

# ARDMORE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## NEWSLETTER

### ADVENT 2010

#### *A Word*

#### *From the Pastor...*

How suddenly Christmas is upon us. Though we prepare for it (Christmas Eve bulletin covers are ordered before summer is over!), it seems the calendar page turn to December makes it the busiest time of the year for most of us. That is true here at the church as well. Much needs to be done to assure that this time is made memorable for you, our family. Sermon preparation, music planned, decorations put in place, family gatherings, Christmas Eve costumed and candle lighted are all things that require our attention and detail now. You need to know, however, that though it is our busiest time of the year, it is also our most blessed time of the year.

As we work to do what we must do, we watch you join so earnestly in worship. We watch you crown the Season and the Year with so many gifts to others. How could we not be blessed by all of that?

You are a *truly special Church Family*. What you have put together here and have become is something to be cherished. And Christmas makes your light shine all the brighter.

My prayer for you in these days of Christmas preparation at home, as busy as they are, is that you will know in them how blessed you are with family, friends, and faith and what a blessed bother, you are about.

God is about to touch the earth once again with a loving heart at Christmas!

*-Pastor Williams*

*"Take Christ out of Christmas and December becomes the bleakest and most colorless month of the year"*

## *Services*

### *of Christmas Eve*

*Friday, December 24th*

*Children's Service - 4:00 p.m.*



*This informal worship time is for families with young children (although all are welcome to be a part of it!). Special music and the children's re-enactment of the Christmas Story are featured.*

*Candlelight Service - 7:00 p.m.*



*The Sanctuary is beautifully bathed in candlelight; and a costumed pageant of the Nativity Story is presented with scripture and song.*

## *Advent/Christmas*

### *Celebration Dinner*

*Sunday, December 5th at 5:30 p.m.*

*This year's Advent/Christmas Celebration Dinner promises to be better than ever! Everyone is invited to join in the fun. Entree, green salad, bread and beverages will be provided. Everyone is encouraged to bring a dessert to share.*

*Following dinner, the children may create ornaments and crafts - then we will all gather to sing the Carols of Christmas.*

*At 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, we will be treated to a Christmas Concert by the Notables of The Haverford School - Directed by Michael Stairs.*

*Please join us for a fun night of fellowship, great food and music!*

#### *Finance Committee Update...*

We are grateful to those who have already responded to our recent appeal for a **one-time contribution in any amount** to help with this year's looming budget deficit. With a target of \$24,000, a total of \$15,235 has been received to date.

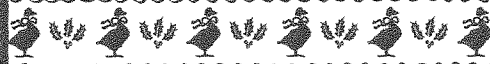
As more of you respond, we hope to close that gap by year's end. We ask just that you give what you can. Our goal is 100% of our Ardmore Church giving units.

We know this is a difficult time. If every member responds with a contribution for his/her situation, we will meet this challenge. Thank you.



#### **UMW Pecan Sale**

UMW will be selling Schermer's Pecans in the Parlor after services each Sunday during the holiday season. We offer a wide variety from which to choose - all wrapped in holiday gift bags. Please be sure to visit us in the Parlor after services!



#### *UMW needs...*

#### *Christmas Cookies*

To deliver to shut-ins. If you are able to bake cookies, please bring them to the parlor kitchenette on Sunday, December 12th. UMW plans to wrap and deliver the cookies on Monday, December 13th. The cookies delight those who are unable to be with us in person at church for our Christmas festivities, and lets them know that we are thinking of them.