Our Mission Statement: “Called together by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim God’s presence and love in the world through prayer, worship, education and service. We invite children, youth, and adults to become disciples of Jesus Christ, live fully in the Holy Spirit, and embrace God’s love.”

NESDAY IN CHURCH THIS SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 19, 2017
8:15 and 10:45 a.m. Worship Services
9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Sermon: “Full of Fear”
Tom Byford

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

Anthem:
8:15 Prayer of Saint Gregory
Robert Allison, trumpet
10:45 Anthem of Thanksgiving
Sanctuary Choir and trumpets

Hymns:
62 All Creatures of Our God and King
555 Forward Through the Ages
413 A Charge to Keep I Have
102 Now Thank We All Our God

Altar flowers this week are given by Jody Christopher
In memory of her father and brother.

Indoor Greeters: Sam, Katie and Guy Indorante and Carolyn Gibson.

Acolytes: 10:45 John and Madison Voss

Sound System Operators:
8:15 Scott Wright; 10:45 Mike Hanes

Liturgists:
8:15 Duane Stucky; 10:45 Della Fulk

November Ushers:
8:15 Mike Durr, Joyce & Mike Vancil
10:45 Mary Beth Aguilar, Wilma Davis, Phil Gilbert

Approaching Thanksgiving stirs up many great memories and emotions. Most everyone looks forward to great food and good company. Some look forward to football. Others have traditions of hunting or shopping. It’s true; we have many great ways to enjoy the upcoming holiday.

But for some, the holidays aren’t great. Not every family enjoys their time together. Some folks have as many bad memories as good. For some of us, our current situation just doesn’t stack up to what we remember from years past.

Now is a good time to remember Philippians 4:6+7:
Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The first step in combating your anxiety is to tell God about it. He already knows what you need. He already knows how you feel. But, there is still power in speaking to God about your issues.

If you can’t stand your in-laws, talk to God about that before your visit. If you expect frustrating conversations, ask God for patience. If you are being reminded of loss during this season, tell God about how you feel.

I’m not saying that you need to act like there aren’t any problems. That isn’t a healthy way to deal with things. But, we need to guard against being negative about everything. The Scripture doesn’t say to just grin and bear it. We aren’t told that all of our problems will be erased if we pray.

What we are promised is peace. Not just any peace, but “the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding.” If we have a hard time believing this promise, it is probably because we can’t imagine peace in our situation. That’s what is so great about the promise that we can have peace. It isn’t logical, rational, naturally occurring peace that God gives us. What we can gain from our prayers and reliance on God is the peace that is beyond comprehension. We get the peace that doesn’t make sense. We get to enjoy the peace that shouldn’t exist in our circumstances, except that God creates it and gives it to us.

Let us remember to lift all things, good and bad, large or small, up to God in prayer. May you find that God’s promise is true. May we all know the peace that passes understanding.

Tom
**Southern Ecuador Trip:** Due to a cancellation, there is an opening for another individual in the Southern Ecuador tour, offered by John A Logan College and coordinated by Nelda Hinckley. This popular 9-day, 8-night birding and nature tour is December 29, 2017 - January 6, 2018. Please contact Nelda Hinckley at 618-549-5588 or 549-7335, ext. 8820 or by email at neldahinckley@jalc.edu.

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**Soup Suppers**

Please join in our celebration of the Advent season which features the Vesper services. Soup/chili supper will be hosted after two of the Vesper services. The **Investors** Sunday school class will host a soup supper on **December 10th**. The Grateful Hearts small group and Renew Sunday school class will host a soup supper on **December 17th**. The suppers start at 5:30 p.m. and will be held in Fellowship Hall at the conclusion of each Music Vesper service on those dates.

We invite you to enjoy a warm bowl of soup and/or chili and fellowship after the special music of the Vesper services. The suppers feature soup or chili, bread, selected beverages, and a dessert (including sugar free), for a cost of $5 for those over 10 years of age; $3 for those ages 5-10. There is no cost for children under age five.

Instead of using tickets, separate sign-up sheets for both suppers will be available in the Narthex beginning November 26th. Please sign up! Payment is made at the door in Fellowship Hall upon arrival for each soup supper.

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**Families in Progress**

Families in Progress will continue the Christmas tradition of going **CHRISTMAS CAROLING** in honor and memory of Normagene Warner, retired pastor Bill Warner’s beloved wife. Meet at the church at 5:00 p.m. We will load the bus and set out for our shut-in destinations. Afterwards, we will have dinner together at IV’s.

**Please RSVP** for the family, so we have a head count. We hope you can join us!

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**Disciples for Sunday, November 19, 2017**

**Outside Greeters:** Sandy Gobert, Jon Gobert  **Van Drivers:** Dan Anderson III, Don Bryant  **Welcome Center:** 8:15 Jean Boehne; 10:45 Debbie Asaturian  **Coffee Hosts:** 8:15 Susan & Don Frey; 10:45 Allison & Trent Funk  **Nursery:** Tabitha Koch  **Children's Church:** K-2nd Susan Grotts; 3rd-5th Linda & Rob Lucas  **Children’s Church Registration:** Amy & Doug Baker  **November Nametags:** Betty Graig

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**Save the Date**

**Friday, December 15**

**THE BOY SCOUTS** will be collecting old/tattered flags for an upcoming Flag Retirement Ceremony

Please bring your old or tattered flags to the church office by December 10th so that they may be included in this ceremony.

Thank you, Joe Hudgins
Thursday, November 21, Morning Circle, 9:30 a.m.
Hostess: Mary Chew, Breakfast at Sunny Street Café; Presentation by Tom Byford, Good Thinking - Good Living

UMW November Events

Youth are Invited . . .

YOUTH EVENT
November 19 • 2:00 p.m.

6th - 12th grade students are invited to head to Fellowship Hall after the second service for pizza and mega fun - probably more fun than anyone can handle. Please let Tom know if you plan to attend so he can estimate food needed.

PLACE YOUR POINSETTIA ORDER NOW!
The tradition of decorating the Church with poinsettias continues. You may either order a poinsettia through the church or make your own arrangements. If ordering through the church, please order early to insure the size and color you want! Orders and all memorial information must be in the Church Office by 12:00 Noon, Monday, December 4, 2017. If making your own arrangements, please wrap the pot in foil and bring the plant in during office hours on December 11, 12 or by noon on the 13th.

For further information, contact Claudia Broom (457-4855).

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Name: ___________________________ Daytime Phone: ___________________________

I will be bringing a poinsettia ______ and I would like to order the following:

Regular Size (6") ___________ Large Size (8") ___________

$10.00 ___________ $23.00 ___________

Enclosed is cash or a check made out to First UMC in the amount of $ ______

_____ in honor of ____________________________

_____ in memory of ____________________________

_____ other (please state) ____________________________

_____ I will pick up after the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service on Sunday, December 24th.

Additional forms may be found in the Church Office, the Welcome Center in the Narthex, or at www.fumc-cdale.org/Resources/Current Forms

MARCH TO THE MANGER • SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017

The children will be bringing unwrapped gifts to be presented at March to the Manger on Sunday, Dec. 10, during both services. These gifts will be taken to Jesús es el Señor, the Hispanic Ministry in Cobden, for distribution to children in their community. Please bring your unwrapped gifts and leave them at the manger during either service.

New Items Only Please:

- Toy cars & trucks
- Dolls
- Toy dishes
- Soccer balls
- Basketball
- Footballs
- Educational toys, puzzles and games
- Christian children’s books
- Christian music CD’s
- Christian DVD’s
- Toddler Toys
- Building blocks

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“Dude, You Hear What I Hear?”

at the

Around the Table Carol Sing

Sunday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m.

BRING A PLATE OF COOKIES TO SHARE AND PLAN TO JOIN US

Invite your family and friends to join in the festivities as we sing in the blessed season, share some cookies, a cup of hot chocolate or coffee, and enjoy, as the children present the true meaning of Christmas.

The children will be singing a few of the songs at the beginning of Children’s Church each week during November. Pick up a practice CD.

If Necia has not spoken with you or your child about taking part in this year’s program, please contact her at neciaj@fumc-cdale.org

REHEARSAL (Preschool - 5th grade) is Sunday, December 3, in Fellowship Hall during the 10:45 a.m. worship

Parents and children are invited to join us

STORYTIME

Wednesdays 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Diane Dorsey Memorial Children’s Library

Join Ms. Jane for stories, music, games, and crafts as we learn about the Bible and how Jesus taught us to live and love.
Gratitude

"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus."
(I Thessalonians 5:18)

This verse tells us to be thankful in all things, not thankful for all things. In this season of thanksgiving, let us remember that a grateful heart is essential for good mental and spiritual health.

When the good in our lives turns to bad, our free-flowing praise and thanksgiving to God can suddenly turn into grumbling and complaining. It is easy to turn our focus from God to ourselves. A thankful heart understands that God is always working for us – even when we can’t see the whole picture, and when we wish He was using a different approach. Many times, we think we know what is best, only to find that God knows better.

Are there some circumstances in your life that you have been unable to be thankful for? Thank God for each one and see what happens.

- Excerpts from “Today is the First Day” by Carole Lewis

**THANKSGIVING DINNER OPPORTUNITIES**

**Newman Catholic Student Center** has worked for the past 48 years to serve a Thanksgiving meal in Carbondale. They will probably serve about 800 meals to those in need this year if the averages of previous years are a guide. Help is needed in several areas. Publicize the meal by word of mouth, donate food items (only store-bought or commercially prepared items can be accepted), support the meal with a financial contribution, volunteer to help serve and clean up on Thanksgiving Day, or assist with preliminary preparations for the meal (starting Tuesday, November 21). To donate, volunteer, or have a meal delivered, please call 618-529-3311 by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22.

**Eagle House Ministries** in Buncombe will hold its 24th annual dinner on Thanksgiving Day. Doors open for helpers to prepare food at 8:30 a.m., begin dishing up meals at 10:30 a.m., begin delivering meals at 11:00 a.m., serve helpers and those who eat at Eagle House at 12:30 p.m. Donations for the purchase of food and volunteers to make desserts are needed. Eagle House is located at 3590 State Route 37 North, Buncombe, IL 62912. You can place an order or volunteer by calling 618-658-8116 or 618-658-1700.

**Marion Medical Mission** is hosting a Chili Supper Fundraiser and silent/live auction on November 19, 5:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 1200 S. Carbon, Marion, IL. The Medical Mission provides safe, healthy water sources to the people of Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia. FUMC has provided funding for two or more of these African wells for several years. Local volunteers who have traveled to Africa will share their experiences.

Thanks for your ongoing support that permits FUMC to support a wide variety of agencies locally and across the world.

**PARISH NURSE COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Gratitude**

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**SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**Children’s Opportunities**

**Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School** - (K - 5th grade) uses Deep Blue from Cokesbury. The morning begins with music at 9:30 a.m. in Room 415.

**Sundays at 10:45 a.m. Children’s Church** - (K - 5th grade). All children are invited to Children’s Church following the Children’s Time at the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

**November Children’s Church** -
Anchor Point: We can ask God for what we need.
Bible Verse: God gave Solomon wisdom and very great understanding. (I Kings 4:29)

**Youth Opportunities, 9:30 a.m.**

**Faith development through Bible lessons, emphasizing a relationship with God through Jesus.**

**Middle School**

meets in Room 410 and uses On the Go.

**High School Class**

meets in Room 409 and uses a variety of materials connecting the lessons of the Bible with issues relevant to today’s youth.

**Adult Opportunities, 9:30 a.m.**

**Renew** - Renew is a group of women seeking deeper meaning in their lives through Bible study, reflection, and prayer. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 402. Women of all ages are welcome.

**The Investors Class** - Investors is an intergenerational class for all adults. They are beginning a new study, "All the Places to Go!" by John Ortberg. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 404. Everyone welcome!

**The Electives Class** - Scripture studies are led by John Sims. They meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. Join us!

**Small Group Opportunities**

**The Daniel Plan**

meets in Room 402 at 9:00 a.m. on most Tuesdays. Check the church calendar.

Everyone welcome.

**Grateful Hearts**

will meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., Room 308 soon. They are studying Creed, What Christians Believe and Why, by Adam Hamilton.

**Youth Group**

meets at 6:00 p.m. weekly on Wednesdays in Room 409 and Fellowship Hall.

2017 Advent Bible Study
Beginning Sunday, November 26, 9:30 a.m.

**Awaiting the Already (An Advent Journey Through the Gospels)** by Magrey R. deVega.

**Electives Class** - joins Pastor Alan in the Heritage Room.

**Renew Class** - participates in the study in their classroom, Room 308.

**Investors Class** - meets in the Chapel.