



Jason's Journal

Rev. Patti Money, Pastor

December 2017

Editor: Barb Parris

**The purpose of Jason Lee Memorial
United Methodist Church is to
CONNECT people to Christ
Help people GROW in Christ and
Help people SERVE Christ**



Jason's Journal is a monthly newsletter of Jason Lee Memorial United Methodist Church,
168 S. University, Blackfoot, ID 83221

Rev. Patti Money, Pastor

All persons are welcome to worship each Sunday:

Worship at 10:30 a.m. with communion celebrated the first Sunday of each month

Child care is provided

E-mail: office@jlmumc.org,

Web site www.jlmumc.org

Church office telephone (208)785-3611

Office hours Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am–12 noon.

DATE	ACOLYTE	LITURGIST	USHERS & GREETERS	FELLOWSHIP	FLOWERS	Nursery
Sunday Dec. 3 2017	Gracie Fitzgerald	Karole Honas	Ray & Chelta Arens	Jan Simpson and Pete Fitzgerald	Jim & Eileen Breitweg – 55 th Anniversary	Jordyn Garrett
Sunday Dec. 10	Durin Savage	Scott Fields	Scott & Cathie Fields	Mark & Cindy Bewley and Steve & Jennifer Martin	The Flower Shoppe Etc.	Jordyn Garrett
Sunday Dec. 17	Liam Martin	Children's Program	Mike & Kathy Torgerson	Kathy Law and Heidi & Shannon Weaver	Alice Konishi in memory of Tak	Jordyn Garrett
Sunday Dec. 24	Brianna Freeburne	10:30am Kathy Torgerson 7:00pm Tracie Wilcox 11:00pm Shirley Brumfield	The Bewley Family	Alice Konishi and Theresa Konishi	The Flower Shoppe Etc.	Jordyn Garrett
Sunday Dec. 31	Susanna Money	Louise Johnston	Pete and Sarah Savage		The Flower Shoppe Etc.	Jordyn Garrett

If you are not going to be able to volunteer then please let the office know ahead of time

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 1 Michael Duncan
 Dec. 6 Eileen Breitweg
 Dec. 8 Maycee Davis
 Dec. 11 Erin Bewley
 Dec. 12 Cara Fitzgerald
 Dec. 16 Brooklyn Adams
 Dec. 16 Theresa Tominaga
 Dec. 17 Brianne Jones
 Dec. 20 Richard Kaiser
 Dec. 21 Bill Hunter
 Dec. 21 Liam Martin
 Dec. 22 Mia Assay
 Dec. 22 Bill Meyers
 Dec. 22 Tracie Wilcox
 Dec. 25 Mary Morrison
 Dec. 26 Merleen Knodle
 Dec. 30 Thom Garrett
 Dec. 30 Yuki Harda
 Dec. 31 Dorothy Hunter

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

December 1
 Jim & Eileen Breitweg (55)

December 11
 Emily & Sam Mills (13)



Friends,

We've entered December, and Christmas is fast approaching. In the stores, we see decorations galore, signs advertising "that perfect gift", and we hear Christmas music playing over the loudspeaker. One well-known song is "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," sung by Andy Williams. The first verse goes like this: *"It's the most wonderful time of the year with the kids jingle belling and everyone telling you "Be of good cheer". It's the most wonderful time of the year It's the hap-happiest season of all. With those holiday greetings and gay happy meetings when friends come to call. It's the hap- happiest season of all."*

For many people, Christmas is not the "happiest season of all." There are those for whom the holidays are painful and lonely. Maybe you're facing the first Christmas without a loved one; reeling from a divorce; separated from your family, etc. I've come to a deeper understanding of this reality. As you know, my father died on September 12. As a result, this season is tinged with sadness as my family wrestles with my father's absence.

For Christians, the focus on Christmas is the birth of Jesus Christ. We celebrate the incarnation; a word rooted in Latin, meaning "in the flesh." God loved us so much that he came down to earth in human flesh, as a helpless, newborn baby. The creator of the world humbled himself and lived among us, as a living witness to God's amazing love, as the Savior of the world.

Another word we hear at Christmas is "Emmanuel", a Hebrew word that means, "God is with us." God's presence has always been with his people, but through Christ's birth, "Emmanuel" takes on a richer meaning. God was literally with us, in the flesh. Think about it; the Savior of the world had dirty diapers, cut new teeth, went through puberty...all the normal human experiences, albeit sinless.

Over two thousand years later, God is still with us, through the power and work of the Holy Spirit. We still experience the incarnation through the love and actions of other humans. I call this, "Jesus with skin on"; people whose presence serves as a visual reminder of God's love.

If this season is hard for you, may you cling to the knowledge that God is with you in good times and bad. May you experience God's incarnate love through others. You are not alone. God is with you always.

Pastor Patti



DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

Sunday 9:00 am AA

Sunday 10:30 am Worship and Sunday School

Sunday 11:30 am Fellowship Hour

Monday – 10:00 am Women's Bible Study

Monday – 6:30 pm Bible Study "A Hop, Skip, and a Jump Through the Bible" (Dec. 4)

Tuesday – 5:00 to 6:30 pm Community Dinner Table

Wednesday – 10:00 am "Jesus – A Study" class

Wednesday – 11:00 am Knit Wits

Thursday – 6:15 pm Bell Choir practice, 7:00 pm Choir practice

Dec. 9 – 12:00 noon UMW Christmas Luncheon

Dec. 10 – 11:30 am Information meeting about UMCOR in Disciple Room

Dec. 10 – 6:00 pm Circle 5 Christmas Party – Hong Kong Garden

Dec. 13 – 6:15 pm Finance Committee, 7:00 pm Ad Council

Dec. 17 – 10:30 am Children's Christmas Program

Dec. 17 – 4:00 pm Adult Caroling Party

Dec. 24 – 10:30 a.m. Christmas Eve Services with Communion and Candlelight

Dec. 24 – 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Services with Communion and Candlelight

Dec. 24 – 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Services with Communion and Candlelight

ADULT CAROLING PARTY

Please join in voice and spirit as we share Christmas carols with those who are unable to get out much during the season!

Who: Youth and adults who want to share the joy of Christmas. If you need a babysitter, we will provide one at our home.

What: Caroling and fellowship

Where: Mike and Kathy Torgerson's home - 580 Horrocks Drive, Blackfoot

When: Sunday, December 17, at 4:00 pm

If you know of someone we should visit, please give their name and phone number to Pastor Patti, or to Kathy or Mike Torgerson.

Other: Bring a finger food to share afterwards. Warm soup will be provided.)

No auditions necessary!! Please come and share the joy! The more, the merrier - and warmer!

Mike and Kathy Torgerson

(208) 785-6953 or (208) 317-0088 or mktorg1@gmail.com

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

The season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 26. Over four weeks, we will be preparing our hearts in expectation of Christ's birth. Our sermon series will be "Angels Among Us". Using the biblical stories of angel encounters, we'll contemplate how we can bring #more hope, #more peace, #more joy, and #more love to the world.

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

In November, MYF assembled 50 Heath kits for UMCOR relief efforts, using funds they raised during their October kick-off meeting. In December, MYF will assist with the church service on December 17 and also participate in caroling at the Torgerson's that afternoon.

The children's Christmas program, titled 'Shepherds, Sheep, and a Savior,' will be held on Sunday, December 17, during the church service.

MYF is for all youth 7th thru 12th grade. Our year-long theme will be "A Year of Mission and Service".

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The annual UMW Bazaar and salad & pie luncheon was November 18. It was well attended and very successful. Thank you to everyone who helped. The Christmas Luncheon will be Dec. 9 at noon at the church. The Executive Committee will be hosting. A variety of new and different salads will be served. We will install new officers at this meeting. Special recognition pins will be given at the Christmas meeting. The entertainment will be a group Christmas Carol sing. We will be collecting a love offering, the money will go to purchase a smaller Christmas tree for the boutique. The January meeting will be January 11 at noon. The reading program for the coming year will be introduced. Please check your address and phone number in the UMW booklet and get any changes to your circle chair or to Dorothy Hunter or Debbie Reid-Oleson.

Cheryl Connelly

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee met on Nov. 15, 2017 at 6:15 pm. In attendance were: Alan Hennebold, Jan Simpson, Mike Torgerson, Shirley Brumfield, Debbie Reid-Oleson; and Dorothy Hunter.

For the month of October the committee agreed we should pay 5% of our apportionments. At the end of October, we are through 83% of the year.

As chairman of the finance committee I would like to thank you for your generous giving.

Blessings,

Dorothy Hunter

PRAYER CONCERNS

Cheryl Connelly, Glenna Davis, Kathy Eisenbarth, Debbie Hammett, Ryan Nicole Honas, Rita Jennings, Mary Jones, Charles Kennedy, Terry Leavitt, Rev. Davey Lefler, Lynda Nowacki, Bob Parris, Randy Shiosaki, Jan Simonson, Mary Jane Sufficool (Pastor Patti's mom), Jack Tominaga, Mike Torgerson, Members of the Armed Forces serving in harm's way, victims of violence, victims of natural disasters

ENOUGH FOR ALL

“No one can help everyone, but everyone can help someone.” Unknown

Enough For All is our fund that helps meet needs in the community. Donations to this fund can be made at any time, but are also collected on the first Sunday of the month during Fellowship Hour. Thank you for your generous support of this valuable ministry. Becca Freeburne, Enough for All Coordinator, 208-244-1843

WORSHIP NOVEMBER 2017

December 3 – Luke 1:26-56 “Do Not Be Afraid – More Peace”

December 10 – Matthew 1:18-25 “Do Not Be Afraid - More Joy”

**December 17 – Luke 2:1-20 “Do Not Be Afraid – More Love”
Children's Christmas Play**

**December 24 – Christmas Eve Services at 10:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m., and 11:00 p.m.
All services will include Communion and Candlelight**

December 31 – “Covenant Renewal Service”



FELLOWSHIP HOUR NOVEMBER 2017

December 3 – Jan Simpson and Pete Fitzgerald

December 10 – Mark & Cindy Bewley and Steve & Jennifer Martin

December 17 – Kathy Law and Heidi & Shannon Weaver

December 24 – Alice Konishi and Theresa Konishi

December 31 –



Volunteer at UMCOR West Depot in Salt Lake City

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) is the not-for-profit global humanitarian aid organization of the United Methodist Church. UMCOR is working in more than 80 countries worldwide, including the United States. Our mission, grounded in the teachings of Jesus, is to alleviate human suffering—whether caused by war, conflict or natural disaster, with open hearts and minds to all people. UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters that are interruptions of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own.

One of the UMCOR depots is in Salt Lake City. Our church is planning our 7th mission outreach trip to Salt Lake City to volunteer at UMCOR West Depot. We will carpool from the church on Sunday, January 21st and work 9-4 Monday through Friday, making up relief supply kits that UMCOR distributes throughout the world in emergency situations. We'll leave to come home on Friday after we finish. We'll stay at a house owned and operated by a Methodist Church, for a minimal fee. We may be sleeping on air mattresses, with 2 baths for all of us to share and a full kitchen. We'll cook most of our meals at the house.

The estimated cost per person is \$170-270, which includes meals. We are asking for a commitment of \$50 from each person wishing to go. Those of us going will have fundraisers and ask for donations from our church family to raise the remaining amount needed.

We will have a meeting in the Disciple Room after church on December 10. Eleven people are already signed up to go. If you would like to join us, we would love it. Get your goodies after church and bring them to the meeting, learn about it and decide if you want to go.

The Wesley House @ Idaho State University

We have had an exciting few months at the Wesley House. We participated in a Campus Halloween Event in which we handed out hundreds of pieces of candy to area children. We were responsible to make a booth that coincided with the theme, "A Pirate's Life for Me." We built a ship and a bean bag toss game: feed the shark. The students had lots of fun interacting and wearing their pirate costumes.

We continue to have new students attend our weekly dinners on Tuesday evenings. With Halloween falling on a Tuesday this year, we dressed up and played games while we handed out candy to the trick-or-treaters that came by the house. It was a great night. If you would like to help provide a Tuesday dinner, either by providing the finances or the meal, please contact me, Amy Scarlett: amyi.scarlett@gmail.com and we will get you on the calendar.

RECYCLING TO BEGIN

We are called to be responsible stewards of God's creation. In fact, care for the natural world is part of the United Methodist Social Principles. In response to this, the members of Circle 5 are going to fund the placement of a "blue bin" at the church. It will be in the alley beside the garbage can for at least seven months, and will be emptied every two weeks. We encourage anyone who uses the church building (UMW, MYF, fellowship hour hosts, CDT groups, etc.) to use the following guidelines and fill the bin!

Thanks for participating and making a difference!

Kathy Torgerson - Circle 5

Guidelines:

1. Cardboard – flattened and free of food
 - a. Brown cardboard boxes – broken down
 - b. Food boxes, such as butter, pudding, gelatin, and pasta

2. Plastic – rinsed and free of food
 - a. Milk and juice jugs
 - b. Plastic silverware and cups
 - c. Serving platters and covers from cheese trays, veggie trays, etc.

3. Metal – rinsed and free of food
 - a. Aluminum foil
 - b. Aluminum serving pans
 - c. Pie tins
 - d. Tin cans

4. Paper – OFFICE ONLY – Put paper in a plastic bag and tie it shut.
 - a. Office paper
 - b. Newspaper
 - c. Junk mail

Remember, it is required that all items be free of food residue!