

SAVIOR ORNAMENT

This Christmas, celebrate Jesus' birthday by making this keepsake ornament.

What you need:

- Wooden clothespin with round end
- Black permanent marker
- White cloth or felt
- Small wooden star (available at craft stores)
- Yellow paint
- Paintbrush
- Gold glitter (optional)
- Glue gun (and an adult)
- Straw-colored raffia
- Palm-size wicker wreath (available at craft stores)
- Ribbon

What you do:

1. On the clothespin's round knob, draw two dots for eyes.
2. Wrap the white cloth around the clothespin, like a swaddled baby.
3. Paint the star yellow; add glitter, if desired.
4. With the glue gun and adult supervision, glue the raffia to the bottom inside of the wreath. Then glue the swaddled clothespin atop the raffia and glue the gold star atop the wreath.
5. Tie a ribbon around the top, near the star.
6. Hang the ornament on your Christmas tree or tie it on a gift.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church
5900 Hull Street Road
Richmond VA 23224

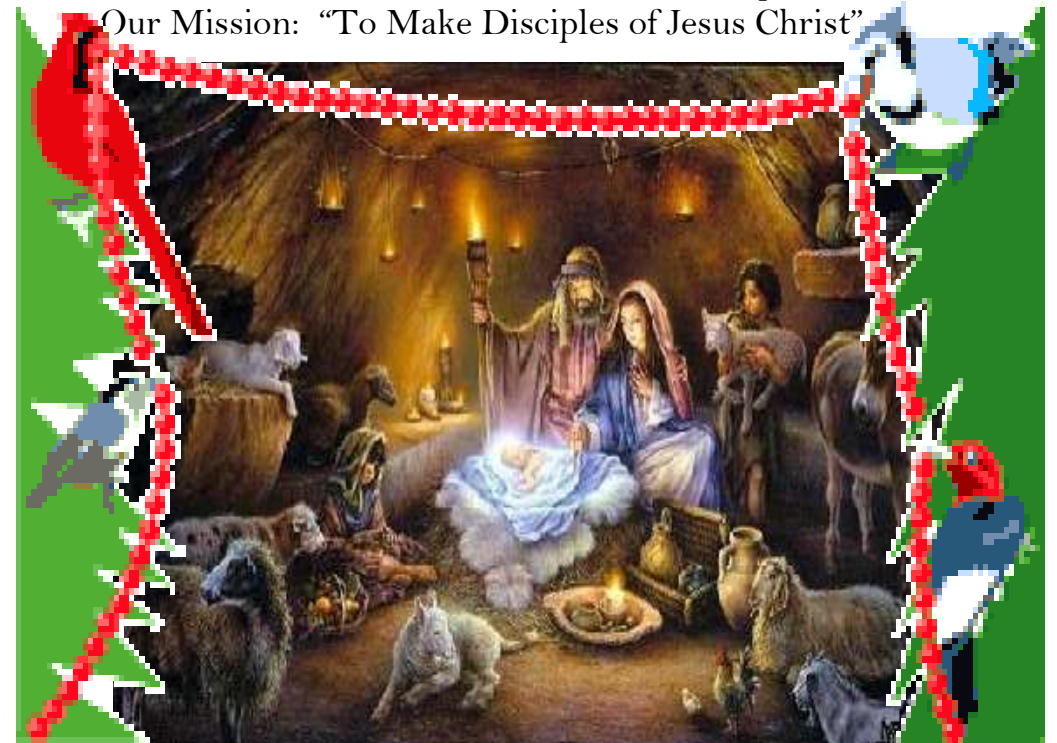
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THE MESSENGER

Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church

Dedicated to an Informed Membership

Our Mission: "To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ"



Christmas

Dec 2011-Jan 2012

FROM THE PASTOR



“to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. Luke 1:77-79

There’s nothing like tweaking sacred tradition to tick people off. Most pastors have noticed over the years of doing the Christmas Eve marathon that Christmas is the ultimate holiday sacred cow. You just don’t mess with Christmas. For many people the biggest fear of this season is that Christmas won’t happen according to plan, that something will go awry and ruin Christmas thoroughly.

A newly ordained pastor found this out immediately after his first Christmas Eve service. It was a packed sanctuary with many new visitors and a festive atmosphere. The pastor went to the door to greet people after the service, believing that all was right with the world, when one of the long-time church members came to the door but refused to shake the pastor’s hand. Scowling, he said, “Thanks for ruining my Christmas — we didn’t sing “The First Noel” as the second carol. We’ve always sung that carol second in the order of worship on Christmas Eve. Without that, it’s just not Christmas.”

It could have been its own animated special: “The Pastor Who Stole Christmas.” People just seem to get wrapped up in the smallest things this time of year. We all have our expectations, our hopes, our “perfect” scenarios, whether it be for a holiday or for any other aspect of our lives. For some reason, we don’t like any deviation.

Jesus came amidst a swirl of expectations about a messiah who would save his people and do it according to a preconceived and religiously approved plan. He was expected to wield a sword instead of a shepherd’s crook and make peace by eliminating the enemies of Israel, particularly the minions of Rome who occupied their land. The Messiah was to make a list, check it twice, determine who was naughty and nice and make sure that the ultimate holiday — the restoration of Israel — would come according to the script, complete with happy ending and roll the credits.

Instead, Jesus does nothing less than turn their expectations upside down. Instead of celebrating sameness and traditional uniformity during the Christmas season, let us be open to God coming in a surprisingly different way. Who knows, we may actually encounter the Christ Child!

Yours In Christ,

Joe

December 2011 ACTIVITIES

PUZZLE

A PROMISED RULER

Prophets told of Jesus’ birth hundreds of years before it happened. Never had a baby’s arrival come with such a promise.

Directions: To read what one prophet (Micah 5:4, NIV) said about Jesus, complete the math problems below. Then fill in the words, using the math solutions as your guide.

$7+6$ strength
 $9+1$ shepherd
 $30-3$ the
 $7+5$ ends
 $50-26$ live
 $21-10$ will
 $27-24$ peach
 $10+7$ flock
 $40-20$ stand
 $15+9$ security
 $8+8$ his
 $35-31$ Leap
 $17-3$ greatness
 $10-3$ earth
 $10+5$ will
 $5+1$ will

“He _____ and _____ his _____
 in the _____ of the _____ ... And they _____
 _____, for then _____
 _____ to the _____ of _____.”

MICAH 5:4, NIV

Answers: “He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord ... And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.” Micah 5:4, NIV



DECEMBER

Rosemary Brown 1st
 Phyllis Tyler 2nd
 Cachet Brown 3rd
 Jean Chandler 5th
 June Brown 7th
 Carol Hotchkiss 9th
 Patricia Finestone 10th
 Christopher Riley Irving 10th
 Bootsey Brown 12th
 Pattie Madison 12th
 Daniel Vaughan 12th
 Nicky Clendenin 14th
 Lois Crafton 14th
 Jane Cummings 14th
 Darlene Sweat 14th
 Will Southworth 15th
 Katie Smith 16th
 McKenzie Jump 17th
 Craig Lane 17th
 Adam Madison 17th
 Chante Brown 18th
 Sue Newman 19th
 Hazel Stewart 19th
 Dolores Thomas 21st
 Lou Chandler 22nd
 Sherry Fox 25th
 Violet Williams 28th
 Lucille Powell 29th
 Carolyn Wood 29th
 Nina Imajo 31st
 Mary Ellen Vaughn 31st

JANUARY

Ann Hallinan 1st
 Morris Sings 1st
 Kacky Grubb 3rd
 Robin Davis 3rd
 Todd Foular 3rd
 Ben Meadows 6th
 Louise Foular 10th
 Louise H. Smith 10th
 Jimmy Stewart 11th
 Joyce Walsh 12th
 Jerry Horton 12th
 Jeff Barnard 14th
 Nancy Hoover 14th
 Mary Brame 16th
 Jeanne Barnard 17th
 Tray Rives 18th
 Laura Smith 20th
 Beth Lane 21st
 Joseph Holmes 21st
 Janet Sheek 22nd
 Cecil Goosby, Jr. 24th
 Oswaldo Aguilar 24th
 Gail Barker 26th
 Scott Cummings 26th
 Keishla Rodriguez 26th
 Michelle Dore 27th
 Laura Coleman 28th
 Maggie Flynn 28th
 Gina Laine 28th
 Matthew Meadows 28th
 Francis Dadzie 28th



DECEMBER

Cecil & Ollie Hughes 1st
 Morris & Ann Sings 6th
 Tim Eells & Wendy Inge 17th
 Raymond & Pauline Miles 23rd
 David & Rita Pittman 11th
 Tammy & Freddy Heller 17th

**NO ANNIVERSARIES FOR
 JANUARY**

Ramsey's White Christmas Food Baskets

Friends and Neighbors in our Congregation and Community need help this year to provide food for themselves and their families. We ask that the congregation bring foods from the list below and place them in the bins marked **WHITE CHRISTMAS** located in the **foyers in the Education Building and the CLC**. The foods so generously given by our congregation will be used to prepare food boxes for our 15 White Christmas families and to supplement the Ramsey food pantry.

Please bring items from the list below each **Sunday through December 18th**.

We ask that Sunday School Classes bring items from their designated list below.

Classes:

Nursery- Five year olds

1st- 5th grade

Youth

Jr and Sr. High

Agape

Escuela Dominical

Kirkie Powell

New Spirit

Otto Whitt

Items to be contributed:

Peanut Butter, Jelly

Spaghetti/Macaroni/Pastas and Sauce for Pasta

Canned/Dried Soups, Mac & Cheese

Canned Fruit (Peaches, Pears, Pineapple, Fruit Cocktail, Applesauce, etc), Fruit Juices, Bisquick (Biscuit), Loaf Bread

Rice, Beans

Canned Meats (Tuna, Salmon, Chicken, Corned Beef), Vegetable Oil, Coffee, Butter, Eggs

5 lb bags of Sugar, Cake/Muffin Mixes, Oatmeal, Cereals, Potatoes (White & Sweet - Fresh or Canned)

Canned Vegetables (Tomatoes, Green Beans, Peas, Corn, Butterbeans, Beans, etc.), Oranges, Apples, Candy



55+ Luncheon

Join us in the Fellowship Hall

at **12:00 p.m.**

Invite a friend to join you



by

December 7th for December 9, 2011

And

January 11th for January 13, 2012

BUCS Christmas Party
Will Flynn's Office

Saturday, December 10, 2011

At 6:00 p.m.



TO MY RAMSEY FAMILY

I would like to thank all of you who sent cards, called, visited me in the hospital and brought food to my home while I was laid up. It is so good to have friends who care as you are and I am glad to have you in my life.

Leroy Harris

Sunday Night Youth Dinner Sign-up

The youth is looking for people to provide dinners on Sunday Nights for Youth Group. If you would be interested in providing dinner for the youth one Sunday night, you can select a date from the sign-up sheet on the door of Jeremy's office or simply call Jeremy Humphrey and let him know which date you would like to choose.



Designated Giving

It will be soon time for Christmas shopping. Again this year think about Designated Giving. Instead of buying a present for someone who may have everything make a donation to a Ramsey ministry in her/his name such as the Building Fund, Food Pantry, Church Maintenance, Missions, or the Youth Program. There will be special envelopes available soon so you can designate your gift to a special place. Acknowledgement cards will be sent out telling the recipients that you have made a donation in their name. We hope you will participate in this program. In this season of giving, here is a chance to go beyond wrapping paper and ribbons, to give meaningful and lasting presents and make someone's life just a little bit better.

Stewardship Committee



Reminder

Please remember that the church office will be closed from December

26th – 30th



Ramsey United Methodist Women News

“ Membership Counts--Introduction/Invitation

United Methodist Women is the official women's organization of the United Methodist Church. Its membership is voluntary and open to all women committed to spreading the gospel through mission work.....Since 1869, women in the Methodist tradition have been organized with the purpose of being in mission with women, children, and youth. United Methodist Women and its predecessor organizations believed all human beings are of sacred worth, therefore deserving of dignity, justice, and well being. Today, United Methodist Women members continue to pledge their support to meet the needs; advocate for justice; and honor the lives of all women, children, and youth around the world....

The generosity and dedication of UMW members allows the organization to engage in mission in more than 100 mission institutions in the United States, and programs and projects in more than 80 countries around the world. The focus in every place is the life of every woman and child. How can we do unto them as we would like to have done unto us? How can we help make sure they have what we, women in the United States, unconsciously enjoy?

We invite you to join this creative, supportive fellowship of women ...with the common goal of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ through witness and work “

Excerpts from Women's Ministries

Contact: Any member of the Ramsey UMW

Dates to Remember:

December 3, 2011

UMW District Advent Service

Place:

Walmsley Boulevard UMC,
2950 Walmsley Blvd., 23234

Registration:

10:00 a.m.

Program: 10:30- 11:30 a.m.

Speaker:

Greg Peters, President and CEO, United Methodist Family Service
Mission Emphasis: Offering for United Methodist Family Services

Feb 2, 2012

United Methodist Day at the General Assembly

February 2, Bon Air UMC,
1645 Buford Road, Richmond, VA 23235

Feb. 18

UMW District Racial Justice and Reconciliation

Place:

Mechanicsville UMC
7356 Atlee Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111
Focus: “Stand Up For Justice”



If you would like to help us with the
LIVING NATIVITY

Please fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate.
Thank you - The Nativity Committee -

_____ I would like to stand in Nativity on
Preference of night: Circle one or more

Wed 12/21 Thurs 12/22 Fri. 12/23 Sat 12/24

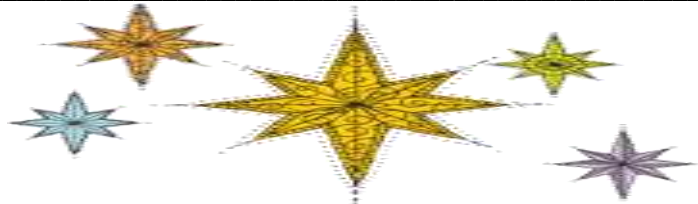
_____ I cannot stand, but would like to help in another way

YARD CREW SOUND DRESSING CAST FOOD
Preference of night: Circle one or more

Wed 12/21 Thurs 12/22 Fri 12/23 Sat 12/24

Name _____

Phone Number _____



BETHLEHEM COMES ALIVE!

Sun 12/11 & 12/18 during Sunday school and
Wed 12/21 & Fri 12/23
7:00 -9:00 p.m.

We would love for you to be a part of this ministry.
Decorating will begin on Sat 12/3 and continue on Sat 12/10
Please sign up below to join in the fun!

Name: _____ Tel. #: _____

I can help decorate on: 12/3 _____ or _____ 12/11

I want to volunteer on _____
(Any questions contact Pat Dyson)

The UMW CHRISTMAS LOVE BASKETS
December 4, 2010

The United Methodist Women will be preparing "Love Baskets" for some very special members in early December. We would appreciate your help in filling the basket's. Item's needed are hand lotion, shaving cream, puzzle books, sugar free and regular cookies and candy, tissues, regular and sugar free puddings, crackers and homemade goodies. Please deliver to the office by **December 4th, marked "Love Baskets."**

Please call Pat Beville at 639-9154 if you have any questions.
Please call to add a name to receive a Love Basket or if you can help with delivery.



Ramsey's Christmas Eve Worship Services




There is a service in **Spanish** in the CLC at **5:30 p.m.**
The **6:00** p.m. service in the Sanctuary is **family oriented.**
The **7:30** p.m. service is a traditional service with communion.
And the **11:00** p.m. service is a candle light service with communion.

Come and share in the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Raise your voice in praise and worship, knowing that God is with us.





DECEMBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>EVERY SUNDAY Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 am Fellowship Gathering 9:30 am & 12:15pm Sunday School 9:45 am</p>				1 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 am Prayer Shawls 10:00 am TOPS 10:00 am ESL Graduation 6:30 pm Troop 847 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm ESL Classes 7:30 p	2 Mexican Consulate	3 Mexican Consulate BUCS 8:00 am Upward Registr 9:00 am Troop 721 10:00 am Estudio Biblico 6:00 pm
	4 Mexican Consulate Fellowship C. 8:30 am Upward Registr. 2:00 pm Disciple I – Library 2:00 pm Praise Choir 3:30 pm Bells Choir 4:30 pm Youth-FH 6:30 pm	5 Tutoring 6:30 pm	6 Wellness 6:00 pm Disciple I 7:00 pm McGuire Park Circle 7:30 pm	7 Bible Study 10:00 am Troop 3046 6:30 pm Admin. Council 7:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Serv 7:00 pm	8 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 am Prayer Shawls 10:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Troop 75 6:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm	9 55 + Luncheon 12:00 pm Manchester Christmas Party 6:00 pm
11 Bethlehem 9:45 am Disciple I 2:00 pm Praise Choir 3:30 pm Bells Choir 4:30 pm Youth-FH 6:30 pm	12 Tutoring 6:30 pm	13 Ada M. Bookman Circle 11:00 am VA Assn for Blind 5:30 pm Wellness 6:00 pm Disciple I 7:00 pm	14 VA ASSN for Blind 11:00 am Va A- Blind C P 10:00 am Bible Study 10:00 am Nina Woodfin Circle 2:00 pm Trustees 6:30 pm Hispanic Prayer Serv 7:00 pm	15 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 am Prayer Shawls 10:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Troop 847 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm	16	17 Otto Whitt Sunday School Party Troop 721 10:00 am Estudio Biblico 6:00 pm
18 Bethlehem 9:45 am Disciple I – Library 2:00 pm Praise Choir 3:30 pm Bells Choir 4:30 pm Youth-FH 6:30 pm	19	20 Wellness 6:00 pm GS Leader's Meeting 6:30 pm Disciple I 7:00 pm	21 Food Pantry 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Troop 676 GSM 6:00 pm Troop 3046 6:30 pm Finance 7:00 pm Hispanic Prayer S. 7:00 pm Bethlehem 7:00 pm	22 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 am Prayer Shawls 10:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Troop 75 6:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm	23 Bethlehem 7:00 pm	24 Troop 721 9:30 am Estudio Biblico 6:00 pm
L I V I N G I N A T I V I T Y						
25 Christmas Day	26 Office Closed	27	28	29	30 Office Closed	31 Estudio Biblico 6:00 pm
				Care-A-Van and Dental Van @ 8:00 a.m. Every Thursday		

January 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
1 New Year's Day Fellowship C. 8:30 am Disciple I – Library 2:00 pm Praise Choir 3:30 pm Bells Choir 4:30 pm Youth-FH 6:30 pm	2	3 Wellness 6:00 pm Beth Moore Bible S 6:30 pm Disciple I 7:00 pm McGuire Park Circle 7:30 pm	4 Bible Study 10:00 am Troop 3046 6:30 pm Admin. Council 7:00 pm Hispanic Prayer S 7:00 pm	5 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 am Prayer Shawls 10:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Troop 847 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm	6	7 BUCS 8:00 am Troop 721 10:00 am Estudio Biblico 6:00 pm		
8 Disciple I – Library 2:00 pm Praise Choir 3:30 pm Bells Choir 4:30 pm Youth-FH 6:30 pm	9	10 Ada Mae Bookman C 11:00 am Upward Games Prac 6:00 pm Wellness 6:00 pm Beth Moore Bible S 6:30 pm Hazel Gibbs 7:00 pm Disciple I 7:00 pm	11 Bible Study 10:00 am Nina Woodfin Circle 2:00 pm Upward G Practice 6:00 pm Trustees 6:30 pm Hispanic Prayer S 7:00 pm	12 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 am Prayer Shawls 10:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Upward Games Prac 6:00 pm Troop 75 6:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm	13 55 + Luncheon 12:00 pm	14 Estudio Biblico 6:00 pm		
15 Disciple I – Library 2:00 pm Praise Choir 3:30 pm Bells Choir 4:30 pm Youth-FH 6:30 pm	16	17 Upward Games Prac 6:00 pm Wellness 6:00 pm Beth Moore Bible S 6:30 pm Disciple I 7:00 pm	18 Bible Study 10:00 am Upward G Practice 6:00 pm Troop 676 6:00 pm Troop 3046 6:30 pm Finance 7:00 pm Hispanic Prayer S 7:00 pm	19 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 am Prayer Shawls 10:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Upward Games Prac 6:00 pm Troop 847 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm	20	21 Troop 721 10:00 am Estudio Bíblico 6:00 pm		
22 Disciple I – Library 2:00 pm Praise Choir 3:30 pm Bells Choir 4:30 pm Youth-FH 6:30 pm	23	24 Upward Games Prac 6:00 pm Wellness 6:00 pm Beth Moore Bible S 6:30 pm Disciple I 7:00 pm	25 Food Pantry 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Upward G Practice 6:00 pm SPRC 7:00 pm Hispanic Prayer S 7:00 pm	26 Coffee & Conversation 9:00 am Prayer Shawls 10:00 am TOPS 10:00 am Upward G Practice 6:00 pm Troop 75 6:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:00 pm	27	28 UMW Meeting 10:00 am Estudio Biblico 6:00 pm		
29 Disciple I – Library 2:00 pm Praise Choir 3:30 pm Bells Choir 4:30 pm Youth-FH 6:30 pm	30	31 Upward Games Prac 6:00 pm Wellness 6:00 pm Beth Moore Bible S 6:30 pm Disciple I 7:00 pm					EVERY SUNDAY Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 am Fellowship Gathering 9:30 am & 12:15pm Sunday School 9:45 am Contemporary Worship 5:30 pm Worship Service/Spanish 12:30 pm Escuela Dominical 11:00 am	
HAPPY NEW YEAR				Care-A-Van and Dental Van @ 8:00 a.m. Every Thursday				