

CROSSLINES



MOUNTAIN VIEW UMC CENTENNIAL 2012

DECEMBER 2011

Advent: A time to celebrate the coming of Jesus

It is a time of expectancy.

It is a time of preparation.

It is a time of hope for all.

And it is a time for celebration as we light the candles in the Advent wreath to note the Nativity experience that is the coming birth of Jesus the Christ so many years ago.

The Advent season reminds us that all is not lost in a world that seems beset with war, violence and a turning away of Christian values held by so many of us.

The Advent season reminds us that all the hoopla over which gift to buy for whom and the incessant beat of “buy this, buy that and buy it now” is meaningless as we ponder the miracle of God’s gift to the world.

The Advent season at Mountain View United Methodist Church began Sunday, Nov. 27, as the first candle of Advent was lit and Pastor Laura O’Neill’s message was “Revelation to Elizabeth.”

In keeping with lighting of the first candle—called by some the candle of “Expectation of Hope,” hymns sung that Sunday were to include “Come,

Thou Long Expected Jesus,” and “Go, Tell it on the Mountain.”

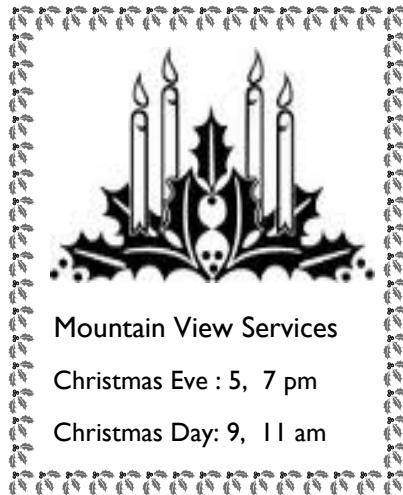
While we may have paused briefly to note the lighting of this first candle and then continued on with the worship service, it is important to remember it symbolizes our faith in God keeping his promises to humanity.

As we progress through this season of Advent, the second candle is lit. It is often referred to as the “Candle of Preparation,” reminding us to get ready for Christ’s coming.

Sunday, Dec. 11 will be the lighting of the third candle, often referred to as the “Candle of Joy.” It recalls the angels joyfully singing about the birth of Christ.

At Mountain View UMC we will join the angels as we sing “Angels from the Realms of Glory” and “It Came upon the Midnight Clear.”

The next Sunday the fourth candle will be lit, reminding us that God loves us so much that he sent his only Son to Earth. Truly, Jesus is the real reason for this Christmas season.



Mountain View Services

Christmas Eve : 5, 7 pm

Christmas Day: 9, 11 am

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WORSHIP TIMES

PRAISE - 9:00 a.m.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH- 9:00 a.m.

HARMONY ADULT CLASS - 10:00 a.m.

TRADITIONAL - 11:00 a.m.

www.mtnviewumc.com

Sunday Worship

9 a.m. Praise
9 a.m. Children's Church
10 a.m. Harmony Class (Adult)
11 a.m. Traditional

Bible Studies

Tuesdays (Men's) at 6:30 am
 Wednesdays at 1:30 pm

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Laura O'Neil

Other Pastors:

Revs. Ed Womack, Bill Birdsey,
 Paul McCleary, David Treadwell,
 Jean Dumas

Church Secretary:

Leah Alderson

Finance Treasurer:

Lynette Prouty

Praise Band Leader:

Gregg Gould

Choir Director:

Gayle Benjamin

Organist:

Beverly Hall

**Mountain View
 United Methodist Church**

901 S. 12th St.
 Cottonwood, AZ 86326
 928.634.8857

Mountainviewumc.cottonwood@gmail.com

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8am-noon

*Your Pastor is available at other times by
 appointment and any time for emergencies.*

Pastor Laura's Message**Prayer as Story and Image**

A story has been the literary format for many teaching and communication activities. We tell simple fables to teach lessons like Aesop's Fables. We train young minds to think of love, marriage, fear, and jealousy in fairy tales like Grimm's Fairy Tales.

We instruct on the lessons of the Gospel with Jesus' parables. In fact the Bible is often seen as a group of stories within a larger story, rather than a book of doctrine.

The simple story is a way also to be in prayer. The prayer power of a story is found in the imagination, unleashed and elevated by the creative Spirit that flares it. The Christmas Nativity story is such a story. Its profound meaning is not found in its exegetical qualities, but in its ability to inspire a prayerful attitude through narrative and images. Images have often been used as a vehicle of divine inspiration and a source of prayer.

The use of icons in Eastern Orthodox Christianity serves as an example. Icons are pictures that are inherently spiritual. Likewise, stories are inherently prayerful through the spiritual dimensions of the images they create.

Our mental and spiritual capacity to create images as we hear the Christmas Nativity story expands our spiritual elasticity. It can help us mount new spiritual heights by extending us beyond the confines of our limited empirical world.

Christmas is a time of fantasy and imagination, not a time of dull reason and routine explanations. I invite you to pray in imaginative images this Christmas. Make the experience a prayerful engagement with the divine in story and picture.†

CPR instruction to be offered Dec. 10

You could save a loved one's life.

That is, if you had received CPR instruction.

And that instruction will be offered at Mountain View United Methodist Saturday, Dec. 10.

Bruce Hagberg, president of the church's board of trustees and firefighter with the Verde Valley Fire District, will give the training following the United Methodist Men's breakfast in Verde Hall. The course should start about 9:15 a.m.

Besides CPR, Bruce also will give some basic First Aid training. Those desiring to take the course may sign up on a sheet in the Worship Center narthex.†

Centennial: 'Tour library when it was Methodist Church'

While it is not yet 2012 –Mountain View United Methodist Church’s Centennial year – events to mark the anniversary to the church’s founding will begin this month with tours at Clarkdale.

The Centennial Committee – chaired by the Rev. Paul McCleary – will offer two tours of the Clark Memorial Library historic exhibit.

The tours will be Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 5-6, and will last about an hour.

The tours will be at the Clarkdale Library – our former church location.

One of the tours will offer bus service for shut-ins. Those desiring transportation are asked to call the Church Office, 634-8857. Tours are expected to start at 10 a.m.

“The Centennial Committee,” said Paul, “has created an interesting exhibit of items for when the li-

brary was a Methodist Church.” In addition to a visit to the exhibit, he said the tours also will focus on the history of the former church building.

People who were members of the church when it was located at Clarkdale will be present to point out the layout of the sanctuary, location of the altar, pulpit furniture and stained glass windows. The section added in 1977 will be viewed as well.

“This is a unique opportunity to view the exhibit and to have the layout of our former church site explained by persons who were members here,” Paul remarked.

Other Centennial activities planned include the Centennial directory featuring historical photos as well as a history of Mountain View United Methodist during the past 100 years, and a 2012 Centennial calendar (*see separate story, Page 5*) that is now available for purchase.

More events will be announced in January.†

Reserve Your Poinsettia

This year we will again display poinsettias throughout the Worship Center to honor and remember our loved ones or special events. To purchase a poinsettia, please complete the order form below and turn it in to the church office with your payment of \$10 per plant by **Sunday, December 4**. Make checks payable to Mountain View United Methodist Church with Poinsettia in the memo line. Names of those honored or remembered will be printed on a bulletin insert for the Worship Service on Christmas Eve. Poinsettias may be picked up after the 11:00 am Christmas Service or Tuesday-Thursday, December 27-29, from 8 am—noon.†


I would like to order _____ Poinsettia(s) at \$10.00 each.

_____ Poinsettia(s) in Memory of _____

_____ Poinsettia(s) in Honor of _____

Your Name _____

_____ Yes, I plan to pick up the poinsettia after the 11 am Christmas Service.



Christmas Special Offering

This year’s Christmas Special Offering will be designated for world missions as specified in our apportionments. Enclosed is a Christmas Special Offering envelope for you to use. This Special Offering can be given any time during the month of December.

Heifer International giving offers More than just short-term relief

It was a simple idea:

Giving a family a source of food rather than a sack of grain or vegetables.

This was the idea put into practice more than 65 years ago by Midwestern farmer Dan West while serving as a relief worker.

Thus was born Heifer International, an organization that gives families throughout the world livestock and training to improve their nutrition and generate income in sustainable ways.

Once again Mountain View United Methodist is offering its congregation an opportunity to participate in Heifer International.

Information and purchase order forms will be available in the Worship Center narthex the next three Sundays, said coordinator Ginger Rickard. ☞

Socks, gloves warm up wintry days

Do you really need all those socks and gloves you have stashed away in your closets and dresser drawers? Probably not.

These clothing items, along with jackets and sweaters you no longer need, will go a long way toward making life more pleasant for the Verde Valley's less fortunate during these winter-time months.

You'll help these folks out by bringing these goods to the narthex in the Worship Center. The clothing will be distributed during "Picnic in the Park," as well as to other agencies providing services to the homeless. ☞

Youth group on holiday during December

Mountain View UMC's youth group will not be meeting during December. The date the group will resume meetings will be announced in the Mountain View Weekly. ☞

WELCOME

Doug and Jan Sanderson
470 Celestial Drive
Clarkdale, AZ 86327
Doug cell: 928-554-5000
Jan cell: 928-554-5000

Corey and Kris Bowman
740 E Mingus Ave, #1074
928-202-4879

Greet these new members of Mountain View United Methodist

Former handbell ringer? You can Help peel bells Christmas Eve

"If you or your family member has been a handbell ringer from a bell choir of this church or somewhere else, and would like to ring with us for Christmas Eve, please contact me.

That is the request from former Mountain View UMC handbell director Joan Spring.

She said there will be a single rehearsal Christmas Eve day to learn the music, plus a warm up prior to the 5 p.m. service.

While there also will be a 7 p.m. service, it was still to be determined if the choir will perform at both services. "If we do two," she said, "the bell choir will not be expected to stay for the entire second service."

She said the music will be relatively simple and easy to learn, and the choir will be doing bell pealing that night as well.

So she can plan the music, she needs to know how many ringers there will be. She should be contacted before Sunday, Dec. 11, at 634-4156 or by e-mail: jcmspring@gmail.com.

She encouraged bell ringers to pass this information on to others who may be interested in joining the Christmas Eve event. ☞



Prayers for Our Churches

The Desert Southwest Conference Laity Team and District Superintendents request that Mountain View UMC people commit to praying for other churches in their West Central district. Several churches will be listed each month for your prayer concerns. Please pray for the pastors, congregations, their programs and their community.

For December please pray for: Shepherd of the Hills UMC, Sun City West; New Song UMC, Surprise; South Mountain Community Church, Phoenix.

For Mountain View's sister church: Templo Emanuel in Sonoyta, Mexico. ☞

Angel's Attic: Fellow Christians Working together to meet goal

By Stephanie Kreunen

The success of the Angel's Attic fall sale was not just that money was raised to meet needs at Mountain View United Methodist that are not budgeted but it also was the working together of fellow Christians to meet a goal.

Thank you to all who participated and also to those who came to purchase the good bargains found in our hand-crafted items.

From February through October anywhere from 13-20 ladies met the second and fourth Mondays to create and share fellowship.

As their leader it was wonderful to see the spirit of cooperation and the pleasant time we had as we worked, talked and enjoyed good food prepared by those in the group.

We welcomed new members and said goodbye to those who moved on to other places and responsibilities.

Faithful attenders included Janice Bennett, Helen Brewer, Jean Cottrill, Donna Falkner, Ann Gohman, June Kley, Stephanie Kreunen, Janet Martinson, Rachel McCleary, Sheila McCully, Darlene Mellon, Lisa Packard, Gladys Palmer, Gretchen Platt, Sally Reese, Willie Schick, Ruth Schreiber, Shelby Smith, Naomi Thede and Naoma Tyner.

We were helped along the way by others like Jim Kreunen, who faithfully set up the tables and chairs for the bimonthly meetings, and Ken Tyner, who made display stands and helped with sale set-up

Others helping with the sale set-up included Kent Fullerton, Chris Julian, Dave Tardiff, Steve Tolbert, Roy Platt and Donnie Hansen. Many thanks for your help.

During this past year we were blessed to be able to contribute to Mountain View UMC by using funds to buy two trash cans for use outside Verde Hall, a new church sign to be installed after the city makes repairs to 12th Street, a reverse osmosis system for Verde Hall kitchen, payment for an unplanned church conference and outdoor mats for the church doors.

Church trustees have approved new signs for buildings on our campus, so we will be purchasing them in the near future.

We hope to use Angel's Attic sale funds for further improvements and needs at Mountain View. Please give written suggestions to me or put them in the Angel's Attic box in the Church Office. ☺

Words of appreciation

Many 'THANK YOUS' to everyone who prayed and were concerned about my recent illness. I am very 'thankful' that the treatment was successful.

You can always depend on the Mountain View family. We have excellent medical facilities here in Cottonwood. God's blessings on you all! —Norm Thede

In Remembrance



Sylvia Snowden
1913—Oct. 29, 2011

Anne S Johnson
1918—Nov. 20, 2011

Advent messages, Scriptures given

Pastor Laura O'Neil announces her "Revelation" series of Advent messages and Scriptures as we prepare for Christ's birth.

"Revelation to Elizabeth," was the topic Nov. 27 for the first Sunday in Advent. Scriptures were Luke 1:5-7, 24, 39-45 and 57-60.

The topic Dec. 4 will be "Revelation to Zechariah," based on Luke 1:8-22. The children's sermon will be "Let Anything that Breathes Praise the Lord."

For the third Sunday in Advent—Dec. 11—the message will be "Revelation to Mary," with Luke 1:26-36 the selected words from the Bible. "Follow the Light" will be the children's sermon

Sunday, Dec. 18 Pastor Laura will discuss "Revelation to Joseph," with Matthew 1:18-25 the Scripture. "A Light Fit" is the children's sermon topic.

"Revelation to the Shepherds" is the message for the Christmas Eve services, based on Luke 2: 8-20. For the children's sermon the topic is "The First Gift."

And for Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25, she will have "Revelation to the Wisemen," and Matthew 2:1-12 the Scripture. The children's sermon: "A King is Born." ☺

Centennial calendars show 'Century of Faith'

"Reaching out in Love and Service" is part of the message conveyed in the colorful 2012 Centennial Calendar now available for purchase.

The Mountain View United Methodist Church calendar entitled "A Century of Faith in the Verde Valley 1912-2012," costs just \$10.

The Centennial Committee notes the calendar will not only be a keepsake item, but serves as an ideal Christmas gift as well.

It will be on sale after the Sunday worship services. A \$2 charge will apply for those desiring the calendar to be mailed. ☺

Mountain View 2011 Directory Updates

Angie Hillman—Page 19— Phone:
928-274-1071

Dave Tardiff—Page 43— Address:
PO Box 1377
Cottonwood, AZ 86326-1377

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st

Sherry Bell

2nd

Jordan Prouty

5th

Mabel Brest

Richard Gohman

6th

Carol Jeannette-Brown

Amy Lower

Dorothy Steele

12th

Bob Young

14th

Duane Zimmerman

15th

Sheila Brown

22nd

Chris Boothe

24th

Ronael Eckman

28th

Tristan Hillman

30th

Willie Schick

31st

Dorothy Julian

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

21st

Dick & Ann Gohman

27th

Bill & Shirley Emshwiller

28th

Jim & Stephanie Kreunen

29th

Robert & Alta Dunning

31st

Herbert & Donna Beauchamp



WELLNESS NOTES

“He will be called Immanuel.” Matthew 1:23

*“The name Immanuel means God with us.”
Isaiah 7:14*

December is the month to look at the birth of Jesus ‘which means God with us’. As we look toward Christmas we are bombarded by the hype of buying (without the focus of giving); the media frenzy that makes us feel guilty if we are not trying to outdo those around us; and the focus on greed that began earlier than November. Little in what we see or hear encourages us to see or feel God With Us. As Christians, maybe we just need frequent reminders to keep the Christ in our Christmas. (how about sticky notes around our environment with “God is With Us”!!)

Before I began to write this article I was watching Dr. OZ who had as his guest, Joel Osteen, talking about the power of prayer. They spoke of the miracles of the power of prayer in healing and the strength that comes from looking to God as our source of power and guidance. Isn’t prayer the ultimate “God With Us” experience? These two popular men spoke of the power prayer has and the importance of ‘believing we are worth healing and worth what we ask of God’. Isn’t strengthening our prayer life one of the best ways we can ‘Keep Christ in our Christmas’ and realize the wonderful gift we have received of “God With Us”?

Make December our month to strengthen our spirit through increasing our prayer life. Centering our prayers on the positive power that comes from lifting our praise, our fears, our joys, and our desires to the one who came to our life as our greatest gift, may make this time of year one filled with energy and amazing miracles. Believing that God is indeed with us, that we are here to fulfill a purpose, and that someone needs the gifts we are given to share in this world, will give our Holiday time a sense of power. We can go above the noise and greed and secular hype to find our spot of serenity, peace, and renewed strength. Let this power carry us into the New Year with a resolve to be more welcoming, more worshipful, and more caring, as we discover Christ’s transforming love, and serve others.

God be with us as we celebrate Christmas

Alice Stephenson BSN,RN,PN

Parish Nurse Consultant



Merry Christmas

Christmas play, installing officers on tap for December UMW meeting

Installation of 2012 officers and a Christmas play will highlight the Tuesday, Dec. 13 meeting of United Methodist Women at Mountain View UMC.

Directed by Gayle Benjamin will be an adapted version of "The Greatest of These." The presentation features the singing of carols interspersed with readings of Christmas from various countries throughout the world.

The meeting begins with a potluck at 11:30 a.m. It will be preceded by a 9:30 a.m. board session.

Three UMW circles plan to meet in December. Priscilla Circle will meet at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6 for a Christmas party at Denny's, while Martha Circle will

meet at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27 at Lois Billerbeck's.

That same day, at noon, Ruth Circle members will have a potluck at the Rio de Oro clubhouse. Sarah Circle will not meet in December. ☞

United Methodist Men to learn About New Mexico mission trip

Four members of an October mission study tour will recount their observations Saturday, Dec. 10 at the breakfast meeting of Mountain View UMC's United Methodist Men.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Center's Verde Hall.

The Rev. Paul McCleary, the tour's director, will moderate the program.

Larry Keim will discuss what the Rev. Lourdes Calderon of Albuquerque had to say about Hispanic ministries in that community, while Terry Schick will comment on the group's visit to McCurdy School at Espanola.

Dave Tardiff's remarks will be about Susan Kimber and the Navajo Center at Rydder Chapel at Farmington, with Jim Kreunen discussing the mission study tour's visit with the Rev. Shirley Montoya at Four Corners Navajo Ministries in Shiprock.

Other Mountain View members on the study tour were the Rev. Laura O'Neil, Nancy Bowman, Ruth Triplett and Rachel McCleary.

Giving devotions will be Torrey Barcanic. All men are encouraged to attend.

Separately, the men's group will have its annual "Jesus and Pizza" party Saturday, Dec. 17 as part of the Angel Tree program.

Gifts will be distributed to children who have a parent in prison. The children's families, along with Mountain View UMC people who provided the gifts are invited to the 1 p.m. event in Verde Hall. ☞

Remember to sing Dec. 22

The singing of Christmas carols. Hot chocolate and cookies.

All of the above, plus the joy of making Christmas brighter for shut-ins when the United Methodist Women's caroling will occur at 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 22.

Transportation will be arranged when carolers arrive at the Fellowship Center's Verde Hall, said UMW president Nancy Bowman. All the church's adults and youth are invited to participate, she said. ☞

More photos needed for Centennial

That 2012 Centennial church directory that is being published can use your help.

Photographs of past and present activities of Mountain View United Methodist Church are sought by the Centennial Committee, whose job it is to compile the photos to be included in the directory.

"We won't be able to use all your pictures, but we would like to see your favorites," said Lynette Prouty, committee member.

Because of time constraints she would like any digital photographs to be e-mailed to her at rlprouty@msn.com.

Copies should also be sent to Eunice Perschke, historian/scrapbooker for the church. They can be placed in the Historian mailbox at the Church Office.

Photos should include the event's name and date they were taken.

Noting not many pictures have been received of recent Mountain View events, Eunice invited the congregation to submit any photos they may have for inclusion in the church's scrapbook.

Among photos needed are family camp, yard sale, men and women's groups, children's ministries, Angel's Attic, youth group, choir and Praise Band. ☞

Fair trade coffee makes great gift

Besides buying your own fair trade organic coffee, you may want to purchase another pound as a Yuletide gift.

The Mountain View UMC EarthCare ministry team will again have Café Justo coffee for sale between the Dec. 4 Sunday worship services.

Proceeds from the coffee sales go towards improving wages of coffee workers in Mexico through a coffee cooperative formed in 2002 by members of a church in Agua Prieta, Sonora, just south of Arizona.,



Mountain View UMC
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Office Hours

8:00 a.m.—noon
Monday—Thursday

Publication Deadlines

Weekly Announcements:

Monday at Noon

Monthly Newsletter: 15th of the
preceding month.



Mountain View United Methodist Church
Our Mission: Reaching Out in Love and
Service to Bring Everyone Closer to God
Through Jesus Christ