

morton

united methodist church

420 North Tennessee Avenue, Morton, IL 61550

For the Week of

Sunday, December 3, 2017– Sunday, December 10, 2017



Thank you for joining us today!

If you seek a caring community, are seeking answers to today's
problems, or an experience to connect with God,
You can find it here within our church family.

For information about ministries and weekly Connect Groups,
Visit our Welcome Center or our website at
www.mortonumc.org.

We are “Making disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.”

Sunday Worship Celebration

"Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38)

December 3, 2017 **1st Sunday of Advent** 8:00 & 9:30 a.m

Something to Think About...Something to Pray about...Something to Share...Something to Do

- *What is your favorite part of Christmas?*
- *What is your favorite Christmas carol?*
- *If you were Mary and the LORD asked you to do something, how would you respond?*

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Gabe Wanck

An Excerpt from the Children's Musical (9:30 a.m.)

Prelude

***Lighting the Candle of EXPECTATION**

Leaders: For centuries, our forefathers in the faith longingly awaited the coming of the Messiah.

Congregation: After He was born, Kings from the East came to Jerusalem asking, "Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

Leaders: The Priests and Teachers searched the Scriptures and quoted to the Kings from the Prophet Micah.

Congregation: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you will come a ruler who will be the Shepherd of My people Israel."

Leaders: We will light the *Candle of Expectation*. Let us remember the years of yearning that are expressed in this song while we sing, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus."

***Hymn of Praise** UMH 196
Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Kindergarten Bible Presentation (9:30 a.m.)

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*...forgive us our 'sins'...*)

Receiving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory 7 People Singing
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

*Doxology

The Children's Christmas Musical (8:00 a.m.)
Miracle on Bethlehem Street

***Songs of the Season** (9:30 a.m.)
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel – UMH 211 (v.1)
Infant Holy, Infant, Lowly – UMH 229 (v.1)
What Child Is This – UMH 219 (v.1)

Scripture (9:30 a.m.) Luke 1:26-38

Message (9:30 a.m.) Pastor Gary L. Feldman
Mary's Story

***Hymn of Reflection** (9:30 a.m.) UMH 217
Away in a Manger

*Blessing

Postlude

**Please stand as you are able*

HEAD USHERS: Chuck Birchenough, Dave Gilbert,
Connie & Steve Klein.

Flowers: If you'd like to donate altar flowers to celebrate a special event in your life or in memory of (or in honor of) someone, please sign the flower book that is in the Welcome Center

ADVENT CANDLE: 8:00 Dan & Kathy Reinking
9:30 Kevin & Barbara McMullen
and family
10:45 Shane & Stephanie Boyle
and family

GREETERS: 8:00 Don & Jane Sullivan
9:30 Tom & Kayden Stachelski

Cross Connections Worship Service

We welcome you to our Cross Connections
service as we gather for this time of worship.

December 3, 2017

10:45 a.m.

COUNTDOWN

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

WORSHIP IN SONG

GIVING OUR GIFTS

Breath of Heaven- Bailey Meiner

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

COMMUNION

SPECIAL MUSIC

Be Born In Me- Heather Berger

FOUNDATION

Luke 1:26-38

TODAY'S MESSAGE

Mary's Story

Pastor Gary Feldman

CLOSING PRAYER

Mary Did You Know?

OVERTIME CONNECTIONS

MINISTRY LEADERS:

WOW Welcome

Creative Arts

Jayne Benckendorf

Greeters

Praise Team

Hilda Brenkman

Kerry Brenkman

Notes from 11/26/2017

Mary's Story

Luke 1:26-38

REDISCOVER CHRISTMAS

Often, the Christmas season becomes so hectic that we lose sight of what Christmas is all about! We over shop, over indulge, over spend, over eat, over extend and before we know it, it's all over and we are taking the decorations down! This Christmas series looks at ways we can put aside distractions and our obsessions during the Christmas season to focus on the real meaning of the season: We will look at the stories of Mary, the Shepherds, Simeon and the Wise Men as we rediscover the joy of Christmas – Jesus!

Children's Program - Today at 2 p.m.

"Miracle on Bethlehem Street"

Giving Tree

Thank you for sharing your love of Jesus through these gifts to others during this Christmas season.

Please remember to drop off your gifts **after church service TODAY** if you haven't already done so.

XYZ Extra Years of Zest

December 5 – Shopping Trip

We will leave the church at 9:00 a.m. and go shopping at the Champaign Mall.

Drop and Shop - December 9, 2:00–7:00 p.m.

Sign-up sheets are available at the front desk and outside of Eric's office. This is an opportunity for parents of young ones to drop off their kids at the church for an afternoon of fun so the parents can get Christmas shopping done, have a nice date, or take a long nap. Dinner will be offered. It is for a free will offering to support the Youth.

Alternate Mailing Address

For those leaving Illinois for the winter but would still like to receive your MUMC mail, please stop by the office and update your alternative mailing address

ALL CHURCH CONFERENCE

The Building Committee requests your attendance at: A Church Conference. December 10, 2017 2:00 pm Sanctuary
This Church Conference is required to move ahead with our building project. After a review of what was presented to the Illinois Great Rivers Conference committee, members of MUMC will vote to approve moving to the Construction Documents phase.

It is important that all members of the church be present to vote on our congregation's next steps into the future!



Pledge Cards Reminder

Please try to get your pledge cards in before we start the New Year. Also, please try to remember to update your online giving for 2017.

Please go to www.mortonumc.org/giving, look for the information sheet on the welcome desk or contact Shelli Koener in the church office for more information on electronic giving.



Advent Season Services

Sunday, December 24

10:00 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary (One Service)

5:30 p.m. Family Candlelight Service

7:00 p.m. Candlelight & Communion Service

9:00 p.m. Cross Connections Candlelight & Communion Service

Sunday, December 31

10:00 a.m. Worship Service in the Gym (One Service)

Mark Your Calendars!

- **December 10** **Christmas Cantata!**
- **December 25-26** Office Closed
- **December 27-29** Office hours 8 a.m. to noon.
- **December 31** One Worship Service at 10 a.m.
- **January 1** Office Closed

ATTENDANCE PADS

Please sign & pass the attendance pads, found at the end of the row, during the greeting time and return them to the first person in the row to be picked up after the service.

Cross Connections attendance sheets are on each table.

NURSERY

Child Care is available during worship services for INFANTS AND CHILDREN THROUGH AGE FOUR in our staffed nursery.

CHURCH STAFF and CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Friday: 8:00 a.m. – Noon

CHURCH PHONE: (309) 266-7174

PASTOR: Rev. Gary Feldman (618) 315-9390 garyf@mortonumc.org

PASTOR: Rev. Gabe Wanck (309) 335-7250 gabew@mortonumc.org

MINISTER of MUSIC & EDUCATION: Amy Smith amys@mortonumc.org

MINISTER of CONGREGATIONAL CARE: JoAnn Kraft joannk@mortonumc.org

MINISTER of YOUTH: Eric Gordon ericg@mortonumc.org

XYZ COORDINATOR: Lynn Zimmerman zimmo5@comcast.net

MINISTER of CC MUSIC & BELLS: Kerry Brenkman kerryb@mortonumc.org

PART-TIME OFFICE SECRETARY: Barbara Maison info@mortonumc.org

CUSTODIAN: Russ Johnson russj@mortonumc.org

ORGANIST: Jane Chapman

AUDIO/VIDEO COORDINATOR: Nick Graff

NURSERY COORDINATOR: Leslie Wenzel lrbart79@hotmail.com

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Shelli Koener shellik@mortonumc.org

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: Shelli Koener info@mortonumc.org

**For more information, please visit our website at
www.mortonumc.org**

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please let the church know if you or a member of your family is hospitalized. **The hospital does not notify us.**

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED:

SYMPATHY TO: The family of David Crandell who died November 22.
Mary Alice Evans and family. Mary Alice brother, Evan Lewis,
died November 25.



DAY BY DAY

Sunday, December 3

Giving Tree Gifts Turn In

- 8:00 am Celebration Worship Service, S
- 8:00 am Celebration Worship Service, Children's Christmas Musical, S
- 9:30 am Celebration Worship Service, S
- 9:30 am Sunday School, YR
- 10:45 am Companions in Christ, L
- 10:45 am Cross Connections Service, G
- 2:00 pm Childrens Christmas Musical Program

Monday, December 4

- 8:00 am Walking for Exercise, G,S
- 6:30 pm Skeins of Love, L
- 6:30 pm Trustees Meeting, YR
- 7:00 am Boy Scouts, G

Tuesday, December 5

- 8:00 am Communion, S
- 8:00 am Volunteer Work Group
- 9:00 am XYZ SHOPPING TRIP, OS
- 9:00 am Staff Meeting, GA
- 10:00 am Sisters in Faith, L
- 5:30 pm Gospel Bells, S
- 6:30 pm Bible Study, Pastor Gary YR
- 6:30 pm UMM Leaders Meeting, L
- 7:00 pm Praise Team, G
- 7:00 pm Joanna Circle, GA

Wednesday, December 6

- 6:30 am Men's Prayer Mtg., YR
- 8:00 am Walking for Exercise, G,S
- 9:00 am UMW Board, YR
- 5:00 pm WATCH Meal, G
- 5:00 pm Cherub/Children's Choir
- 6:00 pm Methodist Kids, S
- 6:00 pm Girls Night Out, L
- 6:00 pm Lite Life, GA
- 6:15 pm Amplify, YR
- 7:00 pm Strength Finders, OS

Thursday, December 7

- 9:00 am Daily Grind, OS
- 9:00 am Quilters, CR
- 9:15 am Disciple-Pastor Paul, YR
- 10:00 am Pickleball, G
- 5:15 pm Thursday Night Book Study, OS
- 6:00 pm Pickleball, G
- 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, S

Friday, December 8

- 8:00 am Walking for Exercise, G,S

Saturday, December 9

- 7:00 am Men's Bible Study, L
- 8:00 am Walk and Talk, G
- 9:00 am Cantata Rehearsal, S

Sunday, December 10

Cantata Sunday

- 8:00 am Celebration Worship Service, S
- 9:30 am Celebration Worship Service, S
- 9:30 am Sunday School, YR
- 10:45 am Companions in Christ, L
- 10:45 am Cross Connections Service, G
- 2:00 pm Church Conference, S
- 5:00 pm Women's Bible Study, L

G-Gym,
L-Library,
S-Sanctuary
GA-Gathering Area
OS-Off Site
YR-Youth Room
PO-Pastor Office
K-Kitchen
CR-Copy Room

