

# The Tower

Volume 36  
Number 39



**East Heights United Methodist Church**  
Where Lives are Transformed by Jesus Christ

December 18, 2009

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## **MERRY CHRISTMAS** from the Staff



### **Christmas Worship Schedule**

#### **Thursday Evening, December 24, Christmas Eve!**

5:00 p.m. – Family-friendly Worship – Sanctuary  
11:00 p.m. – Traditional Candlelight Worship – Sanctuary  
*musical prelude begins at 10:30 p.m.*

#### **Saturday, December 26**

5:30 p.m. – Celebrate Saturday Night – Hedrick Hall

#### **Sunday Morning, December 27**

One Combined Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

## Ministry Needs

### Luminary Lighters

People are needed to light the luminaries that adorn our lawn on Christmas Eve. This takes 30-45 minutes on Christmas Eve between 5-6 p.m. This is a great activity for a family and is lots of fun! Contact **Brenda Heard** at 682-6518 or [brenda@ehumc.org](mailto:brenda@ehumc.org) if you are willing to help out.

### Choir Tour 2010

Young Spirit will head to Charlotte, N.C., on Choir Tour 2010. If you know of churches in that area, as well as Little Rock, Memphis, Nashville, Knoxville, Louisville and St. Louis and nearby suburbs, where we can share our message through song, contact Paige Nelson at 682-6518

## Ministry Celebrations


East Heights shared the giving spirit of Christmas through our ministry with Youthville. Our community of faith provided Christmas gifts for 100 children living in foster homes through our Sharing Tree ministry. We celebrate with everyone who shared gifts and with the children and teens who will open the gifts on Christmas morning and know that they are cared for by others.

Crafting for Christ celebrated Christmas with the seniors living at Presbyterian Manor in early December. They helped them make colorful wreaths to decorate their rooms. **Emily Mirakian**, her son, **Will**; **Nicole Hawkins** and her daughter, **Kinsley**; **Debbie Harr**, **Carol Roskos** and **Kathy Lefler** visited the nursing home on Dec. 1. The craft kits were prepared earlier by **Lynne Moore**, **Trudy Sly**, **Debbie Harr** and **Louise Hatfield**.

A group of "elves" gathered at East Heights on December 1 to make Christmas cookies for Compeer's holiday party and the homeless served by the United Methodist Open Door Drop In Center. **Carolyn Kretzer** organized this night of baking and outreach and was joined by **Peggy Erickson**, **Glenna Harrison**, **Logan Nelson** and **Sara Caton**.

More than a dozen children gathered at the church on December 13 when East Heights hosted Fun with Friends Respite Care. The children made gingerbread playhouses from huge boxes and decorated frosted cookies. This fun afternoon also offered the parents of special needs children some time off for fun or shopping. We celebrate with everyone who served in this ministry.

## Women's Retreat Gift Certificates

Looking for a special gift for a special lady? Let her know that she matters by giving her the gift of fellowship and spiritual renewal at the EHUMC Women's Retreat, coming April 30-May 1 at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita. \$100 gift certificates are available in the Program Office. Call **Beth Strickler** in the church office, 682-6518, for information. 

## New Woman's Bible Study Group

Have you wanted to participate in an in-depth bible study but haven't gotten connected in one thus far? Please consider joining us for the study *Breaking Free: The Journey, The Stories* written by Beth Moore. This 11 week study is based on *Isaiah 61:1-4* and draws the parallels between Christian's today and the ancient Israelites. Beth uses Scripture to help identify spiritual strongholds in your life, no matter how big or small. She explains that anything that hinders us from the benefits of knowing God is bondage. Introductory session will be on Monday, January 11, 2010 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. There is a \$20.00 cost for this study which covers book and materials. If you are interested in this study please contact **Kristine Kelley** at 393-7051 or [kristinekelley@hotmail.com](mailto:kristinekelley@hotmail.com).



## *Church Offices Hours*

**December 24, close at noon**

**December 25 closed**

**December 31, close at noon**

**January 1, 2010, closed**



*Christ  
Is Born!*

## OUR COMMUNITY

### OUR CHRISTIAN PRAYERS OF SYMPATHY TO:

**Marty Armbruster** and family on the death of her mother, **Mary Etta Good**, on November 26, 2009.

**Louise, Martha and Beth Wherry** on the death of their husband and father, **John E. Wherry**, on December 5, 2009.

### CONGRATULATION TO:

**Ben and Mandy Pfister** on the birth of **Charlotte Kay Pfister**, on December 3, 2009.

## Worship

**December 19/December 20**

**Celebrate Saturday Night**

"Giving Christmas Presence"

Matthew 2:1-11

Rev. Charles R. Claycomb

**Sunday Morning**

"FIVE GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS:

Adaptive Peace!"

Luke 1:46-55

Rev. Dr. JC Kelley

### OUR PRESENCE LAST WEEK:

Worship – 380

### GIVING REPORT DECEMBER 6, 2009

Giving	\$ 27,181
Budget	\$ 23,038
Over/(Under)	\$ 4,143
<b>Giving Year-to-Date</b>	<b>\$ 1,039,400</b>
Budget Week 47	\$ 1,128,885
Over/(Under)	\$ (89,485)

**Deadline for January 1 Tower  
is noon, Tuesday, December 22.**

## Costa Rica Mission Trip

We have an incredible team going to **Costa Rica** as we partner with **Marion and Mary Woods** and the **Methodist Church of Costa Rica** on our **Mission Trip January 6-14**. Although we are not 100% sure where we will be, we know God has amazing plans wherever He plants us. In preparation for our trip, we invite you to consider supporting us in a variety of ways. We will lead a Vacation Bible School and provide sewing classes for the ladies as well as our construction work. In addition to supplies for these projects, we will collect school supplies and clothing to donate as well. We are also seeking monetary donations to cover the airline's extra bag charge so we are able to take our packers with the supplies. Any additional donations will be used for our building supplies. Below is our list of items for Vacation Bible School...

Children's Scissors	Wire coat hangers (100)
Bottles of washable glue	Craft glue
Colored sharpie markers	Crayons (small – packages of 8)
Yarn (all colors)	Popsicle sticks
Colored tissue paper (all colors)	Crepe paper rolls (all colors)
Large balloons (all colors)	Pony beads
Poly fiber filling (10 bags)	Small shapes of Fun foam
Fun Foam Large shapes – hearts, crosses, bookmarks, & door hangers	Tulip paints
Colored construction paper	Felt squares – various colors
	Glitter

as well as school supplies (spiral notebooks, pencils, loose leaf paper, etc.), sewing supplies (thread, lightweight colorful fabric, flannel, scissors, needles, etc.), and summer clothing (especially children's clothing). You may drop off these items in the Costa Rica bin in the Coffee House. Any monetary donations may go to either **Sondra Morgan or Paige Nelson** in the church office. Thank you for your continued support as we seek to share God's love with His children around the world.

## Pilgrimage Progress

Beginning last August, a group of dedicated volunteers have been freshening up The Pilgrimage, the adult classrooms on the south wing of the second floor. Our goal is to transform this area to a premier gathering place for adult faith development.

Tireless efforts were led by Carolyn Kretzer, Larry Frutiger and Tim and Karen Spexarth. Dana Taylor shepherded the fall phase of the classroom remodeling and Nicole Scolari is leading the second phase. Some of those who contributed lots of labor and love include: Elizabeth Wadle, Donovan Moore, Tim Stead, Deron Lock, Steve Kromer, Sally Chesser, Alan Brooks, Glen Erickson and others who popped in to help.

Ceilings and walls were repaired and painted. The bathroom was prepped for a major renovation. The Pilgrimage now has three brightly painted classrooms. The rooms took on a sunny yellow color scheme with accents in plum, sage and tangerine. Still to come...finishing the painting of the hallway and completing the bathroom renovation!

The Pilgrimage hosts the Foundations Sunday School class. It is home to Disciple I on Monday and Disciple I, II and IV on Wednesday. We gather in the common hallway to share snacks on Wednesday. Other community groups use it several nights of the week.

You find The Pilgrimage by following the west stairway outside of Hedrick Hall lobby to the second floor. This passage leads you through the double doors, past the soda machine and up the stairs. Or come up the main staircase from Fellowship Lobby, continue south through The Summit (the childrens' wing), and go around the corner.

Come see the progress we've made to date. Be watching for more progress as we tackle phase two. And be watching as we expand the number of faith development groups using the as a place to meet to share learning and fellowship.



## END-OF-YEAR GIVING

WE INVITE YOU TO MAKE YOUR YEAR-END GIVING AT THE BUSINESS OFFICE BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31 OR AT ANY WORSHIP SERVICE. ANYTHING RECEIVED AFTER THAT TIME WILL BE REGARDED AS **2010 UNLESS IT HAS A 2009 POSTMARK.**

THE BUSINESS OFFICE WILL BE OPEN UNTIL **NOON ON DECEMBER 31.**

**Have a blessed new year!**





**East Heights  
United  
Methodist  
Church  
Tower**

Non-Profit Organization  
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**Return Service Requested**

# YOUTH MINISTRIES

**Paige Nelson, Director of Youth Ministries, 682-6518 [paige@ehumc.org](mailto:paige@ehumc.org)**

- We invite all 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth to join us for our **Wednesday Youth Ministries**. **6<sup>th</sup> grade youth** are invited to join us at 6 p.m. for **Trinity**, our exciting worship arts team. **7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth** are invited to join us at 6 p.m. for **Young Spirit**, our awesome youth choir. **All youth** are invited to join us at 7:15 p.m. for our **incredible small group ministry including Confirmation** for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth and any high school youth who has not gone through Confirmation. We hope to see all of you **HERE** on Wednesdays for an amazing time of growing in faith.

- **UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship)** meets every Sunday evening beginning at 5 p.m. with Snack Supper followed by our evening together beginning at 5:30 p.m. *Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>—Rescheduled Christmas Scavenger Hunt; We will NOT meet on December 27<sup>th</sup>. Have a Wonderful Christmas with your family and friends.*

- **Looking Ahead:** *Ski Trip* is January 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2010; *Chicken Noodle Dinner* is January 24<sup>th</sup>; *Middle School Lock-In* is January 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>; *Souper Bowl* is February 7<sup>th</sup>; *30 Hour Famine* is February 19<sup>th</sup>& 20<sup>th</sup>.

