

Volume 37, Issue 12

December 2016



SUNRISE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNRISE NEWS AND VIEWS



Martha's Musings



This year's Presbyterian Women study book *Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes*, takes a broad overview of each gospel. Its focus is to examine the audience and context the different gospel writers intended to influence. The study has reminded us that the gospels were written at particular times in history for particular people. And while the gospel was written for people living long ago – the gospel still speaks to us in our particular time.

This year's lectionary readings will focus on Matthew's gospel. Matthew's intended audience is Jewish believers. He stresses over and over that Jesus' teaching opens the Kingdom of Heaven to us here and now. Matthew tells us about Jesus' birth in a very different story from Luke. Matthew's focus is on a powerful tyrant, King Herod, who wants to kill the baby. Herod does not want the child to challenge his throne. In Matthew, Jesus is born into a frightening web of political intrigue. Not long after his birth, Mary and Joseph are forced to flee the country with their new baby as refugees. They escape to Egypt and remain there until Herod died.

Every day, I read stories in the news about refugee families. This month

families continue to flee Syria. They often leave their homes with young babies or pregnant mothers. They take precious little with them. They risk death in leaky rafts. They live in squalid conditions in refugee camps. They often lack food or medicine. Their pictures break our hearts.



I find it most apt that this year our Advent and Christmas readings come from Matthew's story about Jesus and his family becoming undocumented refugees. Mary and Joseph fled to Egypt much like refugees in our world. It would be likely that when they arrived in Egypt, the young family lived in some sort of refugee camp or slum. They had little. Herod wanted to kill their child. They did what they had to do to survive.

What a powerful message for us today! Imagine the baby Jesus in the middle of a leaky raft full of refugees. Imagine Mary and Joseph trying to get their son to safety. Imagine looking at the faces of the refugee babies we see in the news and seeing Jesus' face. Jesus spent his first years as a refugee. He is one of them. He is with them in their fear and hunger. He is with them as they search for home.

And he will be with us also in our fear and hunger. He will be with us in our joy and abundance. He will be with us reminding us that the Kingdom of Heaven is here among us right now – we simply have to open our eyes and see it!

Love,

Martha



College Care Packages

13 care packages were sent to our young adult college kids. Hopefully the goodies are making finals just a little bit easier to get through! Thanks to our Christian Education Committee for organizing this great idea. Thanks to the congregation for bringing all the goodies!

One of our college students, Jessica Merrill, texted this to Martha after receiving her care package:

"Hi, Martha! I got a care package today and I wasn't sure who made it exactly, but just wanted to say thank you so much! I love it and it reminded me of the great church family I'll always have back home!"



Letter included with care packages:

Sunrise Presbyterian Church

Dear Kaity,

Greetings from your church family at Sunrise!

We know that final exams will soon be upon you and we wish you the very best success. Know that our thoughts and prayers are with you. To help get you through this stressful time we have sent a few snacks which from our own personal past experience, we know are a necessity for the successful studying for finals.

Here's wishing you the very best of luck and we hope to see you over the Christmas vacation!

Sincerely,
 The Christian Education Committee
 And your Family at Sunrise



Stewardship Update

Your mailbox is probably full of requests of “Year End” gifts from a variety of charitable causes. Remember you can give appreciated stock instead of cash and not be taxed for the profit! And you can still take the full amount as a charitable donation! Pay your remaining

pledge or prepay 2017 with stock(s) for these tax benefits.

Karmel has the details of how to arrange this sort of contribution between your stock account and ours.



It's Cool!

Sunrise Mariners have donated a new refrigerator for the church kitchen. The new fridge should save hundreds of dollars in electricity expense. Thanks, Mariners, and thanks to Sunrise members for supporting the Mariner chili supper and ice cream social that provide the dollars for Mariner's cargo (the good things we are able to do).



Paint Crew

Thanks to the wonderful Habitat house painting crew: Katie Weis, Tom Phillips, Nancy Klostermeyer, Bob Houck, Judy Christensen, Ken Miller and Jon Blanchard!

Maria thinks her family will be able to move in before Christmas. What a blessing for them! (See page 8 for house blessing information!)



A Minute for Mariners



Sabot Mariners Meeting

On December 13, 6:00 pm, the Sabots will meet for a holiday gathering at Bayards Café. This year they will pool donations during the gathering and use them for the Heusner families Christmas gifts.



Clipper Mariners

Clippers will meet for their holiday gathering Sunday, December 11, at 2:00 pm. They will enjoy dessert and a movie.

Please RSVP to Pat Tomlins - 826-5826, or Marilyn Griffith - 820-0150.



From 'the Fleet'

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. We also want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2017!

The Sunrise Mariner Fleet thanks everyone who supported us in our projects this past year. We look forward to your support again in 2017.

Write these events on your calendar: Sunday, January 8, 2017 we will have a Fleet Night at 5:30 in the evening.

The chili supper will be Saturday, February 25. We will have tickets out the first of January.

Thinking of hotter days, the ice cream social will again be in July.

Merry Christmas from the Sunrise Mariner Fleet!

Communion

Deacons would like to remind everyone that home communion is not and has not been done on Sunday for several years. Also, please let the office know if someone wants home communion and Martha will add those to her home communion list.

Also, you may have noticed a change in the communion bread (squares). We are making it with coconut oil and coconut milk so it is lactose free.



MLK Center & Ashby House Mitten Tree

Sunrise is collecting mittens, gloves, hats and socks for the children at Ashby House and Martin Luther King Child Care Center. Look for the tree near the fireplace across from the church office. Please be generous!



Give the Gift of Warmth

Bring hats, mittens, scarves, socks, etc. to decorate the tree across from the church office.



Christmas Joy Offering

Gift giving has become a large part of the Christmas spirit we celebrate each year. The Christmas Joy Offering is a way for you to do more than simply give a gift; it's a way to improve the lives of those who are struggling.

We will receive the Christmas Joy Offering on Christmas Eve, but if you won't be here you can give earlier. For more information, you can go to <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/christmasjoy.html>.




Thank you!



A GIFT OF FAITH. A MESSAGE OF HOPE.

When you give to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor the wondrous gift of Jesus by nurturing the faith we have in God and one another. The Christmas Joy Offering supports the development of the future racial ethnic leadership of our church and aids church workers and their families in times of need, answering a faithful call to enrich lives and ease burdens.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.

-  Through your congregation
-  Text JOY to 20222 to give \$10
-  presbyterianmission.org/give/christmasjoy

It's a Surprise Birthday Party!

Sue Will is throwing a SURPRISE 90th Birthday Party to honor her mom, Joyce Kinseth. The party is Saturday December 17, 1:00 to 5:00 pm, at Candlewood Hotel and Suites. Please RSVP 785-829-0410.



Heusner Family Christmas

Sunrise has again adopted 2 families from Heusner Elementary School for Christmas. A list of needed items is posted across from the church office.

Items must be brought to the church by December 18. Be sure to sign up for something you would like to contribute, and if you prefer to give cash, make checks payable to Sunrise with "Heusner" noted on the memo. If you have any questions, call Judy Christensen, 825-1153.

THANK YOU!



Honduras Mission Trip in March 2017

Presbytery trip to Honduras March 18-25: The Session of Sunrise has given its blessing for a mission trip to Honduras during spring break week March 18-25, 2017. Cost is \$800, plus air fare.

We'll be working on an addition to the Children's Impact Network Orphanage in Pena Blanca, Honduras. Plus, there will be time to work with the children.

Please start praying for those who will participate. Please begin to think about ways you can help those who will go. Some will need some financial help.

We will be taking some sewing machines. Watch for more details as we move forward.



Habitat for Humanity

House Blessing

**Salina Habitat for Humanity
invites you to join us...**

**to celebrate and bless
the home of
Maria Padilla and family**

**Saturday, December 17, 2016
10:00 a.m.
810 North 5th Street**



**Thank you
for your support!!**

Refreshments will be served

For more information contact the SHFH office at 785-823-9331

Thank you Letter

SALINE COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT



We are good for your health!

Administration
785-826-6600
Fax: 785-826-6605

Child Care Services
785-826-6600
Fax: 785-826-6605

Clinic Services
785-826-6602
Fax: 785-826-6619

Home Health Agency
785-826-6606
Fax: 785-826-6652

MCH
785-826-6600
Fax: 785-826-6605

WIC
785-826-6603
Fax: 785-826-6619

Saline County Health Department
125 W. Elm
Salina, KS 67401

November 16, 2016

Dear Rev. Dr. Martha Murchison and Committee Members,

On behalf of the KIDS Network, United Healthcare, and the Saline County Health Department, we wish to extend our gratitude to you for the use of your facility for our Community Baby Shower that was held on November 7th, 2016.

We truly appreciate the collaborative support as we provided an informational yet fun event for our community families. Safe sleep, breastfeeding, and tobacco cessation were the core educational components of the evening. 19 pregnant mothers and their support people were in attendance. Each mother received a safety approved crib as well as a sleep sack and had the chance to win some really nice gifts donated by our participating vendors. We feel it was a great success and look forward to the next one!

Again, thank you for your generosity and a big thank you to Angie for all of her helpfulness!

Sincerely,

Sherri LaFollette, MCH Coordinator
Saline County Health Department

Spotlight on Sunrise Coat Closet

Thanks to Sunrise members and others, about 200 coats were available for school children on December 3. About 120 coats were distributed.

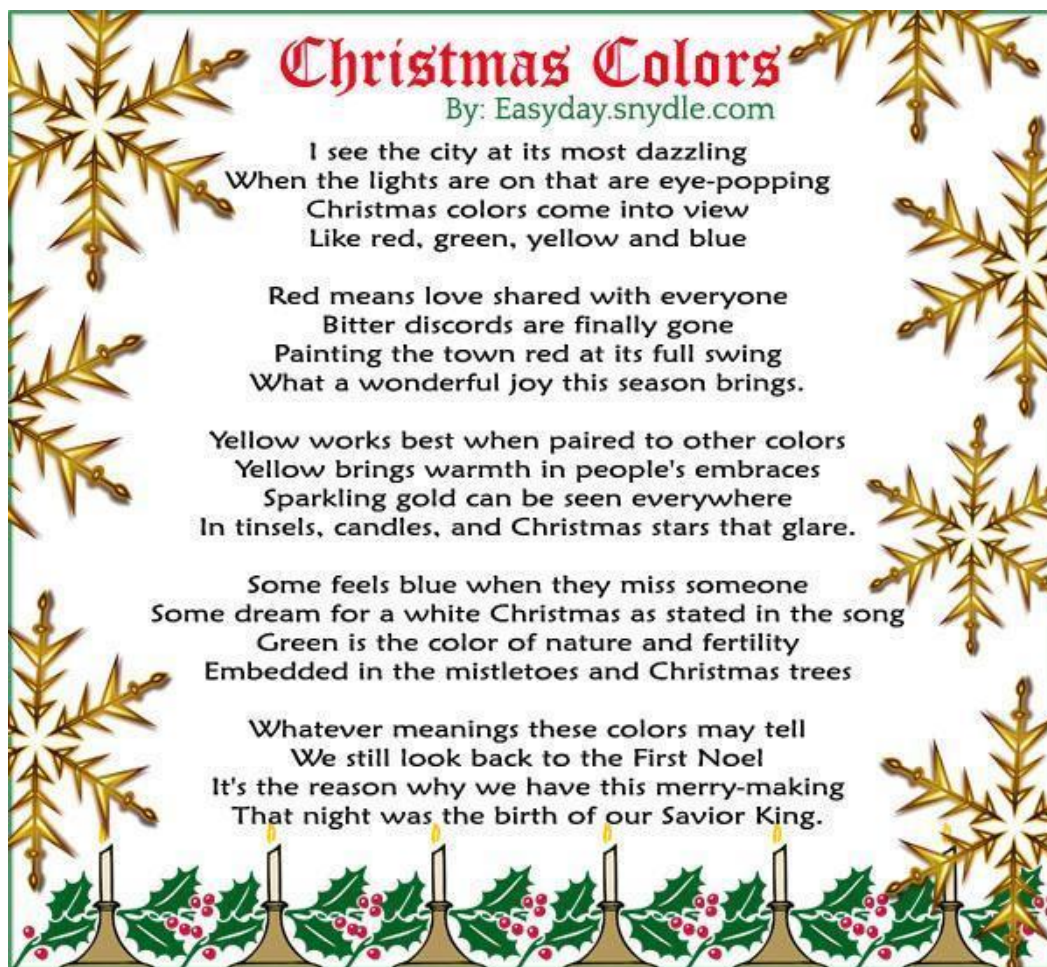
Sunrise Mission committee members helped Malcolm Norris with the collection and distribution. The children will have a warmer winter, thanks to all of you! Thanks to Malcolm Norris for his kind spirit of generosity.



Various Snapshots Around the Church



A Christmas Poem



Fellow Man International

Thanks to everyone who participated in any way with the Fellow Man International Fund Raiser on November 6th. The musical performances were inspiring and Lisa's presentations were informative and delightful.

The SKYPE connection with the Mission workers in Honduras provided unusually satisfying communications between the people gathered there and those gathered here.

The funds raised and promised will support the Mission's ability to carry-out its work. Cash and checks:

\$18,730.59; pledges: \$17,139.41 for a total of \$35,870. (Some sales are still underway.)

The budget for the Mission is \$150,000 per year, so thanks to all who assisted.

Marshall Stanton,
Fellow Man International Foundation
President.



In Service of The Church - December



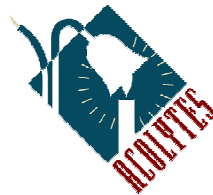
December Lay Leaders

- 04 Jane Alsop
- 11 Don Hamilton
- 18 Cantata
- 24 None Required
- 25 Clarke Sanders



December Acolytes

- 04 Allen Johnson
- 11 Riley Allmond
- 18 Tacey Barrett
- 24 Ashlynd Merrill @ 5 pm, Ushers @ 7 pm
- 25 Ushers



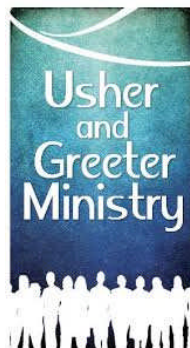
December Advent Candle Lighters

- 04 Scott, Leslie (Mangrum) & Clara Lee
- 11 Maurice & Betty Kerr, & Grandchildren
- 18 Harry & Linda Tysen
- 24 5 pm - Clarke & Lillian Sanders Family
7 pm - Mark & Carolyn (Hofer) Zimmerman Family
- 25 Unknown

November	
<i>Attendance Register</i>	
6th.....	93
13th.....	102
20th.....	103
27th.....	60

December Ushers

- * December 04
Mel Abbott
Betty Abbott
- * December 11
Mindy Johnson
Allen Johnson
- * December 18
Lewis Reid
Gladys Reid
- * December 24 - 5 pm
Gordon Horst
Deena Horst
- * December 24 - 7 pm
Kevin McElwee
Melisa McElwee
- * December 25
Don Slaughter
Noreen Slaughter



December Greeters

- East: Karen Sutton & Katie Weis
- South: Neva Naegele & Betty Rasette

- East: Lewis & Gladys Reid
- South: Dollie Moreno

- East: Pat Tomlins & Lillie Norman
- South: Jean Reed & Mary McCall

- East: Vicki Moss & Tacey Barrett
- South: Maurice & Betty Kerr

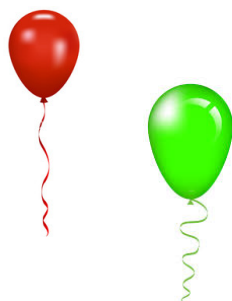
- East: Shirley Lang
- South: Pat & Patti Breeding

- East: Lewis & Barbara Kollhoff
- South: None

* Please ask 2 people from the congregation to help take up offering.

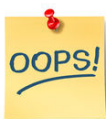
December Birthdays & Anniversaries

1	Noreen Slaughter	18	Jan Miller Joy Jensen
3	Lloyd Arensman Brenda Viar	20	Faye Morris Louise Simcox Pat & Patti Breeding Anniversary
4	Perry Hunsley	21	Linda Tysen
		23	Joe Young
6	Joshua Jensen	25	Dan Bolen
8	Margaret Corby	25	Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior!
9	Martha Murchison Evelyn Frederick	25	Dan Bolen
10	Dave Parks	26	Gordon Cox
11	Carolyn Eland	27	Steve and Jeanne Sebree
13	Blaine McAfee	28	Olivia Cooper
14	Don & Bev Hamilton Anniversary Todd Viar Joyce Kinseth	30	Carla Welsh Whitney Hutton
17	Katie Weis	31	Jodi Calvert



Did we make a mistake?

Please don't hesitate to let us know if we've left out anything such as birthdays and anniversaries, or if we have made a mistake or omission in the newsletter.



We want to correct it! Thanks!

Do you have news?

If you have newsletter items to share, or have any comments or questions about the newsletter, please let me know! I hope you're all having a terrific December!

Angie Koshgarian,
Newsletter Editor



Prayer Notes

Benedictions for Advent:

A Hopeful Benediction

Be people of hope.

Let hope live in your heart and share the hope of Christ with all you meet.

Share hope by noticing someone else's humanity.

Share hope by listening to someone's story.

Share hope by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share hope.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share hope with those you meet. Amen.

A Peaceful Benediction

Be people of peace.

Let peace live in your heart and share the peace of Christ with all you meet.

Share peace by acting out of compassion and not fear.

Share peace by listening to all sides of the story.

Share peace by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share peace. As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share peace and hope with those you meet. Amen.

A Joyful Benediction

Be people of joy.

Let joy live in your heart and share the joy of Christ with all you meet.

Share joy by seeing the good in each other.

Share joy by remembering good times and hoping for good times to come.

Share joy by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share joy.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share joy, peace, and hope with those you meet. Amen.

PRAYER
changes things

A Loving Benediction

Be people of love.

Let love live in your heart and share the love of Christ with all you meet.

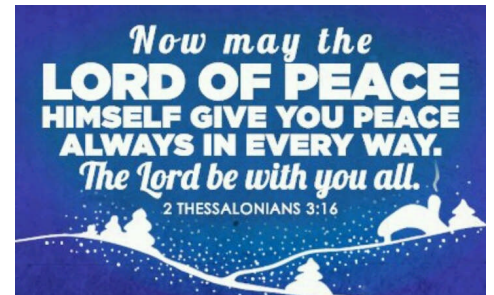
Share love by loving those you see regularly. Start by loving your community.

Share love by loving those you do not know. How do your actions affect the rest of God's creation?

Share love by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share love.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share love, joy,



Thoughts from A Member . . .



There's a loving letter I mean to write,
There's a visit I mean to pay,
When I get the time someday.

There's a dusty Bible I mean to read,
There's an hour I'll keep to pray;
I'll turn each dream to a golden deed,
When I get the time someday.

I'll carry flowers to the sick and sad,
I'll seek for those who stray;
You can trace my steps by hearts made glad,
When I get the time someday.

So somebody thought, so somebody said,
But wasn't it just a crime?
Too busy with less important things,
They never did get the time.

From the 1987 Farmers' Almanac, Author Unknown

Merry Christmas from Sunrise Presbyterian!

Christmas Cantata
December 18, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Services
5:00 and 7:00 pm

Children's Christmas Eve Pageant
5:00 pm

Christmas Day Worship
9:30 am

No Wednesday Activities
December 21 and 28

Church Office Closed
December 26 through January 2



Music at Sunrise

The Advent and Christmas seasons are full of wonderful music at Sunrise!

Sunday, December 11, the God's Kids Choir will play and sing their advent anthem. The Sunrise Bell Choir will also play during this worship service.

Next Wednesday, December 14, the children will practice for our Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 pm, after their Christmas party (remember to bring your Santa gift). The 5:00 pm Christmas Eve service is a pageant featuring our children as they reenact Christ's birth.

Please have the children at the church at 4:30 on Christmas Eve to get into costume and prepare for the service.

Note to Choir members:

Adult cantata rehearsals are Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 pm and Saturday, December 17, 10:00 am-12:00 pm. **The youth join the adults for this rehearsal.**



SUNRISE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

825 E. Beloit
Salina, Kansas 67401



Phone: 785-823-644
Fax: 785-823-6345
E-mail: angie@sunrisepresbyterian.com
www.sunrisepresbyterian.com



Sunrise Presbyterian Church

825 East Beloit
Salina, KS 67401



Sunday Mornings

9:30 a.m. Worship
(Communion – First Sunday of Each Month)
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School for All (Off During Summer)

General Office Hours:
8:00 am-12:00 pm, Monday-Friday
Financial Office Hours:
10:00 am-12:00 pm, Monday & Thursday

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Martha Murchison
Director of Music: Leslie Mangrum
Organist: Sue Will
Church Treasurer: JoAnn Gile
Financial Secretary: Karmel Spencer
Office Administrator & Newsletter Editor:
Angie Koshgarian
Custodian: Greg Kerr