



HILLTOP HERALD-DECEMBER 2019 MONONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH & IGLESIA METODISTA UNIDA EL LIBERTADOR

THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree Project still needs our help. Simply choose a card, fill in your information, leaving half the card in the box. **Please return your unwrapped gift to church by December 8.**

We are in need of additional funds for the holiday meal for the families. If you are able to help, please mark your check with "Giving Tree Food."

We are hoping to give 70 children a very Merry Christmas! Call Kay in the office at 222-1633 with any questions. Thanks!!!

MISSION OF THE MONTH - GIVING TREE/HUMAN WELFARE

THE GIVING TREE

We provide gifts and funds for a holiday dinner for needy families in our local school community. More specific information on ways to help is found in the article above.

HUMAN WELFARE FUND

The Human Welfare Fund is one of the ways we minister to those in our church family, as well as those in the greater Madison area. We assist those who are in emergency need and are already working with a community agency. To support this mission, please mark your checks or envelopes with "Human Welfare Fund."

Thank you, the Missions Committee

JUST BAKERY

Just Bakery will sell bakery items **Sunday, December 1** The Just Bakery program provides classroom and hands on vocational training for formerly incarcerated individuals who are interested in food service careers.

U.M. STUDENT DAY OFFERING

Sunday, December 1, will be a time we receive a special United Methodist Student Day Offering. There will be envelopes in our bulletin for us to give to one of the yearly offering from our denomination. This particular offering supports scholarships and loans for United Methodist students, within our nation.

A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE PRELUDE!

Arrive a bit early, around 7:30pm, for our 8pm Christmas Eve service & enjoy festive musical offerings: a "mixed tape" of seasonal songs designed by one of our members, & carols by a **harpist** with organ accompaniment! Worship will continue with a children's story, music by our choir & **harp**, carols on organ & piano, & words of celebration & joy! A candle-lit "Silent Night" with **harp**, chimes, & organ too. Please join us!

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Dear Friends,

As Christmas approaches I'm reminded of the story of the holiday school program where one class rose to sing, "Christmas Love." At front row and center stage, students held up large letters, one by one, to spell out the title of the song. As the class would sing "C is for Christmas," a child would hold up the letter 'C.' Likewise for each letter until they spelled out the message, "Christmas Love."

The performance proceeded smoothly, until a small, quiet girl in the front row held the letter "M" upside down, totally unaware that it appeared as a "W". The other young children snickered at the mistake.

The laughter continued until the last letter was raised, and the whole audience saw it together. A hush descended and eyes began to widen. In that instant, they were reminded of why we celebrate Christmas. When the last letter was held high, the message read: "CHRISTWAS LOVE"

I'm looking forward to our celebrating together that Christ was love. By the way, all through December we will also be celebrating the beloved Christmas classic "Joy to the World" which turns 300 this year. Composer Isaac Watts' interpretation of Psalm 98 is a powerful cosmic performance of all creation being renewed and freed.

Rather than "joy" being another word for "happiness," we will discover that the depths of joy can be found especially in the midst of suffering, the word of justice, and the presence of compassion—all of which are part of the coming of Jesus to this world. We will be singing Christmas carols each Sunday as well. I'm looking forward to our Advent worship.

Finally, as the year draws to a close I want to appeal to you to make a special gift to the church if you are able. As of the end of October (the most recent financial report we have), our yearly deficit has grown to \$34,432, leaving us with a general fund balance (to pay bills and make payroll) of \$14,330. Though our Finance Committee has taken good corrective action for our next yearly budget, we stand in need of improving our financial situation by year's end, if possible. If you are able to help our financial picture with an extra year-end gift, you would be blessing us greatly. Thank you for considering the request.

Together in ministry,

Pastor Brad



BIBLE PASSAGES & SERMON THEMES 10:00AM SERVICE

December 1 – Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 98; Romans 3:11-14
“Prepare Him Room: Hopeful Joy”

December 8– Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 98; Matthew 3:1-12
Children’s Christmas Program –“The Gift of the Christ Child”
“Repeat the Sounding Joy: Loving Joy”

December 15 – Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 98;
Luke 1:46b-55
“Make the Blessings Known: Unabashed Joy”

December 22 – Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 98; Matthew 1:18-25
“Make the Nations Prove: Peaceful Joy”

December 24 5:00pm – Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 96; Luke 2:1-20
“Christmas Carol”

December 24 8:00pm – Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 96; Luke 2:1-20
“The Lord Is Come: Incarnate Joy”

December 29 – Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23
Rev. Linda Vance is our guest preacher

CARING COORDINATOR COLUMN

Have you gone to our new website? It’s the same URL (www.mononaunitedmethodistchurch.org) with a fresh new look and navigating capabilities. Check it out! Over a year ago, our Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF) identified our web presence as an area that needed significant updating. In response, the Media & Communications Team was formed. Its first assignment: review the old website, service, and domain name host, and then design, create and implement a new, refreshed webpage. Thanks to the diligent work of this team, in September of this year, our new webpage went live. And I think you will agree that it is a vast improvement over the old one! During the next phase, this team will continue with webpage development, adjustments, and content. We will also dive deeper into our Facebook presence and usage along with exploring other social media options. Here is a huge THANK YOU! to John Huston for his guidance and gracious sharing of his time and talents. We couldn’t have done it without you! Here is also a shout out to Kara and Forrest Evans, Anna Siferd, and Barb Pearson! If you have an interest in this area and would like to know more about the Media & Communications Team, please see me or contact me at markbmumc@gmail.com.

The Caring Ministry Team needs your help. Would you be willing to make an extra meal, casserole or other dishes for the Caring Casserole Ministry? This effort provides frozen homemade meals for those in need of extra food support. If so, please put food in plastic or aluminum containers, labeled and dated, and place in the church’s kitchen freezer. If you know of someone who might benefit from a visit and/or an extra meal, please let me know!

Caring & Coordinating, Mark Buffat



STEPHEN MINISTRY

But a Stephen Minister can help hold me together! I can receive comfort from a caring church member. I can be reassured by a caring listener. I can be cheered on by a confidential church friend.

Call Mark Buffat (608-335-5063) or Frank Gaylord (608-443-6361) for more information or to talk about receiving care from one of our Stephen Ministers.

CASSEROLE MINISTRY

Willing to make an extra dish? Know of someone in our church family who needs food support? Contact Mark Buffat at markbmumc@gmail.com or 335-5063.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

MUMC has a fundraising opportunity in operating one of the concessions at the Kohl Center or at Camp Randal Stadium. Potential proceeds would be \$1,400 per football game or \$550 per game at the Kohl Center. Camp Randal stands require 10 to 15 people. Kohl Center stands require 5 to 6 people, usually weeknights. Volunteers would need to arrive a couple hours before the game and are usually leave a half hour after the game ends. There is a signup sheet in fellowship for you to indicate your interest in this opportunity.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Our next Blood Pressure Screening will be **Sunday, December 8**, 9:30-10:00am in Pastor Brad's office. These screenings are staffed by medical volunteers from the congregation. Keep Healthy-have your blood pressure checked!

UMC GIVING TUESDAY

Together, we can connect our passions with God's mission.

United Methodists will come together to support vital ministry projects and missionaries around the world on #GivingTuesday, **Tuesday, December 3**, as they generously #GiveUMC. Giving through The Advance empowers hundreds of dedicated project leaders and missionaries to share the love of Christ in meaningful, life-saving ways. As always, 100% of all giving will support the designated Advance ministry! Visit www.umcmmission.org/Give to donate online and choose a ministry for your donation.

You are also encouraged to support our Wisconsin United Methodist Camps, Pine Lake and Lake Lucerne. With hopes of bringing More Camp to More Places for More People, the camps are seeking to purchase a large transportation vehicle this year. The addition of this vehicle will give campers access to new experiences as they explore state parks to hike, streams and rivers to canoe, and much more! To donate to our local camps, please click:

<https://wiumcamps.org/support/>.

HILLTOPPERS

The Hilltoppers group will be meeting on **Monday, December 9** at 11 AM at the Monona Garden restaurant. It will be our Christmas meeting. Those that wish can stay and order lunch off the menu. We will be addressing Christmas cards for church members who are unable to attend services or church functions because of mobility or health problems. We are asking attendees to bring a wrapped Christmas present, maximum value of \$10, and we will play a game of opening the presents one by one, and then others will have the opportunity to "steal" a present from another person who has opened their present. It results in a lot of laughs and good fun.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



There are so many different ways that you can serve Monona United Methodist Church. Check out the signup sheet in fellowship hall to find the openings, **including Advent Candle lighters and volunteers for the Christmas Eve services.**

Check out the signup sheet on the table in fellowship hall to find other openings.

- The **fall liturgists** schedule is also online. Use the link to signup:
<http://bit.ly/2Z3D7mx>
- The **January-May 2020 liturgist** schedule is online:
<http://bit.ly/33JYrfA>
- The **January-May 2020 altar flower signup** is online so check that out too.
<http://bit.ly/2Z6fxFS>

PAPERBACK BOOK DRIVE

Madison Jail Ministry is again asking for donations of **Softcover or Paperback Books:**

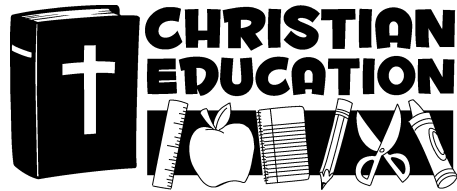
- *Celebrate Recovery Bibles
- * NKIV Larger Print Bibles
- * Study Bibles
- *Christian fiction books
- *Non-fiction Christian books

Other items on Chaplain Marcotte's Wish List:

- *Reading Glasses: Men's or unisex in all strengths (frames must be plastic instead of metal)
- *Metro Transit Bus Passes (used for transportation on release from jail)

There will be a bin in Fellowship Hall for the donated items. Thank you for supporting this important ministry.

Marilyn Hearden, Church and Society



CURRENT ADULT CLASS

The Jesus I Never Knew, Sunday December 1 & 8, 9:00-9:50am in the Cry Room

NEW ADULT CLASS

Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience

“In 1741, John Wesley preached his famous sermon titled “The Almost Christian” in which he encouraged people to follow Christ wholeheartedly. We should not be satisfied with being almost Christian but rather strive towards being altogether a Christian.

In *Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience*, author and pastor Magrey deVega leads a group of authors to explore how we can make the same commitment to Christ during Advent, connecting our Wesleyan heritage with the traditional Advent themes of Love, Hope, Joy, and Peace.

In this book... the authors break down the barriers that prevent us from experiencing an “altogether” love, hope, joy, and peace in Christ in our lives and in the world around us. They demonstrate the promises God offers to us that makes those longings a reality, inviting us to claim those promises for ourselves this Advent and celebrate an altogether Christmas.”
(Amazon)

The Adult Sunday School class in the Library will discuss the four chapters in this book, Altogether Love, Altogether Hope, Altogether Joy, and Altogether Peace on the four Sundays before Christmas, December 1, 8, 15, and 22. Those who are interested should sign up in Fellowship Hall. Cost of book will be \$16.00.

ALL I REALLY WANT: READINGS FOR A MODERN CHRISTMAS

We are offering an Advent devotional book which includes morning and evening readings: Bible passage, short reflection, and prayer. The books cost \$15 and there will be a discussion on **Sunday December 15** at 11:15am. Please sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Children's Christmas Program will be shared on **Sunday, December 8** at the 10am worship service. The program is titled “The Gift of the Christ Child.” Practice will take place during Sunday School on Sunday mornings with the dress rehearsal on **Saturday, December 8 starting at 12:30pm**. Please contact the church office if you can help out.

WINTER BREAK

There will be no morning Children's Sunday School on **December 15, 22 and 29**. Our regular class schedule will resume on **Sunday, January 5**.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

Your two hours REALLY make a difference. There is a great need for bell ringers in our area at numerous locations throughout Dane County. It's easy to sign up online, ringbells.org or call 250-2235. Shifts are available from 8 am – 8 pm until December 24.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE

Same URL/address with a new look! www.mononaunitedmethodistchurch.org
We now have a **Giving** tab to make a donation with your credit card. The site is a work in progress so if you see something that should be changed, please let us know.

FOOD PANTRY

Next time you are shopping, add a couple things to your cart for the St. Stephen's Food Pantry. Donations of food, personal items, paper products, and diapers (larger sizes) are all gratefully received. Please be sure to check the expiration date on the food. **Also bring in your extra paper grocery bags for St Stephen's.**

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

We will try to do our best to find any donations that have been postmarked by December 31, 2019 and to credit them to 2019. If you receive your end of the year statement from the church, and believe a particular donation should be for 2019, which wasn't included in that statement, we will be happy to give you an amended statement. Give Anna Skiles a call if that is the case (839-4251).

EASY AUTOMATIC GIVING

Make giving to the church very easy and save the church some time. The automatic transfers are completely safe and secure, and cost you nothing. You control the amount and frequency of the withdrawals, and can cancel any time you like. Transfers done electronically, along with any additional donations you make, will be listed on your normal periodic statement from the church. Just fill out the form that is in the church office.

For those who already have automatic giving and want to change for the new 2020 pledge amount, just fill out a new form. On the form, check the box "Change Donation Amount", put your name, the new amount, the date of the first donation, and finally sign and date the form. For questions or other information, call Jeff Moore at 838-3834 or Kay in the church office at 222-1633.

READ 'EM & MEET



Read 'Em and Meet Bookclub will meet for Holiday Tea at 1:00 pm, **Sunday, December 8** at the home of Jeanette Williams. Please bring small tea sandwiches or sweets appropriate for the occasion. Following tea, we will read a Christmas play together.

MUMC MEN'S GROUP

Monona United Methodist Church's Men's Group will meet for breakfast and fellowship at Monona Gardens Family Restaurant, at the corner of Broadway and Bridge Rd, on **Saturday, December 14 at 9am**. All men are welcome.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MEETINGS



Quilters are welcome to come to church at **1pm on Mondays, December 2, 9 & 16.**

Friendship Circle – will meet on **Tuesday, December 3** at 6:00pm at the home of Barb Larson for a potluck. Guests and visitors are warmly welcomed.

Yarncrafters –will meet on the 2nd Tuesday at 1pm, **December 10** and with the RSVP group “Monona Knit ‘N Stitch” on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, **December 18**, from 10:00 until 11:30am. All are welcome. For more information contact Polly Brandes (222-6709) or Marjorie Kaukl (222-4243).

Faith Circle – Thursday, December 12 at 11:30 at 1855 Saloon Restaurant (Cottage Grove) for a Christmas lunch. Let Jan Wanek know if you will attend or not (222-7642).

Reading Circle – will not be meeting in December.

No Executive Committee Meeting during December but will meet on **Monday, January 13** at 1:30pm in the library.

UMW ADVENT BRUNCH

Saturday, December 7, 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall

Come and learn about the Arts of Advent presented by our UMW Circles. You may hear readings, see skits, and sing some hymns. Please come and enjoy good food, good fellowship and lots of music. Contact Lynn Hovey (222-4717) or the church office (222-1633) with questions.



JAVA JIVE

We may wish to consider a gift of JUSTICE, EQUALITY and SUSTAINABILITY with Authentic Fair Trade (AFT) products for our family, friends, service folks and teachers of all ages.

The Farmers Elves will assist you in filling baskets, ours or yours, and wrap it with a pretty bow and there will be cute little stockings with mini chocolates and gift bags free for you to fill. We also have Gift cards available for AFT products.

We are thankful we can be part of this United Methodist Mission with Equal Exchange and UMCOR to provide a market place for small farmer co-ops locally and globally so they can stay on farms and not have to sell out or migrate.

A Chiapas Mexico coop farmer said “when consumers and farmers continue to walk together we walk together for a life of Peace.”

May it be so as we celebrate the Birth of Jesus, The Prince of Peace. Joys of the season from the AFT Mission Team. Sales will be held **Sunday, December 8.**

Kay Mackie - a Monona UMW AFT Team coordinator.

"LIVE SIMPLY" STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Thank you so much for your support of the 2020 Stewardship Campaign. Our pledges so far have totaled \$211,600 or 85% of budgeted revenue. Your giving makes it possible for the ministries of Monona United Methodist Church to continue to be a light in our community and beyond. Please return your estimate of giving card as soon as possible. If you cannot commit to a set amount for 2020, know that any gift that you can share with the church is much appreciated!

Your Stewardship Team

DONATION OPPORTUNITY

A Wonderful Opportunity for Those at Least 70½ Years Young:

In December, 2015, the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act was passed. The Act made permanent the IRA charitable rollover, allowing for individuals age 70½ and older to make **tax-free** distributions from individual retirement accounts (IRAs) to a qualified charitable organization. An IRA rollover is a tax-exempt distribution from the donor's IRA.

The amount transferred can be used to meet the donor's required minimum distribution. The treatment continues to be capped at a maximum of \$100,000 per taxpayer each year. Please consider this opportunity. It's a Win-Win for everyone! We want to encourage you to contact your financial advisor to further explore the possibility of a gift to Monona UMC from your IRA. Discover how an IRA rollover gift can benefit both you as a donor and our church!

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD'S CREATION

...hear Alfred Lord Tennyson's

Ring Out, Wild Bells...

*Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky, the flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night; ring out, wild bells, and let him die...*

*Ring out false pride in place and blood, the civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right, ring in the common love of good.*

*Ring out old shapes of foul disease; ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old, ring in the thousand years of peace.*

*Ring in the valiant man and free, the larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land, ring in the Christ that is to be.*

~

May this Advent Season become a time for reflection on what this year has been like in our world, and may the call to love ring loud and clear in our hearts for truth and right and peace and light for all of life on God's good earth.

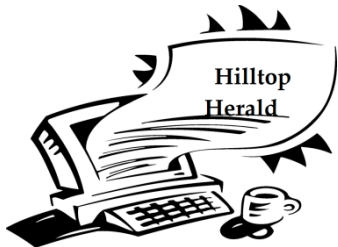
Church & Society, Siv Goulding



Goes to Lynn Hovey & Joan Hagedorn and their families, upon the death of their birth father.

MADISON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Madison Symphony Orchestra has a special offer for a group of 10 or more people to attend a concert in their 2019/2020 season. There is a discount of 25% off concerts and 10% off organ performances, as well as other perks. If you might be interested in attending, check out the program book in the church office and give us an idea of which ones interest you.



ONLINE NEWSLETTER

Our church website has a copy of the current month's newsletter. If you misplace your paper copy, you can go there to read it: www.mononaunitedmethodistchurch.org.

LEARNING, COPING & SURVIVING

Former Wisconsin Governor Martin Schreiber's Journey with Elaine

Join former Wisconsin Governor Martin "Marty" Schreiber as he offers a candid and insightful view into his journey as a caregiver to his wife, Elaine, who lives with Alzheimer's Disease. Oak Park Place (4327 Nakoma Rd, Madison) will host the program on **Tuesday December 10** at 4pm. Space is limited so please RSVP by Friday December 6 to 608-640-4100 or nakomasales@oakparkplace.com

PLEASE GIVE BLOOD

The Red Cross has its Annual Holiday Blood Drive on **Tuesday, December 24** from 7:00 am until 2:00 pm. It will be held in the Exhibition Hall at the Alliant Energy Center. Call for an appointment @ 1-800-RED-CROSS or signup online www.redcrossblood.org.



The following advice for moving through Advent comes from a colleague and sometimes-coach of mine named Margaret Marcuson. I think it's great advice. – Pastor Brad

It's time! Advent begins on December 1st. What practices do you have to get you through to Christmas? I've always found that doing at least a few things for myself through these weeks help me walk through them with less stress and more grace.

Here are four practices I recommend:

1. **Use a daily Advent reading resource or calendar.** I've used the collection *Watch for the Light* for daily Advent readings more than one year (paper only). Loyola Press has a nice [online calendar](#) for adults. And I just came across a powerful slide show and devotional booklet for congregational or individual use, created by Victoria Emily Jones. She includes art from a variety of cultures and times. It can be found at artandtheology.org
2. **Choose a reminder for occasional prayer through the days of Advent.** My colleague Larry Peacock of the Franciscan Spiritual center here in Portland talks about finding markers or reminders each day to call us to prayer, such as meals, stopping at a red light, or even bumping into someone in a crowd. What might be a "marker" for you for prayer through Advent? Perhaps it is the first time you see the lighted Christmas tree in your home or church every day. Or when you hear a particular holiday song (even a secular one). Or getting your Starbucks in the red cup. This is different from a set time for daily prayer, and doesn't require more than a moment of prayerful thought.
3. **Give up complaining.** I've written before about the value of giving up complaining. I've noticed I've slipped back into it lately, so I'm renewing my commitment. Just yesterday I was reading a holiday-themed book and found myself complaining to my husband about the copyediting errors, a pet peeve of mine. I'm giving that up (again). Join me through these weeks of Advent. Whether it's politics, the commercialization of Christmas or the frantic pre-Christmas antics of a colleague or church member, don't complain. I'm recommitting, and I'm committing to prayer for our politicians, stressed-out families, workers and business owners, and church staff members.
4. **Move.** There's a lot of adrenaline generated by the stresses and strains of the holiday season: Extra services, getting food ready, preparing for Christmas or post-Christmas travel, family challenges, financial crunches (church and personal). Do something every day to move around. If the weather is too bad to get outside or you can't get to the gym, go up and down some stairs a few times every day, or whatever level of mobility your health will permit. (You could even combine #2 and #4 by praying when you go up a flight of stairs!)

What will you commit to do (from this list or your own practice) through Advent?

Blessings,

Margaret Marcuson, consultant/coach to faith leaders around North America

\$ Financial Report \$

Cash Flow October 31, 2019

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$ 19,035	\$ 206,101
General Operating Expenses	20,998	240,533
Net Surplus (Shortfall)	\$ (1,963)	\$ (34,432)

A STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE GIVING - What Is God Calling Me To Give

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. (Psalm 72:12-14)

Congratulations to Reedsburg UMC that, in one campaign this fall, increased annual giving by 32 percent. Yes, by nearly one-third.

They did it by using the Stewardship program **New Consecration Sunday (NCS)**, which emphasizes tithing and proportional giving. According to our denomination, tithing, giving 10 percent of income to the church, is “God’s standard of giving”. The NCS program emphasizes giving a proportion of income moving toward and then, perhaps, beyond tithing.

Moreover, New Consecration Sunday focuses on the question, “What is God calling me to do?” rather than on the question, “What does the church need in order to pay its bills?”

The pastor and lay leadership of Reedsburg UMC carefully and enthusiastically followed the steps laid out by the NCS program. They started planning two months before Consecration Sunday and invited a guest leader (full-disclosure it was this writer).

In recent years, Reedsburg UMC has not emphasized pledging. So, it was a pleasant surprise when 40 giving units completed a commitment card. Of these, 25 pledged an amount greater than their giving over the previous year. This accounts for the 32 percent increase.

Pastor Vicki Brantmeyer told me that the church has passed a budget for 2020 that not only is balanced, but also has a five-figure surplus.

What is God calling you to give in 2020? One percent of income more could mean increasing your giving as little as \$5 to \$20 per week.

Jim Wells

Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation
888-903-9863

The Life and Ministry of God's People In Monona United Methodist Church

December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SUNDAY SCHEDULE 9:00 Sunday School for children 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 5:00 El Libertador - Worship in Spanish			NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Deadline for the January Newsletter is December 15 . Information arriving after the above date may not be in the newsletter. You can FAX your article to 222-2395 or email to secretarymumc@sbcglobal.net			
1 1st Sunday of Advent <u>See schedule above</u> Just Bakery sale UM Student Day 8:30 Adults – Almost Christmas 9:00 Jesus I Never Knew 11:15 Stewardship 11:15 Strat Plan	2 Pastors' Day Off 1:00 Quilters 4-8pm Music lessons-Cry Room /Sanctuary 6:30 Girl Scouts-hall	3 9:30 Staff Meeting 3-5:30pm Paper Moon 6:00 Friendship Circle-potluck	4 7:15-9:15am Hall in use 1-4 Mah Jongg-Cry Room 2-4 library-use 3-5:30pm Paper Moon 7-8pm Confirmation & Mentors	5 3-5:30pm Paper Moon Upstairs 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	6 3-5:30pm Paper Moon	7 6-7:30am El Libertador Prayer Vg 10:00 UMW Advent Brunch 12:30 Morning Children's program pract
8 2nd Sunday of Advent <u>See schedule above</u> Coffee Sales Giving Tree Gifts 8:30 Adults-Almost Christmas 9:00 Jesus I Never Knew 9:30 Blood Pressure Screen 10:00 Children's Program 11:15 Church & Society 11:15 Blood Prs leaders 1:00 Read 'Em & Meet Tea	9 Pastors' Day Off 11:00 Hilltoppers at Monona Garden 1:00 Quilters 3-5:30pm Paper Moon Upstairs 4-8pm Music lessons-Cry Room /Sanctuary 6:30 Stephen Ministers-library	10 9:30 Staff Meeting 1:00 Yarncrafters Cry Room 1-3pm Giving Tree pickup Fellowship hall 3-5:30pm Paper Moon 5:30-9pm set prep	11 7:15-9:15am Hall in use 1-4 Mah Jongg-Cry Room 1-4 New Bridge Foot clinic Hall 3-5:30pm Paper Moon 7-8pm Confirmation	12 11:30 Faith Cr 3-5:30pm Paper Moon Upstairs 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	13 3-5:30pm Paper Moon Sanctuary	14 6-7:30am El Libertador Prayer Vg 9am Men's Group-breakfast Monona Garden 12-5pm Paper Moon performance
15 3rd Sunday of Advent <u>See schedule above</u> No Children's Sunday School in morning 8:30 Adults – Almost Christmas 11:15 Caring Min 11:15 All I Want	16 Pastors' Day Off 1:00 Quilters 3-5:30pm Paper Moon 4-8pm Music lessons-Cry Room /Sanctuary 6:30 Girl Scouts-hall	17 9:30 Staff Meeting 3-5:30pm Paper Moon	18 7:15-9:15am Hall in use 10am Monona Knit 'N Stitch 1-2:30 Circuit-Sun Prairie UMC 1-4 New Bridge Foot clinic Hall 7-8pm Confirmation	19 8:30am Newsletter Helpers 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 organ/harp practice 7:30 Adult Choir	20	21 6-7:30am El Libertador Prayer Vg
22 4th Sunday of Advent <u>See schedule above</u> No am kids Sunday School 8:30 Adults – Almost Christmas	23 Pastors' Day Off	24 Christmas Eve 5:00pm Family Worship Service 8:00pm Candlelight Worship Service	25 Christmas Day Office Closed Pastor Brad vacation thru January 1	26	27	28 6-7:30am El Libertador Prayer Vg
29 <u>See schedule above</u> No Sunday Sch	30	31				

MONONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

606 NICHOLS ROAD
MONONA, WI 53716

**NON PROFIT ORG.
U S POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT 969
MADISON WI**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The HILLTOP HERALD is produced monthly for distribution to the members and friends of Monona United Methodist Church & Iglesia Metodista Unida El Libertador.

Editors:

Pastor Brad Van Fossen 414-534-8791 (cell)
Pastora Estrella Benitez 414-736-9521 (cell)
Kay DeBaal – Administrative Assistant 222-1633
Mark Buffat – Caring Coordinator 222-1633

Monona UMC Church office 222-1633 (Fax 222-2395)
Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Homepage www.mononaunitedmethodistchurch.org
Pastor Brad – bkvanfossen@gmail.com
Kay – secretarymumc@sbcglobal.net
Mark – markbmumc@gmail.com
Worship 10:00am

Iglesia Metodista Unida El Libertador 514-9470
Pastora Estrella – esbe2013@hotmail.com
Spanish Worship 5:00pm

DECEMBER 2019

LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS

We would like to invite your family to help our congregation prepare for Advent by lighting the **Advent wreath** during of the Sunday services. We will provide you the reading and instructions. We also need someone for both Christmas Eve services. Please email the church office at secretarymumc@sbcglobal.net and let Kay know if you are available or signup on the sheet in fellowship hall.



We are also looking for children who would like to share special music at the **5:00pm Christmas Eve Family Service**. Please let the church office know that you would like to play an instrument or sing. Thanks for sharing your talents!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Two evening Christmas Eve Services will be offered:

5:00pm – Christmas Eve Family Service
“Child friendly” sharing of carols, story, special music, (no sermon), concluding with candle lighting. *Christmas Carol* by Sara Teasdale will be the central story shared.

8:00pm – Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – starting with a prelude at 7:30pm, and the Adult Choir along with a guest harpist.

