



SERVING THE CARDONDELET NEIGHBOHOOD FOR 140 YEARS

PASTOR: Rev. Mark Harvey

DECEMBER 2017

Pastor's Page

Memories of Christmas Past and Surprises

Each of us has our memories of past Christmases. I was twelve when my then eleven year old brother David received a brand new gold Schwinn bicycle. My father asked me to go with him to the store, to help him load it still in the box in the old Dodge Station Wagon, then take it out of the box and assemble it in the back hall of his office building. I don't know if my father was feeling especially weak that day, or had somehow forgotten how to assemble a bicycle, or was testing whether I ALSO was expecting a bicycle for Christmas. I WASN'T. I had thrown newspapers that year to earn enough to buy a barely-used black Rally English Racer from a friend. I was proud of that bike, so I needed no shiny new replacement. I was also proud to know what my brother was receiving and to be trusted not to tell him. I was able to share my brother's thrill in a different way than usual on Christmas morning: as a giver instead of as a jealous brother. Later I would appreciate that same satisfaction as a parent for many years, watching my own children open their gifts, not expecting any for myself at all, so feeling pleasantly surprised when they'd give me something: often some little thing they had made. I still have some of those.

In my usual Sgroogeness I sometimes poo-poo Christmas giving unfairly. The exchange of gifts is an important part of the season. Advent is about anticipation and waiting. As we buy gifts for others we anticipate their joy, perhaps also a bit nervous about whether or not they will like the gift. Thank God for return slips and re-gifting! Remember, the gift is NOT your identity. It really IS the thought that counts. And if you are not in a position to give that special someone some high-priced item to meet their expectation, a card will do. If it won't, let them think again.

I appreciate the cards and letters from friends at Christmas-time. I wonder, though, whether my own "what our year was like" reflections may sometimes be a bit much! This year Mary and I have an expanded house, for which we are thankful, along with a bigger mortgage! But it's worth it. It was great to have our daughters and their significant others sharing it with us over Thanksgiving.

Some of you have told me you have fond memories of late night Christmas Eve services at New Covenant, especially that magic moment circling around the sanctuary singing silent night, candle in hand. THIS YEAR we will NOT have a late night Christmas Eve Service. Since Christmas Eve falls this year on a Sunday, we will do that same worship format at 9 am- silent night, candles and all. Then at 5 pm our children and youth will present a Christmas Pageant. We encourage you to attend. Times change. Last year 50 or 60 attended this pageant, and only 15 or so came for 11 pm worship. If you still want that 11 pm experience, consider attending at one of these other local sister churches:

Concord Trinity United Methodist
Trinity United Church of Christ

5275 South Lindbergh, Concord Village
5200 Hilda Avenue, Saint Louis

Bethesda Evangelical Church

86 Lemay Gardens Drive, Lemay

Mark Harvey



12

LET'S DOODLE E-2475

© Copyright 1990 educational insight[®]

Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for the great love and care you have given to our family as we said goodbye to Bus and Trena. Your visits, calls, prayers and support were all much appreciated. We also want to thank you for the wonderful meal after Bus' service. This church was a big part of Bus' and Trena's lives for many years. It meant so much to our family to have a chance to share our memories of spending time with them in this special place. They leave us a beautiful legacy of faith and love. Thank you for serving in honor of Bus and Trena.

God Bless You All,
The Styles Family

DECEMBER 2017

Striving to be the Heart and Hands of Jesus Christ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				8 P.M. AA	1	2
3 8:55 A.M. Worship Duncan Open House 10:30– 12:30 616 Bellerive	4	5	6	7 8 P.M. AA	8	9
12 8:55 A.M. Worship	11	12	13 6 pm Eunice Circle	14 8 P.M. AA	15	16 Harvey Open House 1-5 761 Harvard University City
17 8:55 A.M. Worship	18	19	20	21 8 P.M. AA	22	23
24 8:55 A.M. Worship	25 Blood Drive– Zion UMC	26	27	28	29	30

31 8:55 A.M
Worship:
Covenant
Service



December 3 10:30 to 12:30 Duncan Open House, 616 Bellerive from 10:30 to 12:30

December 13 at 6:00 p.m.—Eunice Circle—Appetizers & Desserts

December 16 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.—Open House at the Harveys, 761 Harvard, U. City

December 24 Worship at 8:55 a.m. and Children’s Pageant at 5:00 p.m.

<u>DEC. BIRTHDAYS</u>	<u>Dec. 20 Ben Duncan</u>	<u>Dec. 7 Tony & Tracy Duncan</u>
<u>Dec. 4 Hannah & Corin Brasier</u>	<u>Dec. 21 Maggie E. Estopare</u>	<u>Dec. 21 Paul & Linda Pillow</u>
<u>& Susannah Helm</u>	<u>Dec. 24 Harry Urich</u>	<u>Dec. 29 John and Barbara Darby</u>
<u>Dec. 7 Tim Corbett</u>	<u>Dec. 25 Nancy Woolverton</u>	
<u>Dec. 8 Ron Acker</u>	<u>Dec. 28 Ella Porch</u>	
<u>Dec. 10 Dorothy Engelhardt</u>	<u>Dec. 31 Tracy Duncan</u>	
<u>Dec. 14 Jan Chapman</u>	<u>DEC. ANNIVERSARIES</u>	
<u>Dec. 18 Ray Engelhardt</u>	<u>Dec. 6 George & Lori Kindler</u>	





2017 Poinsettia Order Form

Poinsettias will be at the church on December 16 and on Christmas Eve. Cost is \$10 each.

Given by: _____

Phone _____

Please indicate whether in honor of or in memory of. Please list name (s)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

_____ Number of Poinsettias given

Return to the church office by December 10. For information contact Dorothy Engelhardt at 314.353.6586. Make check payable to New Covenant UMC. Poinsettias are \$10 each.



900 Bellerive Blvd.

St. Louis, Mo. 63111

314.353.7879

www.newcovenantstl.org

office@newcovenantstl.org

WORSHIP 8:55 a.m. Sundays

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 a.m.

Reminders:

Dec. 13—Eunice Circle

Sunday December 24

Christmas Eve Services

*8:55 a.m. & Children's Pageant
at 5:00 p.m.*

CELEBRATING SERVICE



New Covenant Member **Ken Fox** wore his Korean War uniform to church on Veteran's Sunday. Ken was a technical sergeant in the Army in the Korean War. He had previously served in the Navy in World War II.



EUNICE CIRCLE

CHRISTMAS PARTY

DEC. 13

The Eunice Circle will meet on Wednesday, December 13 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall for our annual Christmas party. Instead of the usual main dish with sides, each person is asked to bring an appetizer or dessert. It is usually quite a smorgasbord with lots of goodies to eat.

Each person is also asked to bring a "stuffed" pair of sox (adult size preferred) tied with a bow. Stocking stuffers are things such as pencil/pen, small notebook, fun snacks, Kleenex, hand sanitizers or whatever you wish. These sox are then delivered to the Epworth Outreach center for teens who come there so they have a Christmas treat.

At the meeting we traditionally play Rob Your Neighbor. Each person is asked to bring something from the **Dollar Store** wrapped any way you like. It's a fun way to spend the evening. Jeanne Webdell will also have a short program appropriate for the season. Ladies of all ages are invited to attend. We hope you will join us. For questions or to let us know you will be there see Jean Dougherty or Dorothy Engelhardt.



NEW CHURCH WEBSITE & E-MAIL

New website

[Www.newcovenantstl.org](http://www.newcovenantstl.org)

Our new office e-mail

office@newcovenantstl.org

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Shawls were given to these people:

Randy Carter and Jake--Multiple health problems and concerns

Angie Siders--Death of her mother

Becky and Chris Miller--Becky was placed in a nursing home due to grand mal seizure

Betty Funk--Health concerns from aging.

Thanks to Lila Brown for her crocheting of the shawls.

THANK YOU NOTES RECEIVED

"Thank You with sincere thanks and appreciation. I received a shawl in the mail from your church with much surprise. Your thoughts and prayers mean everything to me as I'm going through my recovery. Thank you." Kelly Williams

"I want to give the church and the one who made the prayer shawl for my friend Tawney, a really heartfelt thank you. I'm giving it to her as a wonderful surprise. I know that she will be so overcome with all the prayers, love and faith and that so many are thinking of her and praying for her. I know that she will absolutely treasure it. I want to thank you and the church and Pastor Lee Porch (who was pastor when my husband and I attended) for the shawls for my husband Ed and I received. Ed passed away August 9, 2008 but his shawl and mine are still on his chest and mine. They mean a great deal to me still. Thanks again to the hands that made them. I send you love and prayers." Carolyn Martin (previous member now living in Rolla, Mo.)

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH EPWORTH FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES

NEW COVENANT'S GIVING TREE TO SUPPORT EPWORTH

Each year New Covenant has a "giving tree." This year we have chosen 6 families from Ep-



worth. The ages range from a baby boy expected in January to a mother age 38 years old. Others are as young as 9 months and the list includes toddlers and teenagers. While we realize we cannot fulfill every wish, we want to do as much as we can. On Sunday, November 26 we will have a "giving tree" with all the names and wishes posted. If you choose not to shop you can give us cash to be used for needed items and gift cards can be used to fulfill needs. Items

need to have the names of recipients attached and should not be wrapped. You can place your gifts under the piano in the sanctuary. To give cash or for further information see Shontia Howard (314.225.1160) or Dorothy Engelhardt (314.353.6586). Items need to be to the church by December 12.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards, designed by Epworth Youth are available from Shontia. The Epworth Auxiliary raises thousands of dollars to support Epworth's programs through sales of their Holiday cards.

OPEN HOUSE AT THE DUNCANS

Our entire Church family is invited to an
Open House at 616 Bellerive Blvd.
on Sunday December 3

from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Bring a brunch item, if it is convenient,.

Please come and help us celebrate
our new house!.

Tony, Tracy, Ben, Sam, & Jack
Duncan

OPEN HOUSE AT THE HARVEYS

Saturday, December 16

from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The congregations of New Covenant and
Zion Churches are invited to an Open
House at Pastor Mark and Mary's home

761 Harvard in University City.

Mark and Mary