



December 2019 Charge Happenings

Worship Times:

Cobb – 8:00 a.m.
107 E Main St
Cobb, WI 53526

Montfort – 9:30 a.m.
300 E Main St
Montfort, WI 53569

Livingston – 11:00 a.m.
415 Woodward Ave
Livingston, WI 53554

Website:

www.lmcumc.org



Invite your friends to like us on Facebook at: **“Livingston, Montfort & Cobb United Methodist Churches”** and our children’s ministry page at: **“Kingdom Kids Ministry”**

Welcome December.

We are closing in on our first full year together as a three point charge. This time last year I was nervous about the change. I had many thoughts. *How would the three churches work together in ministry? What would those dynamics look like? How was I to pastor at two churches as a new appointment and also pastor at Livingston, which I had been at for 5.5 years? The way you serve a church after 5 years is different than the way you serve in the first year simply because of relationships that have been established. How was I going to say goodbye to Arthur and Stitzer and say hello to Montfort and Cobb within a week of each other?*

Although this change seemed daunting, I tried to fully embrace it. Change can be scary, different and unknown, yet God continues to be faithful and journey with us. Let me share with you a few ways I have seen God journeying with us, the three point charge of Cobb, Livingston and Montfort this year.

During Lent all the churches came together weekly on Wednesdays to share a meal, fellowship and worship. I loved seeing people from all three churches sitting at the same table laughing and sharing life together. This is what the body of Christ looks like. Regardless of church affiliation we shared a part of ourselves in conversation around the unifying love of Christ.

We have rallied around the Iowa Grant School District this year. We collected food for the Panther Pack Program, which discretely gives kid friendly food to hungry children for the weekend. In May we delivered trays of cookies to the staff work rooms in appreciation for all they do for our children and community. In August we collected school supplies and hosted our annual Teacher Appreciation Lunch.

Also, in August we came together to support our charge Vacation Bible School. We had around 80 kids participate and 35 youth and adults helping. We provided a free meal, which fed 125 people each evening. The kids donated money for Schools 4 Haiti. Overall VBS 2019 was such a huge success because of all three churches coming together.

We are now preparing for our joint annual Christmas Cantata worship. We have people from all three churches that participate. It is a fun opportunity of connection and also making music together. I look forward to our joint Cantata worship on December 15 at 10:30 a.m. at the Montfort UMC.

I give thanks to God each day for Cobb, Livingston and Montfort UM Churches. Thank you for letting me be your pastor. I am excited to see where God takes us in 2020.

Christmas Blessings,
Pastor Ty

Helping our Communities



Mobile Second Harvest Food Pantry at Ss Anthony and Philip Church

The churches collect donations for the Mobile Second Harvest Food Pantry in Highland. This month's personal care item is **Boxes of Kleenex**. Donations can be placed in the designated area in the church entryway. Thank you to the folks that deliver the items!

FAMILY PROMISE WEEK

Please consider volunteering your time or food the week of
December 22-28th.

Adopt A Family Tree



ATTN: Livingston folks!

Please have wrapped gifts with the tag attached
back to church by Sunday, Dec. 15th.



Cobb UMW

Is helping wrap gifts at the IGEMS Christmas
Store on Tues. Dec 10th from 12:45-3:00 pm.
If you would like to help, contact June.



Cobb UMC is collecting items for the Upland Hills Nursing & Rehab Center

Consider donating items to help the residents have a Merry Christmas. Please have items at the church by Dec. 15th. Items should NOT be wrapped. Any of the following are accepted:

- Lotion, body wash, shampoo/conditioner, perfume/cologne/make-up
- Kleenex, deodorant (mens or ladies) toothbrushes/toothpaste
- Jewelry, nail polish, hair brushes/combs/picks,
- Slippers, socks (black or white), undershirts (men/women's lg-xl), PJs
- Adult coloring books, word search books, crayons/colored pencils
- \$10 gift cards to Walmart, sm radio/cd player (around \$20), candy (sugar-free or regular)

December Happenings

Dec 11 – Senior Dinner at My Turn North in Livingston at 12 pm

***Dec 15 – Ecumenical Cantata Worship at 10:30 am at Montfort UMC,
A potluck lunch will follow, *no other worships held this day.***

Dec 22 – Cobb UMC Children’s Christmas Program during Worship at 8:00 am

Dec 22 –Charge-wide Family Christmas Event at Livingston at 5:00 pm

Dec 22-28 – Family Promise Week

***Dec 24 – Candlelight Christmas Eve Worships:
4:00 pm in Livingston, 5:30 pm in Cobb, 7 pm in Montfort***



This Month in Cobb

Worship at 8:00 am

Dec 3 – UMW meets at 12:00 pm for potluck

Dec 10 – UMW works in IGEMS Christmas store 12:45-3:00 pm

This Month in Montfort

Worship at 9:30 am

UMW meets at church at 10:00 am to fill cheer baskets – **Dec 12**

This Month in Livingston

Worship at 11:00 am

Greeters & Ushers: Rogstad & Connolly Families

Dec 24 – special music by Kleist Family



We list anniversaries each month in the newsletter and birthdays on the calendar. If you would like yours to be recognized (or not), please let Beth know in the church office by phone: 608-943-6606.

December Anniversaries

- 2 – Robert & Denise Myers
- 13 – Bill & Donna McLimans
- 20 – Glenn and Vicki Langfoss
- 21 – Bob & LaNell Wagner
- 22 – John & Sharon Lehman
- 23 – LeRoy & Ruth Hove
- 26 – John & Julie Oliver
- 29 – Charles & Joy Bickford
- 31 – Mike & Betty Heuer

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worships



Tuesday, December 24th

Livingston at 4:00 pm, Cobb at 5:30 pm, Montfort at 7:00 pm

Montfort UMC Offering Envelopes

New for 2020: Montfort will be using the green offering envelopes provided in the entryway (instead of boxed sets.) They will be available throughout the year and you are welcome to take a stack home to use or just pick them up each morning.

Any questions, please contact Helen L., Beth or Pastor Ty.

Souled Out Youth Group

We meet each Wednesday night at 7pm for 6-12th graders. The first two Wednesdays of each month is at the Livingston UMC, the rest of the month is at the Montfort UMC. **There will be NO youth group Dec. 18th, 25th & Jan. 1st.**



Ecumenical Cantata 2019



A New Birth A New Beginning is a Christmas Cantata Celebrating God's Promise Fulfilled. Join us at the **Montfort UMC on Sunday, December 15th at 10:30 am.** Enjoy a performance by area singers & stay afterward for a **Potluck Luncheon.**

Please bring your favorite dish to pass.

**This will be the only worship service offered at our three churches.*

Kingdom Kids Ministry News

You're cordially invited to the annual joint:

Kingdom Kids' Family Christmas Event

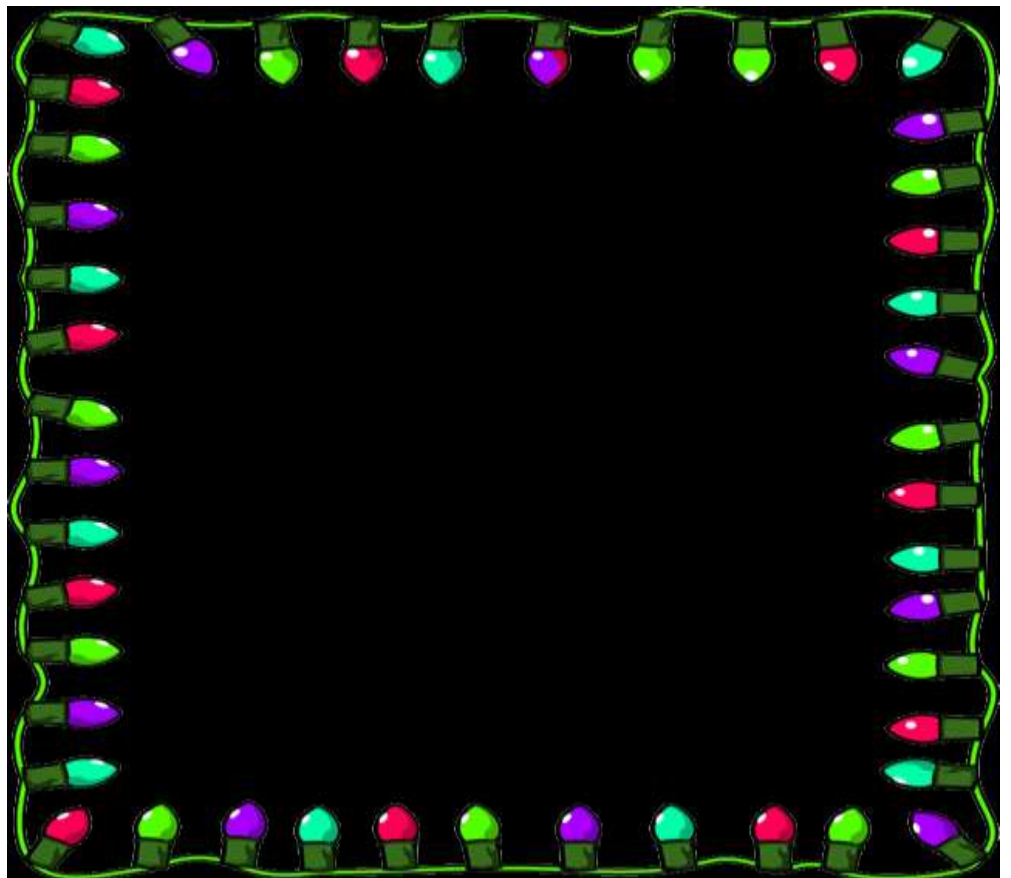
Sunday, December 22nd at 5:00 pm

Enjoy a soup & sandwich dinner, a short program by the kids & cookie decorating with hot cocoa after. Bring your whole family & friends!

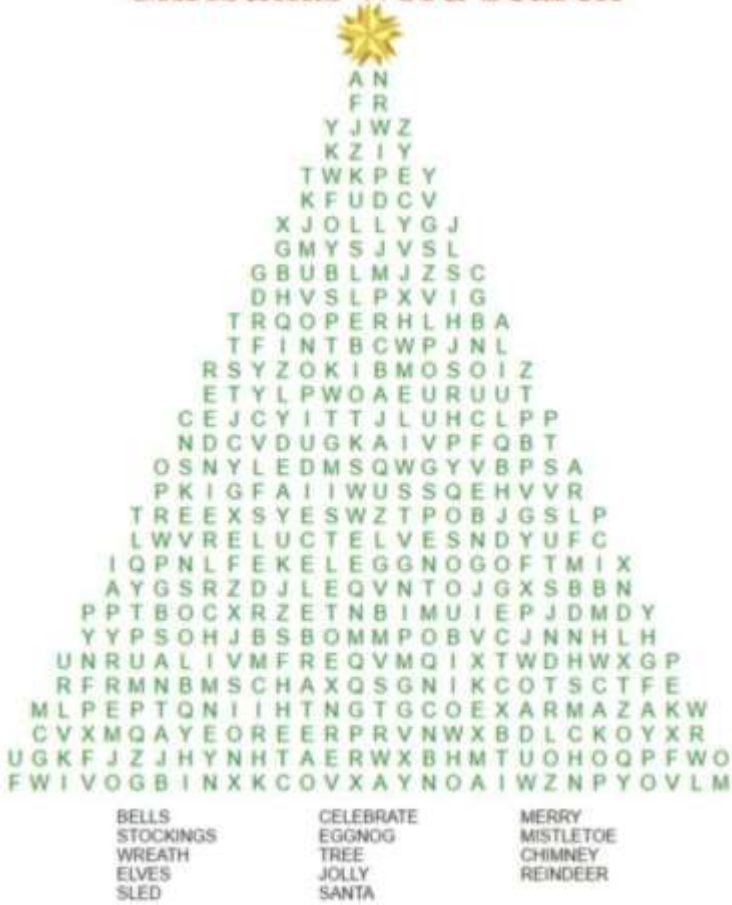


Family Christmas Event Sign-up sheets are in the entryway... any donations of soup, sandwiches and cookies are greatly appreciated!

And **Thank You** to everyone who helps with Sunday School, Children's Church or any other aspect of the ministry to our kids! You are so very important!



Christmas Word Search



Answers:

- 1) A. Bethlehem
- 2) C. Feeding trough (Interestingly enough, most mangers in New Testament times were made of stone.)
- 3) D. None of the above (This is a "trick" question. The "magi" saw the star. However, the Bible doesn't say how many there were and they were not kings, but astronomers)
- 4) A. "Glory to God in the highest, etc
- 5) D. Somewhere in Israel (Another trick question. There is always snow on Mt. Hermon.)



Christmas Story Trivia

1. Joseph was **originally** from... (Luke 2:3)
A. Bethlehem, B. Nazareth, C. Jerusalem
2. A manger is a...
A. Stable for animals, B. hay storage bin, C. Feeding trough, D. Barn
3. Who saw the star in the east?
A. Shepherds, B. Mary and Joseph, C. Three Kings, D. None of the above
4. What did the angels say/sing? (Luke 2:14)
A. "Glory to God in the highest"
B. "Alleluia"
C. "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given"
D. "Joy the world, the Lord is come"
5. There was snow that first Christmas...
A. Only in Bethlehem, B. All over Israel, C. Nowhere in Israel, D. Somewhere in Israel

Nativity Word Scramble

Can you unscramble these words from the Christmas story?

1. MHCEROIL _____
2. GEBLAIR _____
3. IPNREEEKN _____
4. MSHESAI _____
5. BSARTALAH _____
6. SHEDSPERH _____
7. FESANNIERCKN _____
8. MRYHR _____
9. BEMETLHEH _____
10. NTAERHZA _____
11. GDLO _____
12. CPRSAA _____

