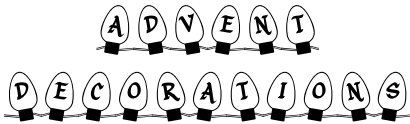


TOWER TOPICS

VOL. 48, No. 16 • DECEMBER, 2013

HIGH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 219 S. HIGH ST. • MUNCIE, IN 47305
 Church: 765-747-8500 • Fax: 765-741-5282
 E-Mail: info@munciehighstreet.com
 www.munciehighstreet.com



Advent is a special time of year at High Street Church. Please consider this an opportunity to give a gift *In Memory* or *In Appreciation* of someone special to you. Your gifts help provide the funds necessary to purchase the decorations which help us prepare for the Holy season. Please place your gift in an envelope, along with this Advent form and place the envelope in the offering plate or mail it to: High Street UMC
 219 S. High St.
 Muncie, IN 47305

Advent Decorations 2013 • PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Phone # _____

Address _____

This gift is given: In Appreciation/Honor
 In Memory

E-Mail: Church: info@munciehighstreet.com
 Pastor Mendenhall: dalemendenhall@munciehighstreet.com
 Pastor Gilbert: dgilbert@munciehighstreet.com
 Pastor Overmyer: cbovermyer@munciehighstreet.com
 Pastor Hartman: jackwhartman@munciehighstreet.com

Service Times

8:30-9:30 Traditional Worship

9:45-10:45 Sunday School

9:45-10:30 Chapel Worship

11:00-Noon Contemporary Worship

Traditional Worship Broadcast at
 11 a.m. on WXFN - 1340 AM

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Tower Topics is a bi-weekly publication of High Street UMC. Send items for *Tower Topics* to Lori Gibson, editor, by mail or to rebelnomo@munciehighstreet.com Please put "Tower Topics" in your subject line. **Articles cannot be taken over the telephone!**

You Be You

Pastor Daryl Gilbert

“I can do all things through Him (Christ) who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13

It seems like there is never a shortage of people who want to tell us we need to be like someone else—that one needs to wear one’s hair a certain way, or dress a certain way—you get the idea. The one thing we rarely hear these days from people is to “just be you, and you will get along just fine.” But, do people really want us to be ourselves?

I heard a long time ago that employees are an “extension” of the person he/she works for. This was a notion that came about when there were more family owned businesses than there are now, and it meant that the employee does his/her work exactly the way the owner would if they were trading with the customer in person. For most employers from back in the day, all that most potential employees needed to have was integrity and character to get the job done.

Family owned businesses, and “mom and pop” type operations are all but gone from our landscape these days. Where mom and pop may have been satisfied with making a living by providing a service to the community, corporations today are in business to make money. Integrity and character are not always what businesses are looking for these days, especially if one with either or both of these qualities does not add to the “bottom line” of the business.

We are in the “business” of making disciples. We do this by being the “hands and feet” of Christ (His “extension”). If one is going to try to be like anyone it must be Christ. After all, we were made in His image (Genesis 1:26). Christ is the one image that won’t change next year, or end up in a tabloid newspaper.

I said all of that to say that it is often difficult to be “Christ like” in some work settings. It is also difficult to be Christ like in the world we live in. What does being Christ like have to do with anything? First of all, the Lord knows the “real” you and me. Not the person we may have become because of pressures professionally and socially to be someone else. Second, God knew you and me before we were “knit together in our mother’s womb... we are beautifully and wonderfully made” (Psalm 139:16ff). Therefore, we were not born to imitate another person other than the “person” of Christ.

To be “you” is to conform to an image that was there before you were born. To be “you” is to be the beautiful person God created you to be. To be “you” means that you are being formed into an image that will never fail you and will allow you to achieve God’s purpose for your life. So, you be you!

Blessings,
Pastor Daryl A. Gilbert

Caribbean Christmas Dinner

Join us on **December 15** in Parish Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for a delicious



Caribbean Christmas Dinner. The meal includes jerk chicken, rice and peas, and key lime pie! Freewill donations will be accepted to benefit Journey Home Jamaica and the youth group mission trip. Please RSVP by indicating the number attending when you sign the attendance register.

Partner with Journey Home Jamaica

Partner with the Everetts and invest in the start-up Journey Home Jamaica children’s home in Spring Garden, Jamaica. You can purchase shares until we reach our goal. Shares of \$500 or more will get you a week in beautiful Jamaica to see the people who you will be supporting. Contact Bruce or Jen Everetts at journeyhomejamaica.com or the church office at 747-8500. Thanks for your support!

CONFIRMATION CLASS will begin on January 7 and will meet each Tuesday from 7:15-8:45 p.m. until Easter, with the exception of March 25. Contact Kristy Mahoney if you’re interested

How Well Do You Know Our Area?

The following data comes from MissionInsite for an eight-mile radius around the church.

1) What is the current population of this eight-mile radius?

104,196 103,524 103,560 102,505 101,510

2) What is the median age of this same area?

32 33 35 36 37 38 39 40 42 44

3) Match the phase of life with its current percentage of our area's population.

Age 0-4	6%
Age 5-17	11%
Age 18-24	14%
Age 25-34	15%
Age 35-54	15%
Age 55-64	17%
Age 65 and over	22%

4) Match the school age population with its corresponding number in this area.

Early Elementary (5-9)	5,561
Late Elem - Middle (10-14)	5,362
High School (15-17)	3,515

5) Match the school age population with its projected corresponding number in 2018.

Early Elementary (5-9)	5,762
Late Elem - Middle (10-14)	5,115
High School (15-17)	3,316

Look for answers elsewhere in your newsletter.

Thank You!

A big thank you to everyone who contributed their delicious candy and those who worked in the candy booth at the recent UMW Bazaar. It was all much appreciated!

As this was Virgil Oxley's last year to make his fabulous peanut brittle, we also want to thank him for the many years he has made and contributed it to our Bazaar. His peanut brittle is so good that people always ask if we will have it there. We will miss Virgil and his peanut brittle but it is a huge job and he has certainly earned a rest!

—Darlene Heath, Ann Miller, Kaye Uptgraft

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2014 have been ordered. They should mail mid-December. Please do NOT use your new envelopes until January, 2014. Thanks!

Library Corner

A big thank you is extended to Joel and Cynthia Dale for their faithful gifts to the High Street Church Library over the last many years. To celebrate the birthdays of their three children, Christopher, Cameron, and Sarah, they donated a book to the library in honor of each child every year. Each child would help with the selection of the books. What a unique and thoughtful idea, which benefited the library with wonderful new books and also encouraged each child to appreciate the value of reading and giving. Now the children are graduated and all grown up, but the books they donated remain to be enjoyed by all the children of High Street Church. Bring your children to the library to check out these wonderful books!

Christmas Orchestra

The Christmas Orchestra will play hymns along with our worship on Sunday, Dec. 15 at the 8:30 a.m. service. The ensemble will rehearse Saturday, Dec. 14, 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Those who would like to play, please notify Andrew Crow at arcrow@bsu.edu. Parts are available in the church office.

Estimate Of Giving Cards

As of the last report, 51% of those returning Estimate of Giving cards are increasing their giving in 2014 or are new to Estimate of Giving. That's a great start! At the same time, we have not heard from a number of you. If you have not returned your Estimate of Giving card, please do so as soon as possible. We need information from you to help us formalize our operating budget for the coming year and know what ministries we can support.

"Insuring" the Jamaica Youth Mission Trip

The Koinonia class members have purchased \$125 worth of Flock Insurance. This insurance is not really to protect our new classroom from being flocked, but rather to help "insure" that our youth have the opportunity to experience international service to those of Jamaica. The Koinonia class would like to challenge ALL adult Sunday school classes to purchase Flock Insurance to help insure no youth misses out on this opportunity in March.

Angels On High Preschool Update

Angels on High Preschool is having a busy and fun month! One of our special events this month was our Preschool Sunday. The children worked very hard on their songs and Bible verse and it was a blessing to hear their presentation. Thank you to all of the families who joined us at High Street Church that day. We had a great turn-out of children. A special thank you to Clay Arnett for accompanying us on the piano.

Other fun events included our Thanksgiving Feasts for the 3-year old, 4-year old, and our Transition classes. Our classes will venture on fun field trips including The Artist Within, BSU Planetarium, and Muncie Children's Museum Winter Wonderland.

The preschool would like to thank Steve Swanger for his hard work on our new storage building. This is placed in the outside playground and allows us to better store our outside toys.

Our students are learning more about giving back to the community. Each month we participate in a community service project. In December we will be collecting warm weather items (mittens, hats, coats). We will also be ringing bells for the Salvation Army on December 7.

We are selling our own delicious cheese balls for \$6. We offer dessert cheese balls and cheddar. These are great for upcoming holiday gatherings as well as gifts. Purchase these at the church or see Rebecca Swander.

The preschool is also selling Christmas wreaths. These wreaths can be purchased as gifts and mailed directly to the recipient. You can also purchase them for yourself. These will be sold during church and more information is available at www.angelsonhigh.org

As our preschool and PDO continues to grow, so do our needs of consumable supplies. In the parlor of the church, the preschool has placed a board listing the needs we have at this time. Please take a moment to visit this board or our website. We can always use donations of packaged snacks, disinfecting wipes, baby wipes, kleenex, paper towels. Thanks!

We have been very fortunate to have Ball State University students volunteering in our classrooms. Their energy and love for the children allows us to provide even more for our students. Unfortunately we will be without our students during their breaks. We would invite you to consider volunteering in our classrooms. You are always welcome in the classrooms, but we especially need help during the weeks of Dec. 16-20, Jan. 6-10, and Jan. 13-17. Also, if you love to read, our Transition Class

invites you to join them as a guest mystery reader. If you are interested, please contact Rebecca at 216-7919 or rswander@angelsonhigh.org

Please feel free to stop by and visit our preschool. We are having a wonderful time and it is truly a blessing to witness!

You're Invited!

Anna Louise Jurt will celebrate her 90th birthday on December 12, 2013. Please join her family and friends as we celebrate this memorable event.

Anna and her family would like to extend a special invitation to her High Street Church family to share in the celebration from 2:00-4:00 on Saturday, Dec. 7 in the High Street Church Parlor.

Handcrafted Christmas Ornaments



The youth will be selling handcrafted Christmas ornaments on Dec. 8 in the main hallway to raise funds for their Jamaica trip. Come and get your Christmas gifts and decorations while supporting our youth!

UM Men's Breakfast

The next High Street United Methodist Men's Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, December 11th. Join us at 7:00 a.m. in Parish Hall for a delicious breakfast, devotions and great fellowship!



Occasionally we will have a short program. We dismiss by 8:00 a.m.

All men of the church are welcome to attend!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

YOUR HIGH STREET
CHURCH STAFF

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY


WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

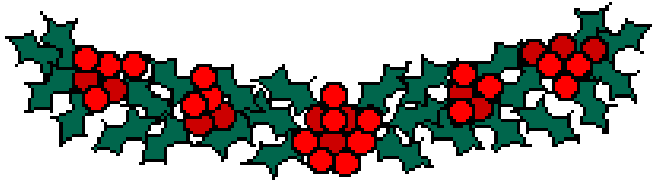
FRIDAY

SATURDAY



<p>1 8:30 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday Sch 9:45 AM Epworth Class 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship</p>	<p>2 :30 AM Bridge for Fun 12 Noon Mah Jongg 1:30 PM Food Pantry 4:30 PM Sr. Supper at MCL Cafeteria 6:30 PM Advent Study</p>	<p>3 6:45 AM Renovaré 8:30 AM Staff 10:00 AM Pastoral Staff 11:00 AM Mary Circle 1:30 PM Food Pantry</p>	<p>4 9:00 AM M & M's 9:15 AM Wm. Bible Study 5:45 PM Hand Bell Reh. 6:00 PM Kids Choirs 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:00 PM Overeaters Anon. 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM Al-Anon's 8:00 PM AA's 9:00 PM College/Career</p>	<p>5 8:00 AM SHIP 10:15 AM Bld Press. Chk 11:00 AM Ruth Circle Salad Lunch - Crabtree's 11:30 AM Thurs. Lunch 4:30 P.M. Wesleyan Circle</p>	<p>6 8:30 AM Candy Set Up 9:00 AM Play Day 9:00 AM Candy Making 6:00 PM Kids Nite Out 6:00 PM Presch Party</p>	<p>7 1:00 PM Kids Choirs 2:00 PM Anna Jurt Birthday Reception</p>
<p>8 8:30 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday Sch 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 4:00 PM SAF at Gethsemane (youth) 5:30 PM Women's Grp.</p>	<p>9 9:30 AM Bridge for Fun 12 Noon Mah Jongg 1:30 PM Food Pantry 6:30 PM Advent Study 7:00 PM Masterworks</p>	<p>10 6:45 AM Renovaré 9:00 AM Play Day 10:00 AM Pastoral Staff 1:30 PM Food Pantry 3:30 PM Trustees 7:15 PM Confirmation Parents</p>	<p>11 9:00 AM M & M's 9:15 AM Wm. Bible Study 1:00 PM Elder-Law 5:45 PM Hand Bell Reh. 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:00 PM Overeaters Anon. 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Fruitful Congreg. 7:45 PM Al-Anon's 7:45 PM Choir Party 8:00 PM AA's 9:00 PM College/Career</p>	<p>12 8:00 AM SHIP 10:15 AM Lunch Activity 11:30 AM Thurs. Lunch</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM Play Day 10:00 AM Westminster Fellowship - Westminster Village 12 Noon Naomi Circle 5:00 PM Masterworks</p>	<p>14 9:00 AM Fruitful Congr. 9:30 AM Orchestra 5:00 PM Masterworks 7:30 PM Masterworks Concert</p>
<p>15 8:30 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday Sch 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 5:00 PM Youth Council 5:30 PM Women's Grp. 6:00 PM The Grove</p>	<p>16 9:30 AM Bridge for Fun 12 Noon Mah Jongg 1:30 PM Food Pantry 6:00 PM Staff Party</p>	<p>17 6:45 AM Renovaré 8:30 AM Staff 10:00 AM Pastoral Staff 1:30 PM Food Pantry 5:30 PM Martha/Mary at Panera Bread 5:30 PM Missions 7:15 PM Confirmation Mentors and Volunteers</p>	<p>18 7:00 AM UM Men's Brkfst 9:00 AM M & M's 9:15 AM Wm. Bible Study 5:45 PM Hand Bell Reh. 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:00 PM Overeaters Anon. 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM Al-Anon's 8:00 PM AA's 9:00 PM College/Career</p>	<p>19 8:00 AM SHIP 10:15 AM Lunch Activity 11:00 AM Thurs. Lunch</p>	<p>20 9:00 AM Play Day</p>	<p>21 6:30 PM Longest Nite Reception 7:00 PM Longest Nite Service 8:00 PM Longest Nite Reception</p>
<p>22 8:30 AM Trad. Worship 9:30 AM Coffee 9:45 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday Sch 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship 5:00 PM Youth Carol at Westminster Village 5:30 PM Women's Grp. 6:00 PM The Grove</p>	<p>23 8:00-Noon Office Open</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve 8:00-Noon Office Open 12 Noon Communion Christmas Eve Service 8:00 PM Family Christmas Eve Service 11:00 PM Traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day OFFICE CLOSED</p> 	<p>26 8:00-Noon Office Open 8:00 AM SHIP</p>	<p>27 8:00-Noon Office Open</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 9:30 AM One Worship Service in the Sanctuary</p>	<p>30 8:00-Noon Office Open</p>	<p>31 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>JANUARY 1, 2014 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED</p>			

Advent Activities 2013



Sunday, Dec. 8 • Children's Christmas Program The children will present their Christmas program at the **8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship service**. *Regular worship services at 9:45 a.m.*

Saturday, Dec. 14

Masterworks Chorale Christmas Musical

6:30 p.m. Tickets at door: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, free for students. Sing traditional carols along with the Masterworks Chorale and spice up your Advent season with musical treats from around the world. Directed by Andrew Crow.

Sunday, Dec. 15 • Caribbean Christmas Dinner 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Parish Hall. Enjoy jerk chicken, peas and rice and key lime pie! Freewill offering will benefit Mission Trip to Jamaica.

Sunday, Dec. 15 • Orchestra Sunday Join us for this High Street Church tradition at the **8:30 a.m. worship service**. Sing your favorite Christmas hymns accompanied by an orchestra. See Andrew Crow if you wish to participate in the Orchestra. *Regular worship services at 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.*

Saturday, Dec. 21 • Longest Night Service

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary A service with candle lighting and a gentle message. Reception at 6:30 p.m. and after the service. Please join us for coffee and cookies.

Tuesday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Services

12:00 Noon A Communion Candlelight Service in the Chapel.
8:00 P.M. A Family-Oriented Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary
11:00 P.M. A Traditional Candlelight Service with Carols
Child Care will be provided for the 8:00 p.m. service.

Sunday, Dec. 29 • One Worship Service in the Sanctuary at 9:30 A.M. No Sunday school or Coffee Bar this morning. We look forward to seeing all of you at 9:30 a.m.!

Projectionists Needed!

Persons are needed to help run the projection slides at the 8:30 a.m. worship service. It's fun, easy, and best of all, it's only once a month! If you are interested or want more information, call Barbara

Ballard in the church office, 747-8500.

You are needed!



Special Events at High Street Church

At a recent meeting, the High Street Foundation voted to approve two requests that will bring some very special opportunities to our church. In both cases, the monies are coming from the Nearing Fund, which is to be used to bring in special religious leaders, speakers, music, etc.

On Saturday, December 14, the Masterworks Chorale will be performing its Christmas Concert in our sanctuary. The concert begins at 6:30 p.m. under the direction of Dr. Andrew Crow. Tickets are available at the door: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, Free for Students.

On Saturday, January 25, Dr. Craig Hill will be presenting two workshops here at High Street Church in conjunction with our East District. Dr. Hill is the Research Professor of Theological Pedagogy and Executive Director of the D. Min. and M.A.C.P. programs at Duke Divinity School. The two workshops will be for pastors and church members and deal with a United Methodist understanding of apocalyptic literature ("end times") in the Bible. Then on Sunday, Dr. Hill will preach at both our 8:30 and 9:45 services.



High Street Church Staff E-mail Addresses

Church: info@munciehighstreet.com
Pastor Dale: dalemendenhall@munciehighstreet.com
Pastor Daryl: dgilbert@munciehighstreet.com
Pastor Charlotte: cbovermyer@munciehighstreet.com
Pastor Jack: jackwhartman@munciehighstreet.com
Lori Gibson: rebelnomo@munciehighstreet.com
Barbara Ballard: bjbballard@munciehighstreet.com
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Ann Hicks: annmarie_hicks@yahoo.com
Kristy Mahoney kmahoney@munciehighstreet.com
Rebecca Swander angels.on.high.hsumc@gmail.com

The High Street Food Pantry

The High Street Food Pantry needs:

- **Pasta and Sauce**
- **Applesauce**
- **Canned Fruit • Canned Peas**

Please leave donations in the wicker baskets at the North Door entrance at in the Narthex.

Food Pantry ♦ 2013

The High Street Food Pantry has served this year:

1,596 people



Thank you for your contributions, both food and monetary, to the High Street Food Pantry!

Cheese Balls and Pretzels

The Joy In the Harvest Mission Team will be selling pretzels in the Parlor on Dec. 8th. Also in December they will be taking orders for cheese balls, to be picked up on or after Dec. 22.

In Sympathy



Our love and condolences are offered to Susan Allardt and family on the death of her sister-in-law, Beth Gebhart; and to John Dillman and family on the death of his father, Myron Dillman.

"Mourn with those who mourn..." Romans 12:15



HOSPITALIZED THE PAST MONTH and giving High Street Church

as their preference: Jim Cartwright, Jim Beckley, Joy Bricker, Steve Dingledine, Lori Reiter, Jane Zimmerman, Stanley Schull, Traudi Woodrum, Bea Wolfe, Nicole Phillips.

HOW WE HELP!

The Samaritan Fund - 2013

People Helped: 661

Rent:	\$4,985.00
Utilities:	\$13,259.77
Prescriptions:	\$1,649.38
Misc.:	\$1,946.58
Total:	\$21,840.73



We're coming into a time of year when people are concerned more about heat and lights. Most of the requests lately have been for help with utility bills. We thank you for being so generous and allowing us to help the least of these!

High Street Travelers

Coordinator: Deb Heeter dheeter601@comcast.net

2014 Trips:

- Feb. 7:** *Pacers vs. Houston* \$45 adult or \$18 youth
- Feb. 27:** *Ring of Fire - Johnny Cash Story* at LaComedia \$75 per person
- Mar. 28-30:** *Louisville, KY and French Lick, IN* Price to be Announced
- Apr. 12:** *Girlfriend Getaway* Vera Bradley Sale, Ft. Wayne, IN \$40 per person
- May 14:** *Indy in the Month of May* \$75 per person
- June 11:** *Mystery Trip* \$75 per person
- June 17-20:** *Door County, Washington Island, Lambeau Field* Wisconsin 3 nights/6 meals/Attraction & Gratuities \$638 per double

Area Quiz Answers

- 1) The population** of this eight-mile radius is currently 103,560. It was 104,196 in 2000 and 103,524 in 2010. It is projected to be 102,505 in 2018 and 101,510 in 2023.
- 2) The current median age** of this area is 32. It was 32 in both 2000 and 2010. It is projected to be 33 in 2018 and 35 in 2023. By the way, the median age in the state of Indiana is currently 36, as it was in 2010. It was 34 in 2000. The state's median age is projected to be 37 in 2018 and 38 in 2023.
- 3) The phases of life** correspond to the following percentages of our current population:

Ages 0-4 = 6%	Ages 5-17 = 14%
Ages 18-24 = 17%	Ages 25-34 = 15%
Ages 35-54 = 22%	Ages 55-64 = 11%
Ages 65+ = 15%	
- 4) The current school age** population in the area is:

Early Elementary (5-9) = 5,362
Late Elem-Mid. (10-14) = 5,561
High School (15-17) = 3,515
- 5) The projected school age** population in the area in 2018 is:

Early Elementary (5-9) = 5,762
Late Elem.-Mid. (10-14) = 5,115
High School (15-17) = 3,316

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Merry
Christmas

F.O.C.U.S. Study Group

The FOCUS group is studying “The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem,” by Adam Hamilton. This study began Sunday, Dec. 1, but you still have time to join the group! They meet in Room 305.

Hamilton takes us on a fascinating journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem as we follow the footsteps of Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and others to help us on our journey with Christ. Join us as we focus on Advent and the birth of our King.



DECEMBER 8, 2013

Scripture:

Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12

“Want To Get Upside Down?”

Pastor Dale Mendenhall

DECEMBER 15, 2013

Scripture:

Matthew 11:2-11

“Are We Blessed Yet?”

Pastor Daryl Gilbert