

## MISSION

SHARE GOD'S LOVE  
LIVE GOD'S WORD  
GROW GOD'S KINGDOM

## VISION

WE ARE A COMMUNITY  
COMPELLED BY THE LOVE  
OF CHRIST TO MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE IN A WORLD IN  
NEED.



**Strawbridge**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# The Messenger

November 2015

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October 20, 2015

Dear Strawbridge,

As an 18 year member of STRAWBRIDGE UMC, I participate in the Crusaders Class, XYZ, Monday Bible Group, Merry Widows, and book club. I used to go on church bus trips.

Last year I became wheelchair-bound and have a personal van fitted with a ramp. A companion drives for me, so I still attend many of the activities.

The missing link was being able to take part in day excursions with a group. One of the new church vans is retro-fitted with a handicap ramp, and it also has secure lock-downs and safety belt for a wheelchair.

I recently had an opportunity to take a day trip using the new van. The ramp gave effortless access and the chair was securely anchored to the floor. I felt extremely safe and enjoyed a smooth ride.

How grateful I am to Strawbridge for the decision to give handicapped members an opportunity to participate in small group excursions.

Those who use walkers and canes will also find the ramp a great improvement over the steps!

Lillian Hood



## HAPPENINGS AT SUMC

### **Mission Focus for November**

This mission focus for November is the Christmas Giving Tree. The Christmas Giving Tree will be in the Narthex from November 1st-December 6th. The 3 organizations that are benefactors this year are Mission Northeast-Porter, Mission Milby and HAAM. Please place the unwrapped gifts under the tree and return all gift cards to the SUMC office. Also attach the organization card to each gift or gift card so they can be returned to the correct group.

### **Let's Deck the Halls!**



Advent is almost upon us and we have lots to do to get ready for the birth of Jesus! One of the ways we prepare is to decorate our beautiful church facility. This season we are asking that **each Sunday school class, small group, and ministry team** consider decorating a tree. Your tree can be any size since we have room for free standing trees and tabletop trees. Your group will be

responsible for set up, decorations, and take down. The time frame for setting up your tree is any time between Sunday, November 29 and Saturday, December 12. We have a few trees available at the church if your group doesn't have one to use. While participation is strictly voluntary, please consider how beautiful our church will look with so many trees representing all the many aspects of our ministry! Please contact Katie Marvin at [katiesmarvin@gmail.com](mailto:katiesmarvin@gmail.com) with any questions.

### **Women's Annual Christmas Tea 2015**

Please join us for tea and desserts to celebrate Christ's birth on Monday, November 30th at 7:00 p.m. Sign up to participate by emailing Sheela Allen [SKAllen123@kingwoodcable.net](mailto:SKAllen123@kingwoodcable.net) or by calling at 281-384-3201 or you can sign up in the Activity Corridor. If you need nursery care, please call to reserve a spot for your child.

### **The Coffee Corner**

Visitors and New Members are invited to visit The Coffee Corner by the church office on Sunday

mornings from 10:00 a.m. - 11:05 a.m. Come Share, Live and Grow one cup at a time!



### **Canned & Non Perishable Food Drive**

Please bring canned & non-perishable food items to church on Sunday, November 22nd. Bring them to the Sanctuary and place them on the rails where they will be blessed. Then these items will be donated to area food banks.

### **ATTENTION 50+ TRAVELERS**

A.D. Players present "A Christmas of Many Parts" By Jeannette Clift George & Kevin Dean on December 6th. We will gather at the church at 11:00 a.m. for an 11:15 a.m., departure. The price is \$12.00 plus cost of your lunch. Sign up in the Activity Corridor or call the church office at 281-360-4500. Payment must be received by November 16th. Please make your check payable to SUMC. Questions? Contact Jean Anderson at (281) 360-5578.

## The Mission Milby

Everyone had an awesome time at The Mission Milby Trunk or Treat despite the rain! Many of our church members participated in the games and other activities that were planned for the youth and their families. We want to thank all of those folks who helped with this ministry. Our next event will be the Christmas party at Mission Milby. If you are interested in helping with the Christmas party contact Rob Webb at [robertnwebb17@gmail.com](mailto:robertnwebb17@gmail.com).



Here is an example of how one of our member families grew by stepping out of their comfort zone. What a great opportunity this is to share, live and grow and to be compelled by the love of Christ to make a difference in a world in need one child at a time!

Dear Strawbridge,

Our family hosted an orphan from Ukraine for the summer. We showed him love of a family and had fun showing him Texas. Little did I understand what God was doing in my life and my family's life. Showing God's love to another helped our family to grow in so many ways, and God is teaching our family about love for each other and others. HE has grown my heart to serve the orphans in Ukraine, which has led me to volunteer with Host Ukraine ([hostukraine.org](http://hostukraine.org)). I will be traveling to the Ukraine on January 11th and returning on the 22nd. While there I will be using my background as a school nurse to assist the team in assessing medical needs.

I would like to ask for prayers for the orphans and our team as we travel and share God's love with those in the Ukraine.

Sheela Allen

Strawbridge would like to help Sheela in her efforts by gathering the following donated items for the orphanage in Ukraine. Please drop your items in the box located in the Activity Corridor and labeled Ukraine Orphans.



- 1) boys/girls underwear (all sizes)
- 2) socks
- 3) toothpaste
- 4) gum
- 5) coloring books
- 6) crayons
- 7) pens
- 8) pencils
- 9) bar soap
- 10) soccer balls
- 11) bubbles
- 12) printer paper

## Attendance

Sunday, October 4  
9:00 Worship 172  
11:15 Worship 183  
Sunday School 211

Sunday, October 11  
9:00 Worship 179  
11:15 Worship 206  
Sunday School 193

Sunday, October 18  
9:00 Worship 210  
11:15 Worship 185  
Sunday School 175

Sunday, October 25  
9:00 Worship 185  
11:15 Worship 194  
Sunday School 188

**Welcome New Members**

**Joined 10/11/15**

**Keri Falk**

**Sarah Bailey**



*Baptized*  
IN THE NAME  
OF THE *Father,*  
THE *Son* AND THE  
*Holy Spirit*

**Keri Falk on 10/11/15**

## It's a Boy!



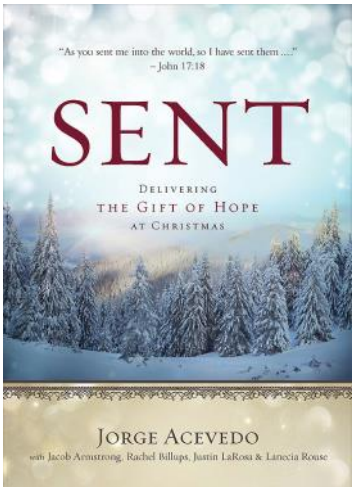
Nathaniel Howard Smith born on October 21, 2015. The proud parents are Jeff & Bonnie Smith and the proud grandmother is Sharon Deterding.

**ADVENT STUDY**

7:00-8:00 p.m.  
November 11th and 18th  
and December 2nd, 9th and 16th  
In the Great Hall (Room 114)

Join Pastor Todd as he leads us through the Advent journey by Jorge Acevedo  
Sent: Delivering The Gift of Hope at Christmas

Sign up in the Activity Corridor!



**STRAWBRIDGE  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**

5629 Kingwood Drive  
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www.strawbridge-umc.org



**Share the Good News!  
Newsletter Submissions**

<b>Submission Deadline:</b>	<b>For Issue:</b>
<b>November 15th</b>	<b>December</b>

**Strawbridge United  
Methodist Church Staff**

**SENIOR PASTOR**

THE REV. DR. TODD JORDAN

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

THE REV. BETH CHENAULT

**CHILDREN'S MINISTER**

THE REV. EMILY BANKSTON

**MINISTER OF MUSIC**

THE REV. LAURIE PURCELL

**Director of Bright Beginning**

**Learning Center**

Mary Jo Neidinger

**Director of Children's Choirs**

Jennifer Lewis

**Director of Communications**

Anna Raines

**Director of Contemporary Music**

Matt Gabaldon

**Director of Discipleship & Spiritual**

**Formation**

Trish King

**Director of Hospitality and  
Young Adults Ministries**

Michelle Ashley

**Director of Student Ministries**

Jon Ashley

**Director of Visual Arts**

Jeff Rose

**Organist**

Zane Barra

**Sound Engineer**

David Vavra

**Nursery Coordinator**

Debbie Sundgren

**Office/Financial Manager**

Ann Bryan

**Church Administrative Assistant**

Sandra Piliar

**SHARE GOD'S LOVE • LIVE GOD'S WORD • GROW GOD'S KINGDOM**

**November Birthdays**

Christopher Burnett	11/1	Mary Lynne Weemering	11/14	Sewo Olonilua	11/27
Bobby Johnston	11/1	Judy Ehrhardt	11/14	Sarah Richardson	11/27
Shaun Murphy	11/1	Ricky Bryan	11/14	Sophie Harris	11/28
David Smith	11/2	Shannon Retrum	11/15	Jeff White	11/28
Linda Berner	11/3	Anita Garcia	11/15	Eric Stroud	11/29
Jane Christensen	11/4	Cynthia Nielsen	11/15	Heather Green	11/29
Taylor Murphy	11/4	Shellie Thomas	11/15	Ron Flinn	11/29
Finley McDonald	11/4	Christopher Cayton	11/15	Christopher	11/29
Mike Carter	11/4	Alarie Moseley	11/15	Wahrmund	11/29
Brad loerger	11/5	Marta Meszaros	11/16	Amber Mcllroy	11/30
Joshua Reynolds	11/6	Joe Moseley	11/16	Jeff Gifford	11/30
Cheryl Burnett	11/6	Robbin Burger	11/16		
Brayden Moseley	11/6	Elizabeth Fogt	11/18		
Mallory Sitzman	11/6	Brenda Hulse	11/18		
Richard Schwabenlander	11/7	Kelly McKenzie	11/19		
Gary Burger	11/8	Ayo Jejelowo	11/19		
Jody Dowd	11/9	Andrew Morgan	11/20		
Megan Duncan	11/9	Norman Graff	11/20		
Michael Timko	11/9	Stephen Schellinger	11/20		
Vivian Garcia	11/10	Emily McLallen	11/20		
Marguerite Armistead	11/10	Elizabeth Herink	11/21		
Jack Armistead	11/10	David Bornstein	11/21		
David Lewis	11/10	Emma Prater	11/22		
John Kolehner	11/11	Holland Vavra	11/22		
Skylar Jordan	11/11	Joshua Morgan	11/23		
Erin Mosel	11/11	Doris Moomaw	11/23		
Donna Bridger	11/12	Sophie Merkle	11/23		
Wayne Garrison	11/12	Kelly McLean	11/24		
Woody Paul	11/13	Marla Meriano	11/24		
Will Bridges	11/13	Braden Hopkins	11/24		
Gina Mayfield	11/13	Caroline Stewart	11/25		
Michael Mcllroy	11/14	Cody Welborn	11/26		
		Andy Gorham	11/26		