

# PATHFINDER



Join us for  
**CONSECRATION SUNDAY!**  
Traditional Worship-8:45am & 11:00am  
Contemporary-5:00pm  
**Celebration Lunch** -10:45am-12:30pm  
Sponsored by our Youth  
Donations go to support Youth  
Missions and Ministries

Our mission team set a goal to fill 100 cleaning kits to aide in the immediate needs of Emergency Response Teams for clean up after the damaging effects from Hurricane Florence. Our congregation along with the community has responded in a big way, and we thank you for your continued efforts to help reach our goal. Thank you to Big Time Party Band for raising money at their 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary show at Pittsboro Roadhouse on Oct 6th. We are ½ way there so keep the buckets coming in!

A special thanks to Girl Scout Troop 4315 who reached out to the community. Girl Scout Troop 4315, which is sponsored by PUMC, helped out with the Flood Bucket effort by doing what Girl Scouts do best, booths! While some people were at first disappointed that they weren't selling cookies...they quickly recovered and were happy to help out. The booths were set up in front of Lowe's Home Improvement and Dollar Tree in Pittsboro. Those wishing to help had the option of donating cash or they could grab a slip of paper with one item needed for the bucket, go inside to buy the item, and bring it back to add it to the bucket. As a result, the scouts came away with 6 nearly-full buckets and \$243 in cash to fill in the missing pieces and to fill an additional 4 buckets! It was heart-warming to see the girls participate in this effort, and to witness the generosity of the Pittsboro community.

PUMC STAFF  
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What's the most generous gift you have ever received?

As we're celebrating Generosity throughout the month of October, I've been thinking a lot about the times in my life when I have been so blessed by someone else's generosity. Like each of you, I'm sure, I can't even begin to count the moments when generosity has touched my life because there have been so many. There are a few, though, that have come to mind for me recently.

I'll always remember the first time someone's generosity left me speechless. On the day of my high school graduation, I went out to lunch with my family. As our meal was coming to a close, my grandmother slid an envelope across the table with my name written on it in her beautiful handwriting. She is the most faithful card-sender I've ever known; always commemorating birthdays and holidays with a carefully selected Hallmark. It was nothing out of the ordinary reading the front of such a thoughtful card until I opened it up to read the inside and found a check waiting for me. It was the most generous gift I had ever received: enough money to cover the remaining cost of my first year at UNC. I was at a loss for words. All I could do was wrap my arms around her.

My grandmother's gift to me was, by sheer size and impact, the most generous gift I've ever received. It helped make my college dreams possible and it paved the way for the rest of my life. That is truly the way generosity works: it makes the impossible possible and it makes a way when there seems to be no way. I believe that's why there are so many verses in Scripture that celebrate God's generosity, because God is all the time making the impossible possible and making a way when there seems to be no way. "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his steadfast love endures forever!" says the Psalmist. "Every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father!" James reminds us. "He is able to do abundantly more than we could ever ask or imagine!" Paul writes.

Over and over, the Word of God teaches us that God is generous. From giving life to all of creation, to abounding in steadfast love for us, to blessing us with every good and perfect gift: God is generous. Perhaps the most telling part of God's story in Scripture, though, is the generosity that John's gospel describes: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." Indeed, the most generous gift ever given to us was the amazing grace of Jesus Christ, who made the impossible possible and made a way for us when there seemed to be no way.

So I wonder... as people of God, how might our generosity make the impossible possible? How might our generosity make a way when there seems to be no way?

*With Lots of Love, Pastor Sara Beth*

## Upcoming Events

### TRUNK OR TREAT

Friday, Oct. 26

6pm-8pm

PUMC Parking Lot

### CONSECRATION

SUNDAY

Sunday, Oct. 28

### HAYRIDE & HOT DOG ROAST

Saturday, Nov. 3

5pm

Norwood Farm

### Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday, Nov. 4

### TABLE TALK

Wednesday, Nov. 7

Dinner-6pm

Talk-6:30-7:30pm

Children's Program

6:30-7:30pm

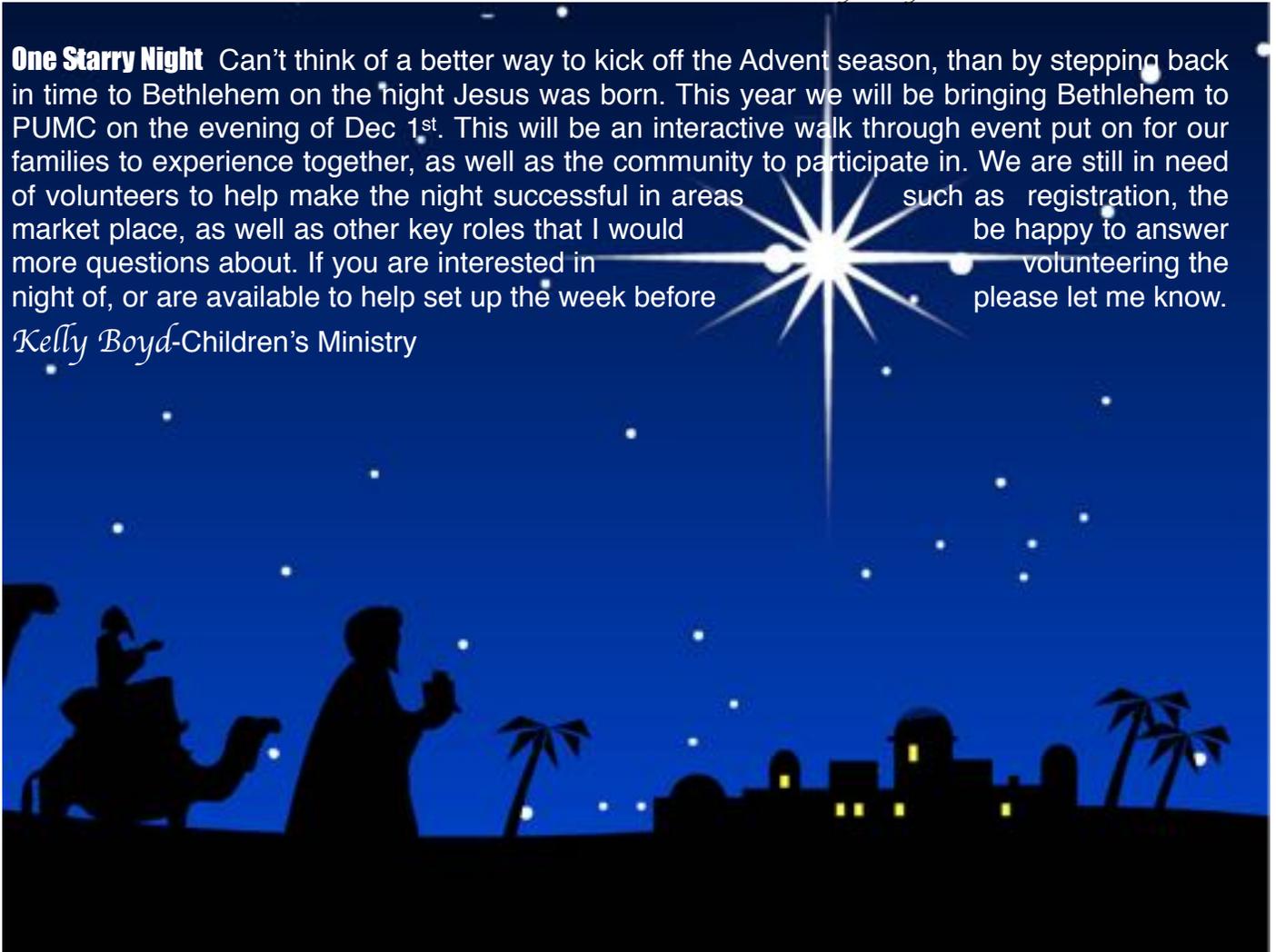
Nursery Available

6:30-7:30pm

**Operation Christmas Child** It's hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner, but this time of year has come again! I am excited to kick start our collection for Operation Christmas Child at the end of the month. Please look for specific needed items on the OCC tree that will be located in the Johnson Room, as well as consider "sponsoring" a box with a donation of \$9 to go towards shipping cost. This is such a great opportunity to get the children involved and they will be helping not only to construct the boxes, but will help fill each box at our November Kids on a Mission. Thank you in advance for your support! *Kelly Boyd-Children's Ministry*

**One Starry Night** Can't think of a better way to kick off the Advent season, than by stepping back in time to Bethlehem on the night Jesus was born. This year we will be bringing Bethlehem to PUMC on the evening of Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. This will be an interactive walk through event put on for our families to experience together, as well as the community to participate in. We are still in need of volunteers to help make the night successful in areas such as registration, the market place, as well as other key roles that I would be happy to answer more questions about. If you are interested in volunteering the night of, or are available to help set up the week before please let me know.

*Kelly Boyd-Children's Ministry*



**DAYS FOR GIRLS**

Through United Methodist Women, a team of Days for Girls has been established in Pittsboro. Women are coming together to sew washable feminine hygiene products for girls and women in 3rd-world countries who do not have access to these products. Days for Girls began in 2008 when Celeste Mergens discovered that during

their periods, girls in an orphanage had to sit on a piece of cardboard in their rooms. Imagine what a negative impact it would have on a girl's education, if she could not go to school several days each month. To help with this project contact Rossie Lindsey at [rossiel41@gmail.com](mailto:rossiel41@gmail.com). *Next workshop to be announced.*



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Traditional Worship: 8:45 & 11:00 am Contemporary Worship: 5:00 pm

*Faith, Fellowship, Food & Fun...* **The PUMC Youth Group** is off to a fabulous start this year. During the month of September our incredible group of middle and high schoolers have studied the story of the Prodigal Son in the book of Luke and learned what it means to be **DEFINED** by Christ. Mistakes and successes don't define us, only God's love for us does. One exciting addition to our mission work is a new sponsorship of a South Korean orphan named Sol. We have partnered with Holt International to provide monthly financial support and care packages.

Our youth have a full few weeks ahead:

Oct 14 – Road trip to Raleigh to worship with another youth group

Oct 28 - Youth Celebration Lunch-Soup & Salad Fundraiser to help pay for our next mission trip

Nov 9 – 11 – Pilgrimage - an annual trip to Fayetteville, NC to hear powerful messages, sing worship songs and fellowship with 5000 other UMC youth.

We look forward to sharing more about these events in coming articles.

*Paul Winston*-PUMC Youth Ministries Leader

