

*Emory United Methodist Church
The Spire Monthly Newsletter
December 2016*

Update on Children's Needs...from Eva Edmondson

Each time I deliver clothing and school supplies to our schools, the contact persons (guidance counselor and asst. principal at Glade Middle; school nurse at Meadowview) urge me to convey their gratitude to members of our church and community who have been so generous in helping their students. At Meadowview, we have recently provided shoes and clothing for both girls and boys in all sizes appropriate for K-5 students. Glade Middle has a good supply of all items placed on their "school supply" lists submitted by the teachers. I cannot describe their appreciation since we have enabled them to take care of the immediate needs of the students. Apparently the number of children in need of help remains large. Please know that our help is deeply appreciated and I believe reaches children who are truly in need of help. Please accept their appreciation and gratitude.

Breakfast Fellowship: Every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. there will be informal breakfast fellowship in Cole Parlor. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Small Group Ministry: S.P.A.R.Q. (Seeking People Asking Relevant Questions) Study group is a friendly group of folks from the Emory UMC congregation that meet weekly to discuss topics of interest and search scripture to find answers or even more questions. Topics have included: Love, Forgiveness, Hope, Age of Accountability, the Holy Spirit, and many more. All are welcome to attend to find fellowship and lively, biblical discussion. Thursdays -- 6 pm @ the Central Café in Glade Spring.

Christmas Cantata: Sunday, December 4 at 9:30 a.m. – invite a friend!

Congregational Christmas Dinner: Sunday, December 11 at 5:00 p.m. in Mason Fellowship Hall – potluck. After the meal we will assist with the E&H Angel Tree gifts that are to be distributed to families the next day, for those who wish to help.

Half-Century: Will meet at The Log House in Wytheville, Virginia, for a special Christmas gathering on Wednesday, December 14, at Noon. Transportation is available. Please make reservations with Evon Crowder at crowderb@comcast.net by December 12.

Poinsettias for the Sanctuary: We are invited to order poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary this year. These are the large, red poinsettias from Indoor Farms; they are \$15 each; the order deadline is Sunday, December 6. Forms are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary, or you can order with David at djackson@ehc.edu. Poinsettias can be ordered in honor or memory of individuals or families and these names will appear in the bulletin.

Angel Tree Children: The Emory UMC congregation has adopted three Angel Tree Children this year. Please consider supporting this important community outreach with a financial contribution. Checks or offering envelopes need to be designated for "Angel Tree Children". Also, boxes for packing gifts are needed for the program and can be brought to David's office (Room 205, Memorial Chapel).

Christmas Mission Tree: The Christmas Mission Tree is in the narthex. There are a variety of missions to which we can contribute. Gifts can be made in honor or memory of individuals or families, and cards will be sent acknowledging the gift.

Upcoming Events

-Thursday, December 1	S.P.A.R.Q. at 6pm at Central Café
-Saturday, December 3	Recycling at the Emory Depot
-Sunday, December 4	Christmas Cantata, 9:30 a.m.
-Wednesday, December 7	Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m., Emory UMC
-Thursday, December 8	S.P.A.R.Q. at 6pm at Central Café
-Sunday, December 11	Emory UMC Christmas Dinner, 5:00 p.m. (potluck)
-Wednesday, December 14	Half-Century at the Log House, Wytheville, Noon
-Wednesday, December 14	Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m., Emory UMC
-Thursday, December 15	S.P.A.R.Q. at 6pm at Central Cafe
-Monday, December 19	Church Council, 6:30 p.m., Dow Room
-Wednesday, December 21	Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m., Emory UMC
-Thursday, December 22	S.P.A.R.Q. at 6pm at Central Cafe
-Saturday, December 24	Christmas Eve Worship Service, 5:30 p.m., Memorial Chapel
-Sunday, December 25	Regular Worship Schedule (9:30 a.m.)
-Sunday, January 1	No Worship Service this Sunday

Recycling at the Emory Depot: The first Saturday of each month, volunteers from the congregation and community accept recycling at the Emory Depot. Funds raised from the aluminum go to our medical assistance fund, which helps families in the community with emergency medical needs.

Weekly Food Donations: Everyone is invited to bring donated food to worship each Sunday morning. We collect the food in a bin as we enter the sanctuary and it is delivered to the Glade Spring Food Pantry during the week.

Stay Connected: The Emory UMC worship service is rebroadcast on WEHC 90.7 FM at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings, with a one week delay. If you are not able to make it to church, tune in to WEHC and join us for worship. Also, check out our website at <http://emoryumchurch.org>.

Pastor's Schedule: David will be on vacation for the Christmas holiday from December 26-January 2. He is always available in the event of an emergency at 865-228-4357. There will be no regular 9:30 a.m. worship service on January 1.

We the people of the Emory United Methodist Church affirm that our church is inclusive and open to all people. We are a Reconciling Congregation, affiliated with the Reconciling Ministries Network, which means that we welcome all persons into full participation in the life of our congregation regardless of age, gender identity, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marriage status, or physical or mental condition.

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