



THE OAKS



Riverton First United Methodist Church

DECEMBER 1, 2008

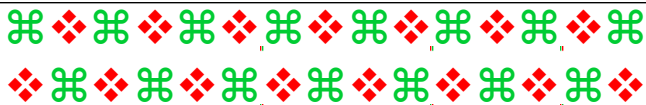
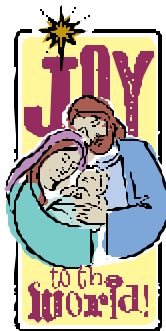
PASTOR'S GREETING

The calendar year begins in January. The Jewish year begins around October. The school year (in Riverton) begins in July. The Chinese year begins around February. But the Christian liturgical calendar begins around December first – the fourth Sunday before December 25 to be exact—with the first Sunday of Advent. Advent, and the new Christian year, came on November 30 this year. So with this December issue of *The Oaks* we bid you Happy New Year. (But we will probably say it again in January too.)

We begin the Christian year with the period in-

cluding the four Sundays before Christmas, the Advent season. Advent is a time of expectation and preparation. The word advent itself means “coming.” We are awaiting the coming of Christ. Christmas celebrates the first advent of Christ, as the babe in the manger. But we also look beyond that to the Second Advent, for Christ promised to come again. In the first coming he brought us salvation. In the second coming he will come as judge and bring all history to its culmination. Christ will then reign in glory forever. Christmas is great, but the best is yet to come. Merry Christmas, and be prepared. He is coming again, forever.

Pastor Jonathan Dixon

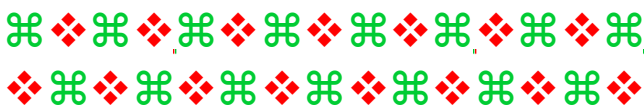


Parsonage Open House

You are invited to come to the Parsonage home of Jonathan and Ellen for a night of fun and food.

It will go from 6-8pm, on Saturday December 20th.

Please come and have supper and enjoy the wonderful people who come to the Open House.



United Methodist Women's Christmas Party



HEY

6:30 PM

Wednesday

Dec. 9th, 2008

UMW Potluck In the

Fellowship Hall Of the United

Methodist church. Turkey, Mashed

Potatoes, Gravy and drinks are furnished.

Please skip the \$3.00 gift exchange, instead donate the cash to the !!!Riverton Food Pantry!!!

See You

There!





TRUSTEE NEWS:

There have been two clean-up days this past month. It always takes lots of people-power to keep up with the leaves on our beautiful grounds. We have a need for extra help through December to mow/mulch leaves whenever you might be available and the weather is cooperative. All help would be greatly appreciated. The trustees have bought a screen door to be placed at the basement exterior door. This screen door helps with air circulation during the U.M.Women's dinners. The kitchen

becomes very hot because of the heat from using all the large cookers and both stoves/ovens.

At the last trustee meeting, an inspection of the parsonage was done. The carpet in the hall has been replaced and a new window has been installed in the living room (the BIG one). There will be new flooring laid in the kitchen in the next couple weeks. The roof vents have been repaired and the window in the garage was replaced. The trustees always enjoy doing the parsonage inspection, visiting with Mrs. Dixon and enjoying conversation and treats.

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The Christian Education department invites you to attend the Sunday School class of your choice this holiday season.

On Sunday the 21st of December, the classes that meet in the Fellowship Hall and Nursery will be doing a nativity scene while we learn and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Anyone is welcome to come to the Fellowship Hall after the 9:30 morning worship to participate and enjoy this recreation of the Christmas Story.

Jesus Birthday cake will be served by the Hospitality and Growth Committee between Worship and Sunday School.

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GOD BE PRAISED!!

Merry Christmas!



- December Birthdays
- 1 Betty Peel
- 1 Elizabeth Pinney
- 2 Harold Shepherdson
- 11 Timothy Phillips
- 13 Marianne Dennis
- 13 Brian Sutherland
- 17 Alexander Sloman
- 18 Ernest Grieme
- 18 Missy Pfeiffer
- 20 Blair Stoneburner
- 21 Glenna Wainwright
- 24 Carolyn Binion
- 25 David Bumgardner
- 27 Eileen Kendle
- 29 Timothy Sexton
- 31 Frana Evans

Scrip Program

The SCRIP program has allowed us to pay over soon have another \$1,000 to pay on the loan before Sunday will be an order/pick-up day for gift cards. That will include Nov. 30, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14. Then December 21 will be a pick-up day only. There will be no order day again until January 4, 2009.



\$5,700 directly on the principle of our loan. We will Christmas. Beginning November 30, 2008 every

This program has been a wonderful opportunity for the church members to help the church finances and do their gift card buying all in one place. Thank you to everyone who has participated in this program. For your convenience, please use the enclosed SCRIP order sheet to do your Christmas shopping. The order sheets should be turned in to Doris Lamkey and pick up your cards from her the following Sunday.



Quilters News:

For the first time in over FIFTY years the quilters closed up the quilt shop! There has not been enough interest to continue at the present time. Some of the regular quilters have had several medical problems and were unable to help. The last two quilters decided to take a "vacation" from quilting until another project comes up or more interest is expressed.

In the meantime, the quilters decided to close their bank account. It was decided to have their money put on the principal of the church loan. These ladies paid \$2,700.00 on the church loan principal. We thank them for all the stitches they had to place to make that much money. We look forward to having the group active again soon.

RIVERTON UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Methodist Men's group is planning for the year 2009, and we need your help. Thus far we have established that we are going to support the Riverton Food Pantry with a monthly donation. We also want to establish an ongoing scholarship fund at the church for college students. Thus far we are planning a possible chicken noodle dinner in April and possibly a fried turkey dinner in June. We are also planning a fellowship breakfast in January after church, and a pancake supper on Fat Tuesday. A second men in the pulpit Sunday in November has been scheduled. In order to reach these goals we need your help, and input.

We are also considering an organized golf outing, and possibly a trip to see a ball game.

Please complete the survey below and return it to Ron Amintrout, Mel Allison, George Skaggs, or our pastor. This may also be placed in the offering plate.

??? Of the choices below, please circle what is best for you in order to attend a Methodist Men's meeting ???

7:30 AM the 2nd Saturday of the month

7:00 PM the 3rd Monday of the month.

7:00 PM the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

7:00 PM the 4th Thursday of the month.

Other suggestions please. _____

December 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:30 am: 1st Sunday of Advent	1 7:00 pm: Trustees Meeting	2	3	4 Pastor Vacation	5 Pastor Vacation	6 Pastor Vacation
7 Pastor Vacation 9:30 am: 2nd Sunday of Advent, Mr. Ken Runkle guest speaker. 1:00—4:00 pm: Eric Binion Memorial	8 Pastor Vacation	9 Pastor Vacation UMW Christmas Potluck 6:30 pm	10 Pastor Vacation 7:00 pm: Choir Practice	11 Pastor Vacation	12	13 7:30 am: United Methodist Men
14 9:30 am: 3rd Sunday of Advent 7:00 pm Christmas Musical Program	15	16	17	18	19	20 6:00—8:00 pm: Parsonage Open House
21 9:30 am: Christmas Sunday, 5:00 pm Inner City Mission Party, 6:00 pm: Youth Group	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Christmas Vespers 10:00 pm	25 	26	27
28 10:30 am: Retiring of the Greens	29	30	31 New Years Eve			



RIVERTON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

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THE OAKS

Deadline for next issue is
Sunday, **December 28, 2008**
E-mail articles to
newsletter@rivertonfirstumc.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

- † November 27: Thanksgiving Day
- † November 29, 9:00 AM: Hanging of the Greens (Decorating for Christmas)
- † November 30, 9:30 AM: First Sunday of Advent
- † December 7, 9:30 AM: Second Sunday of Advent; Mr. Ken Runkle, Guest Speaker, 1:00 to 4:00 pm: Eric Binion Memorial
- † December 9, 6:30 PM United Methodist Women Christmas Potluck
- † December 10, 7:00 PM Choir Practice
- † December 13, 7:30 AM: United Methodist Men
- † December 14, 9:30 AM: Third Sunday of Advent
- † December 14, 7:00 PM: Christmas Musical Program
- † December 20, 6-8 PM: Parsonage Open House
- † December 21, 9:30 AM: Christmas Sunday; 5 PM, Party at Inner City Mission 6:00 PM Youth Group
- † December 24, 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Vespers
- † December 25: Christmas Day
- † December 28, 10:30 AM: Retiring of the Green
- † February 24: Shrove Tuesday
- † February 25: Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins)
- † April 5: Palm Sunday
- † April 10: Good Friday

