

*Open Hearts. Open Minds.*

# OPEN DOORS

**December 4 to December 17, 2016**

**Issue #137**

## **Olde Fashioned Christmas**

On Saturday, December 10th, downtown Dunedin will be turned into a winter wonderland as the community gathers to celebrate Christmas. Our church is in the heart of everything as we share Christmas joy with all. This is a wonderful opportunity to share our church with others and here are ways in which you can help:

- Be a character in our intergenerational Live Nativity by Strachan's Ice Cream Shop. This will be an important faith-based reflection of Christmas downtown. 6:00 – 8:00pm
- Help make and serve complimentary Hot Chocolate and Cider in the church narthex. 6:00 – 9:00pm
- Be a host to welcome people to the sanctuary for music presentations and use of the bathrooms. 5:00 – 9:00pm

Sign up on the bulletin board or by contacting Pastor Linda at [linda.tice@dunedinfumc.org](mailto:linda.tice@dunedinfumc.org)

*NOTE: If you are volunteering, a parking pass for your car will be available to let you into the parking lot.*

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### **Christmas Concerts in Sanctuary**

Musical performances will be presented by various community groups during Olde-Fashioned Christmas. Here is the schedule for your pleasure!

- 6:00-6:30pm - Garrison Jones 5th Grade Chorus
- 6:30-7:00pm - Dunedin High School Madrigals
- 7:00-7:30pm - Hands of Praise Deaf Choir
- 7:30-8:00pm - Dunedin High School Falconaires
- 8:00-8:30pm - Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long featuring our own Chancel Choir and Joann Metropoulos on the Pipe Organ

### **Wednesday Dinner and Craft Time**

Everyone is invited to dinner with your church family on **Wednesday, December 7th**. Dinner will be pulled pork, BBQ beans, Mac and cheese, coleslaw and banana pudding, served from 5:45 – 6:30pm in the Friendship Hall. Cost is by donation. Following dinner Kaite Goodell will teach us how to make a Christmas craft. Come enjoy the Christmas fun! Sign up for dinner and the craft are appreciated to help with planning. Children and youth will attend their regular activities after the dinner at 6:30pm.



# Choir Cantata

**December 11th**

Our choir will present the musical cantata 'Morning Star' by Lloyd Larson on Sunday, **December 11th**, at the 9:30am Traditional service in the sanctuary. Come hear this beautiful music of Christmas prepared for you by our wonderful choir. Invite a friend or two!! *(Pastor Linda will preach her Advent sermon at the 11:00am Modern service in the Friendship Hall. Children will attend their regular activities as usual during both services.)*

## Angel Tree

There are still a few unclaimed angels on the Angel Trees for people to select. Purchasing the designated gifts for children and young moms will make their Christmases brighter. The names on our angels were given to us from the HeadStart program at our church and the teen moms program at the high school. **Sunday, December 4th**, is the last day to pick an angel tag. All gifts must be wrapped and back at the church by December 11th for distribution that week.

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## Chili Cookoff Winner



Congratulations! Our Chili Cookoff winners this year were Lisa and Jayce LaPlaca! Thank you to everyone who brought delicious chili to enjoy by those who decorated the campus.

## Dining Out 50+

All person 50 years or older are invited to a dinner out at Cricketeers in the shopping plaza at Curlew and Alternate 19. Come enjoy dinner on **Monday, December 12**, at 5:45pm and meet some new friends!

# ADVENT BOXES



This year for Advent everyone is encouraged to use an Advent box to focus on the real meaning of Christmas. This is a great opportunity for families or individuals to demonstrate the gift of Jesus throughout this season. Each day of Advent everyone is invited to put something into the box and on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day you will bring your box to church as a gift to Jesus. A booklet is available with daily scripture readings and prayers written for you by our staff to enhance this special devotion time. Suggested items for the box may be canned goods for Dunedin Cares, new children's underwear or socks for Clothes to Kids, diaper/wipes for the Diaper bank, or hygiene products for Grace House. Other suggestions are a note sharing an act of kindness you did for someone, a letter sent to someone lonely, a note or picture for our sister church in Cuba, or a children's drawing to cheer someone up. Any idea in which you give a gift to Jesus is great!

Some boxes will be available at the beginning of Advent or you can provide your own.

## Charge Conference

All Union Street UMC members are invited to the Charge Conference with the District Superintendent on **Wednesday, December 14th**. At that time a vote will be taken to officially merge with First Dunedin who has already unanimously approved the merge. The meeting will take place in the Friendship Hall at 6:30pm.

## Mease Manor Caroling

A group will go to Mease Manor to sing Christmas carols on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 12:30. Everyone is invited! Meet in the Friendship Hall ready to spread Christmas cheer!

## Downtown Dunedin Caroling

Everyone is invited to a fun night caroling in Downtown Dunedin. Meet in the Friendship Hall on Wednesday December 21st at 6:30. We will carol as a group then return for some hot chocolate and Christmas cookies.

# MAIN STREET

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## December Schedule for Children:

Sunday, Dec 4 – Regular KidzGROUPS and KidzWORSHIP  
Wed., Dec 7 – Regular KidzCLUB  
Sat., Dec 10 – NO KidzREACH  
Sunday, Dec 11 – Regular classes  
Wed., Dec 14 – Christmas movie  
Sat., Dec 17 – Christmas Store  
Sunday, Dec 18 – Christmas Store and Stories  
Wednesday, Dec 21 and 28 –  
*NO CHILD CARE or ACTIVITIES*

For more information about children's ministries, contact [carolytaylor@gmail.com](mailto:carolytaylor@gmail.com) or 727-515-5557.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN:

Sundays: 9:30am KidzGROUPS  
10:30am MainStreet Café  
11:00am KidzWORSHIP  
Wednesdays at 6:30pm KidzCLUB  
Saturdays at 7:00pm KidzREACH

## Live Nativity at Old-Fashioned Christmas



We are looking for children, teens, and adults of all ages to participate in the Live Nativity as the innkeeper, shepherds, angels, wise men, and servants of wise men. There are no speaking parts and only a short rehearsal

beforehand. We will provide costumes and props. The narrator will read the scripture while the actors walk in to the Manger area and stand or sit near the Baby Jesus. Children must have an adult or teen with them in the production, but it will be relaxed and casual with breaks between each show. Decide today to make this event be one of your 2016 Christmas memories!

We have tweaked the schedule a little, so choose the time that will work best for you.

Cast #1 – Meet at MainStreet to get dressed at 5:15pm. Walk to the park and do three short presentations, one at 6:00, one at 6:20, and one at 6:40pm. Then back to MainStreet by 7:00pm to change clothes so you can enjoy the rest of the evening.

Cast #2 – Meet at 6:15pm, presentations at 7:00, 7:20, and 7:40pm. You will be finished by 8:00pm.

Sign up on the bulletin board or contact [carolytaylor@gmail.com](mailto:carolytaylor@gmail.com) or 727-515-5557. Carol will contact you early in the week with additional details.

## KIDS' Christmas Store

Our annual Christmas Store will be open on Saturday night, December 17, from 6-8pm, and on Sunday morning, December 18, at 9:30 and 11:00am. Preschool and elementary students will be able to choose gifts for 4 members of their family, and we will wrap each item so it stays a secret until Christmas Day. NO money is needed; instead kids will perform acts of kindness and bring their completed coupons to use to "purchase" their presents. We still need LOTS of tissue paper and gift bags of all sizes.

Volunteers are needed to sort the items on Wednesday, December 14th. Come anytime between 3:00 and 8:00pm. We also need DOZENS OF ADULTS who will pair up with the younger children and help them shop and several who will wrap gifts. Contact [carolytaylor@gmail.com](mailto:carolytaylor@gmail.com) or 727-515-5557 as soon as possible if you can help on Saturday night or Sunday morning.

## Upcoming Events



- Dec. 7 - Monthly Church Dinner
- Dec.10 - Olde Fashioned Christmas
- Dec. 11 - Choir Cantata
- Dec. 12 - Dining Out 50+
- Dec. 14 - Union Street Church Conference
- Dec. 18 - Caroling at Mease Manor
- Dec. 18 - Children's Christmas Store
- Dec. 21 - Caroling Downtown Dunedin
- Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Services
- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Worship
- Dec. 27 - Healing Service
- January 15 - Bethune Cookman Concert

## PECANS ARE IN!!!

16 OZ BAGS OF JUMBO HALVES OR PIECES ARE \$12.00; CHOCOLATE COVERED AND CINNAMON GLAZED ARE \$8.00. THEY MAKE GREAT

CHRISTMAS GIFTS. NOTE: We are on our last box of chocolate covered pecans so don't wait too long and miss out!!!!



## Pastor Linda's Weekly Email

Pastor Linda sends out a weekly email with a short devotion and upcoming events. It has been brought to her attention that some people who signed up may not be receiving her email. The email is sent as a group but individual email addresses are not visible. Check your spam in your email to see if it is going there. If so, register her email address in your contacts to receive it in your inbox. Please let her know if you are not receiving this email even though you asked for it, or if you would like to be on this weekly email list. Contact her at [linda.tice@dunedinfumc.org](mailto:linda.tice@dunedinfumc.org).



Christmas  
SERVICE

## Mark Your Calendar

### CHRISTMAS EVE:

- 6:00pm – Modern in Friendship Hall; child care for 3s and younger
- 7:30pm – Traditional Candlelight in the sanctuary child care for 3s and younger
- 11:00pm – Midnight Candlelight in the sanctuary; all children will worship with families

### CHRISTMAS DAY:

- One service at 10:00am in sanctuary; child care for 3s and younger

## *Christmas Poinsettias*



Christmas poinsettias to decorate the worship areas will be available to purchase in honor or memory of a loved one. Fill out the order form and enclose payment and then return it during worship or at the church office.

**Dunedin**  
First United Methodist Church



Want to know more about the church?

Visit : [www.dunedinfumc.org](http://www.dunedinfumc.org) and sign up for Pastor Linda's weekly email devotion and announcements

**Union Street**  
First United Methodist Church

Church Office Hours:  
Monday —Thursday: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

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