



Ovilla UMC  
1403 Red Oak Creek Road  
Ovilla, TX 75154  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# The Good News Letter

Ovilla United Methodist Church

November 29, 2011

## A Great Day In The Kingdom!

Ojenyunyuyat Sungwiyadeson honungradon nagwutut. Ojenyunyat osrasay. Or Bon Nadal I un Bon Any Nou! Wait just a minute. Has Pastor Joel taken too much cough syrup? Maybe his contacts are causing him to believe that these first two statements make any sense. How about this: "Merry Christmas!" Yes, this is what these first two statements mean. Although they are difficult to pronounce, their meanings are completely synonymous. The first is Iroquois, as the second foreign statement is, Catalan.

Sometimes the margins of our world are centered on Church and Country. We can say that Jesus came to save the world but, it is sometimes difficult to fathom the concept logically. This brings me to a request for all of us. This request originates with our Heavenly Father. John 3:16, provides us the information concerning God's gift for the world. God only asks that we tell the story.

Just like the language of Iroquois and Catalan, the world needs to understand what the Christmas story really means for each and every one of us. God loves because He loves. Christmas is about Forgiveness, Grace and Love. While for many these words are foreign, God has given us a responsibility to provide familiarity with His world. Let's put Christian language in front of our English language and spread the Love of God that everyone can understand.

During these Holy Days, let's teach a new language. God is calling us to wish His world a Glaedelig Jul!!! (Merry Christmas!!!)

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Joel  
(Proud Pastor of the Most Prolific, Dynamic, Church in All of God's Creation!!!)

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## Mission Momentum



Have you noticed the beautifully decorated Christmas tree in the foyer? If you got a good look you could not miss the “ornaments” which were items to bring for our OUMC Angel Tree. The gifts you chose to bring are due back at church on December 4<sup>th</sup>. If you didn’t get an angel, you can bring children’s sox (any size) or a \$25.00 Walmart gift card.

Manna House will distribute the gift cards to needy seniors.

Your missions fund donated \$140.00 for 2 square feet of the next Habitat for Humanity home in Ellis County. They also donated \$108.00 to purchase safety education and drug awareness materials for 75 children in Ellis County. All of this comes from your garage sales fund. Mission dollars at work!

Bring your coupons from your Sunday Dallas Morning News to QC at OUMC.

Reverend Christie Robbins has a group on hand in Fellowship Hall every Wednesday at 5 PM. They cut and share coupons with the church family and send coupons to our troops overseas. You need not be too alert with dates. Troops can use coupons for up to 6 months after the expired date. The coupons are sorted as to whether they are food or non-food coupons.

Missionaries, Jerrie and Bill Savuto will visit OUMC on February 26, 2012. They will be at both services and the Sunday school hour. OUMC proudly funds some of the missionary work done by Bill and Jerrie.

We are saddened to hear that Esmeralda will no longer entertain us for coupons! We will still collect Campbell Food soup labels and box tops for education for the McCurdy School and Cheryl Sullivan will be in charge of this committee. Thank you Frances Mitchell for being such a dedicated supporter for this project! Thanks, Cheryl, for taking this over.

We have some new collections! There will be a collection box for children’s books on the missions table. These used books will be given to the Baptist Children’s home in Waxahachie. Even another collection box is the nicely decorated box for used Christmas cards and/or all occasion cards for St. Jude’s Ranch for children. These cards are recycled into new cards and sold to help the children’s ranch with needed funds. This box will be out until the end of January to collect your donations.

## MISSIONS MOMENTUM CONTINUED.....

### ONGOING COLLECTIONS

1. Campbell soup labels and box tops for education for McCurdy School in New Mexico. Our goal for this year is 6000. Keep clipping.
2. Used cell phones for Brighter Tomorrows. These phones are used by victims of abuse to call 911.
3. **Deodorant (male or female)**, shampoo and toothpaste for North Ellis County Outreach in Red Oak. We could use more deodorant!
4. Used eye glasses for Lions Club International.
5. Fabric and crafting supplies for The Wycliffe Linguistics Center in Duncanville
6. Coupons for QC....Come and help clip on Wednesday nights at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship hall.
7. Used Christmas and all occasion greeting cards for St Jude’s. (NO HALLMARK OR AMERICAN GREETING CARDS, please!)

### ONGOING MISSION ACTIVITIES

Dec 7– Manna House from 10am until noon. We sort and hang clothing in the thrift shop. This activity is usually followed by lunch together at a nearby restaurant.

Come join us. Call Peggy Schieffer for details – 972. 223. 9351.

January 21 at 9AM will see us sewing school bags for UMCOR in Fellowship Hall.

### NEXT MISSIONS MEETING

Our next meeting is Thursday, January 19 at 7pm in The Fellowship Hall. The meetings usually last about one hour. Anyone who would like to be a part of the mission planning for our church is encouraged to attend.

## Senior Fellowship News

**Save the date.....** Senior Fellowship will meet on Thursday, December 1st and December 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will play games and have a brief meeting and devotion. It is potluck, so please bring your favorite dish. Everyone is welcome to attend!

## Music Ministries

The Bells of Inspiration meet on Tuesdays at 7 in the sanctuary. We could use some more ringers and would love for you to come and give this a try. Though reading music is very helpful, it is not a necessity as there are ways to mark the music to help you know when to play. We will play on the evening of Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas Cantata and possibly on Christmas Eve.

The Chancel Choir has only 4 more rehearsals until the cantata. Wed. Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm; Sat. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 10 am; Wed. Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> - 7 pm.; Sat. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> - 10 am. On Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> we will bring a potluck lunch and enjoy fellowship with each other following our rehearsal. Following the cantata on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> we will have refreshments in the fellowship hall. The choir is asked to bring a plate of sandwiches or some kind of sweet. If others in the congregation would like to help with the refreshments we would appreciate any and all contributions. There has been much sickness in the choir in recent weeks and we would appreciate your prayers for good health in the days to come.

“I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you.” Psalm 63: 4 - 5.

Marcia

## Newsletter Information

We only have one more newsletter left this year after this one. We will have one newsletter go out on December 13<sup>th</sup> and that will be it for 2011. If you have something you need to have published please get it to Michelle before then. We are considering only one newsletter per month in 2012 but haven't made a decision yet. We will let you know as soon as we know. Thank you.

## FREE MULCH!!!

If anyone is interested in the mulch out on the new property please help yourself to it. We will leave it there for a while and after that we will burn what is left. You may call the church office if you have any questions or Russ Granzow.

## Upcoming Meetings and Events

**Church Meal & Bible Study**– Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Meal is at 5:30 p.m. and Bible study is right after at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**OUMC Children's Around the World Adventure** – Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> in the Youth Building from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. For children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Senior Fellowship** – Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for games, brief meeting and devotion. It is POTLUCK, so bring your favorite dish.

**Men's Breakfast** – Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 a.m. at the Whataburger in Red Oak off of I-35 and Ovilla Road.

**New Life Sunday School Class Christmas Party** – Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Jim and Lois Turner.

**Christmas Sock Exchange** – Sponsored by our Women's Fellowship will be Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Youth Building.

**Ladies Quilting Group** – Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in Sunday school room #2.

**Trustees Meeting** – Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Missions Workday at Manna House** – Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Midlothian.

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**OUMC Christmas Cantata** – Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary with refreshments afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.

## Thank You!

Dear OUMC family,

Barbara and I want to thank all of you for the prayers lifted up on our behalf. We have truly felt each one. The outpouring of love for us has been amazing. God is so good and you are an awesome church family. Please keep the prayers coming.

Bob Green

## From the Youth Director

We had a great Fall Retreat! Thank you to all of our sponsors who helped out. We have just finished up our "I am Jonah" series at Fuel and this Sunday (Dec. 4th) we will talk about the Advent Conspiracy at Fuel. We will not be having youth on December 11th, but I want to encourage you to come up for our Christmas Cantata at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary.

December 18th we will have a Youth and their Families Christmas Party at 6:00pm in the youth building. At the Christmas Party we will have a potluck meal (I will provide the meat, you provide the sides), we will have a "White Elephant" gift exchange, so wrap something and bring it with you, and we will have a quick parent meeting to give out dates and schedules for the upcoming spring and summer. I hope you will come and join us for our Christmas Party.

December 10th the youth will be babysitting for the Contemporary Topics Sunday School class party. This will be a great time to earn money for our mission trips coming up in the summer. It is never too early to start.

Blessings,

Patrick Turkett  
Ovilla UMC, Youth Director  
[patrick.turkett@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.turkett@gmail.com)  
817-614-7188

## Get Your Carpets Cleaned and Help Our Youth Group

Patrick Paluga with Ameri-tex Carpet Cleaning is offering his services again to help out our Youth. If you call him to clean your carpets (with a ticket over \$158.00) he will donate 10% of that ticket to the OUMC Youth Group. So if you need your carpets cleaned call him at 972-217-1773 and let him know you're from OUMC.

## Attention New Members

If you have joined the church in either service and are not pictured in our current directory please allow Marcia, (the Music Director), to take a picture for the bulletin board. She is available right after the first service and before or after second service.

## Women's Fellowship

The Christmas Sock Exchange is scheduled for this Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, from 2 – 4 p.m. in the Original Sanctuary (Youth Building). This event will be in lieu of our regular scheduled December meeting. All women of the congregation are invited to attend and we encourage you to bring a friend. This is an annual event that is always lots of fun; we also have lots of good food and fellowship. All you have to do is bring your favorite appetizer or dessert and a wrapped pair of Christmas socks. Hope to see you there.

Please remember the Women's Fellowship supports North Ellis County Outreach (NECO). We now concentrate on 3 items for donation; deodorants for males and females, shampoo, and toothpaste, but all donations are greatly appreciated. NECO is counting on us so please consider what you can do to help.

## Ladies Christmas Sock Exchange



The Women's Fellowship of Ovilla United Methodist Church cordially invites all women of the congregation to our annual Christmas Celebration and Sock Exchange which is scheduled for this Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 4 p.m. in the Original Sanctuary. Everyone is asked to bring a wrapped pair of Christmas socks for the gift exchange and your favorite Christmas hors d'oeuvres or dessert. This is an event you don't want to miss. There is always lots of fun, food and excitement for everyone in attendance. Please feel free to bring a friend.

## Sunday School Information

**K-5** (meets in the Youth building): Led by our great band of volunteers. Currently studying: **Pre-school** is learning: (no information submitted.) Our **K – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**: (no information submitted.)

**College Age class** (college age ; meets in the Youth Director's office): Led by JoAnn Leath. Currently studying: Christianity's Family Tree, by Adam Hamilton.

**Junior high** (grades 6-8; meets in the Youth building): Led by Lori Green. Currently studying: (no information submitted.)

**Senior High** (grades 9-12; meets in the back room of the Youth building): Led by Jim Bob Green. Currently studying: (Patriarchs: Laying the Foundation for the Coming Messiah.)

**Contemporary Topics adult class** (meets in Education building, room #1): Led by different class members. Currently studying: (no information submitted.)

**Fellow Seekers adult class** (meets in the front classroom in the Fellowship Hall): Led by Grant Jacobs and Don Lindop. Currently studying: God's Covenant; A Blessing for All Nations.

**Time Out adult class** (meets in Education building, room #3) : Led by Tom Gibson. Currently studying: (no information submitted.)

**New Life adult class** (meets in Education building, room #2): Led by Jim Turner. Currently studying: (no information submitted.)

**Friendship adult class** (meets in Education building, room #4): Led by Bob Green. Currently studying: The Faith of our Forefathers; The Role of the Christian Faith and the Founding of Our Nation (moderated by Rick Hart.)

## Joys and Concerns

*To be on our prayer list, please call the church office with the name and reason for joy or concern. Names are rotated off every few weeks so that we have room for everyone's needs.*

### 11-20-11

Dominic Schillage – Nita Kees brother-in-law – diagnosed with cancer  
Katy Duncan – friends of Robbins family – diagnosed with stage 4 cancer just days after the passing of her husband. Is undergoing treatment  
Eliza Heyduck – friend of Robbins family – 18 month year old girl recuperating from hip dysplasia surgery  
Bob Green – recuperating from surgery

### 11-27-11

Family of Sandee Larkin – friend of Jan & Marce Brooks – passing of Sandee Larkin

### Ongoing

Mike & Kathy Dickey – continued healing for Mike and strength and peace for Kathy  
Alden Harsch – health issues  
Dyrk Burcie – friend of Tommy McKee – little boy with cancer  
Billy Sullivan – son of Riley Sullivan  
Laura Abbott – District Admin. Asst. – on leave of absence for stage IV cancer  
Recovery efforts in Japan  
Terry Lynn Hendricks – Nelda's daughter-in-law – cancer treatment  
Roger Hilburn – still taking chemotherapy  
Estell Griffin – David Griffin's mom  
Chad Jackson – health issues  
Jim & Louise Garner – health issues  
Robert Strafford – Jennifer McKee's dad – continued healing for heart trouble  
Del and Cindy Jones – health issues and adjusting to new way of life

### Home Bound

Dorothy Pope

### Church Ministries

Jerri & Bill Savuto – UMC Missionaries in Africa  
Haiti recovery ministries

### Military

Michael Mercado, Michael Winn, Harry Evans, Steven Culley, Brian Culley, Brandon Boyce, John David Dirk, Bobby Hodge, Audrey Webster, Stan Murphy, Freddie Shoemaker, Cody McKee, Gregory Austin, Casey Joshua Booth, Blake Womack