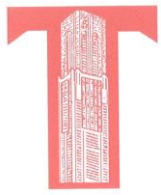


Mid-December 2015



# ower Topics

**HIGH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

219 S. HIGH ST • MUNCIE, IN 47305

Church: 765-747-8500 • Fax: 765-741-5282

Email: [info@munciehighstreet.com](mailto:info@munciehighstreet.com)

Website: [www.munciehighstreet.com](http://www.munciehighstreet.com)



## Upcoming Events

**December 20, 2015**

Advent Orchestra

**December 21, 2015**

7:00 p.m.

Longest Night Service

**December 24, 2015**

12:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Service

8:00 p.m.

Family Christmas Eve Service

11:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service

### High Street United Methodist Christians:

- **Worship** God;
- **Connect** with other Christians to grow as disciples; and
- **Serve** Christ in the community.

### Service Times:

8:30 – 9:30 AM

Traditional Worship

9:45 – 10:45 AM

Sunday school

9:45 – 10:30 AM

Chapel Worship

11:00 – Noon

Contemporary Worship

Traditional Worship is  
Broadcast at 11 AM on  
WXFN – 1340 AM and 102.9 FM

### TOWER TOPICS DEADLINES

Deadline for Submission is  
8:00 A. M. on Tuesdays

MM = Mid-Month Tower  
Topics Issue

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Distribution date</u>
January 5	January 13
January 19	January 27
February 2 MM	February 10
February 16	February 24
March 1 MM	March 9
March 22	March 30

**WE WISH YOU A**  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
**AND A**  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

# Anticipation

It was a bittersweet time when my grandmother moved from California to Indiana. The bitter part was that my grandfather had died, and it was becoming more and more difficult for my aunt to care for Nana, who was beginning to show signs of dementia. The sweet part was that we as a family would have a chance to know her in new ways - we had been geographically separated for most of my life, and hadn't had much opportunity for "face to face" time with each other.

Nana's memory loss taught us many lessons. If you find you can't remember much, you can relax more - rather than taking a day at a time, Nana would take five minutes at a time, and enjoy the experience of the present fully. Another lesson was in delight: if you don't remember laughing at the joke six minutes ago, you get to enjoy it over and over again. And it taught us lessons in creativity and resourcefulness: daughters become sisters, granddaughters become mothers, doctors get to hear just what pops to mind - no need to get hung up on accuracy, go with the flow and make it up as you go along!

But one significant challenge to losing one's memory is that the ability to anticipate is lost, also. We could no longer say, "Nana, you'll be coming to our house for dinner," or "Nana, Christmas is only two weeks away." Until the actual moment of dinner or Christmas arrived, Nana could not remember what it was she was supposed to be looking forward

to. Enjoying the present moment is good, but looking ahead in anticipation adds richness and meaning to the actual event.

In the church year, the season of Advent is a time of anticipation. We look forward to the celebration of Christ's birth. We also remember waiting for a future when Christ will return, and God's vision of grace, mercy, peace and justice will be fully revealed. The cycle of remembering and anticipating adds depth to the story of our lives. It engages our imaginations, challenges our present perceptions and pushes us to view life's experience in whole new ways.

Nana was joyful to be around, savoring the present moments when we ate turkey or unwrapped gifts together. But how wonderful it is that God creates for us possibilities of seeing with new eyes as we remember promises of the past and anticipate visions of the future.

At High Street we can grow with each other as a community, helping one another with memories of what God has done, and looking forward together to what is yet to be.

Happy Advent!

Pastor Sherrie

# WORSHIP

## **Africa University and The Indiana Conference**



Africa University is a private, international higher education institution located just outside of Mutare, Zimbabwe and founded in March 1992 by the United Methodist Church. The University welcomes students from all nations of Africa without regard to race, class, ethnicity or political and religious affiliation. The University's annual enrollment is almost 1,400 students from 25 countries.

United Methodists of Indiana have long been involved in missions on the continent of Africa. Several years ago, the former North and South Indiana Conferences each built and dedicated two dormitories on the campus of Africa University. These four buildings were a fine addition to the campus, but there is more to education than buildings.

### **AU Endowed Faculty Position in Agriculture & Natural Resources**

**Goal – \$1,000,000**

One of Africa's greatest challenges is developing an efficient, sustainable agricultural industry capable of feeding its people. Malnutrition is an all too common condition. The University is committed to

making a significant difference in this struggle. One of the keys to achieving this goal is to increase the number of agriculturally trained individuals ready to become tomorrow's leaders. To do this AU must recruit and retain faculty with the vision, dedication and qualifications to instill the vital passion and knowledge. One of the first academic schools created by the University was the Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Limited resources make it difficult to be competitive in recruiting and retaining qualified faculty in this school. One way to support this effort is through the creation and funding of an endowed professorship. This provides financial security for AU allowing them to recruit outstanding, committed faculty.

### **Scholarships for AU Students**

**Goal – At least \$600,000**

Scholarships are crucial to help qualified students complete their degrees. Over 90% of students enrolled at Africa University receive financial aid. A full scholarship of \$5,400 per year includes tuition, books and room and board. One graduate underlined a key reason for the critical financial need of these students "As the youngest of eight children whose parents died in the Liberian War a number of years ago, I could not have attended Africa University without the scholarship I received."

There is urgent need for educated leaders in schools, churches, government, businesses, medical institutions and agricultural endeavors throughout the continent of Africa.

Africa University has demonstrated its ability to provide those leaders:

- Rev. Daniel Mhone (Theology 1997), who guides church growth, service and expansion of the Malawi Missionary Conference as its superintendent,
- Ms. Alima Hussein (Business, 2005), who is the youngest ever executive director of the Mozambique Confederation of Business Associations,
- Mr. Christian Zigbuo (Computer Information Systems 2012), a Young Adult Missionary serving with GBGM in Democratic Republic of Congo,
- Ms. Martha Mutisi (Masters in Peace, and Governance 2004), who now works as South African Manager of the inventions Department of ACCORD, African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes.

Africa is becoming progressively more important in world affairs. Bishop Emilio de Carvalha, the founding Chancellor of Africa University, has stated that the university is "inclusive, pan-African and responds to the main concerns of the African continent." The need for men and women equipped to lead it is crucial. The very best investment in Africa's future is the education of its future leaders.

**High Street Church's pledge to Africa University through this campaign is \$10,000. Our Christmas Offering will go toward meeting this pledge.**

We have raised \$ 5,181.77 toward our three-year goal of \$10,000.

## Here We Come a Caroling

### AN ALL CHURCH CAROLING EVENT

Everyone who would like to carol can join

this group, whether as an individual, a family, or a small group. We will meet at the church **SUNDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 13 AT 4:00.** If we are blessed with a large number, we will divide into 2 or 3 smaller groups.

It would help to have some idea of how many are coming, but if you just want to "show up," there will be a place for you.

Call the church office if you have a question or if you want to be on "the list".

## Longest Night Service

December 21 every year is the day with the least amount of daylight. Indeed many of the nights of this Christmas season may feel especially long if you are one who is missing a loved one.

The worship service at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 21, is designed to be an uplifting service while honoring one's time of grieving and the memory of those recently lost. The service will include the singing of Christmas carols, special music, prayers, and a message of hope. A time will be offered when persons can light a candle in memory of loved ones. The service will close with each person holding a lit candle to light the darkness that surrounds us as all join in singing "Silent Night, Holy Night."

A special reception follows immediately after the service. We will be serving light refreshments in the church parlor.

Donations of cookies are needed. Please leave donations in the parlor kitchen on Sunday, December 20 or Monday, December 21.

## Christmas Eve Open House

Christmas Eve Open House - Cookies, cheeseballs, and crackers are needed for our annual between-services Christmas Eve open house! These can be dropped off any time before 10am on Christmas Eve. Also, anyone interested in helping would be much appreciated! Though hosted by the Koinonia Sunday School class, additional help is needed. "Shifts" are Christmas Eve morning 9am-about noon(set-up), 8:30-9pm (last minute preparations), 9-11pm (hostesses for party), and 10:30pm - done (clean-up - REALLY need help here!). If you can help, please contact Kelly Wolfe at 744-5451 (call or text). All donations and help will be greatly appreciated! A special new addition this year will be crafts for children to make and take home!

## Worship in the New Year

**January 3:** We will continue to sing Christmas hymns as we celebrate the coming of the wise men. Pastor Mendenhall will be preaching on "More Than a Star," based on Isaiah 60:1-6 and Matthew 2:1-12.

**January 10:** We remember the Baptism of Jesus, as we explore Isaiah 43:1-7 and Luke 3:15-17, 21-22. Pastor Mendenhall will be preaching on "God Is FOR You." Each of us will have the opportunity to remember our own baptism and to renew our covenant with God.

## Leadership Retreat

**Saturday, January 16, 2016**  
**9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon**  
**Parish Hall**

This event is for all chairpersons, committee members, and Church Council members.

The retreat will feature:

- Opening worship
- Tips on conducting a successful meeting
- Ministry Audit Reports (part of our Fruitful Congregation Journey)
- Some Dreaming Time
- Initial Calendaring for 2016

The reports from our Ministry Audit Team will be shared with all. Those groups who submitted audits to the team will have a chance to read their respective audit reports and to interact with members of the Ministry Audit Team. Those ministry areas submitted to and covered by our Ministry Audit Team include:

Adult Sunday school

Children's Ministry

- Church School
- Children's Church
- Kids' Hope

Communications Media

Finance

Library

Preschool

Small Groups

Thursday Luncheon

High Street Travelers

Update Learning

Youth

In addition, the Ministry Audit Team reviewed a number of our staff position descriptions.

# CONNECT

## Advent Orchestra

Our annual Advent Orchestra will accompany congregational hymns on Sunday morning, December 20, for worship at 8:30. Youth and adults who play an instrument are encouraged to participate in this cherished tradition. Wind instruments, string instruments, percussion, and piano are all needed. The parts are not difficult and help is available in each section.

We rehearse on Saturday afternoon, December 19, 1:00-2:30 in the sanctuary. Parts are now available in the church office. Please contact Director of Music Ministries Andrew Crow to sign up or to ask questions. [andrew.crow.dma@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.crow.dma@gmail.com)

## Thursday Luncheon Program

**December 10:** Madison Co. Music Makers

**December 17:** Delaware Co. Ext. Chorus

**December 24 & 31: No Thursday Luncheon**

**January 7:** Ross Van Ness, "How to Handle & Prevent Falls"

**January 14:** Hymn Sing

## The Grove Youth Calendar

**Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>** – High Street hosts SAF 4:00-7:00

**Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>** – Caroling 4:00-6:00, Youth Christmas party 6-8 dinner and white elephant gift exchange 6-7 movie, games, and advent candles 7-8

**Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>** – The Grove youth group 5-7 with dinner

The High Street youth have, after trying new times at the FCJ team's suggestion, settled on a youth group time of 5:00-7:00. Youth group meetings will include dinner.

## Intergenerational Interaction

**As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. *Proverbs 27:17***

This proverb reflects the truth that we need others. And yet, just like eating our vegetables, sometimes the things that are good for us are all too easily overlooked. The Vision statement at High Street UMC focuses on three concepts: Worship, Connect, Serve in order to fulfill our mission to make disciples for Jesus Christ. Connecting and growing in Discipleship is not something that just happens. It is the outcome of an intentional focus and commitment. A lone hot ember will quickly lose its fire. But nestled (connected) with others, glowing coals can retain their brightness and warmth. The message here is clear. You don't have to trek forward in life on your own. We are called to help each other to grow in grace through Christ.

The youth team for the Fruitful Congregation Journey is advocating more connection between youth and adults at our church. A family ministry model suggests that there is substantial benefit from intergenerational interaction. Teens and adults alike can benefit from relationships with each other. We believe that adults will grow and learn just as much as youth counterparts.

Therefore, the Youth Team is planning to implement a mentoring program in which each youth will be paired with an adult from High Street. It is hoped that these adults will share their faith journey and become a spiritual guide to the youth, as well as just being a friend. The youth will be encouraged to offer "youthful assistance" to their mentor as well. As we have not done this before, we are not quite sure of how the details will unfold. But we do know that High Street is



blessed with many compassionate adults who care about our youth and who would be wonderful mentors to a younger generation. Stay tuned as we work to begin this "discipleship partner" or "grace partner" program and consider if you might feel led to serve in this capacity."

## Cokesbury Virtual Store

The virtual store is on our website at [www.munciehighstreet.com](http://www.munciehighstreet.com)! We hope you will have a look around at the many books, gifts and other items designed to enhance your walk with God! At times the High Street staff may recommend certain items. If you find a Recommended Selections link below, click on that link to browse these items. For every purchase made through this online store, High Street will receive a rebate of 5%! Happy Shopping!

## Masterworks Choral

Andrew Crow will be directing Masterworks Choral. They will perform on Saturday, December 19 at 7:30 p.m. here at the church in the sanctuary. Come join the Choral for a generous helping of holiday music featuring the church's newly renovated organ. Sing along with the Hallelujah Chorus! Tickets are available at the door or online at [munciemasterworks.org](http://munciemasterworks.org). You can also call 765-286-5347 ext. 22. The cost for tickets are \$12 adults, \$10 Seniors 60+, children < 18 and students with ID are free.

## High Street Travelers - Since 1974

Feb 17 (Wed.) Beef & Boards: Sister Act \$85 per person

Mar 12 (Sat.) American Passion Play \$100 per person

Apr 13 (Wed.) Cincinnati Flower Show \$50 per person

May 11 (Wed.) Indiana History Day, Part 1 \$85 per person

May 16 – 20 **BRANSON WITH A TWIST! 4 NIGHTS / 5 DAYS \$860 PP DBL OCC 5 SHOWS / 4 TOURS / 11 MEALS / LAMBERT'S CAFÉ**

Jun. 15 (Wed.) Indiana History Day, Part 2 \$85 per person

July 18 – 31 **SCENIC IRELAND INCLUDES: RT AIR / 13 DAYS / INSURANCE / TOURS**

Aug 17 (Wed.) Indiana History Day, Part 3 \$85 per person

Sept 8 & 9 **OVERNIGHT MYSTERY TRIP: Transportation/ Lodging/ 4 Meals / 6 Tours \$398 per**

Sept 11 – 17 **BEAUTIFUL MAINE 6 NIGHTS / 7 DAYS / MOTOR COACH TRANSPORTATION 10 MEALS / TOUR PORTLAND & KENNEBUNKPORT \$649 PER**

Sept. 21(Wed) Beef & Board: Menopause the Musical \$85

Oct. 19 (Wed.) Indiana History Day, Part 4 \$85 per person

Dec. 7 (Wed.) Beef & Board: A B&B Christmas \$85

CONTINUING: After EVERY 3<sup>rd</sup> paid trip in the calendar year you receive a \$25 voucher towards a future trip.

Reservation Policy:

- 1) Contact High Street UM Church at 765/747-8500
- 2) Payment MUST accompany reservation.
- 3) Cancellations made within 7 days of trip are NOT guaranteed a refund.

Tours are open to the Public, clubs & groups. All trips are deluxe motor coach unless noted. High Street Travelers is sponsored by and a mission of High Street United Methodist Church 219 So High St Muncie, IN 47305.

COORDINATOR-Deb Heeter **EMAIL:**  
**dheeter601@comcast.net**

# Angels on High Preschool

## **Cheese Balls Available**

Angels on High Preschool has a few remaining cheddar cheese balls available for purchase. The cheese balls are made in the HSUMC kitchen with the help of our Angels on High Preschool Board and parents. Each is \$6.00. These delicious treats are great for upcoming holiday gatherings, as well as gifts! You can pick one up in the office or through email at [rswander@angelsonhigh.org](mailto:rswander@angelsonhigh.org).

## **Christmas Program**

Angels on High Preschool will have a special Christmas Program on Sunday, December 13. This program is at 4:30 in the sanctuary of the church. The congregation is invited to join us for this special program.

Our preschool is giving back to the community in different ways throughout the school year. During the month of October and November, we collected items for Operation Christmas Child. This is a world outreach which provides Christmas Boxes for children in other parts of the world. We were able to send 22 boxes from our preschool, along with 24 boxes from the Young Family Lifegroup at HSUMC. This month we will also be ringing bells for the Salvation Army.

## **Christmas Break**

Angels on High PDO will be open during Christmas Break! If your child(ren) are out of school and want to join us for fun, please contact Rebecca Swander. We are always registering and welcoming more children to our PDO programs. Each day will have a Christmas or winter theme. PDO is open from 7:00-5:30 and offers multiple sessions. Your child can attend all day or just half-day. PDO will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

## **Family Bible Study**

During the months of January and February, we will host a bible study for parents both at the preschool and at the church. This bible study will be held in the church building, while a special program (similar to Vacation Bible School set-up) will be offered for children at the preschool building. We will be studying the book, Am I Messing Up My Kids? by Lysa TerKeurst. This bible study is being put together by both Rebecca Swander and Amanda Droste. We are really excited! All church parents are invited to join us! More information will be available soon. If you are interested in being a part of this bible study, please email Rebecca at [rswander@angelsonhigh.org](mailto:rswander@angelsonhigh.org).

## **Donations Needed**

The following donations are needed at Angels on High Preschool & PDO:

- Lysol Disinfecting Spray
- Packaged Snacks
- Disposable forks and spoons
- Baby Wipes

You can bring your donations to the preschool anytime during the week or leave them in the front office of the church. We appreciate your help!

*Rebecca Swander*  
*Preschool Director*



# SERVE

## Salvation Army Ringers

High Street has volunteered to ring bells again this year on December 14, 15, 16, and 17 at Marsh on Wheeling. If you would like to help, please see the signup sheet in the parlor. If you have any questions see Julian Railey.

## Food Pantry Needs

- Pasta Sauce
- Pasta
- Cereal
- Pudding

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Library Corner

Your High Street Memorial Library has many books to enhance your Advent and Christmas preparations and enjoyment. The following titles are just a sample:

- William Barclay Christmas: What the Bible says about Christmas
- Come let us Adore Him: Stories behind the most cherished Christmas Hymns
- Rick Warren The Purpose of Christmas
- T.D. Jakes Follow the Star: Christmas stories that changed my life
- A Book of Christmas: Readings for reflection during Advent and Christmas
- 52 Simple ways to make Christmas simple
- Christmas Memories

Plus the library has many books for children, which will teach the true meaning of Christmas as well as just fun Christmas books.

Remember the library is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor next to the elevator.

## Contact Information

### High Street Church Staff Email Addresses

Church: [info@munciehighstreet.com](mailto:info@munciehighstreet.com)

Pastor Dale:

[dmendenhall@munciehighstreet.com](mailto:dmendenhall@munciehighstreet.com)

Pastor Sherrie:

[sdrake@munciehighstreet.com](mailto:sdrake@munciehighstreet.com)

Pastor Charlotte:

[covermyer@munciehighstreet.com](mailto:covermyer@munciehighstreet.com)

Pastor Jack:

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Kasey Needham:

[kneedham@gmail.com](mailto:kneedham@gmail.com)

Ann Hicks: [amhicks2@bsu.edu](mailto:amhicks2@bsu.edu)

Clay Arnett: [hclayarnett@yahoo.com](mailto:hclayarnett@yahoo.com)

## Calendar of Events

### **Fri Dec 11, 2015**

5pm Nursery Staff Christmas - Arline Morrow

### **Sat Dec 12, 2015**

Family Ministry Cohort – Indy

### **Sun Dec 13, 2015 Handbells are playing**

8:30am - 9:30am \*Traditional Worship Service

9:30am - 9:45am \*Fellowship and Coffee Time

9:45am - 10:30am \*Informal Worship Service

9:45am - 10:45am \*Sunday school Classes

10:30am - 11am \*Fellowship and Coffee Time  
11am - 12pm \*Contemporary Worship Service  
11am - 12pm Young Families Lifegroup - 205  
4pm - 6pm All-Church Caroling  
4:30pm - 5pm Preschool Christmas Program  
5pm - 5:30pm Preschool Reception - PH  
6pm - 8pm Youth Christmas Party – Drake's

**Mon Dec 14, 2015 Angel Tree Pick up - Stage  
Salvation Army Ringing – Marsh/McGalliard**

10am - 12pm Westminster Fellowship - Pastors  
12pm - 2pm UL Mah Jongg Class - Room G6  
1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens  
5:30 pm Discipleship Process Team – Room 204

**Tue Dec 15, 2015 Angel Tree Pick up - Stage  
Salvation Army Ringing – Marsh/McGalliard**

6:45am - 8am Renovare Group - Parlor  
8am - 10am Staff & Christmas Breakfast  
10am - 11am Pastoral Staff - Office  
10:30am - 12pm UMW General Meeting - PH  
1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens  
5:30pm - 6:30pm Martha Mary - Ruby Tuesday  
6:15pm - 7:45pm Lilies- Youth Lounge

**Wed Dec 16, 2015 Angel Tree Pick up - Stage  
Salvation Army Ringing – Marsh/McGalliard**

9:15am - 10:45am Women's Bible Study - G6  
9:30am - 11:30am M&M Christmas Party - 205  
5pm - 8pm Youth Game Night - Garden Court  
5:45pm - 7pm Handbells - Room 303  
6pm - 7pm Call to Christ/Praise Kids  
6pm - 7pm Christmas in the Bible - Room 205  
7pm - 8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
8pm - 9pm AA's - Room 204

**Thu Dec 17, 2015 Angel Tree Pick up - Stage  
Salvation Army Ringing – Marsh/McGalliard**

8am - 11:30am SHIP Counseling - Office  
11:30am - 1:30pm Thursday Luncheon - PH

**Fri Dec 18, 2015 Angel Tree Pick up - Stage**

7:15am - 8:15am Kingdom Adviser's Group -G6  
10:30am Preschool watching movie – Room 307  
1:00pm Preschool watching movie – Room 307  
5pm - 10pm Masterworks dress rehearsal

**Sat Dec 19, 2015**

1pm - 2:30pm Advent Orchestra Rehearsal  
6pm - 7:30pm Masterworks Rehearsal  
7:30pm - 9pm Masterworks Concert – Sanctuary  
9pm - 10pm Masterworks Reception - PH

**Sun Dec 20, 2015**

8:30am - 9:30am \*Traditional Worship Service  
8:30am - 8:30am Advent Orchestra  
9:30am - 9:45am \*Fellowship and Coffee Time  
9:45am - 10:30am \*Informal Worship Service  
9:45am - 10:45am \*Sunday school Classes  
10:30am - 11am \*Fellowship and Coffee Time  
11am - 12pm \*Contemporary Worship Service  
3pm - 5pm The Grove - Youth Lounge/PH

**Mon Dec 21, 2015**

12pm - 2pm UL Mah Jongg Class - Room G6  
1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens  
7pm - 8pm Longest Night Service - Sanctuary  
8pm - 9pm Longest Night Reception - Parlor

**Tue Dec 22, 2015**

6:45am - 8am Renovare Spiritual Group - Parlor  
8:30am - 10am Church Staff - Library  
10am - 11am Pastoral Staff - Office  
12pm - 2pm Assistance Appointments - Parlor  
1:30pm - 2:30pm High Street Pantry Opens

**Wed Dec 23, 2015**

7pm - 8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
8pm - 9pm AA's - Room 204

**Thu Dec 24, 2015**

8am - 12pm Office Open  
8am - 11:30am SHIP Counseling - Office  
12pm - 1pm Communion and Candle lighting  
8pm - 9pm Family Candlelight Service  
9pm - 10:45pm Reception - Parish Hall  
11pm - 12am Traditional Candlelight Service

**Fri Dec 25, 2015 Office Closed/Merry Christmas!**

**Sat Dec 26, 2015**

**Sun Dec 27, 2015**

9:30am - 10:30am One Service

**Mon Dec 28, 2015**

8am - 12pm Office Open

**Tue Dec 29, 2015**

6:45am - 8am Renovare Group - Parlor  
8am - 12pm Office Open

**Wed Dec 30, 2015**

8am - 12pm Office Open

**Thu Dec 31, 2015 Office Closed**

**Fri Jan 1, 2016 Office Closed/Happy New Year!!**