



THE PROPHET

Woodside United Methodist Church

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December 2006

FROM THE PASTOR

Luke 1:26-38 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But, the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will over-shadow you. So the one born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Mary had certainly found favor with God as no other person ever had. She would give birth to the Son of

God. What wonderful and exciting news, yet so hard to believe. I am sure that even after all this happened to her, she had to say a million times that it really couldn't have! In a short time, though, it was evident to her, then later to others, that she was indeed going to have a child. How could she explain to others when she had a hard time convincing Joseph that the child she carried was God's child? She carried the greatest gift of creation, and she couldn't share it with anyone! They would have said she was crazy or that she had the child out of wedlock.

Sometimes it seems almost as difficult for us to explain to non-Christians how Jesus has come into our hearts. We know we are no longer the same. With each day we can feel his presence, and each day he grows more real to us. Sometimes they see us as crazy, but we know, like Mary, that we too are highly favored--because we have Christ in us!

This Christmas season is a very special one. Why? Because JESUS IS IN IT! It's not just a time of celebration, vacations, and giving and receiving gifts. It reminds us just how favored we are. God has come into our hearts and lives. We have become part of his kingdom. That will last for eternity.

It is a great honor to be a Christian. This Christmas, let's make sure we keep Christ in CHRISTmas and CHRIST in us!

In Christ,
Merry Christmas,
Bro. Poole



Please continue to pray for Vince, William & Gerrie Broadie, Michael Bush, Loraine Byers, Alma Clayton, Barb Caldwell, Evelyn Edwards, Juanita Evans, Mark Hayden, Shirley Gruenfelder, Don & Gayle Highley's daughter Sara, Evelyn Highley, Hazel Lomelino, Roselyn McHatton, Loretta Nutt, Emmie Pinson, LaRue & Dorothy Scott, David Yost, our pastor and his family, our church friends, and their families, service men and women and their families.

If there is someone you would like added to the prayer list, please call the church office 529-2736 and let us know.

IN LOVING MEMORY

We would like to express our sympathy to the family and friends of Robert E. Heselton for the loss of their loved one on November 9, 2006.

We would also like to express our sympathy to the family and friends of Edna Brackett for the loss of their loved one on November 11, 2006.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday 3:00 pm Brenden Gardens

BIBLE STUDY

Monday 10:00 am Brenden Gardens
Tuesday 2:15 pm Mary Bryant Home

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The first Sunday of each month all men of the church are invited to join us for breakfast, prayer, fellowship and discussions in Fellowship Hall from 8:00 am - 9:00 am

UMW MEETING

Fellowship Hall
December 14 at 7:00 pm

MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE

will meet in Fellowship Hall
December 19 at 9:30 am

RUTH CIRCLE

will meet at M ariah s
December 20 at 1:00 pm

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Dec. 3 Ashley Howlett
- Dec. 7 Gayle Highley
- Dec. 10 Cathy Padget
- Dec. 13 Kirk Yenerall
- Dec. 18 Ruth Branham, Emma Brinkerhoff,
Nancy Thomas
- Dec. 19 Jean Powers
- Dec. 20 Janice Garella
- Dec. 21 Robert Dawe
- Dec. 22 Gloria King
- Dec. 23 Wilma Foster
- Dec. 24 Pat Younkin
- Dec. 26 Marvalee Schultz
- Dec. 28 Jean Cowden

**The State Journal-Register Newspaper Article
November 8, 2006
Hooker Street Dims
Laketown neighborhood loses its man of lights**

This article is about Bob Heselton, it s posted on the bulletin board outside B ro . P o o l e s office if you would like to read it.



THANK YOU FROM KUMLER

Thank You for your very generous donation of food to Kumler Neighborhood Ministries.

Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. May God Bless you!

Michele Tucker, Executive Director



NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Phyllis Byers, Jean Cowden, Bob & Marlene Dawe, Loretta Nutt, Harriet Osmonson, Wilma Ulak, LaVerda Wenzel

Ushers: Tom Gagnon, Bob Gruenenfelder, John Morse, Gene Piper, Fran Wenzel

Liturgist: Victoria Price

Communion Stewards: Kristen Ball, Brad Brinkerhoff, Victoria Price

Acolytes: Falyn Bruce, Michael Price

Fellowship Time: Ruth Circle

DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Liturgist: Eric Lofgren

Fellowship Time: Ruth Circle

December 3

Greeters: Tom & Jo Gagnon

Ushers: Kristen Ball, Hilda Blair, Barb Hale, Harriet Osmonson, Donnah Sharp

Acolytes: Michael & Victoria Price

Communion Stewards:

December 10

Greeters: Bob & Shirley Gruenenfelder

Ushers: Kristen Ball, Hilda Blair, Barb Hale, Harriet Osmonson, Donnah Sharp

Acolytes:

December 17

Greeters: Donnah Sharp & Wilma Ulak

Ushers: Kristen Ball, Hilda Blair, Barb Hale, Harriet Osmonson, Donnah Sharp

Acolytes:

Communion Stewards:

December 24

Greeters: Cathy & Marissa Stoddard

Ushers: Kristen Ball, Hilda Blair, Barb Hale, Harriet Osmonson, Donnah Sharp

Acolytes: Gabby Gardner, Katy Kohlmann

December 31

Greeters: Donnah Sharp & Harriet Osmonson

Ushers: Kristen Ball, Hilda Blair, Barb Hale, Harriet Osmonson, Donnah Sharp

Acolytes

THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone who made my birthday so special by sending cards and for the well wishes.

Bless you too

Leda Thorpe

THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone who gave household items or monetary donations for Sojourn House. Betty Barregarye and I delivered a wide assortment of many household supplies to the shelter. We also gave a \$141. Shop ,n Save gift card purchased w ith the cash contributions, which they can use to buy groceries as needed. They were very appreciative of these donations. Thank you for making our UMW Social Action project a success!

Nancy Minnick

THANK YOU NOTE

Thanks so much for good thoughts, prayers, cards, phone calls, and food. All was very much appreciated. The ribs are improving. A special thank you to Bro. Jim for his prayers, and concern.

In Christian Love

Norma Brothers

**THANKS FROM THE
MIDWEST MISSION
DISTRIBUTION CENTER**

Thank you for the two sewing machines that you provided to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center in September. These items will help us provide aid to people who are experiencing poverty or other devastating events in their lives. Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated.

NEWS FROM

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

December will be another busy month for UMW as we make plans for the Christmas Party at Brenden Gardens on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 2 pm. For those planning to attend, please be at Brenden Gardens by 1:30 pm with what you have signed up to bring. If you cannot attend but are planning to bring baked goods, please have the items to the Church on Friday, Dec. 8 between 9am – 3pm, in disposable containers, (cut if need be) ready to serve.

We hope many will join in a fun afternoon of games (with prizes), singing, refreshments and a lot of fellowship.

Roselyn McHatton has made a beautiful afghan that will be awarded to someone whose lucky name is drawn!

Our monthly UMW meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 14 at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. This will be an “Old Fashioned Christmas Party” with food, fun, frolic and music! The members of Ruth Circle are in charge with Nancy Minnick presenting our devotions. All ladies are welcome.

In November the 34 beautiful lap robes recently dedicated during Sunday worship were delivered to five area nursing homes. Thank you to all involved in this worthwhile project.

At this time I would like to thank all the UMW officers and members for the support you have given to me and our unit during this year. Through your service we have accomplished many things and I look forward to our working together in 2007.

Phyllis Hunsaker

DECEMBER OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING!

World Service. Use the *Missions* offering envelope enclosed in this *Prophet* to donate to World Service. World Service provides the basic financial resources for the core ministries of our denomination. The essential mission and program ministries of the Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference are also partially funded through the World Service.

Non-perishable Food products: We continually accept non-perishable food products for Kumler Food Pantry. Please place these items in the “white box” in the Narthex. Periodically we deliver the food to Kumler.

Toiletries and disposable cameras for our service men and women in Iraq. Toiletries that are needed are: wet wipes, hand lotion, sunscreen, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand sanitizer, lip balm with sunscreen, and deodorant. Items should NOT BE large sizes to make shipping easier. Please mark these items “Iraq” and place them in the white box in the Narthex where we collect food for Kumler. The Mission Committee will deliver these items to the Family Readiness Group.

Aluminum cans: Bring used aluminum cans to the church the first Sunday of each month. Please rinse out and smash cans if possible. Cans can be placed in Dan and Karen Shields white truck, which will be parked in the lot with the tailgate down. We receive \$.68 per pound for all of the cans we recycle, and proceeds go to the Kumler Food Pantry.

Prescription containers: Please remove labels and place containers in the receptacle in Fellowship Hall. Prescription containers will be delivered to Midwest Distribution

As always, your contributions to the many projects conducted at Woodside are appreciated by the many people that are served. Please continue God's work by supporting those projects that interest you in whatever way you can – prayer, service, and/or gifts.



You are invited to attend the wedding of
Mary Poole
and
Micah Baird

at 2:00 pm on January 13, 2007

the wedding will be at
College Park Church
116 N. Cottage
Normal, IL 61761

A reception will follow
at Hope Community Center in McLean, Illinois
(Downtown corner of Clinton & Morgan)

If you can attend, please clip and return the RSVP by
December 20, 2006

to:
Jim & Beckie Poole
4010 Brookfield
Springfield, IL 62703

will attend wedding only.
(name)

will attend wedding & reception



I/We would like to order _____ (how many?) poinsettias at a cost of \$6.00 per plant. I understand the poinsettias will be used to decorate the sanctuary during Advent and that I may take my poinsettia plant home after the Christmas Eve service. Forms may be mailed to the church, or placed in the church secretary's mailbox outside the office door. The deadline for ordering a poinsettia is Sunday December 3rd. Please make checks payable: Woodside United Methodist Church & indicate it is for the poinsettia order.

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

As a Gift:

Donor(s):

CHRISTMAS SEASON 2006 SCHEUDLE

Sunday, Dec. 3
Last day to order Poinsettias

Saturday, Dec. 9 2:00 pm
UMW Christmas Party at Brenden Gardens

Sunday, Dec. 10 10:15 am
Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, Dec. 17 10:15 am
March to the Manger

Sunday, Dec. 24 10:15 am
Choir Cantata

Sunday, Dec. 24
Christmas Eve Service

KUMLER CANDY BAGS

Monday, December 11 at 6:30 pm we will be filling candy bags to go to Kumler for the Christmas baskets. Everyone is welcome to come help with this project.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Just to let you know we have been advised by the florist that, like everything else, there has been a \$1.00 increase for the altar flowers we order for our Sunday worship service. Cost for flowers will now be \$14.00

Father, God bless all my friends in whatever it is that You know they may be needing this day! And may their life be full of your peace, prosperity and power as he/she seeks to have a closer relationship with you. Amen

PROPHET & BULLETIN DEADLINES

The deadline for submitting articles for the Sunday bulletin is Tuesday by 9:00 am. Articles should be submitted in writing or e-mail.

The deadline for submitting articles for the January Prophet will be Wednesday, December 20, @ 9:00 am. Articles must be submitted in writing or e-mail.



*He shall
be great
and shall be
called the
Son of the
Highest.*

Luke 1:32