



# The Journal

Volume 1, Issue 101

DECEMBER, 2010

## DAN'S DOODLES

(from the gospel of Mark, chapter 13: 36,37)  
“If He should come suddenly, do not let Him find you sleeping.  
And what I say to you I say to everyone—

WATCH!!!

It strikes me increasingly just how busy people are nowadays. It is as though they are tearing about from one activity to another, without taking time to take a breath. Never solitary, never still, never ever really free to just enjoy life, but always busy about something that “just can’t wait.” Amidst such a way of experiencing life, does anything eternally important ever happen? I don’t know about you, but all the technological “advances” have not made my life simpler or easier at all, but rather they have made my life a whole lot busier and more complicated. And yet many days I wonder — does what I chose to do this day make any difference for eternity? Anybody with me on that?

All this is to say that it is becoming more and more difficult to keep a “free space” in our lives where God can let something new take place within us. And yet we know that everyone who has allowed God’s love to enter into his or her heart in a more intimate way has not only become a better human being, but has also contributed significantly to making a better world for others. And so, I say, make room in your heart for God and let God cherish you this Advent season. KEEP AWAKE — WATCH — for those precious moments when you can be with God and God alone! “Make room in the inn” — your heart — for the Savior this special season. Just adore Him — worship Him — honor Him — love Him — in the way that He deserves! Let’s keep Christ in our Christmas celebration this time!!! God bless you and yours!!!

(These thoughts are an adaptation of a devotion written by Father Henri Nouwen entitled, KEEP AWAKE!)

See you in worship!  
Pastor Dan

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## DECEMBER GREETERS

*December 5 - The Blevé Willoughby  
Family*

*December 12 - Marty Williams &  
Bob Hearnés*

*December 19 - Taylor & Julie Burke*

*December 24 - Annette Robertson &  
Delaney Stack*

*December 26 - Jane Jackson &  
Annette Robertson*

## DECEMBER SUNDAY EVENING PLANS

Our Sunday evening worship will focus on an Advent study during the month of December. We hope you will make plans to worship with us and honor Jesus Christ in this special way this year! We meet in the sanctuary for a 45-minute service of singing, teaching and prayer. Come join us and I promise to give you some individual time to “be alone with Jesus” as part of the evening!!!

### **SWITCHING WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL ON DECEMBER 5, 2010**

Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, we will switch the Worship and Sunday School hours so that we can celebrate our all church Christmas potluck dinner immediately following the worship at 10:30 a.m. The church will provide the meat, bread & drinks for the potluck.

Plus, the children will be sharing their Christmas program with us during the worship time!

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH AT CHRISTMAS**

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of a very special baby, JESUS. We will be collecting things for babies in our community. We want babies to know that God loves them and that they are children of God.

During Advent (November 28 through December 25) there will be a special display at the back of the sanctuary, for babies gifts. Appropriate gifts will be: jars of baby food, baby cereal, baby wipes, diapers, pacifiers, etc.

We hope this will be something all ages can bring. As you think of baby JESUS, think of babies in our community.

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mission Trip Yard Sale is planned for Friday, Dec. 10 & Saturday, Dec. 11, from 7:00 a.m. until ? in the Family Life Center. If you have anything you would like to donate to the sale, please bring it to the church during office hours. Thank you.**

**In conjunction with the Mission Trip Yard Sale, the United Methodist Women will have a "Bake Sale" in the Family Life Center on Saturday, Dec. 11 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. The United Methodist Women are asking for donations, of baked goods, from anyone in our congregation. You can bring your pies, cakes, cookies, candy, etc. to the church on Friday, December 10. All proceeds from the sale will be used for the Mexico Mission Trip. Thank you!!!**

### **57TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY HOUSE**

It's Christmas once again at The Historic Magnolia Manor on Washington Ave. in Cairo, IL. Come see this wonderful Historic Mansion decorated in all its holiday glory.

The Holiday House Tours begin Nov. 26 and run through Sunday, Dec. 5, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. Come see decorations on display created by talented Cairo Native, Kris Bagbey, and now of Franklin, TN. These designer decorations are available for purchase with all proceeds going toward the upkeep of the Magnolia Manor.

Also, there are dates still available to attend the Holiday House Luncheons on Nov. 28 through Dec. 3. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the Magnolia Manor at 618-734-0201.

**THANK YOU!!!**

Dear United Methodist Church,

Thank you so very much in making our Southeast District Garden Club meeting a huge success.

We appreciate your wonderful hospitality in offering your building and all its facilities for our meeting. All of our guests were impressed and were very comfortable. The building was a perfect spot for every part of our meeting and it made the whole day flow smoothly.

Because of your great support, we are hoping that our visitors will make a return trip in the springtime to our annual Dogwood Azalea Festival.

Sincerely,  
Molly French Garden Club

Dear Friends and Members of the United Methodist Church,

Clifford & I want to thank you for the beautiful "Prayer Shawl." He was so pleased! Also, could not believe you would do this for him.

Thank you so very much!

Your Friends,  
Shirley & Clifford Dugan

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the care package. It looks like it's going to last me quite a while. I really appreciate your generosity and I miss all of you. I look forward to seeing you next time I'm home. Thank you again.

Sincerely,  
Wilson McNeary

Dear Church family,

I just received your package over the weekend. I was very pleased to see all of the candy and school supplies along with a very sweet note. I just wanted to thank you all so much for putting in your effort, and thoughts for me. I love and appreciate that you are looking out for me. I also wanted to thank you for the scholarship that I got over the summer— sorry the thank you so late! Can't wait to come to church again in my hometown on Thanksgiving break! I have found a UMC up here in Columbia I like and is helping with the transition. Thanks again for everything!

Gratefully,  
Chelsea Stallings

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so much for the care packages you have sent me. I can't tell you how much I appreciate looking in the mail and seeing a box from Charleston United Methodist Church. Whenever I open one up it feels like for a split second I'm back home, which is one of the best feelings in the world. These care packages help remind me that there is a whole congregation of people back home caring for me. You definitely have a winning combination with the candy, and the occasional highlighter or pencil to remind me to be studious, but not to forget to enjoy treats along the way. Thank you again for keeping me in your hearts while away at college.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at church next time I get a chance to come home.

Tommy Starr

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the care packages. I always share with my roommate, Jarryd, and we enjoy the snacks so much. Thank you for remembering the college students in this way.

Love,  
Brink Naile

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Methodist Church**

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*Open Hearts, Open  
Minds, Open Doors*

**MAKING  
DISCIPLES**

\*

**MAKING  
A DIFFERENCE**

[www.umccharleston.org](http://www.umccharleston.org)



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 - Andrew DeField
- 2 - Allison DeField & Pierce Huls
- 3 - Jr. DeLay
- 4 - Annie-Mollie DeLay & Claudia Arington
- 5 - Alice Burke
- 6 - Dee Harper
- 8 - Carl Gary Lathum, George Simmons, Gretta Goodin & Kelly Hunter
- 9 - Connie Michael
- 10 - Elizabeth Smith
- 11 - Julie Combs & Pat Williams
- 13 - Clay Hillhouse, Phil Atteberry & Sara Jane Goodman
- 14 - Bruce Austin & Sallie Goodin
- 15 - Buck Farmer, Elliott Simmons & Kristi Harrick
- 16 - Bob Jackson, Katie Hunter & Leslie Fox
- 18 - Greg Banta
- 19 - Byron McDowell, Caroline Burke, Iona M. Ledesma & Sarah Shelby  
Thurmond
- 20 - Martha Jane Evans
- 21 - Landyn Scott
- 23 - Charles Tinsley & Courtney Jones
- 24 - Mihoshi Yamashita
- 25 - Megan L. Priday
- 26 - Julie Burke & Pierce Hamrick
- 27 - Edward Goodman
- 28 - Dorothy Cullison, Mark Dugan & Mary Ella Yamashita
- 29 - Shelly Seabaugh
- 31 - Lynn Brown

**POINSETTIAS**

Purchase a POINSETTIA or donate to the POINSETTIA OUTREACH FUND, you decide. This Advent Season you can give a poinsettia or donate (\$20 or more) to the Outreach Fund in memory or honor of loved ones. The flowers will be placed in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 19. Please bring your name & donation to the church office by December 15. Thank you!!!

**BOSTON BUTT SALE**

Our annual Boston Butt Sale will be on Saturday, December 18. The cost will be \$25 each & they can be picked up for 11:00 a.m. until noon in the Family Life Center that day. To reserve yours, call the church office at (683-6188) or Charles Brink at (683-0299 or 683-3733).

**You are invited to a “Christmas Candlelight Open House” featuring “Marguerite’s Bake Sale” at the Miss. County Historical Society, 403 N. Main, Charleston, on Friday, December 3, 2010 from 5:00 until 9:00 p.m. There is no admission fee, but donations will be accepted. Come and enjoy natural decorations, period dress, live entertainment & tasty treats. Also, view ‘1910’ children making decorations of the late Victorian period.**

*Celebrate*  
*Christmas In Charleston*

Come join us for a concert filled with  
Christmas joy and praise!  
Step back from the hustle and bustle  
and remember the

*Reason for the Season!*

Featuring:

Terry A. Parker, Organ

Sallie Goodin, Piano

The Goodin Memorial Handbell Choir

Lydia Eddy Holton, Cello

Jennifer Miller, Trumpet

and special music provided by  
Mary Katherine Branum and Kerry Davis

Sunday, December 12, 2010

at 4:00 p.m.

United Methodist Church

1700 E. Marshall St.

Charleston, Missouri

Free admission