

***First United Methodist Church
of Hawthorne***

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**Hawthorne First United Methodist Church
Pastor Stacey Spence**



***MEMORY VERSE FOR
DECEMBER 2018***

“1)After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2) and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”
Matthew 2:1-2 NIV

**Come worship with us at the
Christmas Eve Candlelight
Service on December 24th at
7:00 PM in the Sanctuary.
Everyone is welcome.**





From the desk of Pastor Stacey...

I'm not leaving the Church!

By **INUMC** November 14th, 2018

My grandparents, Julius and Lucile Pryor, and parents, John and Marybelle Pryor Trimble, were members of Old Ship African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Zion Church in Montgomery, Ala. My mother, who is 96 years old, still remains connected to, and shares a part of her tithe with, Old Ship AME Zion. Established in 1852, Old Ship AME Zion Church is listed as the oldest black church in Montgomery, Alabama. This historic church was served by white ministers until 1862. Its original building was given to the congregation by the Court Street Methodist Church which is now First United Methodist of Cloverdale, Alabama. When my parents were married and moved to Chicago, they chose the nearest Methodist church within walking distance as our family had grown and, at the time, my parents were raising six children. Christ Methodist Church, now Christ United Methodist Church, a community-based church on the Southside of Chicago became our home. It was out of Christ Church that I was confirmed and became active in MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship). It was at Christ Church I was able to attend Methodist camps and participate in Young Life urban ministries such as going camping in Boulder, Colorado. It was at Christ Church that the Bible alive and peace and justice were never divorced from evangelistic efforts aimed at becoming disciples of Jesus, bringing others to Jesus, and professing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. While shooting pool at Africa University with students this past October, I was able to share that it was at my church where I first learned to play ping pong and shoot pool. The church was a place of belonging and affirmation, and out of this inner-city Chicago church over 25 men and women expressed a call to ministry – some of us remain connected today.

The early disputes, I remember, in our church were related to the addition of a Gospel Choir and drums in the church, pastoral authority, and how welcoming we would be to outside groups who wanted to use the church building. Over the course of 25 years, even after I had left the church for college and seminary, there were several chapters in the life of the church when a handful of people would leave for a more popular church, a safer neighborhood, a senior choir dispute, the length of worship service, or the proverbial “I’m not getting fed the Word” excuse. My mother never left. She never stopped tithing and she never stopped praying for whoever the pastor assigned to our church was. After being widowed in 1969, it was the church that walked with my mother and our family in grief. It was the church that helped this public school teacher raise six children, sending five off to college.

Continued next page...



From the desk of Pastor Stacey...

Our church was not perfect and we did not always get the welcoming piece right. Like many churches, we became comfortable with the people we knew and the ministries we supported.

People moved away to different communities, young people went off to college and the military in the church would decline in number, rebound and decline again. Some people stayed and served meals in one of the largest feeding programs in that part of Chicago based in the church. Some continued to support children and youth who often came without parents. And some stayed committed to weekly prayer and Bible study, and the ministry of encouragement.

My mother was and is one of those persons. On the matter of getting spiritually-fed, she has always believed that we each have a responsibility to read the Bible and participate in Bible study. "When I go to church on Sunday I have already had breakfast, prayed, and read daily devotions." She, to this day, writes and sends notes and letters of prayer support and encouragement all over the country to family and friends, including to those who share with her the experience of losing their spouse to death.

My mother would be considered in our current debate on the way forward, a Traditionalist with progressive beliefs about full inclusion. For her, it is God who judges and we who have the opportunity and responsibility to love God and others. Her roots are too deep to leave the church. People did not leave the Church even though they were slaves in 1852, and Methodists

were slave owners. The Church remained segregated until 1968 and people stayed committed to the mission. People did not leave the Church even though God was calling women to preach and the Church did not have open doors, minds, or encouragement. People did not leave the Church even though some believe the death penalty does not honor the commandments in the Bible and is denounced in the Book of Discipline while other United Methodists believe that the death penalty is an appropriate dispensation of justice for those convicted of capital offenses.

The Judicial Council has ruled on the three main proposals and their constitutional legality, giving more direction for those who will deliberate and vote next February.

What should we do? Let us commit to "Praying Our Way Forward."

No prayer no power, little prayer little power, much prayer much power!

The 2016 General Conference authorized the Council of Bishops to help our church remain united in mission and find a way forward out of our long-standing conflict over human sexuality and inclusion. Lost in much of the debate around Biblical authority, and justice and inclusion is the keyword associated with the Commission established to propose options for us to stop fighting and re-engage in our public mission of evangelism and world transformation.

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From the desk of Pastor Stacey...

The Commission on A Way Forward was established with a focus on a new horizon for The United Methodist Church. Lost in the translation of Christian Conferencing Guidelines and protracted debates about language in our book of Discipline is the compelling call for a more helpful and fresh Wesleyan movement to frame our passion for grace and growth.

“A way forward.” As an adverb, forward means “to or toward what is ahead or in front.”

As a verb.....” to promote or help onward; advance, cultivate, encourage, fasten, further, incubate, innovate, nourish, nurture.”

When I left the Council of Bishops meeting after having received the last update from the Commission on A Way Forward I discerned that the conversation to lead us out of the present conundrum was centered on “a way forward.”

Not a way back. Not a way out. Not a way to create winners and losers, insiders and outsiders.

Not a way to devour or destroy. Not a way to divide, or to quit. Not a way to sugar coat new forms of segregation or redefine the denomination.

As the Hymn writer puts it;
 “Not alone we conquer, not alone we fall,
 in each loss or triumph, lose or conquer all.
 Bound by God’s far purpose in one living whole,
 move we on together to the shining goal.
 Forward through the ages!”
 (The United Methodist Hymnal Number 555)

I’m not leaving regardless of what proposal or plans are passed. You don’t have to leave either.

Stay true to the primary mission of making disciples of Jesus and sharing the love of Jesus with one another as commanded in John 13:34-35:

“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another.” (NRSV)

Remember dearly beloved, we are not voted into the Church, we are baptized into the Church.

Bishop Julius C. Trimble



- **Carol Collar**
- **Terry Ayer**
- **Sherri Howland**
- **Shelli Franz**
- **Dennis Goodwin**
- **Freddie Whitehead**
- **Bob Foster**
- **Gail Peppers**
- **Mary Jordan & Family**
- **Karsyn Helms**
- **Mary Anne Gross**
- **Harold McBrayer**
- **Julia Gonzalez**
- **Judy Maggiore**
- **Olive Inman**

Long Term
Prayer List




There will be a **Hanging of the Greens Service** on **Wednesday, December 5th at 6:30pm** in the **Sanctuary**. There will be singing and decorating! Please join us for the start of our Christmas celebrations.

CHRISTMAS
Parade

Mary Anne Smith is asking anyone interested in helping with our float in the Christmas parade on December 8th, to please meet with her briefly after the worship service this Sunday, December 2nd. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!



*Birthdays
of the
Month*



- 12/10 Sharon Surrency
- 12/11 Linda Thomas
- 12/14 Carolyn Hunt
- 12/14 Abigail Hutchins
- 12/17 Liam Surrency
- 12/19 Ken Krug

- 1/01 Thomas Gross
- 1/04 Linda Cue
- 1/07 Jeanne Brockman
- 1/09 Catherine Allin
- 1/11 Ethan McLeod
- 1/12. Debbie Broker
- 1/13 Diane Tilbury
- 1/21 Dan Cromer
- 1/23 Sherri Howland
- 1/27 Gene Hunsucker
- 1/30 Karen Fahrney



- 12/14 Gerald & Kathy Morgan
- 12/18 Richard & Ginger Stanford
- 12/30 Hank & Mary Ann Gross
- 12/30 Gene & Peggy Hunsucker

- 1/01 Dan & Kathy Cromer
- 1/22 John & Mary Anne Smith



The UMW Circles have used the money earned this year from the Thrift Shop to be in mission in many ways. Just this fall we contributed to HARC, UMCOR, NOMADS, Heifer Project, Youth Training Program, Florida United Methodist Children's Home, Project Christmas Child, Angel Tree Project and other projects. Some proceeds from the Thrift Shop sales also went to the budget of the church.

The United Methodist Women are pleased to invite our whole church family to the UMW Christmas Dinner in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, December 17, 2018 at 6:30 in the evening. The UMW will provide the meat. We are asking participants to bring a side dish. Please see Cindy Schendel for information.

The Dorcas Circle will have their Christmas get together on Wednesday, December 19th at 10:00am in the Education Building multi purpose room. Members are asked to bring refreshments and a \$5.00 gift for the Gift Exchange.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Every Thursday, 9am-Noon - Thrift Shop Workday

Every Saturday, 8:30am-2:00pm - Thrift Shop Open



The UMW is delighted to invite everyone to shop in the Thrifty Gift Room of the Thrift Store (Saturday's 8:30-2:00). You can purchase NEW, VERY inexpensive items for gifts for family, Secret Pal, Teachers, Friends, or yourself! Also we are still seeking new merchandise for the Thrifty Gift, so if you'd rather not "regift" something you have received but can't use, we would appreciate the donation.

The wonderful donations keep coming in every week for which we are thankful. We continue to need volunteers to help us sort and price items and put them on display. Come join us Thursday mornings. We have a lot of fun while we work. We also need volunteers to staff the Thrift Shop on Saturday when we are open for business. Everyone one is invited to come visit browse around and buy. All our profits are used for mission and church activities.





Thank you all for your prayers and support of the Children's Home this year. I have received your Christmas donations and they have been mailed to the Children's Home. Thank you for helping to give the children and youth a special Christmas gift. I will have the total Christmas Children's Home giving in next month's newsletter article. The next Fifth Sunday offering will be in March. The year to date giving to the Children's Home is \$969.00.

Please pray for the children, youth, and staff during the holiday season. Thank you for keeping the Children's Home ministry in your prayers.

Jennifer Davis

ANGEL TREE PROJECT gifts are due by **December 7, 2018**. For more information about this very worthwhile prison ministry program click the link below. This is an annual mission of our church.

<https://www.prisonfellowship.org/about/angel-tree/>



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Tuesdays - 10:00am - Exercise Class - Fellowship Hall. Everyone welcome.

December 5th - Hawthorne Life Enrichment Center Super Seniors, 11:00am to 1:00pm at the Hawthorne Community Center. All are invited.

December 8th - Hawthorne Annual Christmas Festival & Parade, 11:00 - 5:30pm

Month of December - Festival of Trees on Display at the Hawthorne Community Center.



The next meeting of the **Hawthorne FFA Alumni** will be held on **December 11, 2018, 6:30pm** in the **AG Center**. Please make plans to attend.



*Thank you, Lord, for the gift of my life.
Help me to be Your faithful servant.*

DRAFT

10/23/18

*The Hawthorne Woman's Club Presents the***2018 HAWTHORNE COMMUNITY
FESTIVAL OF TREES***Benefitting the Hawthorne Area Resource Center***WHO:** Individuals, businesses, church & civic groups are invited to participate.**WHAT:** The 2018 Festival of Trees is a local event at which people put up and decorate a Christmas or holiday tree in honor or memory of someone special to them, or with their favorite theme, or just for fun.**WHERE:** Hawthorne Community Center**WHEN:** Trees will be put up the Saturday after Thanksgiving and remain in place through the holidays. Alternate dates for putting up trees will be scheduled or may be arranged as needed. Trees remain on display through the holidays for the community to enjoy. Specific date(s) for removing trees will be announced and special arrangements may also be made. Participants are responsible for removing their trees within a reasonable time of the scheduled date.**HOW MUCH AND WHY:** The cost is \$25 per tree (*participants provide their own ARTIFICIAL tree and decorations*) and all of this \$25 fee goes directly to HARC (the Hawthorne Area Resource Center).***Stay tuned for additional plans including
food and best dressed tree contest — all benefiting HARC******To participate contact Susan Vogel,
sgvogel@yahoo.com, 352/316-0375*****Displayers supply their own tree and decorations.
Only artificial trees may be used — NO REAL TREES.
Electric outlets are NOT available.
Only battery-powered lights can be illuminated.**

Hawthorne's 36th Annual Christmas Festival & Parade

"Old Fashioned Magical Christmas"



December 8th 2018
11am to 5:30pm

*Parade at 3 pm
Photos with Santa
at Library 4-5 pm*



Parade and Festival Located at: SE 221st Street Hawthorne, FL ~ Sponsored by the Hawthorne Area Chamber of Commerce

Download entry forms at www.HawthorneAreaChamber.org ~ For more info call 352-363-5125



CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE

A box is set up in the Fellowship Hall for you to file your Christmas cards that you wish to give to members. This custom was started many, many years ago when postage began to go up so much. The idea was that we could take what we saved on postage and donate to a worthwhile cause. (I think, though, this idea has been forgotten).



Rather than give individual cards, some people pin one card to all church members on the bulletin board above the box.

If you decide to do this please remember that some of the members on our church rolls are unable to come to church. Please mail the Christmas cards to them.



North Central District



In keeping with our core value of safety and security and to address the continuing instances of tragic shootings around the country, The Florida Conference Ministry Protection Department is offering a free training event for local churches.

We were fortunate to be able to schedule four events before year's end with one of the pre-eminent active threat training experts in Florida.

Who can attend? Pastors, assistant/associate pastors, youth pastors/leaders, business administrators, trustees, church secretaries, daycare directors and staff, security team members, church ushers/greeters, and anyone else at the local church who is interested in safety. There is a seating capacity for each site, so registration (below) will be on a first-come, first-served basis. You will receive an electronic confirmation of your registration.

What will be covered?

- Interactive training focusing on preparing for hostile intruders, active shooters, or other threats.
- Formulating plans that can be incorporated into daily routines
- Developing safety teams and assigning duties within the team
- Continuing training throughout the year
- Trauma care

Training Sessions: (the same material will be presented at each session)

- Wednesday, December 12, 2018 – First United Methodist Church of Clewiston
- Thursday, December 13, 2018 – First United Methodist Church of Clewiston
- Monday, December 17, 2018 – First United Methodist Church of Lakeland
- Tuesday December 18, 2018 – Trinity United Methodist Church of Gainesville

Each session will last from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and lunch will be provided.

You can reserve your spot by clicking [HERE](#) to register. The deadline for confirming your attendance at one of the events is **December 10, 2018**, so reserve your space today!

If you have questions about the training events, or need further information, please feel free to contact us at ministryprotection@flumc.org

Your Partners in His Service,

The Ministry Protection Department

June

June Edwards

District Superintendent

North Central District

ds-nc@flumc.org

<https://www.flumc.org/northcentral/>

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
The people of The United Methodist Church



<i>December 2018</i>						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<p>NOTE: Check weekly Bulletin/Bulletin Insert for any changes to the monthly calendar.</p> <p>Church Office and HARC will be closed New Year's Day, January 1, 2019.</p>						<p>1 UMW Thrift Shop Open- 8:30am-2:00pm</p>
<p>2 6:00pm Bible Study - FH</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 9:00am-11am Sewing Group- Educ Bldg 10:00am Exercise Classes-FH</p>	<p>5 11am-1pm Hawthorne Life Enrichment Super Seniors- Community Center 6:00pm Choir Practice- Sanctuary 6:30pm Hanging of the Greens- Sanctuary</p>	<p>6 9:00am – Noon UMW Thrift Shop Workday</p>	<p>7 Angel Tree Gifts due today 2:00pm Women's Prayer Group- Chapel</p>	<p>8 UMW Thrift Shop Open- 8:30am-2:00pm</p>
<p>9 Fellowship Dinner following Worship Service 6:00pm Bible Study - FH</p>	<p>10 2:00pm K2 Group @ Gosnell's 7:00pm K4 Group - FH</p>	<p>11 9:00am-11am Sewing Group- Educ Bldg 10:00am Exercise Classes-FH 6:30pm Hawthorne FFA Alumni Mtg.- AG Bldg</p>	<p>12 6:00pm Choir Practice- Sanctuary</p>	<p>6 9:00am – Noon UMW Thrift Shop Workday</p>	<p>14 2:00pm Women's Prayer Group- Chapel</p>	<p>15 UMW Thrift Shop Open- 8:30am-2:00pm</p>
<p>16 6:00pm Bible Study – FH</p>	<p>17 6:30pm Surency Circle Annual Christmas Dinner- FH – All are invited</p>	<p>12 9:00am-11am Sewing Group- Educ Bldg 10:00am Exercise Classes-FH</p>	<p>19 10:00am Dorcas Circle- Educ Bldg 6:00pm Choir Practice- Sanctuary</p>	<p>20 9:00am – Noon UMW Thrift Shop Workday 6:00pm Trustees Mtg.-FH</p>	<p>21 Winter Solstice 2:00pm Women's Prayer Group- Chapel</p>	<p>22 UMW Thrift Shop Open- 8:30am-2:00pm</p>
<p>23 6:00pm Bible Study - FH</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve 7:00pm Candlelight Service-Sanctuary HARC Closed</p>	<p>25 Christmas Office Closed HARC Closed</p>	<p>26 6:00pm Choir Practice- Sanctuary</p>	<p>27 9:00am – Noon UMW Thrift Shop Workday 7:00pm UMM-FH</p>	<p>28 2:00pm Women's Prayer Group- Chapel</p>	<p>29 UMW Thrift Shop Open- 8:30am-2:00pm</p>
<p>30 6:00pm Bible Study - FH</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve HARC Closed</p>					

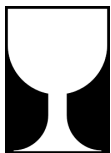


CHRISMONS WORD SEARCH



A 20x20 grid of letters for a word search, enclosed in a dashed red border. The letters are arranged in the following rows:

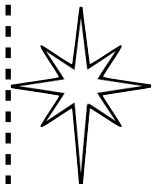
X X Y C J J D D X E S U F Q F E L D M V X I R U X
 S H G N G X U E W S K E C J F I R O S Z A M W B O
 C S S X A A K T O B G V J H L V I V L V W B P Y G
 G J O U P L Z R J V J S C Y A H F E Q W Y T X S W
 W O F R U R C U W F Q M O E S L K Y Y T U N H I B
 N M B Z C K X E O F P F I O U A I P J Z E J T A A
 T W T N E M H G O C T M C A F F B C L L E H S D Z
 A S O E Z F E O W H K O O R C S D R E H P E H S U
 G C R R L R Z L E E L D P C J G U H B V G J C R T
 O G M J C U J V A N A Q S E E Y Q E H U Z T R A H
 L N E M B L A M B S M N M N C X U F B X D G O Y L
 E T G Q P L K N F U U K D U E K W O G Z X M S T B
 F E Y V L A B U T T E R F L Y P J V O Q P G S B C
 D O N E B S Y U C Y Q A E R P Y I G P X Z B T H X
 A Z Y B K I T S H V T Y R J L D E H U N T D R L E
 E I I R M M P A Q K Q U N R O F Z M S M J Z I K K
 R B P N M T F V R A U E W P N A F N A J Y Q U J Z
 B I J U Z M N X I P Y H J I L N B N Q Z Q M M O Y
 D S K P S Z F O Q U B F J X D G G A G U J G P D I
 N F L M W A T M K G Z P Y B M E M I J S T A H W N
 A M O M E G N S A R M M Z H R L O V S A U Z A X Y
 H U V S C L H R R L H F Z B D S R Q K K G G N F X
 S I O P O G J P M T F E O F V Q T L A L G H T T Y
 I R Y R I C V F H O T X C Z N Y H Q B C Z H Y A N
 F E I B D J S D K K K Z K A X P L I T Y A C N X T



ANGELS
BUTTERFLY
CHALICE
CROSS TRIUMPHANT
CROWN
DAISY

DOVE
FISH AND BREAD
GREEK CROSS
IHS
JERUSALEM CROSS
LAMB

LILY OF THE VALLEY
MANGER
ROSE
SHELL
SHEPHERDS CROOK
STAR



A HOLIDAY RECIPE

**4 cups of LOVE
2 cups of LOYALTY
2 cups of FORGIVENESS
1 cup of FRIENDSHIP**

**5 spoons of HOPE
2 spoons of TENDERNESS
4 quarts of FAITH
1 barrel of LAUGHTER**

**Take love and loyalty,
Mix it thoroughly with faith.
Blend it with tenderness, kindness,
and understanding.
Sprinkle abundantly with laughter.
Bake it with sunshine.
Serve daily with generous helpings.**

