

The Gazette

December 2022



Message from Dan



Advent and Christmas are liturgical seasons when the church focuses on the themes of hope and expectation. Recently, from the pulpit, we heard the prophet Isaiah declare “A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse (David’s father),” (Isaiah 11: 1) resulting in a new king from the Davidic line, who would bring justice and peace, to Judah and Jerusalem to the whole world. And in the birth of Jesus, Simeon, who sees Mary and Joseph carry the baby into the temple, declares to God, “my eyes have seen your salvation.” (Luke 2: 30)

For Christians, Jesus is the Messiah of the prophets. He is the one who is, as Simeon declared, God’s salvation for the world. In the birth of Jesus, we see the images of the vulnerable baby from the prophet Isaiah. And we see how God has chosen to become one of us, the divine incarnate.

Living in ‘hope’ and ‘expectation’ is a centuries old struggle for human beings. Our lives are always filled with turmoil, whether it be personal issues with health or relationships, or cultural and social-political struggles. Isaiah promises a king who will bring peace, to that social-political sphere, and to all of God’s creation. In the baby Jesus, we believe that God’s self, not a human king, is present to bring the kind of peace and salvation envisioned by the prophets.

“And a little child shall lead them.” (Isaiah 11: 6)
This child, born in Bethlehem, brought justice and peace to the most vulnerable during his lifetime. Later in the liturgical year, our attention will change to the way God shares in the suffering of all humankind on the cross and illustrates the power of God’s love beyond the cross.

If we focus on this event of the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, we will see God’s salvation unfolding. God’s love for us is so great that God chooses to become one of us in this little baby in Bethlehem. In this birth, this incarnation, this child will lead us to the justice and peace which Isaiah desired, and humans have desired from the beginning of time.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!
MAY GOD BE BORN IN YOU!**

Dan L. Flanagan

December Gathering

Monday, December 12

- 9:00 a.m. Games on the Concourse
- 9:30 a.m. Senior Adult Council Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Program: Ian Gill
- 12 noon Lunch will be served

Games after The Gathering beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Registration deadline is NOON December 9

Click here to register

<https://www.fumcr.com/senioradults>

Only people who register are guaranteed food.

You may also call Mary Collins at 972-996-0101

Remember to bring \$5 cash or check for lunch, if you didn’t pay online.

Senior Adult Coat and Toy Drive

Through December 12

Needed: new and gently used coats for children and adults and **NEW** toys. Donations will go to Network, Simply Grace, Warren Center & Emily’s Place.
There will be bins around the church to drop off items.

Movies

Dec. 19 Miracle on 34th Street
(7:00pm)

Jan. 17 Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris
31 Shane

January movies are in the Worship and Arts Center at 1:30 p.m. with free popcorn and water



Christmas Hymn Sing

December 13 at 1:30 pm

FUMCR Chapel

Worship at FUMCR

Traditional Worship in the sanctuary: 8:45, 9:45 and 11 a.m.
9:45 Online and 11:00 Live Stream (YouTube and On Demand)
Modern Worship in the Worship and Arts Center: 11 a.m



Sermon Series:
A Christmas Story

December George Bush Library Trip

Thursday, December 8

Leave at 9:00 am from First Center, return by 2:30 pm

For those who signed up, meet at First Center parking lot at 8:45am, bus leaves at 9:00am

For questions contact Mary Ann Whitmire at 214-823-1777



November Drawing Winners

Robert Ramsower
Vance Bridges
LaVonne White
Margie Robertson
Congratulations !

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

from

The Senior Adult Council



Dan S. Flanagan
Betty Bartala

Verlene Balentine

Betty Nickel

Mary Ann Whitmire
Don + Valerie
Tarrant

Roger Fortney

Frances
Hannigan

Carole Nance

Betty J. J.