**Happenings - December 3, 2017**

**Welcome New Members to First Presbyterian Church Muncie!**

Ryon Herin  
Phillip and Janet Loy  
Vi Phan  
John and Marilyn Phillips  
Laura Smith  
Marissa Zacharias

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**The Giving Tree is up in the Lounge hallway**

You can help decorate it with ornaments which are displayed on the table beside the tree. Please select an ornament or several, remove the tag from the ornament and place the ornament on the tree. Then purchase the gift, wrap it, PUT YOUR TAG ON THE GIFT IDENTIFYING THE RECIPIENT, MAKING SURE THE FAMILY NUMBER IS ON IT and put it under the tree.

Place your gift(s) under our Giving Tree by Friday, December 15, for delivery on December 17.

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**3rd Annual Breakfast with Santa**  
Saturday, December 9 from 8:30-11:00 am.

Breakfast will be catered by VKA Kitchen and Catering, a craft for the children and a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be enjoyed by all.

Reserve your spot by Sunday December 3, by calling the office or emailing at office@firstpresmuncie.org. The cost is packages of washable markers. All donations will go to support the preschool in Mella, Dominican Republic.

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**Salvation Army Benefit Dinner / Third Thursday Dinner**

Soup and Sandwich + Dessert!

100% of the proceeds will go to the Salvation Army

**Wednesday, December 13, 2017 from 4 to 8 pm in Fellowship Hall**

Come, eat, visit, have fun, buy tickets for the raffle of one Delta plane ticket to anywhere in the continental US, enjoy delightful music and entertainment, and most of all, bless the Salvation Army and their ministry with your contribution.

If you are able to work that night, please sign up by the information desk, we need lots of hands!

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**Be a Bell Ringer for Salvation Army!**

The sign-up sheet is in the church hallway. We will be ringing the bell at the Muncie Mall in front of MCL. Dates are December 11, 14 and 15 choose slots of one hour or longer from 4 to 8 pm.
New Opportunities for Spiritual Growth at First Pres!

First: “EZ Advent”
An angel appears to a First Century Jew with a message about a baby and God’s salvation. The response is, “How can this be?” There’s a unusual pregnancy. A boy is born. No, this isn’t Mary and Joseph and Jesus. It’s Elizabeth and Zechariah and John. It’s a amazing story enveloping First Century culture, social dynamics, Old Testament expectations and the very real lives of a couple who love God. Plan to join the conversation on **Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM. We started on November 29th and will run through December 20th**
We’re calling this study, “EZ Advent” for the principal parties. We’ll find it more than “easy” as we delve into rich meaning in this rather neglected part of the Christmas story.

Second: “The Journey”
In one of the letters of Paul he writes, “... we must grow up in every way... into Christ.” This begs the questions, “Am I growing like this? What can I do to grow more?”
You are invited to be part of a brand new opportunity starting in January. Two different “Journey” groups are being formed under the leadership of Pat and Laura Smith. The Journey is a meaningful walk with a group of adults guided by three questions: “Who is God? Who am I? What does God desire to do through me?” As Pat has shared, these three questions encompass the life of faith to which we are all called.

Please contact Pat (rpatsmith@gmail.com) or Laura (knappkin76@gmail.com) for more information about this personal journey through study, contemplation and conversation to a rich and full life with Christ. **Starting the second week in January**, one group will meet on Thursday evenings and the other on Tuesday mornings. Pat and Laura will be glad to share more as you consider this opportunity.

**The Most Important Gift Catalog in the World**
Choose a meaningful gift to give a loved one and help children and families around the world receive training and animal gifts that help them become self-reliant.

Honor your loved ones with a free card from Heifer with every donation.

**Ministry Guild is meeting Monday, December 11, at 5:00 p.m. in the lounge. We hope all can come.**

**2017 Flower Calendar**
If you wish to provide flowers for a Sunday worship service, please sign up on the Flower Calendar posted behind the information desk. You will be contacted in advance of the date you request.

For more information, please visit our website [www.firstpresmuncie.org](http://www.firstpresmuncie.org)