

# The Friendly Visitor



**May the spirit of Christmas power your heart this holiday season!**

*December 2024*

**Sunday Mornings**

**Hymn Sing - 9:20 am**

**Worship - 9:30 am**

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**Fellowship Time follows for Coffee and Conversation.**

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**Adult Discussion Class 11:00 in Camellia Room!**

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**Huge thanks to everyone who lovingly packed an Operation Christmas Child box! Our congregation provided 87 boxes this year, which Susan Elmore delivered to a collection location. Thanks!**

Greetings to you, my beloved, at the House of Faith!

I am delighted that our church campus has just received a facelift. You may be wondering how a church can get this treatment... I am speaking of replacing old signs with new ones. A commercial sign works like a face. It shows the public many aspects of a business, such as the kind of industry, its image, and the character of the ownership. It helps attract customers and influence them to make purchasing decisions. A sign is an effective tool to communicate with the public. In my estimation, our church signs were at least 50 years old with worn-out paint and cracks, and the public would have guessed the condition of the church according to the rundown appearance of our signs. I personally believe that the old signs did not do a good job of attracting people to the church.

Hearing my plan to upgrade the existing signs during an Ad Council meeting, Jeanine volunteered her husband Brian. Brian has remarkable gifts for wood crafting of which we were not aware. Out of his busy schedule, Brian designed new signs that fit perfectly with the classic church facade, purchased natural wood of



excellent quality, carved out two signs, and installed them. Our church now has two new beautiful signs thanks to Jeanine's confidence in Brian's craftsmanship and kindness. These attractive facelifts will tell the public we are a vibrant church and influence people to visit us. Brian and Jeanine Porter married in our beautiful sanctuary a couple of years ago and have been active members.



The two fresh signs, the parkway renovation, outdoor TVs, and a banner are outside projects that help enhance our curb appeal. We are very pleased with how this was accomplished. The only portion we paid to modernize the church's appearance is about \$13,000, which covers a little over 50% of the parkway renovation. The rest came from grants and generous donations. Praise the Lord!

As we approach the end of the year, we are grateful for the good Lord's faithfulness in sustaining this small congregation. God did it again this year, and we are confident that He will do it again in 2025. Let us trust in the Lord and pray for his continued blessings as we welcome the New Year.

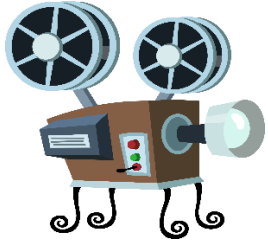
When people ask, you can proudly tell that you belong to the prettiest church in town, with a modernized look. The best time of year to showcase our beautifully lit and decorated sanctuary is the Christmas season. Let us each invite friends and family to celebrate Advent and worship together.

The Charge Conference will be held via Zoom on December 6 at 6:30 PM. The Pastor's Luncheon will return to China Legend 8 in Calimesa on Wednesday, December 11 at 12:00 noon. The Christmas caroling is scheduled for December 15 at 2:00 PM. We will gather in Fellowship Hall. Please come and join the caroling if you can, and let us know if you would like the carolers to come by and sing to you or someone else. The Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, filled with blissful Christmas cheer and music, will be held on December 24 at 7:00 PM.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas season,

*Phillips*

## Free First Saturday Movies



### White Bird

Shows on December 7, 2024  
11:00 am in Faith Theater 2



### Miracles from Heaven

Shows on January 4, 2024  
11:00 am in Faith Theater 2

*Free First Saturday Movies offer a hearty refreshment menu with 1/4 lb. all-beef hot dogs, pizza, popcorn, candy, chips, cold and hot drinks, ice cream, and more.*

**Doors open at 10:30 am.**

*For ramp access, use the Acacia Street door by the parking lot, open from 10:30 until 11:00 am.*

*Invite friends and neighbors to a great, inexpensive lunch at our free Saturday movies!*



**The Book Club** is reading **Ordinary Grace** by **William Kent Krueger** and will talk about it in Camellia Room and on Zoom Tuesday, December 17 at 10:00 am. We have very interesting and far-ranging discussions. Join us! You can sign out books from the P.E.O. bookshelves in Camellia.



The children at Parent's Night Out will be bringing unwrapped new toys for the firefighter's Toy Drive. If you want to help out, bring a new, unwrapped toy to the Narthex by December 15!

# *Parent's Night Out Thanks Feast*



*The Parent's Night Out children enjoyed using the Green Room, which now features the puppet theater, a reading room, tables for crafts and coloring, dress-up and play areas, and more!*





*Our Thanks Feast included sharing of thankfulness, turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn casserole, hot chocolate, and pumpkin pie.*



*Parent's Night Out Christmas Party December 13, 6:00 – 8:30 pm*



# BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

## Birthdays

Cameron Causey	December 3
Kelsey Beilstein	December 10
Carole Jones-Grassl	December 10
Ron Park	December 10
Chris Smith	December 13
Sheila Cheetham	December 14
Martin Morales	December 24
Paul Wohlers	December 25
Sally Gibson	December 30

## Anniversaries

Chung & Yung Char	December 2
Bill & April Klein	December 18
Bruce & Linda Crabtree	December 20



# Donations

Bring cereal and other non-perishable food to the Narthex any time during the month, and we will deliver it at the end of the month to **ICSC (Interfaith Community Support Center)** to distribute to families in need.

We also encourage you to bring donations of food, clothing, and household goods to the **Yucaipa Calimesa Family Assistance** at 35075 Avenue B, Yucaipa. They are open to the public MWF from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, and are a wonderful support for our elderly and disadvantaged neighbors, as well as the unhoused in our community.

# Thank you!

Thank you, Gina Genovese, for putting so many beautiful flower arrangements on our altar for worship! Gina has started a floral business from her home. If you need a special flower arrangement, please give her a call: 310 567 0313.



**GINA GENOVESE**  
Floral Stylist

📞: 310-567-0313    ✉: gigiisblooms@gmail.com    📍: Yucaipa



@GIGIISBLOOMS



# December

# 2024

*The House of Faith, United Methodist Church of Yucaipa*

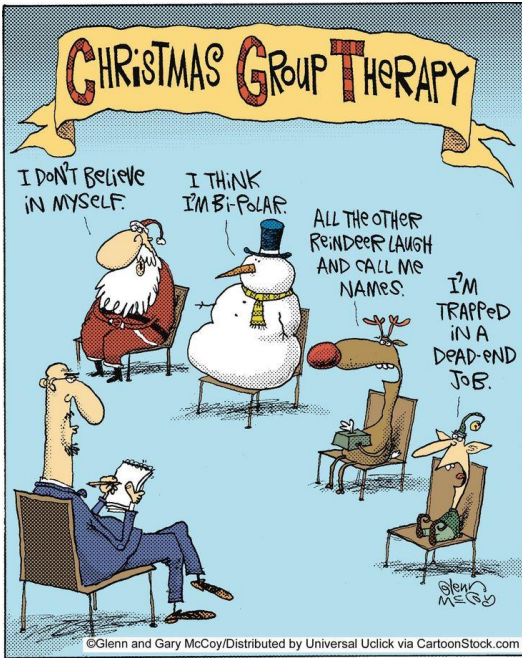


## Buy Stater's Scrip Cards!

Your grocery shopping can benefit the church by using scrip cards at Stater Bros Market. You get the full value of the card, but the church gets 6% of your shopping dollar to help support our General Fund. Scrip cards can be purchased from Fellowship Hall after worship, or from the office any time.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>Sunday Worship</b> 9:20 am Hymn Sing 9:30 am Worship with Communion <i>Decorate the Sanctuary!</i>	2	3	4	5	6 <b>Charge Conference</b> 6:00 SPRC 6:30 pm on Zoom	7 <b>White Bird</b> Faith Theater 2 11:00 am
8 <b>Sunday Worship</b> 9:20 am Hymn Sing 9:30 am Worship 11:00 Adults Camellia	9	10	11 <b>Pastor's Lunch</b> Legend China 8 at noon	12	13 <b>Parent's Night Out</b> <b>Christmas Party</b> 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm	14
15 <b>Sunday Worship</b> 9:20 am Hymn Sing 9:30 am Worship 11:00 –Adults Camellia <b>2:00 Christmas Caroling</b>	16	17 <b>Book Club</b> 10:00 am <i>Ordinary Grace</i> by William Kent	18	19	20	21
22 <b>Christmas</b> <b>Sunday Worship</b> 9:20 am Hymn Sing 9:30 am Worship <b>11:00 –Choir Party</b>	23	24 <b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>Candlelight</b> <b>Service 7:00 pm</b>	25 <b>Christmas Day</b>	26	27	28
29 <b>Sunday Worship</b> 9:20 am Hymn Sing 9:30 am Worship 11:00 –Adults Camellia	30	31 <b>New Year's Eve</b>	<b>New Year's Day</b> 2025			<b>Miracles from Heaven</b> Faith Theater 2 11:00 am

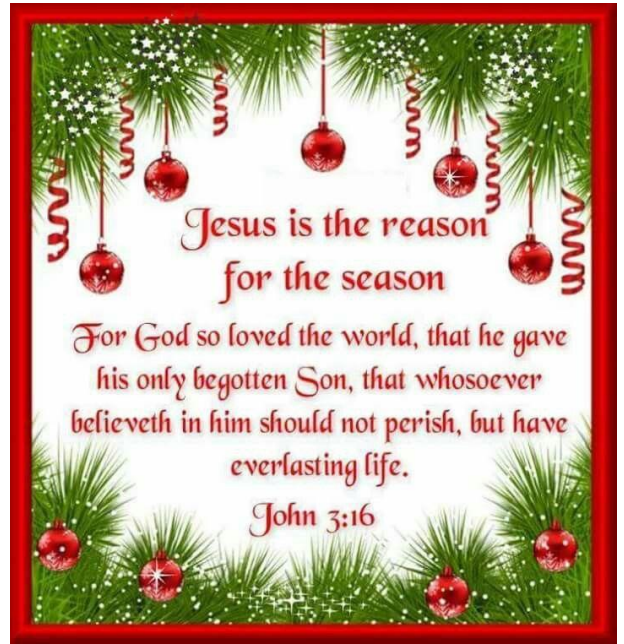
**Sunday Services start at 9:20 am with a Hymn Sing, continuing with Worship at 9:30 am and Fellowship Time after. Adult discussion classes are held in the Camellia Room at 11:00 am, currently featuring short NOOMA films with Rob Bell. Please visit [www.yucaipamethodist.org](http://www.yucaipamethodist.org) for more information.**



*Merry  
Christmas!*



*May the coming  
Year guide each  
of us to a closer  
relationship  
with God.*



*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. - Isaiah 9:6*

United Methodist Church of Yucaipa  
35177 Beech Ave.  
Yucaipa, CA 92399



*“The House of Faith”*

**Rev. Phillips Whang** - Senior Pastor  
**Deb Davidson** - Education Director

**Lauren Schafer** - Office Administrator  
**Coleen Dolinsky** - Music Director

[www.yucaipamethodist.org](http://www.yucaipamethodist.org) ♦ [office@yucaipamethodist.org](mailto:office@yucaipamethodist.org)

To submit articles or news items to the Friendly Visitor, please email items to:  
[deb@yucaipamethodist.org](mailto:deb@yucaipamethodist.org) or bring your submission to the office.