

**Update from Missionary Angie Broncano**

Warm Greetings of Peace!

I hope and pray you are always in good health as you receive this email.

First, I praise our God for having you as my covenant partners and partners in mission for quite some years. Your love, gifts, presence, and prayers truly bless me. For almost 8 years in my missionary service, you have sustained your support in whatever means. It was unfortunate that I could not visit you and your churches because of the pandemic. But thank you for being present in my "In Mission Episode" where I had several opportunities to share the stories of people and our ministry in Laos.

Secondly, I thank God for giving me opportunities to work with our Global Missionaries and Global Mission Fellows in carrying out God's mission with love, compassion, patience, and perseverance. We encountered many challenges, but these challenges also served as opportunities to share God's love and understanding of God's mission. With God's help, we have gained some positive feedback from our partner communities as they see our sincerity, love, and service to those who are in need. Religion was not a barrier to our intent of improving the lives of people regardless of their religious beliefs, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and gender.

Thirdly, I thank God for the friendship, acceptance, love, and radical hospitality of our Laotian brothers and sisters as we, missionaries navigate our presence in their midst. Through them, I found myself always at home, often in disagreement with some of our Laotian leaders, but ultimately our love for people and God's work always united us.

Finally, I praise God for letting me participate in God's mission. It is a noble calling where my faith is tested, tried, and lived out. Working with people from diverse backgrounds was so humbling and empowering at the same time. My listening and communication skills were further enhanced, and I have learned so many things that challenged me to be a better, more caring, and loving person.

Now, God has a new plan for me as I went back to the Philippines for medical reasons. This would be a journey of faith where self-care is needed. I covet all your prayers in this medical journey. I am constantly reminded by 2 Cor 12:9, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Thank you for all your prayers, financial support, and accompaniment in many of our mission works and ministries.

May the kindness and blessings of the Lord Jesus Christ be upon you. May you continue to experience and share God's love. May the Holy Spirit be our spiritual compass. Amen.

Blessings and Peace!  
**Angelita B. Broncano**

Deaconess  
Former GM Missionary to Laos



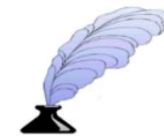
December Mission of the Month--Chaddock School Chaddock School in Quincy, Illinois was established as a home for boys in 1853 as a ministry of the Methodist church and maintains a covenant relationship with the church today. Its focus of care for homeless boys has changed since its founding and has expanded into many other areas of care . Chaddock believes that every child deserves a chance and has structured its services to achieve that goal.

- 1.The Chaddock team includes 250 highly trained employees who serve thousands of children and families every year including providing foster care, preventative care, and educational and treatment programs.
- 2.Chaddock has served children from 30 different states and 4 tribal nations.
3. Chaddock provides treatment for children suffering from attachment disorders .
- 4.Chaddock provides foster care from birth to 21 to severely neglected and disturbed children.
5. Chaddock treats children who suffer from psychological, emotional and spiritual effects of significant abuse and trauma.
6. Chaddock maintains a Special Education School and also provides in home intensive programs.
7. Chaddock provides residential on-site treatment as needed .
8. Chaddock is nationally and internationally known for providing training and health consultation services to educators, therapists and others who serve children and families.

Since 1853, Chaddock's services and programs have grown with the support of Methodist churches, into a full-service institution that assists severely challenged children and families . We, as United Methodists , can be proud of the part we have played in assisting with its growth and far-reaching Christian outreach.



MARSHALL FUMC  
DECEMBER 2024  
*From the Pastor's Pen*



Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Over the last week I found myself in several stores, going through the normal process of shopping for the items needed for one thing or another. As I walked through the stores I noticed three things, One, the stores were playing Christmas music, normally reserved for black Friday and beyond; two, the section of Christmas decorations was smaller than previous years (although, perhaps they are not set up in full yet); and three, the people I saw looked tired, worried, and mostly defeated. On one particular day, after noticing the look of the people, I caught a glimpse of myself in an inconveniently placed mirror, and noticed I looked about as worn out as they did.

All of this sent me into a time of reflection over the past year, noting many of the difficult, aggravating, and heart-breaking moments that had made up 2024. I had my own little pity party and then I heard a voice that said, "but you weren't alone." Then, I thought, that's right, "Lord, You have been there with me all along."

Sometimes the Lord can seem very far away, other times He can seem so close that you can almost reach out and touch Him. I can't always explain it, but I know He is there. But when I look back and reflect, I can see His footprints walking next to mine, and as the writer of Footprints noted, I too can see the times He was carrying me.

We are about to enter into "the most wonderful time of the year," and not for all the reasons the song listed, but rather for the one who made the season possible to begin with. Jesus Christ came into the world to save us from our sins, and to show us by His blood shed on the cross the depth of love our God has for us. In this we can rejoice knowing that He came for us.

The Advent - Christmas season brings with it a special kind of JOY because of the one who's birth made angels sing and shepherds and wise men bow down and worship. It is a time when we reflect on the HOPE we have in Christ, the PEACE that comes from a relationship with Him, the LOVE made known in the Christ who died for us, the inexpressible JOY that is ours through the indwelling Spirit of God, and the assurance that not only is God with us but that one day we will spend eternity with Him.

It is my prayer this Advent and Christmas season that you will experience true JOY, that for a moment in time you can look back on the past with me and see that you are never alone. I pray that in your hardest times and in your best times you will be able to see the footprints of Christ walking with you and perhaps those times when He was caring you. I pray that this Advent-Christmas season you will lean into the JOY of our Savior and be at peace.

Joyfully serving Christ with you,  
*Pastor Bill*

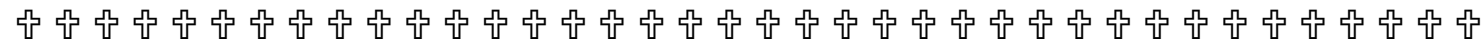








Dawn Youngdahl & Evy Bauman, The Family of Harley Bennet, The Family of Jeff Loper, David Miller, Karen Wheat (friend of Kathy Brown), Lacy Davis ( friend of Kathy Brown), Gilbert Clark (Gordon Clark's Brother), Candace Painter, Frederick Shaw (friend of Linda James), Brian Winkleman (brother-in-law of Eric Murphy), Bev Smith, Molly Macke (Patty & John's daughter-in-law), Angie Broncano (Laos missionary with cancer), Eddie Gutierrez, Mike Delp (friend of John & Linda James), Unspoken, Gale Glick, Diana Bailey, Tiffany Macke, Millie Swalls (Nora & Brad Swalls' granddaughter), Kinley Nash (Lois & David Nash's granddaughter), Bishop Frank Beard, D.S. Angie Lee, Peg Hintz (Tom Hintz's mother), Julie Krietemeier (Beth Macke's sister), Israel, All Long-term Healthcare Facilities in Clark County, Natural Disaster Victims, Our Missionaries



**Our Military Personnel:**

**Our Nation, Our Nation's Leaders, and Armed Forces**

Chris Bradford	John Flowers	Daniel Gard
Michael Holmes	John Kuhn	Shelby Sanborn
Lewis Sanborn	Jake Hoalt	Chaplain Jonathon Maloney

**Our Homebound & Health Care Facility Residents**

Violet Cook	JoAnn Donehue	Ray King
Mary E. Koutsoumpas	Phyllis Boatright	Dan Flowers
Ron Hicks	Sharon Miller	



**Seniors**



Holy Grounds Coffee Group meets every Tuesday. All are welcome to join!

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Marshall Family Restaurant 9AM
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Hollybrook 2PM
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Gypsy Queen 9AM
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Holy Grounds will NOT be meeting.



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Time to think about Christmas Gift Card giving. Order them early for those that have it all. See Angie if you have any questions. The ensure that cards will be in on time, please place all orders before December 16.



Prayer Focus for the month:  
**World Peace**



The UWF board met in November to close out the year. They donated \$200 each to BRIDGE, Lessie Bates Davis, Cunningham Home, Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Baby Fold, Chaddock, & Connie Wieck. Gift cards were given to staff & college students.

A big THANK YOU!! goes out to Dianne Rardin for being in charge of Chili Day. The day went very smoothly and was very successful. Thanks, again, Dianne!! We appreciate all the time and effort you put in to that day.

**December Projects:**

- Weave - Wednesdays from 10 to 12
- Laundry Ministry - Quarters are needed.
- Chaddock Santa Express - Gifts need to be dropped off by Mon., Dec. 2

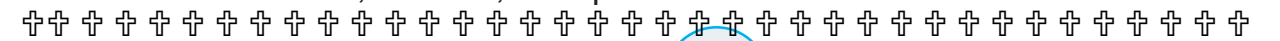
**Mark Your Calendar:**

**Weekly Events**

Weaving - Wednesdays from 10 to noon

**Circles:**

- Esther Circle - Thurs., Dec. 12, 7:00 pm
- Susannah Wesley Circle - Mon., Dec. 16, 6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
- Faith Circle - Thurs., Dec. 19, 9:00 am, Chapel
- Sisters In Faith - Thurs., Dec. 19, 6:00 pm



*Thank you to all for cards, flowers, donations, hugs, phone calls, texts, and prayers during our dad's illness and after his death. You are all so kind, and are the reason we love this church family as we do. You are all invited to a celebration of Harley's life at Harten Hall. Please come and share a memory and some goodies with us. We will celebrate a wonderful father, husband, son, friend, and servant for the Lord.*

*Laura Irwin  
Rachel Gubbins  
Joseph Bennet*

*Dear Church Family,  
Thank you for the pretty planter you sent at the time of my mother's passing and thank you for your kind words.  
Love,  
Patty & John Macke*





# DECEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1. Communion Day</p> 	<p>2. Exercise 8:30AM Yoga-9AM</p> <p>-The U.S. Patent Office issues Patent #465,588 for the toilet paper roll. (1891) -The first Ford Model A is sold. The price: \$382. (1927)</p>	<p>3. Holy Grounds-9AM</p> <p>Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and US President George H. W. Bush, declare the Cold War over. (1989)</p>	<p>4. Power Lunch KFC</p> <p>National Cookie Day</p>	<p>5.</p>	<p>6. Bethlehem Exp. Work Day Exercise 8:30AM Open House @ Pastor Bill &amp; Becky's 3PM-8PM YF after school</p>	<p>7. Breakfast w/ Santa Hometown HollyDays</p> 
<p>8. President Franklin D. Roosevelt makes his "Day in Infamy" speech to the U.S. Congress on the day after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. (1941)</p>	<p>9. Exercise 8:30AM Yoga-9AM</p>	<p>10. Holy Grounds-2PM Hollybrook PenPals &amp; Pancakes</p> <p>The Encyclopedia Britannica was first published in Edinburgh, Scotland. 1768) Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize. (1964)</p>	<p>11. Power Lunch KFC</p>	<p>12.</p>	<p>13. Exercise 8:30AM</p>	<p>14.</p>
<p>15. YF at 5PM At the Baptist Church</p> <p>Gone with the Wind premiered in where else but Atlanta, Georgia. (1939)</p>	<p>16. Exercise 8:30AM Yoga-9AM</p> <p>The famous World War II "Battle of the Bulge" began. (1944)</p>	<p>17. Holy Grounds-9AM Gypsy Queen</p> <p>The Wright Brothers made their first airplane flight at Kitty Hawk, N.C. (1903)</p>	<p>18. KFC KFC Family Dinner No Power Lunch</p>	<p>19. Charles Dickens classic "A Christmas Carol" was published. (1843)</p>	<p>20. Exercise 8:30AM</p>	<p>21. Food and Clothing Bank 8AM-Noon</p>
<p>22. YF to go Caroling</p> <p>The U.S. Navy is formed with 7 ships. (1777) Seth Wheeler receives U.S. Patent #465,588 for the toilet paper roll. (1871) Thomas Edison creates the first string of Christmas tree lights. (1882)</p>	<p>23. Exercise 8:30AM Yoga-9AM</p>	<p>24. Christmas Eve Office Closed</p> <p>Service 5PM &amp; 9PM</p>	<p>25. Christmas Day Christmas Dinner 11:30AM Office Closed</p> <p>Jesus Christ is born in a manger in a little town in Bethlehem. (00) St. Francis of Assisi sets up the first Nativity scene. It is displayed in Greccio, Italy. (1223)</p>	<p>26.</p>	<p>27. Exercise 8:30AM</p>	<p>28.</p>
<p>29. Noisy Offering</p>	<p>30. Exercise 8:30AM Yoga-9AM</p>	<p>31. New Year's Eve Office Closes Early</p> <p>Shopkeepers in England brick up their windows to avoid a Window tax. (1695) The first New Year's Eve celebration is held in New York City's Times Square. (1904) To mark the arrival of the new year, the ball is dropped in Times Square for the first time. (1907)</p>				



*Leaning into Joy  
This Advent and Christmas Season*



*“Rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy”  
- 1 Peter 1:8*

*around for a while, you will know that happiness comes and goes. That is why we need to seek Joy instead of happiness. Happiness is dependent upon life events and circumstances, but joy is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit within us. We need to lean into the joy that comes from a relationship with God found in Christ, through the indwelling work of the Holy Spirit.*

*It is my prayer that this series of sermons will help you to lean into the joy of the Lord and that your faith and life will find its resting place in Him.*

*December 1, 2024 - 1st Sunday of Advent: “We have JOY because we have found HOPE in the Lord.”  
Jeremiah 33:14-16 and Luke 21:25-36*

*December 8, 2024 – 2nd Sunday of Advent: “We have JOY because we are LOVED by God.”  
Isaiah 40:1-11 and Luke 1:26-38*

*December 15, 2024 – 3rd Sunday of Advent: “We have JOY because Jesus is our JOY.”  
Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Luke 1:46b-55*

*December 22, 2024 – 4th Sunday of Advent: “We have JOY because we have found PEACE in the Lord.”  
Matthew 1:18-25 and Ephesians 2:14-17*

*December 24, 2024 – Christmas Eve: “We have JOY because SALVATION has come.”  
Luke 2:1-20*

*December 29, 2024 – The Sunday after Christmas: “We have JOY because our future is SECURE.”  
Psalm 148 and Luke 2:22-35*

*January 5, 2025 – Epiphany of the Lord: “We have JOY in the WISDOM of God.”  
Proverbs 2:1-11 and Matthew 2:1-12*

*Join us this Advent and Christmas season as we lean into the Joy of the Lord. Over the next six weeks I will be preaching a series of sermons looking at the various aspects of our faith that bring JOY to our lives as we lean on Jesus.*

*We often talk about happiness. We just want to be happy. We want our children to be happy. Whatever makes for a happy life seems to be on the agenda of the day, but if you have been*

It's time to start thinking about our annual Marshall Area Community Christmas Dinner. We will be needing volunteers to help set up, serve, and to bring a dish. Watch for the volunteer sign-up sheet in the lobby.

**16TH ANNUAL  
MARSHALL AREA COMMUNITY  
CHRISTMAS DINNER**

*Monday, December 25, 2024  
(Christmas Day)*

**Everyone is Welcome!!  
Free—No Charge!!**

**Place:** First United Methodist Church  
702 Plum St, Marshall  
*(downtown Marshall, next to the Post Office)*

**Time:** Serving at 11:30 a.m.

**RSVP:** First United Methodist Church at  
826-8041 or stop by the church  
office, by December 20.

Good Food!  
Great Fellowship!  
Lots of Fun!

Please call the office to  
make a reservation.  
217-826-8041



Dinner is sponsored by First United Methodist Church.