



Church Staff

Arkansas Area Bishop, Rev. Gary
Mueller
Central District Superintendent, Rev.
Richard Lancaster

Rev David Hoffman

Phone: (501) 475-6397
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Please join us for

Worship in the Sanctuary 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Sunday School 10:30 am



The Informer

Geyer Springs United Methodist Church
501-565-3175 • geyersprings.umc@comcast.net • www.geyerspringsumc.org

Is Re-Gifting Okay?

Gift giving has rules. Of course, we buy something we think the person needs or will use, but we also consider age, size, favorite colors, and personal tastes. Even considering all the rules, we sometimes get that one gift that is, in a word, hideous. Hopefully it's a joke. I enjoy seeing the stories of friends who exchange that same ugly tie every year or even the same fruitcake for many years.

Recalling that the Magi brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the Christ-child, I wonder what gift we might possibly give to Christ, were we Magi. After careful thought, we must break the rule forbidding re-gifting.

Christ was given to us bringing love and hope and the promise of eternal life. The gift that keeps on giving, better than the "Jelly-of-the-Month Club." All Jesus has asks in return is that we love God and give ourselves in service to the Kingdom. Yes, God invented re-gifting. When we give love, hope, peace and compassion to others just as God has done for us, we are re-gifting. God insists, so re-gift proudly.

The other rules no longer apply either. Gift giving can be stressful. It is difficult to find that perfect gift for everybody. With God, there are no sizes, styles or fashion trends to worry about. Literally, anything you do for anyone else that relieves suffering and gives hope is the perfect gift. I'm not speaking of money alone, I'm referring more to non-monetary gifts, the gift of YOU, your time, your hands, your words, your love and your prayers.

We do good things out of gratitude to God for what has been done for us and for no other reason. Even though we expect nothing in return, God does it anyway. Out of love for us, God continues to give us blessing upon blessing. God has created a literal re-gifting cycle by loving and



Dec 3 Chris Kline
 Dec 4 Stefan Swafford
 Dec 6 Ellie Jones
 Dec 9 Janet Swaty
 Dec 11 Ellie Pressgrove
 Dec 15 Marie Brown
 Dec 17 Joe Young
 Dec 17 Joe Shelton
 Dec 21 David Nutt
 Dec 23 Ernie Decker
 Dec 24 Rose Kelly
 Dec 25 Winston Motley



Dec 27 Lloyd and Hazel Wilson

Treatment and Concerns:

Please continue to let us know of your prayer, joys, and concerns:
 Rev. David Hoffman, (501) 475-6397
 PastorDavid@GeyerSpringsUMC.org

Grief:

Rehab & Nursing Centers:

Home Bound:

Mildred Chenault
 Carol Haskins
 Loran Page
 Charles Turley
 Betty Stout

Treatment and Concerns:

John Bencick	Larry Richardson
Marie Brown	Victoria Ross
Sherry Cardell	Scott Simpson
Mildred Chenault	Janet Swaty
Glenda Clay	Rodney Swaty
Carol Haskins	Rose Teter
Rose Kelly	Hazel Wilson
Tom Kelly	Barbara Wood
Hildegard May	Becky Thompson
Linda McCown	
Fay O'Donnell	

**Wednesday Night Fellowship
 Wednesday Evenings
 at 5:30 pm**

Adults: \$3 Children: \$1 Any of the host groups welcomes your help.

Dec 6	UMM
Dec 13	New Beginnings
Dec 20	No WNF
Dec 27	No WNF
Jan 3	Myers
Jan 10	UMW
Jan 17	Blackwell



The Food Pantry continues to feed the hungry in our neighborhood. This would not be possible without the generous support of our congregation. Donations to the Food Pantry may be given directly to Terri Hammond or to the office with a designation "Food Pantry" on your envelope.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR FOOD PANTRY.

We have served almost 10,000 individuals this year!! On Oct. 4 we served 200 families and ran out of food BUT we replenished and served 120 families Oct.19. Our amazing volunteers and your donations and prayers allow us to continue this ministry.

blessing us, which we pass to others and return a portion to God and the cycle continues. As others receive love and blessings from us in God's name, and they too pass it on, another cycle is created.

I wish for each of you a happy Christmas season filled with childlike excitement and the joy of God's greatest blessings. May you be surrounded by family and loved ones and celebrate the love God has given you for one another. May you have enough for yourself and some to share with others. Finally, I ask God to give you a servant desire to show yourself a true re-gifter of God's love.

Shalom, David

We Are Asking for Help

In order to help prolong the life of our old ice maker, we are asking that the members of the church please empty the ice maker whenever they are in the church. Just dump the ice in the sink or take some home for a party. Thanks a bunch.

GOOD NEWS

The Central District Leadership Team of the United Methodist Conference has approved a \$5,000 grant to Geyer Springs UMC to continue our garden for the community and to fund two free community meals next March and December of 2018. Our Bishop has asked us to reach out of our church walls and this grant will help us continue to partner with our neighborhood working with the community garden AND to get to know our neighbors better as they share a meal with us. Our grant will allow us to put a water meter by the garden and purchase dirt and mulch. It will allow us to purchase food and activities and educational materials to use after our community meals. WE will get the funds Feb. of 2018. [On March 1](#), 2018 we will begin our projects.

STAY TUNED! MORE TO COME!!

STEWARDSHIP

CARING TREE 2017

Show the spirit of Christmas by giving the gift of feeding the hungry in honor or memory of those you love!!! A card will be given or mailed to those you honor or remember. A minimum donation of \$4 for each person honored or remembered is requested. Every penny goes to the GSUMC Food Pantry. Stamps and cards are being donated. We are serving 350 families representing over 1500 people each month! The generosity of our church family and the faithfulness of our volunteers allows us to continue to do this mission as Jesus asked us to do. We feed the hungry and comfort the weary because our church family cares. Look for the forms in your Sunday Bulletin and newsletter. Important Dates

Prayers are needed for the following: Todd Chapman – as many of you know Todd lost his home during the hurricane. He is living in a condo that someone has loaned him but is on the list for the contractor to repair his home. He is discouraged which we can understand as there was so much damage to the area below Houston/Corpus Christa. Hope the contractor gets to Todd to begin the work before long.

New address for Janet and Rodney Swaty

Zen Apartment Home
11645 North 25th Place, #113
Phoenix, AZ 85028

Important Christmas Dates

Christmas Eve Service is at 5:00 pm at GSUMC.

Communion Will be served.

Christmas Cantata will be on Dec. 17.

Prayers Needed