

A Great Heritage...

A Great Future...

DECEMBER



DAN D. LINES

By Dr. Dan Darby, Pastor



As of November 22nd, there had been at least 607 mass shootings in the United States this year. A mass shooting is one in which at least four persons are shot, excluding the shooter. That is about two a day. It is a uniquely American disease. Have you ever wondered why we have this pattern of gun violence in the United States? What is causing our people, many of them young adults, to take up arms against their fellow citizens? Could it be a lack of hope? A lack of hope for the future, for happiness, for inner tranquility, for the ability to forgive and love, and for a relationship with the Divine? Could it be that the perpetrators had given up hope of ever amounting to anything in life? So many shooters have been bullied and picked on and have met with one failure after another in life. In picking up a gun they feel a sense of power, however temporary and shallow. The power gives them some hope of feeling significant. A lack of hope for the future filled with meaning may have something to do with the insanely high levels of violence in our country.

This is a bleak topic for the days leading up to Christmas, but the subject is not unlike the hopelessness people were feeling in the days of the birth of Christ, when they were cruelly oppressed by the Romans. From the darkness of what was probably a cave in Bethlehem emerged a great beacon of hope that has given millions of people through countless ages a cause to live. The child born and placed in the manger has brought light and life to all humankind. Those who come to him will find eternal significance as the children of God. They will be given a reason to live! Christ will give them the power to rise out of the darkness of depression and despondency and give them the faith that there is a God who loves them and has a higher calling upon their lives.

Christmas is a great time to let your light shine. One of our friends has organized a neighborhood tree lighting by the mailboxes in our subdivision. She has asked Paula to lead in some Christmas carols. Let your light shine!

Some of you are decorating your houses and businesses with manger scenes. Let your light shine! Some of you are inviting your friends to come and worship with us during this season. Let your light shine! How can you bring hope to someone who needs to see the light? Let *your* light shine!

Come and join us as we celebrate light, joy, hope, peace, and love during this season.

Pastor Dan

In Worship

In December, our study of Adam Hamilton's book, [Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph](#) will form the themes of our worship services, except for December 11, which will be our cantata. On December 11, we will worship together in the fellowship hall to facilitate our cantata at the normal hour of 10:00 a.m. The cantata "**Joy to the World: A Celebration of Carols**" features seven of our best-loved carols. It will be presented to our chancel choir and a few guest singers. Georgia Lapp will accompany the choir on the piano. The cantata itself will be 25 minutes long, but we will also have other features of the worship service to include a presentation by Mary Beth Kaulk, representing the Methodist Children's Home (MCH). We will learn something about this ministry to our neediest young people. We will receive a special offering for MCH on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Eve is on a Saturday this year and our service will be at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. We will have one service only.

Christmas Day and New Year's Day are both on Sundays. We will have worship services as normal at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Inquirers' Class

We will begin a new series of Inquirers' classes on Sunday, January 8, at 8:45 a.m. This class is for anyone wanting to know about the Christian faith, the Methodist tradition, our beliefs, the history of both the universal and local church, the structure of the church, and how things work in our congregation. We will meet every Sunday for about two months until we finish the coursework. The class will also serve as a confirmation class for older children and youth, so persons of any age are welcome. Mark your calendars now and plan to be a part of the class!

Pastoral Search Committee

We've never done it this way before! Pastors have always been appointed to the church by the bishop, so we have never had a Pastoral Search Committee! However, as the congregation transfers to the Global Methodist affiliation as of January 1, 2023, the church will have more of a say in the process of selecting a new pastor for the congregation. Dr. Darby will continue as the pastor until his retirement on July 1, 2023, and a new pastor will be needed at that time. To that end a Pastoral Search Committee has been formed. Members include Sandra McQuiggin, Chairperson, Pat Hitt, Paul Herndon, Darnell Schreiber, Tyra Swanson, Dave Bailey, Robb Trapp, Dillon Arnold, Tod Harrison, Frank McMurrey, and Pat Clark. Pastor Darby serves as a non-voting member. The group has met three times so far, including one meeting with the Rev. Jim Welch, President Pro-tem of the Eastern Conference of the Global Methodist Church. Rev. Welch is advising the group regarding our process, will supply the committee with candidates, and must approve and appoint a pastor selected by the committee. The next meeting of the group will be on December 8th during which Tyra Swanson will present a suggested process chart. On January 4th the group will meet to approve the final form of a survey to be presented to the congregation on Sunday, January 8. The intent of the survey is to solicit input from the congregation regarding the characteristics and qualities of a pastor which would meet the needs of the congregation.

Love Offering for Methodist Children's Home



The Missions Ministry will be asking for a Love Offering during the Christmas Eve Service to support the Methodist Children's Home in Waco Texas. Founded in 1890, MCH is a nationally accredited, nonprofit childcare ministry that relies on the generosity and support of individuals and churches which empowers all we serve to experience life to the fullest. Throughout our history, MCH has been blessed with resources that have enabled us to provide the highest quality of care and facilities for children and youth. Today, MCH serves children and youth through residential programs on the Waco campus and Boys Ranch, and through foster care, transition services and a variety of services in communities.

For more information: <https://www.mch.org>

Thank you for your donations to support children and families.



Community Christmas Families Event

On December 9 the Community Christmas Family Event will be held at the SJC Relief Center. Families will receive Angel Tree gifts and food items for their Holiday meal.

Thank you to everyone who provided angel gifts or donations to pay for food items.

Please pray for this team of people who are serving *the Lord* to support children and families in COCISD for Christmas.

STILL COLLECTING...Blanket and Coat Collection

Do you have slightly used blankets or coats you no long need?



Please donate your clean slightly used coats and blankets!!

You can place the items on the Mission Cabinet.

From all of us in the Missions Ministry

Thank You for all your support and donations during 2022.

This is an amazing church with generous and loving members serving in the name of the Lord. God's Blessings on you all for 2023.

Yours in Christ

Vicki Jowell



Christmas Is...

Kay Hoffman

Christmas is holly
 And gay mistletoe;
 Christmas is tinsel
 And soft candle glow!
 Christmas is cookies
 And candy cane treats;
 It's the warm cheery greeting For friends that we meet.
 Christmas is children
 With faces aglow;
 It's Santa and reindeer
 And new-fallen snow.
 It's tissue and seals
 And bright colored string;
 It's greeting cards and presents And the carols we sing.
 Yes, Christmas is this,
 But, oh, it's much more
 Than tinsel and trees
 And gifts in a store!
 Christmas is angels
 Drawing nigh to the earth
 To tell the good news
 Of the dear Saviour's birth.
 Christmas is God's Son
 Sent down from above ... The real meaning of Christmas Can
 only mean love.

*Merry Christmas my
 Friends.*

With Love, Linda



FRESH STRAWBERRY PIE

This show-stopping pie is a special favorite-especially in spring and summer when strawberries are at their just-picked best.

GLAZE

4 cups water
3 cups granulated sugar
1 package (3 ounces)
strawberry-flavored gelatin
1½ cups cornstarch
2 tablespoons red food color

PIES

4 pints strawberries
2 baked 9-inch pie shells
Sweetened whipped cream

1. For glaze, in medium saucepan, combine 3 cups of the water, sugar, and gelatin. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally.
2. In small bowl, gradually mix remaining 1 cup water into cornstarch until smooth. Add to saucepan, stirring constantly with wire whisk. Cook over medium heat, stirring frequently, about 5 minutes or until mixture is thick and fairly clear. Stir in food color.
3. Remove from heat and let stand at room temperature until cool. Do not refrigerate.
4. For pies, spread ¼ cup glaze onto bottom of each pie shell.
5. In large bowl, combine strawberries and 2 cups of the glaze. Mix gently to coat evenly. Spoon half the mixture into each pie shell, arranging berries attractively.

Strawberry Tips

- Buy the reddest, ripest strawberries you can find because berries don't ripen after they're picked.
- Strawberries are highly perishable, so you'll need to use them within a couple of days.
- Store in the refrigerator until ready to use, then wash in cool running water, remove hulls, and pat dry with paper towels.





THE COLDSRING METHODIST MEN HELD ITS MONTHLY MEETING ON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2022, WITH 29 MEMBERS AND GUESTS ATTENDING. ROB TRAPP OPENED THE MEETING WITH A PRAYER. BREAKFAST WAS SERVED AFTER THE PRAYER.

AFTER BREAKFAST THE COOKS WERE THANKED AND SEVERAL PEOPLE

VOLUNTEERED FOR CLEAN-UP. JON WEBB GAVE THE SCOUTING REPORT AND JOEL MCDOWELL GAVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT. A VOLUNTEER LIST WAS PASSED AROUND SEEKING HELP FOR THE CHRISTMAS ON THE SQUARE GUMBO LUNCHEON. RICHARD BURROUGHS WAS MENTIONED FOR PRAYER CONCERNS.

VICKI JOWELL WAS THE GUEST SPEAKER. VICKI IS THE DIRECTOR OF THE LOCAL FOOD PANTRY, CARE/SHARE. VICKI HAS BEEN INVOLVED WITH CARE/SHARE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. HER YEAR-TO-DATE REPORT SHOWS THAT THE CARE/SHARE HAS SERVED 5179 PEOPLE, WITH A MONTHLY AVERAGE OF 575 PEOPLE COMING IN ON THE MONDAY AND THURSDAY SERVICE DAYS WHEN IT IS OPEN. THERE IS A CURRENT AVERAGE OF 31 VOLUNTEERS WHO HELP AT CARE/SHARE. THE CARE/SHARE MISSION IS LOCATED AT 21 BUTLER STREET IN COLDSRING AND ITS PHONE NUMBER IS 936-653-2001 IF YOU WISH TO VOLUNTEER OR TO MAKE A DONATION. THE METHODIST MEN DONATED \$250.00 TO CARE/SHARE TO ASSIST WITH ITS MINISTRY TO THOSE IN NEED.

THE MEN'S GUMBO LUNCHEON FUND RAISER WILL BE AT THE FELLOWSHIP HALL STARTING AT 11:00 AM ON DECEMBER 10, 2022. PLEASE COME BY AND DINE WITH US. ROB TRAPP CLOSED THE MEETING WITH A PRAYER.

THE DECEMBER MEETING OF THE MEN'S BREAKFAST WILL BE ON 12/14/2022 AT 7:00 AM AND THE SPEAKER WILL BE SUSAN ARCHER. SUSAN IS THE SISTER OF SANDRA MCQUIGGAN AND WILL SOON BEGIN A MISSION TRIP.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

ROBERT TRAPP-PRESIDENT



**Coldspring
Methodist Men
Gumbo Lunch
Fellowship Hall**

**Saturday, Dec. 10th
@ 11AM**

**During Coldspring
Christmas on the Square**

Coming in 2023 Everything Old is New Again

What's Old – Small group dinners in homes or restaurants. People meeting together once a month to share a meal and fellowship.

What's New? – New groups. No assigned questions to discuss, just fellowship and fun!

Look for more info and sign-up sheets in January! Meanwhile, anyone who would like to be on the kick-off team or more info, e-mail Pat Hitt phitt@eastex.net or call 409-782-4041.

CMYF- **The Matches**

Igniting the flame of Christ in everyone

I am thankful for my church family and for having the opportunity to lead our youth. Reflecting on life is mostly done this time of year and I for one know that God has blessed me. I surprised the kids with a trip to Coldspring Creamery and a night of bowling.



We will be driving thru “A Night in Bethlehem” at Pedigo Park this weekend. We will have our youth Christmas party on December 14th.

We are doing studies out of the Serendipity Bible on Wednesdays.

Join us for Sunday school at 8:45 a.m.

*Happy to serve,
Carri Clark
Youth Coordinator*

GREETERS REQUESTED

One of the rewarding ways someone can give back to the Church is by volunteering to be a Greeter at the Sunday church service. Greeting provides the opportunity to welcome existing members to our wonderful Sunday service, as well as the opportunity to meet and assist prospective members visiting our Church.



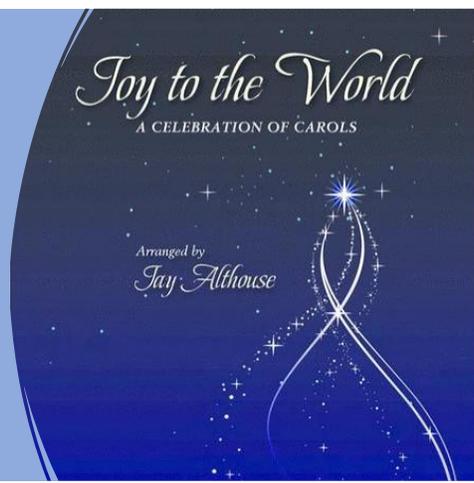
Step Up and volunteer to be a Greeter at Sunday services.

Contact Ron Orlando
713-254-7173 for details.

We are currently in need of expanding the number of Greeters in our program. Greeters are typically assigned one Sunday per month, with flexibility to make schedule changes as needed. If you and/or another member would be interested in learning more, please contact Ron Orlando at 713-254-7173.

2022 Christmas Cantata

- December 11th
- 10 AM
- CMC Fellowship Hall



SFLC Newsletter December 2021

Tis the season of Advent!!!! The children are getting mighty excited for Christmas and of course Santa Clause himself. We hope as we teach the meaning behind the season the children will learn and remember why we are having so many great and wonderful celebrations. The last week before Christmas Break, we have a celebration planned here.

December Birthdays

Kallie 12/15
Knox 12/19
Tripp 12/20
Steely 12/27

Themes for all classes

11/29 Giving and Sharing
12/06 Nativity
12/13 Christmas

We will also utilize lessons from the book *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes*. This guide helps children the meaning of Christmas and is being used in our church's Sunday School classes. We will continue our normal studies with *Frog Street*, but the above topics will be the highlights for the month.

$\frac{3}{4}$ Choices
2/3's Safe and Healthy Me
 $\frac{1}{2}$'s Opposites

Holidays

The SFLC will be closed December 22, 2021-January 2, 2022. We will reopen January 3, 2022, at 7:00 a.m.

Special Celebrations

December 8, 2022, we will have a very special visitor
December 15 10:00 a.m. Book exchange
December 15 3:00 p.m. Party
December 16 Pajama Day

Your child will need a book by the morning of the 17th wrapped and labeled to a friend from your child. All classes including the nursery will participate in this activity.

Beginning December 1st there will be sign-up sheets available to sign up for party supplies. We are asking for no one-piece pajamas, except for the nursery.

Toy/Food Drive

Help us to fill the wheelbarrows with toys and food!!!! When they are filled, we will have a hot chocolate party to celebrate our success in helping our neighbors!!!

We hope the children enjoy the Season of Christmas and have fun learning about how we celebrate but more importantly why!!!!

Memorial

Glena Guthrie in loving memory of Richard Countiss.

December Birthdays

John Gibbons	12/03	Dave Hitt	12/19
Lisa Anderson	12/04	Peggy Crossan	12/23
Barbara Gothard	12/06	Mary Crowder	12/23
Jay Trapp	12/06	Callie Duncan	12/24
Susan Zipperer	12/07	Chris Wallace	12/27
John Russell	12/09	Charles Worthen	12/27
Gail Lilley	12/13	Esther Best	12/29
Linda Price	12/14	Helen Williams	12/30
Terri Cook	12/16	Carrie Cronin	12/31

December Anniversaries

Ron & Rita Orlando	12/02
Jason & Monica Viator	12/02
Ralph & Bea Glassco	12/10
Norm & Sylvia Young	12/11

December Ushers

10:00 a.m. Wayne & Sharon Brignac
Frank & Ann Closs

Volunteers Needed

Anyone who is interested in ushering
please contact Sharon & Wayne
Brignac @1-228-238-1430.

December Greeters

December 4 th	Frank & Anne Closs
December 11 th	Ron Orlando, Bea Glassco & Sandra McQuiggin
December 18 th	Denise Thurmond & Tom & Terri Cook
December 25 th	Monica & Taylor Viator

COLDSRING UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January through October 2022

	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income				
TOTAL INCOME	31,504.43	27,116.83	4,387.60	116.2%
Total Income	31,504.43	27,116.83	4,387.60	116.2%
Expense				
Ask the Client	1,251.27			
Personnel Expense	15,784.54	18,529.57	-2,745.03	85.2%
Administrative Expenses	209.10	1,635.43	-1,426.33	12.8%
Finance Committee	110.34	166.67	-56.33	66.2%
Bus Expense	0.00	208.34	-208.34	0.0%
Christian Education	0.00	208.33	-208.33	0.0%
Children & Youth	144.12	458.33	-314.21	31.4%
Senior Activities	0.00	8.33	-8.33	0.0%
Evangelism	32.04	183.33	-151.29	17.5%
Fellowship	166.38	133.33	33.05	124.8%
Missions	2,027.87	499.99	1,527.88	405.6%
Music Expense	0.00	395.83	-395.83	0.0%
Worship	197.93	166.67	31.26	118.8%
Buildings & Grounds Expenses	1,337.41	8,103.34	-6,765.93	16.5%
Church Utilities	2,731.96	2,604.17	127.79	104.9%
Beyond the Local Church	0.00	2,142.66	-2,142.66	0.0%
Total Expense	23,992.96	35,444.32	-11,451.36	67.7%
Net Income	7,511.47	-8,327.49	15,838.96	-90.2%



December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Angel Tree Due	2 Community Christmas Family Meeting 9:00am	3 Called Session of the Texas Annual Conference
4 Holy Communion Sunday Minute for Missions "Mission Year Wrap-Up" Sunday School all ages in C.F.L.C. 8:45am Worship Service Sanctuary/Live Broadcast 10:00am	5 Boy/Cub Scouts 7:00pm	6 Mission Committee Meeting 2:00pm Evangelism Committee Meeting 3:30pm Women of Grace Christmas Dinner Fundraiser 6:00pm	7 CMYF "The Matches" 5:30pm - 7:30pm	8 Pastoral Search Committee 6:30pm	9 Community Christmas Family Gift Pass out @ the Community Shelter	10 CMM Gumbo 11:00am - 1:30pm
11 Cantata "Joy to the World" Sunday School all ages in C.F.L.C. 8:45am Christmas Cantata F.H. 10:00am Worship Service Sanctuary/Live Broadcast 10:00am	12 Boy/Cub Scouts 7:00pm	13 Share the Bread 10:00am	14 CMM Breakfast 7:00am Finance 8:15am CMYF "The Matches" 5:30pm - 7:30pm	15 Trustee's Meeting 5:00pm	16	17
18 Sunday School all ages in C.F.L.C. 8:45am Worship Service Sanctuary/Live Broadcast 10:00am	19 Church Council 5:00pm Boy/Cub Scouts 7:00pm	20	21 CMYF "The Matches" 5:30pm - 7:30pm	22 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23 CLOSED AT NOON	24 Christmas Eve Christmas Eve 5:00pm
25 Christmas Day Sunday School all ages in C.F.L.C. 8:45am Worship Service Sanctuary/Live Broadcast 10:00am	26 OFFICE CLOSED Boy/Cub Scouts 7:00pm	27 Share the Bread 1:00pm	28 CMYF "The Matches" 5:30pm - 7:30pm	29	30 CLOSED AT NOON	31 New Year's Eve