



# FIRST LIGHT

E-NEWS FROM MUNCY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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## Missions Expo 2021

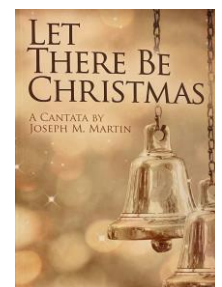


EXPERIENCE MISSIONS  
*Get Involved • Be Inspired*

Missions Expo 2020 was a big success! We packed 100,000 meals, 4 tons of Christian literature, 50,000 vegetable seed packets, and more. To keep the fun going, First UMC Muncy will host the Missions Expo again this year. Experience Missions founder and project manager, Paul Kinley, hopes to pack 100,000 meals, 8 tons of Christian literature, and prepare hundreds of Family Med Packs to be distributed worldwide! They are looking for 300-400 volunteers to help make this happen. Missions Expo 2021 will take place in the Celebration Center on October 21-23. There will be 5 sessions to choose from when signing up to help. This is an ideal mission event for all age groups. To register for this great event, simply visit the registration page [here](#). Invite your friends and family!

## Let There Be Christmas!

Did you feel a big void in your Advent journey last year because the Christmas Cantata was cancelled? Well, this year we proclaim, "Let There Be Christmas!" The Cantata titled "Let There Be Christmas" will be presented on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Associate Director of Music, Tom Ruhl, writes, "We are aware of the challenges the COVID pandemic is causing. We will be monitoring the numbers carefully and cautiously. That said, we need to plan ahead and get commitments to build our choir." So, consider this your invitation to join the Cantata Choir and invite others to join as well. We are especially in need of male voices. Rehearsals will be held on Thursday evenings from 7:30-8:30 beginning on October 14<sup>th</sup>. In addition, there will be several Sunday afternoon rehearsals. Those dates will be announced as we get closer to the cantata. Cantata weekend includes a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and a full day on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> with presentations at 10:45 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. with lunch provided for everyone in between. We hope you'll consider joining us!



### Reminders:

-Experience Missions will hold a Bible and Christian Literature Collection Drive at FUMC on **October 11-20, 2021**. (Note date change)

-Women's Prayer Breakfast will be held on Thursday mornings from 8:30-9:30 at Betsy Mothersbaugh's home beginning October 14<sup>th</sup>. Call Betsy for more information 570-971-7866

-A Next Step gathering will be held in the Living Water Café on October 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 p.m. This is for anyone who is thinking of joining the church or taking the next step in their discipleship journey. Come meet the pastor, church leaders and learn more about how you can be more involved. Sign up on the Connections tables. Childcare available upon request.

# Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. These simple gifts are distributed outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S.

This coming Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, The United Methodist Women at First UMC will have a kickoff for the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Mission Project. Empty shoeboxes,



provided by Samaritan's Purse, will be available for distribution in the Welcome Center and in the Living Water Café beginning this Sunday. Instructions on how to pack a shoebox and a list of suggested items will be available. When you pick up a box, please sign the sheet and indicate that you have taken one or more boxes. The cost of shipping each box is \$9.00. If you are able to contribute all or part of that expense, please place your donation in an envelope provided at the table.

**Envelopes should be placed in the basket at those**

**locations. Do not put the donation in the shoebox and do not wrap the shoebox.** Shoeboxes should be returned to either location by Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Children around the world will be blessed with your gift-filled shoebox. If you have any questions, please contact Gail Pentz at 570-546-3998. Thank you for your support. To learn more about this ministry, visit the [Operation Christmas Child website](#).

*Archives Committee Welcomes YOU!*

Are you looking to learn more about the history of our church? Would you love to see our history celebrated? If so, the Archives Committee welcomes you to join them. If you are interested in joining or learning more, call Archives Committee Chair, Joanie Wallis at 570-546-8108. You can also talk with committee members Connie Holtzapple, David Young or Chalmer VanHorn.





*dwell*  *Thank You!*

Thank you for delivering hope through your generous donations to Dwell Orphan Care. Dwell staff members were overjoyed to receive diapers, wipes, clothing, duffle bags and so much more for their Hope Chest, a “foster closet” for families receiving emergency placement of children. We are **“Blessed to be a Blessing!”**

# Thank You!

Betsy Mothersbaugh extends a most sincere THANK YOU to everyone who helped, in any way, with the Good & Plenty meal this week. From the front line to the dish room and every station in between, everyone did an excellent job and we were able to keep the take-out line moving nicely. We served over 525 meals and profited over \$3,000.00. This meal was such a great success that we plan to repeat with another take-out-only turkey dinner on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. So, rest up and be ready to jump in again for round two. We couldn't do it without each one of you!

