many smiling faces here.

Epworth Preschool will not be in session starting December 16<sup>th</sup>. We will resume classes on January 6<sup>th</sup>. We hope that everyone enjoys this special time with family and friends remembering the true reason for the season. Epworth Daycare will be closed on December 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Day) and January 1<sup>st</sup> (New Year's Day).





**SAVE THE DATE - January 12, 2014  
for a very special  
"After Christmas - Christmas Concert"  
and luncheon**

Make plans now to enjoy a catered lunch and a concert of Christmas music, performed by Epworth members and friends, immediately following the 10:30 service.

A free will offering will be collected. All proceeds will go toward Imagine No Malaria.

For more information about this event or the Imagine No Malaria campaign, email: [ImagineNoMalaria@epworthumc.org](mailto:ImagineNoMalaria@epworthumc.org)

**UMC Market**

UMC Market is a new way to generate income for our congregation by doing something you are probably already doing, shopping online. This Micro-Donation program rewards you for shopping at over 1000 online retailers by donating a percentage of the money you spend directly back to Epworth UMC.

Participation in UMC Market is free and easy. Just follow a few simple steps:

- 1) Log on to [www.UMCmarket.org](http://www.UMCmarket.org)
- 2) Create an account by entering your email address and a password.
- 3) Enter: **EPWORTH MARION** in the "Find Your Church" box
- 4) Select "Join Organization" to designate Epworth Marion.

That's all there is to it! Now you are ready to start earning rewards to support our congregation.

Each time you shop online remember to log into your UMC Market account first and then select the STORES tab to choose the stores where you want to shop. Complete your purchases as you normally would and a portion of your purchase will automatically be credited to Epworth.



## Inquiring minds want to know...

### Why do Epworth members help with the Christmas Eve Dinner?

A survey of some of Epworth's participants yielded these responses:

- Jesus calls us to serve others – what better time than Christmas?
- It is a wonderful way for our family to share the Christmas spirit with others.
- The smiles of the guests who attend warm my heart.
- Being part of Epworth's long tradition of providing the meal and fellowship is a blessing to both the recipients and the givers.
- It is more than a meal – it is the gift of hospitality and caring.
- Watching the guests enjoy the tasty meals and Santa's visit with presents is a joy to me.
- Christmas is all about giving and sharing God's love with others in our community.

If you have helped in the past, we hope you are planning to help again this year and if you have never helped with the dinner, you are encouraged to join us in making a difference in the lives of our neighbors in Marion. The opportunities for participation are listed below.

#### Christmas Eve Dinner Volunteers

*I (we) would like to help with:*

- ☐ Preparation of fellowship hall (setting up tables and preparing place settings)
- ☐ Clean-up (during and after dinner)
- ☐ Providing 2 dozen home baked cookies (to the church kitchen by 10 AM on December 24)
- ☐ Preparing plates of cookies (10 AM on December 24)
- ☐ Cooking and other kitchen tasks (help is needed a few days before and all day on December 24)
- ☐ Welcoming and serving our guests
- ☐ I want to help but need more information. Please contact me.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



December 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Las Posadas Begins 2:00pm Handel's Messiah practice 7:00pm Handel's Messiah (Sanctuary)	2 Piano Tuning 5:00pm Marion Matters - Getting Ahead Transition meetings (Rm. 109) 6:00pm Surviving the Holidays - GriefShare - dinner served 7:00pm Spiritual Formation (Rm. 210) 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Rm. 106)	3 No SPRC No Staff Meeting 7:30am Men's Breakfast 6:30pm DivorceCare Child Care (Rm. 201) 6:30pm DivorceCare (Rm. 205) 6:30pm Children's Council (Rm. 210) 6:30pm DC4K (Rms. 204 & 206)	4 1:15pm PSDC Teachers meeting (Rm. 301) 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Bible Study (Rm. 205) 7:00pm Chancel Choir (Rm. 112) 7:00pm Nar-Anon (Rm. 106)	5 10:00am Bible Study (Rm. 210)	6 8:00am Ohio Dept. of Education Teachers Training (Rm. 109 & 111) 7:30pm Christmas at the Palace	7 9:00am PSDC Step Up Training (Rm. 301) 10:00am Advent Workshop (Rm. 109) 11:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry (Rm. 111) 1:00pm Love Inc's Tour of the Sanctuary (Sanctuary) 7:30pm Christmas at the Palace
8 2:30pm Christmas at the Palace 4:30pm Concert at Carey	9 9:00am Preschool Caroling (Rm. 205) 5:00pm Marion Matters - Getting Ahead Transition meetings (Rm. 109) 7:00pm UMW & AMI at Amy Hayes 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Rm. 106)	10 7:30am Men's Breakfast 11:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Evelyn Kendall Circle at at Judy Daum's home 4:00pm Quilt Class (Rm. 111) 5:30pm Daycare Gingerbread (Rm. 109) 7:00pm "Skipping Christmas" Study (Rm. 205)	11 11:00am Preschool (Rm. 106) 12:00pm Preschool Gingerbread (Rm. 109) 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Bible Study (Rm. 205) 7:00pm Chancel Choir (Rm. 112) 7:00pm Nar-Anon (Rm. 106)	12 10:00am Bible Study (Rm. 210) 5:30pm Circles: Allies & Families (Rms. 109 & 106) 6:00pm Quilt Class (Rm. 111)	13 5:00pm Parsonage Open House	14 10:00 am Connie Stob - BD for Phyllis (Rm. 109)
15 10:30 am Choir Christmas Cantata 6:00pm Live Nativity at the Fairgrounds	16 NEWSLETTER INFORMATION DUE No Lay Leadership No Preschool 5:00pm Marion Matters - Getting Ahead Transition meetings (Rm. 109) 6:00pm PSDC Board at home of Jeannine Caudill 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Rm. 106)	17 No Preschool 7:30am Men's Breakfast 11:00am Staff Lunch at Sharon's 11:30am Cents for Children (Rm. 111) No Finance Committee	18 No Preschool 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Bible Study (Rm. 205) 7:00pm Nar-Anon (Rm. 106) 7:00pm Trustees (Rm. 210) 7:00pm Chancel Choir (Rm. 112)	19 No Preschool 10:00am Bible Study (Rm. 210) No Administrative Board	20 No Preschool	21
22 Children's Choir Singing	23 No Preschool 6:00pm Worship Service at Kingston - children's choir singing 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Rm. 106) Missions Committee	24 No Preschool No Staff Meeting No Men's Breakfast CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 4:30pm Neighborhood Community Christmas Eve Service 5:15pm Community Christmas Dinner 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service 11:00pm Christmas Eve Service	25 CHRISTMAS CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED PRESCHOOL/DAYCARE CLOSED	26 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED DAYCARE OPEN No Preschool	27 No Preschool	28
29 4:30pm Zoo Lights Outing	30 No Preschool 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Rm. 106)	31 No Preschool 7:30am Men's Breakfast 11:00am Staff Meeting	01/01/2014 NEW YEAR'S DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED PRESCHOOL/DAYCARE CLOSED	01/02/2014 No Preschool 10:00am Bible Study (Rm. 210)	01/03/2014 No Preschool	01/04/2014 9:00am Undecorate the church 11:00am Prayer Quilt Ministry (Rm. 111)
5 Epiphany	6 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Rm. 106)	7 7:30am Men's Breakfast 11:00am Staff Meeting 5:15pm Neighborhood Supper (St. Paul's Episcopal)	8 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Bible Study (Rm. 205) 7:00pm Nar-Anon (Rm. 106) 7:00pm Chancel Choir (Rm. 112)	9 10:00am Bible Study (Rm. 210) 5:30pm Circles: Allies & Families (Rms. 109 & 106) 6:00pm Quilt Class (Rm. 111)	10 8:00am Ohio Dept. Education Teachers Training (Rm. 109 & 111) 6:00pm Staff Epiphany Party at Parsonage	11 9:00am Church Leadership Day (Rm. 109)

# Epworth News

*Epworth United Methodist Church*

249 East Center Street

Marion, Ohio 43302-3873

Rev. David L. Hoffman, Pastor

Sharon Gilbert, Dir. of Ministries to Children & Families

Sarah Daum, Director Epworth Preschool & Daycare

Non-Profit Organization  
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Permit No. 41

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Mailing Label Here



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*There are many opportunities  
to celebrate Christmas Eve at Epworth.  
Bring family and friends and  
join us in Celebrating the Birth of Jesus*

4:30 pm Neighborhood Community Christmas Eve Service

5:15 pm Community Christmas Dinner

◇ Open to everyone—no cost

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

- ◇ Pre-service music begins 6:45
- ◇ The Children's Choir will sing during this service
- ◇ Holy Communion and Candlelight Service
- ◇ Child care is provided

11:00 pm Christmas Eve Services

- ◇ Pre-service music begins at 10:45
- ◇ The Bell Choir, Chancel Choir, and Brass Quartet will be a part of this service
- ◇ Holy Communion and Candlelight Service