

Thanksgiving Dinner at the Newman Center

12:00 Noon - 2:00 p.m., November 28, 2013

The annual THANKSGIVING Day Meal, at the Newman Catholic Student Center, 715 W. Washington Street in Carbondale. Free & All are welcome!

Spirit of Christmas

Gifts are due Sunday, December 1

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS is an anonymous gift program. The gifts you will be giving may be the only ones the person will receive. We ask that you include only new, nicely wrapped items. You may not be able to honor every item requested but an average gift request usually falls within a \$50 range, some less, some a little more. You will have an opportunity to select gift requests that you fulfill, along with additional instructions, before and after church service(s) November 17 and 24. Financial contributions are also always welcomed. (Make checks out to FUMC-Spirit of Christmas). If you would like more information on this project contact FUMC Coordinator Jan Austin at 618/559-9772 (call or text) or email g.austin@mchsi.com. **Spirit of Christmas gifts are due at the church by Sunday, December 1.**

Saturday Night Live

6:00 p.m. or after Lights Fantastic Parade, Saturday, December 7

This year Saturday Night Live's holiday gathering will be at Freida and Gary Hill's, on Saturday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m. (or after the Lights Fantastic Parade if attending the parade is part of your holiday tradition). Bring a plate of party snacks to share. If you'd like to know more about Saturday Night Live or be added to the calling list, call Lorraine Stadt, 549-4401.

March to the Manger

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. Worship Services, Sunday, December 8

During the services on December 8 we celebrate the season of giving by bringing gifts for missions at home and abroad. Adults bring monetary gifts wrapped in small packages which are left at a living manger scene. Be watching your mail for this year's letter and list of missions. Children should bring unwrapped gifts for Cobden Hispanic Ministries and place them at the manger during either service. (A list of children's gift items is available. See your Asburian or Necia for details.)

Poinsettias

Memorial Information & Order Deadline, Noon, Monday, December 16

See the Asburian, the Welcome Center in the Narthex, or the church office for order forms. 6" plants are \$9.00 each and 8" plants are \$18.00 each. Orders and all memorial information must be in the church office by 12:00 Noon, Monday, December 16. If making your own arrangements, please have the pot wrapped in foil and bring the plant in during office hours on December 17, 18, or 19 or before noon on Friday, December 20, but **your memorial page information must still be into the office by Monday, December 16.** Poinsettias can be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service, December 24.

A Service of Lessons and Carols

8:15 and 10:45 a.m., Sunday, December 15

Accompanied by a full orchestra, the congregation will sing familiar carols (*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel; Hark! The Herald Angels Sing; O Come, All Ye Faithful; Joy to the World*) and the choir will present beautiful choral arrangements of *Gabriel's Message, How Far Is It to Bethlehem, When a Child Is Born, Carol of Joy, Follow the Star, Song of God, and Sing and Rejoice*. Traditional readings from the Christmas story will create an inspiring service of music and the word.

Christmas Eve Service

5:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 24

A first this year, at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve there will be a special earlier service especially for children of all ages.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 24

A longstanding tradition at FUMC, we will have special candlelight services at both 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Come and be lifted by the familiar carols, moved by the special music, and inspired by the message of Christ's birth. The 7:00 p.m. service will include special music with the Sanctuary Choir. The 11:00 p.m. service will have special solo music.

Undecorating the Church

4:00 p.m., Thursday, January 9

UNDECORATING will begin at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, January 9. Everyone's help is needed that day! Shop-Vacs will be much appreciated!

