Join us this Advent for concerts, a children’s pageants, a contemplative Blue Christmas service, a sign-language concert and more! Invite your friends, neighbors and family. Details for all events found inside this edition!

December 4th, 11th, 18th – Music at Noon!
Join us in the sanctuary for a short concert at noon each Wednesday during Advent!

December 6th & 7th – Lessons & Carols
Get your free tickets in the office for guaranteed seating. Doors open at 6:30, Concert starts at 7 p.m.

December 15th – Children’s Christmas Pageant
Join us in worship at 9:45 a.m. to see what the youth and children have been working on for weeks!

December 19th – Blue Christmas
A contemplative service starting at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. For those who are carrying some sorrow, hurt, or loss this season.

December 21st – Ray of Sunshine Signing Choir
will share their joy in a unique way at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. Come hear the songs and see the signs of the season!
Pastor Lisa’s Lines

All things new, God is making all things new...and yet we are drawn to the same old ways of doing things and the traditions of old.

With the Advent season here, I am reminded of the new ways I am called to do old things. In particular this year I am reminded of my family’s Christmas tradition. For as long as I can remember, my family of origin, brother and sisters and parents, gathered on Christmas to open presents and celebrate the birth of Christ.

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Even as each of my siblings and I have grown up and married and now have families of our own, for the longest time, we still gathered together to celebrate Christmas. However, we used to gather a day or two after Christmas because as a minister, Christmas Eve is a work day.

From 1975 to 2016, my family gathered together on or near Christmas.

In 2017, we started something new. You may recall that was my first Christmas here in Montrose, and my first Thanksgiving. That year my parents decided to make the trek from California, along with my two sisters and their families, to Montrose. My brother and his family drove from Meeker and we had a family Thanksgiving, which we hadn’t done for close to 20 years.
Christmas of that same year was new. It was quiet.

With only JC and I at the house on Christmas morning, we slept in and made breakfast and then watched movies on TV. There were no kids running around and there were no gifts to unwrap, just time spent with one another.

2018 was again a gathering of the extended family in Southern California a few days after Christmas (once we drove all the way there with our boys).

However, this year, like 2017, we will gather for Thanksgiving and not Christmas. We will ALL be on the road, choosing to meet half way between the California coast and Meeker, CO. The destination: St. George, UT.

It will be St. George that will now hold holiday memories for me and the time spend with my siblings, their spouses and all my nieces and nephews.

As we grow and change, marry into and make plans with new families, our traditions have changed: where we have met, what we will celebrate, the activities and space will all be new. What will remain the same is the love shared between each of us and the conversations about growth, and stagnation, life and death, will all be the same. It will simply be over a Turkey and not a Prime Rib.

As we sit on the precipice of the year 2020, may we be reminded that God is making all things new. May we take time to see one another as beautiful and beloved, worthy and wonderful, and seek to continue the tradition of sharing love between us.

The United Methodist Church also sits on a precipice this coming year at General Conference. My hope and prayer for us as a denomination is the same: May we see one another, every single person, as beautiful and beloved, worthy and wonderful, and may we seek to continue the tradition of sharing love between us.

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas!

See you in worship,
If you would like for the Bakers to order the **UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINE-Daily Devotional** book, we will need your order by Sunday, December 1, 2019. If you place your own order, it will cost you $14.99 plus shipping (about $4.00). When we order for you the cost will be determined by how many books we order. We get a 20% discount for ordering 25 books, and we get a 25% discount for ordering fifty or more books. Bulk mailing also gets the shipping down to about a dollar each.

This is not the small Daily Devotional that the church purchases. Some groups use these books for study, many people use their own for a personal devotional. There is a weekly theme, and scriptures for the week. One author writes on the weekly theme. We think they are powerful materials. Order: 249-3735.

You do not pay until after we receive the bulk mailing when we know the total bill, but probably $12-13 per book.

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**From Grocery Bags...**

“PLARN” workshop

First Tuesday of each month
1:00p.m.—3:00p.m.

Cross and Flame Café Space

Bring clean bags, scissors and spirit!

**To Sleeping Mats.**

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Online Giving

Online giving to the church is available through our web site, www.montroseumc.org, and by texting to (970) 475-8575.

Using our web site, select “GET IN TOUCH” and then “GIVING.” This will take you to a page with a form to fill out. Enter how much you would like to give and then choose either “Credit Card or ACH Transfer from your back account. By default the money you give will go into the General Fund through the account “41001 Envelopes and Tithes.” You have the option to choose another account with a drop-down menu. You have the option to choose “one time gift” or, with a drop-down menu, a recurring gifts of “weekly,” “every 2 weeks,” “monthly,” or” yearly.” You will be sent a receipt by email.

When you text to (970) 475-8575 the first time you will be prompted to enter your payment detail, either a credit card or bank account from which to give. Breeze, our church wide computer management program, will remember your payment information, so the next time you want to give simply enter the amount and send. The default is to give to the General Fund. If you want to give to another fund, enter the amount followed by one of the following keywords:

- Music
- Pastors Discretion
- VBS
- UMCOR
- Garden
- Building
- BelizeMsn
- Sun Supper
- Lunch
- Parent’s Night Out
- NOMADS
- Quick Care
- BelizeKids
- Advent
News from your Missions Committee

Each year the Missions Committee selects worthy recipients to receive the Advent Offering. The recipients include one national/international group and one local group. This year the national/international recipient is our very own United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)—International, focusing on the Bahamas. Many people living on some of the Islands of the Bahamas lost everything in recent hurricanes. The Bahamas Methodist Church is being assisted by UMCOR to provide assistance to those in need. The local recipient is The Helping Hand Fund, A Private Foundation. It was started by Dr. Mary Vader 10 years ago to assist people with financial needs not covered by any other source. This fund has given: gas cards to people who need to drive to Denver for medical help; purchased special shoes; purchased a bed and bedding for a mother; provided dental work; purchased a car seat; built a ramp for a stroke victim; and purchased gun locks, carbon monoxide (CO) detectors, and smoke alarms for anyone in the community. The fund encourages recipients to “pay it forward” and help others in any way possible. The Helping Hand Fund is run by a board of local community members.

If you want a specific recipient to receive your donation, just indicate that on your check in the memo line that the donation is for Advent and a specific recipient. Otherwise, your donation will be divided between the two recipients.

The Missions Committee would like to thank all of those who bought pecans. The proceeds from the pecan sales will be divided between the Kids’ Aid Program and the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund. The Kids’ Aid Program provides food for the weekends for those students who might not otherwise have any food at home for them while they are not at school. The Pastor’s Discretionary Fund provides bus passes and monetary assistance for various purposes, like propane heat and paying for prescriptions.

If you would like more information about the Missions Committee, please consider joining our group. We meet on the first Tuesday of most months at 5:30 p.m.

Connie Pittenger,
Charge Conference

Join us for an All Church Chili Cook-Off and Charge Conference, Saturday, December 14th at 1 p.m.

We will host our Circuit churches and our District Superintendent and finalize our business for the year. We will also look to the future of the United Methodist Church! Mark your calendars and plan to join us in Baldridge Hall!

MUMC Village Event

Join us on December 11th from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm as we enjoy a spaghetti dinner and craft! We will be making Blankets of Warmth to donate to the hospital. These will be fleece tie blankets. All supplies will be provided but donations of 1 1/2 or 2 yards of fleece would be helpful. Please RSVP to Sarah by December 8th so she can purchase food.

Staff Gift

The Staff Parish Relations Committee would like to ask the congregation to help us give thanks to our wonderful staff for the great work they have done in 2019. Please give as you are able for a Staff Gift between now and December 15th. You may use the special envelopes, write on your check or make note with your online donations that this is for a Staff Gift. Thank you, Beth McCorkle, SPRC Chair
Join us for **Parent’s Night Out** on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month. The price is as follows; $15 per child or $30 Family Max.

**December’s Themes:**

December 13th: Hot Chocolate, Winter Crafts & a Holiday Movie

December 27th: NO PNO– Enjoy your holiday vacation!

**RSVP Required by THURSDAY for PNO**
Quick Care runs every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Drop your child(ren) off for developmentally appropriate activities while you run errands, attend doctor’s appointments or enjoy a morning of relaxation.

Price: $15 per child
Ages: 6 Months– 6 Year

December’s Themes
12-3 Exploring Snowflakes
12-10 Gingerbread (YUM!)
12-17 Oh Christmas Tree
12-24 Christmas Party

Quick Care will be CLOSED from 12/25—1/1/2020
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<td>1-3 PLARN knitting</td>
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<td>12-1 Shepherd’s Lunch&lt;br&gt;5:30 Praise team practice&lt;br&gt;6-9 Parent’s Night Out</td>
<td>7P LESSONS &amp; CAROLS&lt;br&gt;High school lock in&lt;br&gt;7P LESSONS &amp; CAROLS&lt;br&gt;7p Spanish evangelical congregation</td>
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<td><strong>10-12 Pageant practice</strong>&lt;br&gt;2p Circuit charge Conference/Chili cookoff</td>
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Birthdays

Barbara Kastelic 12/01  Jeromy DeJulio 12/18
Brett Nickerson 12/01  Madeline Ross 12/18
Richard Reeder 12/02  Laurie Hadley 12/23
Joan Rivers 12/07  DeLoris Taliaferro 12/23
Gary Preslan 12/09  Eva Preslan 12/26
Paul Jeffrey 12/10  Arthur Roach 12/26
Carol Parker 12/10  Coralin Vidmar 12/26
Sheila Reeves 12/10  Amber Bray 12/27
Carol McDermott 12/12  Cathy Evans 12/27
Tina Shipley 12/12  Beth McCorkle 12/28
Dale Carter 12/14  Julee Wolverton 12/28
Lyla MacNiven 12/14  Richard Moslet 12/30
Bethany Mckie 12/14  Sibyl Baker 12/31
Barb Sharrow 12/16

Anniversaries

Jerry & Shirley Lehl 12/07
James & Sally Burrichter 12/14
Annie & Ross Hauck 12/15
Bonnie & John Lamb 12/15
Carol & Ray Ross 12/21
Dena & Norman Brooks 12/26
Amber & Simon Bray 12/31

December 2019
Lessons & Carols 2019

“All I Want for Christmas…”

A Choral Jazz Celebration of the Season

Jazz ensemble & Celebration Voices directed by Kelly Thompson

Friday & Saturday
December 6th & 7th
7:00 p.m.
(Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

FREE Tickets available in the church office to guarantee seating.

Music @ Noon
Join us for music in the sanctuary Wednesdays in Advent:
Dec. 4th--Robin Freed ensemble
Dec. 11th--MUMC Music Department featuring Connie Stoutt on organ, Grace Notes vocal ensemble, and a variety of duets on organ, piano, and Clavinova
Dec. 18th--MUMC Ringers of Glory Handbell Choir
Sunday School

Each week kids will learn about a few books of the Bible along with some simple hand motions to help them remember what each book is about. The goal is that by the end of the 12 weeks, kids will be able to say all 66 books of the Bible from memory and have a general idea of what each book is about.

December 1st  Books of the Bible Lesson 12- Route 66
December 8th Advent Lesson
December 15th- No Sunday School; Christmas Pageant
December 22nd - One Room Sunday School - Christmas
December 29th - One Room Sunday School - New Years

We will have classrooms for the following ages:

Infants & Toddlers- Location: Nursery
Preschool (3 yrs. old) through Kindergarten- Location: Room 12
First Grade Through 4th Grade- Location: Room 10

For complete information on the Children’s Ministry please see the ”December MUMC Kids Newsletter”
Children & Youth

Christmas Pageant 2019
Join us on Wednesday afternoons from 3—4:30 as we prepare our annual Christmas pageant.

We have non-speaking parts available for any other children that would like to participate!

Rehearsal Dates:
December 4th 3—4:30
December 11th 3—4:30
Dress Rehearsal December 14th 10—12
Performance December 15th 9:45

Santa’s Cabin 2019
Santa’s Cabin is our biggest fundraiser of the year for youth missions.

The cabin will run on the following dates;
December 14th & 15th @ the Cabin (3:30-6:00 & 5:45—8:15)
December 21st & 22nd @ the Cabin (3:30-6:00 & 5:45—8:15)

We will need people to help run the fire/ outside area and taking pictures inside. Each family will be asked to help in both areas, in order to make it fair.

** Are you available on the 21st or 22nd? Sarah will be on vacation & needs help covering these time slots**
UMYF (Youth Group)

12:30-2:30 Every Sunday  Baldridge Hall

In our clickable, hashtag, selfie media culture, the truth of Christmas still remains the same: Jesus came to earth as a baby to become our Savior.

**A Social Media Christmas**

December 1st— A Social Media Christmas- Facebook & Instagram

December 8th— A Social Media Christmas— Twitter

December 15th— Offsite Christmas Fiesta Celebration

(See pg. 1 for details)

December 22nd—NO UMYF

December 29th— A Social Media Christmas- Youtube
Winter Mission Day
Join us on December 30th as we work upstairs in the youth wing. We will be “remodeling” our area to make it a better fit for our youth. New paint, new decorations and new furniture will help us light up the youth wing. Please dress in clothes that can get messy and bring a sack lunch.

Winter Fun Days
Join us for 2 fun days while on winter break! 9-5 pm each day
1/2/2020 Swimming at Ouray
Cost: $20 - Bring swimsuit, towels & sack lunch

1/3/2020 Firecracker Sledding Hill – Telluride
Cost: FREE - Bring warm winter gear, sleds and sack lunch.

Please RSVP by 12/31 if you are going to participate. We need to ensure that we have enough seats for everyone on the bus.
High School Lock In

Who: High School Kids (9th-12th Grade)

What: High School Lock In

When: December 6th 5:00 pm into December 7th 9:00 am

Where: Meet in Baldridge Hall. We will go offsite for an activity (Lesson & Carols Concert will be going on) otherwise we will be in the church.

Cost: $10 per person

Join us for a high school lock in! Bring your sleeping stuff and $10. We will be offsite for dinner and an activity, while the Lessons & Carols concert is going on, then head back to the church for fun & games.

Please RSVP to Sarah by December 5th.

For complete information on the Youth Group please see the “December Youth Ministry Newsletter”
United Methodist Women Upcoming Happenings:

Mon. December 2, 9:00 a.m., Executive Board Meeting

Luncheon Wed., December, 12:00 p.m. Christmas Program; Music at Noon

(Hostess Mary Olive Circle)

Thursday December 12, 7:00 p.m.—Mary & Elizabeth Circle, Program: Christmas Caroling

Thursday December 12, 9:00 a.m. —Mary Olive Circle
Hostess: Kris Taylor
No Meeting. –Hope circle,

Thursday December 5, 1:30 p.m. – Faith Circle, Hostess: Kris Schledewitz Program: Cookie Exchange

We welcome all newcomers!

For more information about the United Methodist Women, or any of our Women’s circles, please contact the church office. We’d love for you to find the right circle for you.

The Purpose of United Methodist Women: The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is: To know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; To develop a creative supportive fellowship; and To expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.
Worship Schedule, December 24th

4:00 p.m.* – Children’s Interactive Nativity

Designed for children and adults of all ages: participatory, interactive worship for all! This 45 minute worship service allows everyone to worship early and quick!

5:30 p.m*. – Choir & Candles & Carols

Family friendly worship with traditional scripture, choir, carols to sing, a book for children and candles for all. This service will still get you to your dinner plans on time.

8:00 p.m. – Lessons, Candles & Carols

Worship with choir, traditional scripture, and candles. This service is contemplative and moving.

11:00 p.m. – Lessons, Candles & Communion

This service has traditional elements and includes communion open to all, ending at midnight and being sent into the night in the wee hours of Christmas morning.

*Childcare available in the nursery downstairs

January Newsletter Deadline is Monday, December 16

Submit a Publicity Form (found taped to Rachael’s desk, or emailed upon request) with details of an upcoming event to Rachael in the church office via email to: secretary@montroseumc.org