

December Special Events

Parades

MUMC is planning to participate in both the Clovis and Fresno parades! We will create a float that is simple and represents our Live Nativity. We joyously welcome help to decorate the float and ride on it! We will gather at 10am on Dec. 1 to assemble the float.

Clovis' parade will be on the night of Saturday, December 1 at 6pm.

Fresno's parade will be on the morning of Saturday, December 8.

Talk with Connie Alfaro for more information and to participate.

Special worship services in December:

Sunday Worship Services will remain on our regular schedule throughout Dec.

9:30am Imagine and 11:00am Traditional 3:00pm Hmong Language

In addition to these we will have several special worship services.

December 2: at 2:30 pm at Academy's Advent Service

December 21: Longest Night service begins with soup supper at 6 pm

December 24: there are three different Christmas Eve services

4 pm at Academy - a beautiful setting for this inspirational worship

7 pm at MUMC - especially designed to be "kid friendly"

10:30 pm at MUMC - candlelight, lessons & carols

December 31: at 11:59 pm! - begin the New Year with your mind fixed on Jesus!

New Year's Eve party

We had so much fun last two years we want to do it again! Just show up any time after 7 pm. Bring along a game or puzzle & some munchies to share. Hang out with others from your faith family until you are ready to go home! For an added treat Edie Dyer and Kim Moran will teach ballroom dance from 7-8 on one side of the room. We will be at the church through the countdown at midnight - when we join together for a time of prayer and praise. After a quick clean up we head home for a few hours sleep we awaken rested and ready to serve God in 2013.

Decorating and un-decorating the sanctuary

The youth & PTO invite everyone to join in decorating the sanctuary on Saturday, December 1, at 12 p.m. And, everyone is invited to help UN-decorate the sanctuary and put away the decorations for another year on Sunday, January 6 at 5 pm. Both events will be fun, with lots of opportunities to work together as one family in the faith.

Haiti Mission Trip Fundraisers

- Gift sales Nov 25 & Dec 2-Special order gifts made by Haitian Artisans.
- Dinner at Applebee's Dec 18 4-9pm-If you like to eat out grab the coupon from page 7 or the Sunday Bulletin and join us at Applebee's on Shaw.
- Gift cards to MaRoo Restaurant-We have been given a generous donation of \$25.00 gift cards to MaRoo, 2075 W Bullard Ave @ West Ave specializing in Japanese & Korean food. If you would like to purchase a card at face value talk with Pastor Janette.



January Sermon Series

**Start 2013 in a good way - be in worship each Sunday in January for the sermon series:
Four Weeks to a Better Life.**

**Each week we will explore steps we can take to make 2013 the best year of our lives!
This is an excellent time to bring friends and neighbors to worship, too!**



Haiti Trivia

By Andy Hansen-Smith

January 12th marks the third anniversary since the devastating earthquake shook Haiti in 2010. As you know our congregation is busy fundraising to send a group from our church to Haiti this Spring . I am one of those planning on going too so I decided to list for you some facts about the poverty stricken country of Haiti.

Only 20 % of Haitians over 15 years of age are literate: Schools were devastated by this past earthquake. Our group will be sleeping at one of their rebuilt schools during our week in Haiti so we will get a close up view of how reconstruction is progressing in Haiti.

✦ I was surprised to learn there are over 1 million internet users in Haiti! Out of a population of 9.8 million that is around 10%. That is higher than I would have thought but by comparison to the 73% in the United States it still is a small. One of the projects our group may be working on while in Haiti is helping to establish an internet café. This will help provide easier access to the internet, provide entrepreneurial opportunities, and allow a broadening of educational choices. Also it will generate income to supplement the food program at the school.

✦ The BBQ was first seen by Europeans on the island of Hispaniola (of which modern day Haiti occupies a third)! I don't know what this has to do with our trip but I love to eat and BBQ-ing is a great addition to our culinary culture. I am very curious what foods we will be eating during our week stay in Haiti...

I hope this has been an informative and interesting trivia on Haiti. I am getting excited (and nervous) about our upcoming trip. I would like to thank all of those who are praying and helping with our Haitian trip.