



"Meanwhile, live in such a way that you are a credit to the Message of Christ. Let nothing in your conduct hang on whether I come or not. Your conduct must be the same whether I show up to see things for myself or hear of it from a distance. *Stand united, singular in vision*, contending for people's trust in the Message, the good news, not flinching or dodging in the slightest before the opposition."

*Philippians 1:27*

**church might surprise you!**

## Help! I'm new! >

### 1. Refresh yourself!

Look in the hall for refreshments on a small table.

### 2. Sing

Music is one way we can come into God's presence. For the first 15 minutes or so, we'll sing some easy songs to God. Don't know the song well? Don't sweat it. When all else fails, God just wants us to lay down all of our burdens at his feet and sing with reckless abandon. Any joyful sound is wonderful to Him! Music is led by the worship band, *The Hitchhikers*. This team gives the glory only to God. We invite you to stand, but in whatever way you worship, we just want you to feel comfortable! We worship God in many different ways with many different expressions of love, giving Him the glory, the honor, and praise!

### 3. Share

We take a moment to say hello to the people around us. We come together as God's people to share in prayer & offering. A time to give back to God—without obligation, freely to God.

### 4. Listen

The reader shares the Scripture of the Day. Next, the speaker or pastor shares the message of God's Word for about 15 minutes. Right before we leave, learn about what is happening around here from the speaker and this handy *book...* I mean *program* that you are reading! ☺

### 5. Finish

We conclude worship with a blessing.  
We're glad you're here!

# welcome info...

Join us at any of these events.

**Sun. 11:30 a.m. worship**  
Led by worship band.

**Club Xtra Events**  
with Movie Nights, Pizza,  
food, bands, dancers,  
planning & more! Check  
**[www.mthealthymc.org](http://www.mthealthymc.org)**  
for upcoming events!

**Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

## **Welcome**

## **Praise and Worship – The Hitchhikers**

### **Variations of "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Chorus**

*Arranged by Jake Miller, Lifespring Church*

O Come let us adore Him, O Come let us adore Him

O Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord

For You alone are worthy, For You alone are worthy,

For You alone are worthy, Christ the Lord

We give You all the glory, we give You all the glory,

We give You all the glory, Christ the Lord

O Come let us adore Him, O Come let us adore Him

O Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord

### **Holy, Holy** *by Brenton Brown*

**Verse:** Holy Holy, God Almighty  
Who was and is to come  
God of glory, You're so worthy  
And all the saints bow down

**Chorus:** Holy is Your name in all the earth  
Righteous are Your ways so merciful  
Everything You've done is just and true  
Holy Holy God are You  
Holy Holy God are You

### **Repeat the whole thing again**

**Bridge:** All blessing, all honor, belongs to You  
All power, all wisdom is Yours **(twice)**

### **Repeat Chorus Again Twice**

## **Meet and Greet**

Say "hi" to someone you may not know!

## **Announcements**

## **Lighting of the Advent Candle – 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent – Peace**

### **Luke 2:1-20 (The Message) - The Birth of Jesus**

<sup>1-5</sup>About that time Caesar Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Empire. This was the first census when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to travel to his own ancestral hometown to be accounted for. So Joseph went from the Galilean town of Nazareth up to Bethlehem in Judah, David's town, for the census. As a descendant of David, he had to go there. He went with Mary, his fiancée, who was pregnant. <sup>6-7</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the hostel.

#### **An Event for Everyone**

<sup>8-12</sup>There were shepherders camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God's angel stood among them and God's glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, "Don't be afraid. I'm here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Savior has just been born in David's town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. This is what you're to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger."

<sup>13-14</sup>At once the angel was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God's praises: "Glory to God in the heavenly heights, Peace to all men and women on earth who please him."

<sup>15-18</sup>As the angel choir withdrew into heaven, the shepherders talked it over. "Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us." They left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. Seeing was believing. They told everyone they met what the angels had said about this child. All who heard the shepherders were impressed.

<sup>19-20</sup>Mary kept all these things to herself, holding them dear, deep within herself. The shepherders returned and let loose, glorifying and praising God for everything they had heard and seen. It turned out exactly the way they'd been told!

**Things To Think About:** This Scripture reminds us that when we are fearful, we are often not thinking of peace. The angels calm the shepherds and send them forward with a task. Who are the people in our world who need God's peace? What are our hopes for peace in our world today? How do we help others know God's desire for peace in our world?

**Prayer:** Dear God: Thank you for your son, Jesus. Thank you for those in our world today who seek to act for peace. Help us look for ways to be peacemakers at home, at church, and at school. Amen.

## Offering

### **In Like A Lion (Always Winter)** *by Relient K*

**Verse 1:** It's always nice to look out the window  
And see those very first few flakes of snow  
And later on we can go outside  
And create the impression of an angel that just fell from the sky  
When February rolls around I'll roll my eyes  
Turn a cold shoulder to these even colder skies  
And by the fire my heart it heaves a sigh  
For the green grass waiting on the other side

**Chorus:** It's always winter but never Christmas  
It seems this curse just can't be lifted  
Yet in the midst of all this ice and snow  
Our hearts stay warm cause they are filled with hope

**Verse 2:** It'd be so nice to look out the window  
And see the leaves on the trees begin to show  
The birds would congregate and sing  
A song of birth a song of newer things  
The wind would calm and the sun would shine  
I'd go outside and I'd squint my eyes  
But for now I will simply just withdraw  
Sit here and wish for this world to thaw

## Repeat Chorus

**Bridge:** And everything it changed overnight  
This dying world You brought it back to life  
And deep inside I felt things shifting,  
Everything was melting away, oh away  
And You gave us the most beautiful of days

**Chorus 2:** 'Cause when it's always winter, but never Christmas  
Sometimes it feels like, You're not with us  
But deep inside our hearts we know  
That You are here and we will not lose hope

## Joys and Concerns – Pastor Patty

Time to share good things that are happening and things to pray for in the week ahead.

## Prayer – Pastor Patty

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## Children's Musical – Star of Wonder

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### **Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18 - 25 (The Message)**

The birth of Jesus took place like this. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. Before they came to the marriage bed, Joseph discovered she was pregnant. (It was by the Holy Spirit, but he didn't know that.) Joseph, chagrined but noble, determined to take care of things quietly so Mary would not be disgraced. While he was trying to figure a way out, he had a dream. God's angel spoke in the dream: "Joseph, son of David, don't hesitate to get married. Mary's pregnancy is Spirit-conceived. God's Holy Spirit has made her pregnant. She will bring a son to birth, and when she does, you, Joseph, will name him Jesus - 'God saves' - because he will save his people from their sins." This would bring the prophet's embryonic sermon to full term: Watch for this - a virgin will get pregnant and bear a son; They will name him Emmanuel (Hebrew for "God is with us"). Then Joseph woke up. He did exactly what God's angel commanded in the dream: He married Mary. But he did not consummate the marriage until she had the baby. He named the baby Jesus.

### **Message - "Joseph's Pre-Marital Counseling" - Pastor Patty**

Children may go to Children's Church. Youth and adults, you are invited to stay and listen to the Message from Pastor Patty.

### **Sending Forth – We Wish You a Merry Christmas**

We wish you a Merry Christmas, We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
We wish you a Merry Christmas, And a Happy New Year!

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,  
Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Now bring us vanilla ice cream, Now bring us vanilla ice cream,  
Now bring us vanilla ice cream, And a mug of root beer.

We won't go until we get some, We won't go until we get some  
We won't go until we get some, So please bring it here!

We wish you a Merry Christmas, We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
We wish you a Merry Christmas, And a Happy New Year!

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**The Hitchhikers ARE:**  
**Andy Smith** – Electric Guitar  
**Cheryl Raine** – Piano/Keyboards  
**Jeff Light** – Bass Guitar  
**Tim Smith** – Drums  
**Singers: ALL OF YOU!**

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**Prayer Concerns:** Gary Boggs; Doxsey Family; Polly Jordan; Sam Neidlinger; Day Family; Mary Martin (Jeanne Stophlet's sister); Cyndi Dunbar; Edna White (Sharon White's mother-in-law); Jim Koehne (Joe Koehne's dad); Richard Rahn (Jim Rahn's cousin); Shirley Pittinger (Roettele Family friend); Karen Zieler (Dianne Koch's friend); Susan (Bob and Mary Reep's niece); George and Shirley Sand; Harold Himes (Kyle Himes' dad); Ruth (Joseph Scheet's grandmother); Jones Family (Bridget Spittler's family); Gene Rahn (Jim Rahn's dad); Carroll Hutchinson (for radiation therapy); Mindi Mason (Alice Williamson's daughter); Kay Rowlette; Karen Cann (Velma Cann's daughter-in-law); Sharon Seim (Velma Cann's daughter); Faith Petri-Miller (Pastor Patty's granddaughter); Scott Dunbar; Sharon McCoon and Family; Roettele Family; Robert Hoppler (Sharon McCoon's friend); the family and friends of Nancy Lipka Todd (Roberta Watson's cousin); the family and friends of Bettie Baren (Barbara Pritchard's sister); the family and friends of Bill Naderman; the family and friends of Christine Wilson; the family and friends of Cynthia Goebel; our church

**Revisions to Prayer List:** Please contact the office at [mthealthymc@fuse.net](mailto:mthealthymc@fuse.net) or 931-5827.

*We express sincere and heartfelt sympathy for the family and friends of William 'Bill' G. Naderman, Jr. (12/20/42 – 12/9/2010), Christine Wilson (6/3/1915 – 12/11/2010) and Cynthia K. Goebel (11/8/1913– 12/11/2010). These three members of our church family went home to be with Jesus. Let us continue to remember Bill's, Christine's and Cynthia's loved ones in our thoughts and prayers.*

### **Kroger Card: The Gift that Keeps on Giving...**

Recently, our church received a check for \$332.06 for members' use of their Kroger Cards. This is just two weeks after getting a \$335 check from Kroger!

Please continue to use your Kroger Card for your groceries, prescriptions, gas and gift card purchases, and our church will receive 4% of the value of your purchases. Don't have a Kroger Card and want one? Please see Mark Palmer. Thank you!

### **Happy Birthday! (December 19 – December 25)**

20	Sharon White *	23	Darleen Long	25	Robert Merkel
21	Georgiana Eggers	23	Gretchen McDaniel		

\* **Address Update:** Sharon White; 7130 Clovernoll Drive; Cincinnati, Ohio; 45231

**Attendance for Traditional and Contemporary Services on December 12:** 67; 10 **Total:** 77

**Weekly Offering Needed for 2010 Budget:** \$4,038      **Offering (Usable Income) on Dec. 12:** \$3769.00

### **Five Wishes: Saturday, January 15, 10 AM in Fellowship Hall**

Mt. Healthy United Methodist church invites you to "Five Wishes". This program involves a "living will with a heart" and helps you communicate how you wish to be treated if you get seriously ill. Presenters will be Twin Towers chaplain, Jill Crosswell and elder law attorney, Mary Ann Jacobs. Look for more detailed information in the January issue of the newsletter and upcoming bulletins.

**WEATHER EMERGENCY:** When the Mt. Healthy City schools are closed, the Mt. Healthy U.M. church office and the Mt. Healthy Alliance Food Pantry are closed.

## Calendar – Week of December 19

<b>Sun Dec 19</b>	8:45 AM	Sunday School	Education Wing
	10:00 AM	Musical Drama: "There Is a Bethlehem"	Sanctuary
	11:30 AM	Highway 127 (Contemporary Worship)	Fellowship Hall
<b>Mon Dec 20</b>	8 AM – 1 PM	Mt. Healthy Alliance Distributing Thanksgiving Food	Assumption
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Choir Room
<b>Tues Dec 21</b>	12:00 PM	UMW Guild-Sponsored Lunch for XYZ Senior Group	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	Education Committee	Parlor
	8:30 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous	Adult Classroom
<b>Wed Dec 22</b>	12:00 PM	Deadline to Submit Info. for Sunday's Bulletin	Mt. Healthy UMC
	5:30 PM	Highway 127 Practice	Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Chancel Bells Practice	Choir Room
	7:00 PM	Staff Parish	Parlor
	7:30 PM	Chancel Choir Practice	Sanctuary
<b>Thurs Dec 23</b>	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
<b>Fri Dec 24</b>	6:30 PM	Holy Communion	Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Sanctuary
<b>Sat Dec 25</b>	<i>Have a very blessed Christmas!</i>		
<b>Sun Dec 26</b>	8:45 AM	Sunday School	Education Wing
	10:00 AM	Traditional Worship	Sanctuary
	11:30 AM	Highway 127 (Contemporary Worship)	Fellowship Hall
	5:00 PM	Healing Service	Chapel

**Church Office Hours:** Monday-Wednesday, 9 AM - 2 PM; Thursday, 9 AM - 4 PM; Friday, 9 AM - 12 PM

**Church Office Closings for Christmas and New Year's Holidays:**

Monday, December 27; Friday, December 31; Monday, January 3

**CANCELLED:** Bible Study on 12/22; Evangelism Committee meeting on 12/28.

**Mt. Healthy Alliance Food Pantry:** Located at Mt. Healthy Christian Church, 7717 Harrison Avenue; 521-3700; [www.mthealthyalliance.org](http://www.mthealthyalliance.org); Hours: Mon., Thurs., Sat., 9 AM - 12 PM, Tues., 5 PM - 7 PM  
Mailing Address: Mt. Healthy Alliance, Inc., P.O. Box 31028, Mt. Healthy, Ohio, 45231

\* **Like to Get Involved in Contemporary Worship?** Contact Andy Smith at [andycool22@gmail.com](mailto:andycool22@gmail.com) or 265-7241.