

# JANUARY 2012

## CHURCH STAFF

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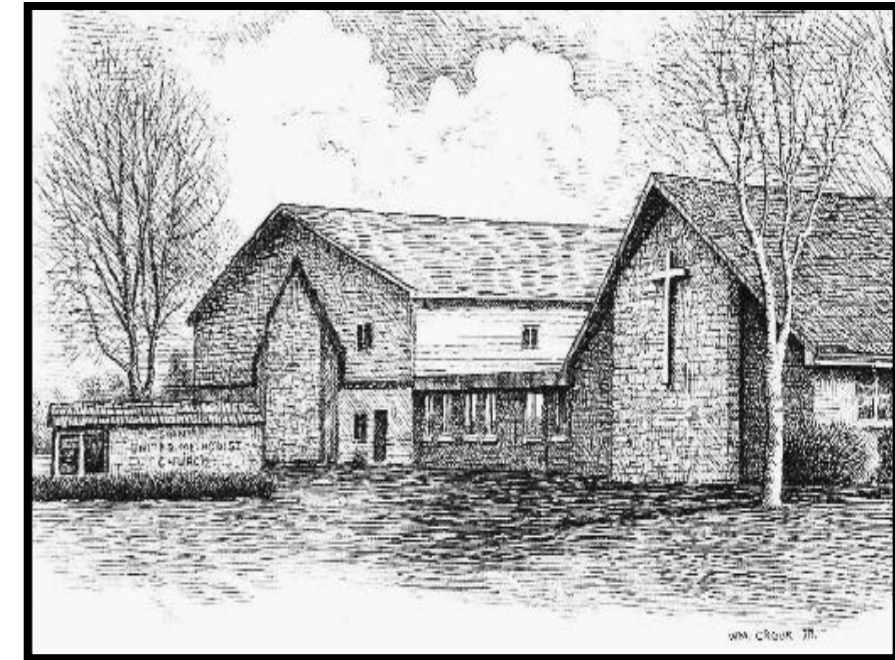
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**Sherman United Methodist Church**  
 2336 East Andrew Road  
 Sherman, Illinois 62684-9646  
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Every Sunday</b> Worship Services 8:15 & 10:45am Sunday School 9:30am Jr. & Sr. High Youth 6:00-8:00pm (Please look above for weekly events. Changes to the regular schedule will be listed below on calendar.)	<b>Every Monday</b> Preschool 8:30-11:00 am Kids' Place 3-6 pm Mon---Fri Tutoring 3-5 pm Tues-Wed-Thurs FLC reserved 6-7 pm Scout Meetings 6:00pm-8:30pm	<b>Every Tuesday</b> GS Troop 6465 (1st & 3rd Tues) Zumba 6-7pm FLC reserved 7-8:30 pm	<b>Every Wednesday</b> Methodist Men's-Rt.66 7:00am Preschool 8:30-11:00 am W.O.W. 5-7:00 PM Adult Bible Study 6:00pm- Rm 204 Choir Practice 6:00-7:00pm Crusaders 7:00-8:00pm FLC reserved 7:30-8:30 Den 2 Webelos Bears (2nd& 4th Wed)	<b>Every Thursday</b> GS 6655-1st & 3rd Praise Band Practice 6:00-7:00pm Financial Peace University 6-8 pm Zumba 6-7pm FLC reserved 7-8:30 pm Face to Face Prayer Service 7:30 pm	<b>Every Friday</b>	<b>Every Saturday</b>
1  No Youth Group	2 Matt Osman  UMW Mtg. 6:30 pm	3	4 Carmen Arnberger Nick Arnberger	5  Trustees Mtg. 7:00 pm	6. Loyd Starwalt Bob Manley	7 Kelley Jeffers Rose Spurlock Ben Arnberger
8 Devan Pfeiffer	9 Pat Taft	10	11 Alexis Henrikson  Finance Comm. Mtg. 6:30 pm Ad Council Mtg. 7:30 pm	12 Judy Burgard	13 Jerry Clark	14 Dorothy Ingram John Curt Sapp
15 Carl Miller  Fellowship Hall reserved 1-5	16 Terry Shulte Deanna Mool	17 *Steve & Kelley Jeffers	18 Megan Hayward	19 Week 1: Financial Peace University 6-8 pm  Judy Lazar Josiah Motta	20 John Sapp  Family Fun Night @ 6:30 pm  SR High Lock-In 8pm-8am	21 FLC Reserved 1-4 pm
22 Amy Swanson Will Adams	23 Melissa Weitekamp	24	25	26 Allan Caspar	27 Rev. Pennell Dan Polistina Ruby Durbin Joanne Hinds *Ron & Nopie Castleman	28 Scouts Pinewood Derby set-up  
29 Vivian Lefferts  Scouts Pinewood Derby  	30 Kendal Meister	31 Jennifer Weitekamp	<b>2012 Senior Luncheons will begin on February 29th at the Living Faith Baptist Church.</b>			

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**We're on the Web**  
[www.shermanumc.org](http://www.shermanumc.org)



## From the Pastor

**“He came to save”**

**“We don’t know what we want to do with our lives,”** Brian said as we sat together and chatted at a wedding a few years ago. Brian and family had recently moved to Montana. They were still getting settled and taking their time to find the right job. But his words suggested a deeper search than just finding a job.

Finding a meaningful purpose in life is common to everyone. Materially, we can have everything needed. Yet, we don’t feel fulfilled until we find a mission that satisfies the hunger of the soul.

Striving for success in our consumer culture puts a lot of stress on families, not only in terms of mere survival, but also in terms of how our culture defines success. Career advancement; achievement of children in school; material possessions; life style. We live in a middle class world where how we compare to others is everything. It can be very depressing if one thinks they don’t measure up.

As we continued to talk Brian mentioned he might be working again soon in something that had to do with computers and the internet. Then he said:

Brian: **“A funny thing happened recently. The phone rang and when I answered a voice asked:**

Voice: **“Is this Brian?”**

Brian: **“Yes, it is. Who is this?”**

Voice: **“Joe.”** There was a pause and Joe continued: **“You don’t remember me do you?”**

Brian: **“No.”**

Joe: **“I have wanted to find you for 30 years and thank you. I was badly wounded in Viet Nam and you were the helicopter pilot who flew in and picked me up from the battlefield. You saved my life.”**

Brian’s was one of the most dangerous missions in war to rescue fallen comrades. He was often a target himself and once was shot down. As Joe described his experience Brian began to remember.

Brian: **“How did you find me?”**

Joe: **“I found your name and number listed on the internet with your regiment.”**

How do you define success? What is our mission in life? The world defines it one way. But Brian’s mission was a lot closer to the mission of Jesus who came long ago to rescue people from the battlefields of life, to heal wounds and restore people to wholeness.

Jesus was and is the incarnation of God’s love. He came

to save the world from its follies and sins and make it well so we could live. He ended up on a Cross at the end, but his mission as the incarnation of God’s love lives on and will never die wherever new generations receive him in the manger of their hearts.

His mother Mary praises the Lord for the gift of her child to be born:

**“Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me...His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty...in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.” (Luke 1:47f)**

Jesus redefines the meaning of success and what life is all about. He came to turn the world right side up. With mercy and forgiveness he came to restore creation to the way God intends for it to be.

As we celebrate his birth, may we resolve to let Jesus live more fully in and through us to touch our world with blessing, with healing and peace, in the New Year.

The battlefields are still all around us. Many are hurting in body and soul with great sorrow and pain. Many are waiting and hoping for someone to come and rescue them.

We don’t have to be pilots. All that is needed are the eyes we have to see, a willing spirit to reach out, and the courage to give of ourselves in the name of Christ who came and gave his life to save everyone.

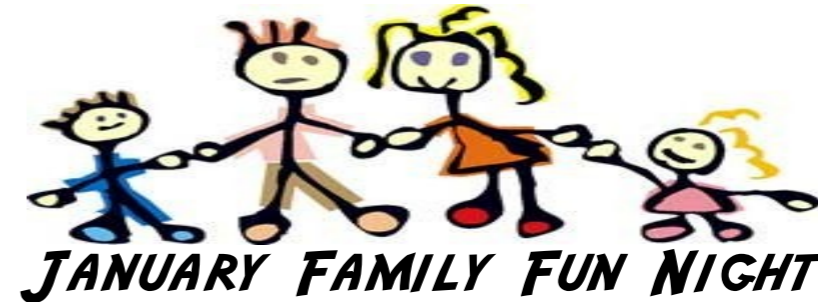
May the blessings of Christmas keeping on blessing through all who believe.

**“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors.” (Luke 2:14)**

Grace and Peace,  
Rev. Mike



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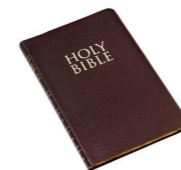


## JANUARY FAMILY FUN NIGHT

**When?** Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.  
**What?** Family Movie Night – we will be watching “The Blind Side”  
**Where?** Family Life Center  
**What to Eat?** Popcorn and nachos will be provided  
**What to Bring?** Lawn Chairs, blankets, 2 liters of soda  
**Hope to see you there!!**

**Any questions, please call Jeff (801-3933) or Heather (899-7374) Kadyk**

**Happy New Year!!!**



## W.O.W. Schedule



**5-5:45 pm**  
**5:45-6 pm**  
**6-7 pm**  
**6-7 pm**  
**6-7 pm**  
**6-8 pm**  
**6-7 pm**

**Dinner (prepared by Kid’s Place staff)**  
**Worship in the Sanctuary**  
**Choir (in Sanctuary)**  
**Kid’s Activities for K-2nd grades**  
**Puppeteering for 3-6<sup>th</sup> grades**  
**Nursery available**  
**Bible Study (ongoing class led by Deb Forren)**



### Menu:

**Jan. 4 Pizza**  
**Jan. 11 Fried Chicken**



**\*More to come. See bulletin for updates.**  
**Questions?? Ask Carmen 496-2338 ext: 8**

**A new adult Sunday School Class** led by Gary Burgard will begin on January 8th. There will be a study and discussion on Methodist beliefs highlighted with the study of the Book of Romans and the Holy Spirit along with other inspirational scriptures. Please see Gary or give him a call at 725-0637 if you are interested so that he knows how many books to order for the class (homework will not be assigned).

# Kids Place News

## SUMC Employment Opportunities:

**Kids' Place Teacher:** Sherman United Methodist Church  
Is looking to hire a teacher for it's after-school program.

Hours would be 2pm-5:30/6pm Monday through Friday. Christmas Break and Spring Break the program is not in session, as well as other scheduled holidays on the calendar when the children do not attend. The ideal candidate would have first aid/cpr training, 6 hours child development or enrolled in higher education, age 21 or older, have a passion for sharing Christ, and love working with a group of 20 4th/5th grade students. The job would require helping with home-work, planning/implementing activities for 45 minutes each day, and supervising free play. Interested applicants can apply at Sherman United Methodist Church, 2336 East Andrew Rd., Sherman, IL between the hours of 8:30am and 5:30pm. Please ask for Carmen Arnberger. Position opens January 2012.

# Operation Christmas Child

The Christmas Season may be behind us, but we are already thinking about Operation Christmas Child 2012. This year, we thought it might be fun to have a monthly collection challenge for the congregation! Each month, we will try to collect 100 of the "item of the month." There will be a collection box in the narthex where you can leave your donations. The items needed so far are:

- January - 100 bars of soap (regular bath size, not travel sized)
- February - 100 washcloths
- March - 100 toothbrushes
- April - 100 tubes of toothpaste (small tubes are fine)
- May - 100 hair combs
- June - 100 matchbox cars
- July - 100 funpads (children's small activity pads)
- August - 100 packages of hair barrettes/ponytail holders
- September - 100 Happy Meal toys
- October/November - 100 sponsorships for shipping the shoeboxes (\$7.00 per box)



So, please help us fill our shoeboxes by picking up an extra item or two when you do your grocery shopping. A little bit can go a long way in making this mission project a success!  
Thanks in advance for your generosity!!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED:** What can you do to change a child's life and work less than 24 hours per year? The answer —teach Sunday School. If you taught a Sunday School class on a monthly alternating schedule, you would put in about 24 hours of work in the year. Substitute teaching takes even less time. We are always looking for help to teach our kids age Pre-school — high school. Please contact Deanna Mool or Kristy Cole if you can help out.

**NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS:** Christian Education would like to start a new class for adults who may be new to the church and have younger children. The class would be self-directed, but focus on Bible study, parenting younger children and other topics of interest to class members. Please see Deanna Mool or Kristy Cole if you are interested.

# Youth Winter Schedule 2012

## Greeting to all in Christ!

I pray you all had a happy Jesus' Birthday celebration! Whatever the New Year brings, may we all keep with us the joy of the New-born Christ, the love of the living Christ, the power of the Risen Christ and the hope of the returning Christ!

Be sure to give an extra Merry Christmas/Happy New year hug to Grant, Tim, Karen and Mary! Youth Group wouldn't be possible without their commitment and hard work.

Filming on the new youth movie is fast approaching. Again, Grant Pinter has been working like crazy painting and building and wiring and goodness knows what else, and now Meg is on board as head of make up! Please remember, you MUST be available to shoot all day Sat 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of January if you signed up for a speaking part. If you didn't sign up, but would like to appear in the film, just come either or both dates and we'll slide you in somewhere.

Mission Trip 2012 update! We will not have our first official prep meeting until February, but I need first payments of \$50 from everyone by January 15<sup>th</sup>. This is partly to let me know that you are definitely going and commit to the trip, and to give me a definite head count, and to give us a head start on making our second payment to Group. Be watching for the First Prep Meeting Date!

Sr. High, please sign up now if you're able to attend the Fire-Up Retreat Feb 27-29<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$75 each, but as always, do not let cost keep you from attending! We'll stay at the Super 8 in Troy. Please sign up ASAP so we can be sure to get the early registration discount!

The **Face to Face** Prayer Service meets every Thursday Night at 7:30pm in the sanctuary and is open for all ages for a time of passionate worship, powerful prayer and quiet reflection. Whether you're looking for guidance, healing, forgiveness or you just want to spent time in praise, worship and fellowship with Jesus, Face to Face can be that time in your week. As Polly Wise said, "Jesus will be in the sanctuary at 7:30pm on Thursday night!"

The **Youth Praise Band** rehearses every week at 5:20pm. [the Youth Praise Band is an open group. Any youth who wish to participate are welcome to join] If you're not there on time, no hard feelings please, but you won't play or sing that week. Txt or message me if you can't make it that week. Drama Team will meet on an as need basis.

Keep bringing friends in the new-year, so they can meet Jesus!

## Upcoming Events:

Jan 1<sup>st</sup>: NO Youth Group. Merry Christmas! And Happy New Year!

Jan 8<sup>th</sup>: Youth Group is Back in the New Year!

Jan 14<sup>th</sup>& Jan 28<sup>th</sup>: Mandatory shoot dates for the Youth Movie

Jan 20<sup>th</sup>: Sr. High Lockin! 8pm-8am

Feb: Jr. High Super Bowl Party at the Mool's; Sr. Hi at the Kadyk's!



**SUMC Youth Mission Statement:** "To help as many Junior and Senior High youth as possible come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ."

**IN HIS SERVICE,  
Danny Motta**

From the Mission Team,  
 Living on the edge... what does that look like? Some might conjure up visions of race car driving, or surfing the highest, wildest waves, or maybe it is mountain climbing or stunt flying. Living on the edge might mean, living fragile... always expecting to fall, to get sick or hurt, anticipating the next disaster, thread-barran nerves all that's holding you together... waiting for the next shoe to drop. Maybe living on the edge applies to those living on the fringe of society, those in the alleys and doorways or under the bridge, those that literally don't know where their next meal is coming from or how they can stay warm when the snow blows deep and the wind pelts ice crystals on their face. At the church conference in November, Bishop Gregory Palmer declared that the Gospel is about living on the edge. It is an invitation from God to live faithfully and serve; an invitation from God to be in risk-taking mission and service. Bishop Palmer stressed that we are not called to security and comfort, but to have radical faith and confidence in God. He asked us to do one new risk-taking mission across next year that pulls us from the inside comforts of our building to the neighbors God has given us. What will it be? What new risk-taking mission should SUMC embark on this year? Whatever it is, I have faith that we will not be walking alone. God will guide us and He will not fail! As we look forward with anticipation to serving this year, we want to thank all of you who supported our mission outreach projects this past year. With your contributions we have served our Lord and God by serving the least and the lost. We will give you a full report on all of the mission projects and where your dollars went in 2011 as soon as the numbers are tabulated. In the meantime, we will continue to be Pantry Partners with Kumler Outreach Ministries this year and look for that new risk-taking mission. May God transform us from the inside out as we seek to do His will. If you're not on a ministry team, we would love to have you join us in radical faith and risk-taking mission! *Dolly Wise*



**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY**



Financial Peace University is coming to Sherman United Methodist Church!  
 If you missed out with the previous 13 week course or know someone who did...  
**NOW IS YOUR CHANCE!!!!** We will be offering the course on **THURSDAY** evenings.  
 Mark **January 19** as Week One of this life-changing course! We will meet from 6-8pm.  
 Please check out [www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com) if you are curious about the program or talk to someone who has been through Financial Peace University.

Please contact Jill Manley for questions of any kind.

You can contact her at [jmanley37@yahoo.com](mailto:jmanley37@yahoo.com) or 217-414-7326.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO CHANGE YOUR FUTURE AND YOUR FAMILY TREE!**

**Directions for Accessing SUMC Online Info**

1. Go to [www.shermanumc.org](http://www.shermanumc.org)
2. Go to “links” section on left side of main screen and click on “individual membership data.”
3. A sign in screen will appear. The **FIRST TIME** you visit you will need to click on “Need a log in.” The computer will ask you for your email address and first/last name. The computer will then match you to information that has been entered for you by SUMC. If a match is found, the computer will email you a password. If a match is not found and you have more than one email address, you may need to try again. If you still don't have a match, it means that SUMC doesn't have the correct info for you and you must contact Erin at SUMC (496-2338). Once Erin has entered your info, you should be able to find a match the next time you log in. Once you have a password you can sign in on sign in screen and the program will take you to your very own personal page. Only you will see your page so please keep your password private.
4. On your personal page you can view your complete profile, make additions/corrections, tell us your preferences for contacting you, see your giving history, and print out a church directory. **\*\*Please note that once you make a change to your that it must be approved by the web administrator before it goes into effect permanently.**

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the lovely poinsettia. It brightens the room that it is in. It's a good feeling to be remembered, especially at this time of the year. Thank you again. May God bless you. ~Everett and Virginia Rush

Dear Friends,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your prayers and concerns about my husband, Art. The good news is that the cancer has not spread. Please keep us in your prayers while we deal with the treatment, surgery, and recovery. God bless you.

~Diane Shulte and Family



Thank you for brightening this Christmas for the Angel Tree families and children. We were able to give 42 gifts. Through your generous gifts we are able to share God's love with these children and families.

To the Members of SUMC, the Women Auxiliary, & Pastor Mike,

We would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards, and prayers for our mother. We know she would be very grateful for everything that has been done on her behalf.

~Sincerely, The Family of Anita Varble

**Camp Sonshine News – January 2012**

Summer 2011 might be over, but Camp Sonshine is still overflowing with blessings received this past summer. Thanks to the staff, families, and prayers from our congregation, Camp Sonshine 2011 was a great success! We were able to share our excess monies with SUMC in the following ways:

- \$5000 given to the trustees to assist with future parking lot and roofing projects
- \$5000 given to the bus maintenance fund and to pay our portion of the bus insurance
- \$1500 given to the General Fund
- \$ 500 given to assist with start up funds for the Group Work Camp being hosted by our church in the summer of 2013

It is always exciting to be able to share what the Lord has provided for us!! Thanks to all for your wonderful support of this awesome ministry.

Sincerely,

Heather Kadyk, Camp Sonshine Director

**Marion Mission Storehouse**

**Continue to pray for the storehouse and our volunteers. Keep the stamps coming trimmed to 1/4 inch around the stamp; it helps with the shipping costs when they are sold to a collector.**