



CEDAR
BAYOU
GRACE
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Electronic Newsletter - If you would like to receive your newsletter via email instead of a paper copy please email : office@cedarbayou.org



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Advent Visitor

NOVEMBER 15, 2011

Hello everyone:

It's beginning to look a lot like Advent/ Christmas at Cedar Bayou Grace. So, hang the lights on the Live Oak tree, hitch up your boat to the mosquitos and celebrate the season Texas Gulf Coast style. Even with no snow or chestnuts, we can still come together to remember the reason for the season – the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. This newsletter is filled with opportunities for you to come and adore our Savior Jesus. So, mark your calendars and bring your friends and family.

With Christ's love,
Carol C. Turner
Pastor

Advent 2011



Join us this Advent Season for our many activities.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| November 27 | Hanging of The Greens |
| December 4 | Christmas Cantata: "I Hear The Prophet Callin'"
Presented by Chancel Choir and Cedar Bayou Grace Players at 8:15 & 10:45
Christ Child Celebration from 5 - 6 p.m. - Join us as we celebrate the advent season by making an ornament to adorn our homes. For children of all ages.
Figurine Service at 6 p.m. - Worship with the children as they receive the figurines for their nativity. |
| December 10 | Women's Bible Study and Christmas Tea - 10:00 A.M. - We will have a Christmas Tea and a study of the Christmas Story from the Old to the New Testament led by Sandra Duree. |
| December 11 | Christmas Caroling - Church Wide Christmas Caroling from 3 - 5 P.M. |
| December 17 | Christmas on the Bayou , 6:00 P.M. - Join us for a boat parade of lights. |
| December 18 | Christmas Family Brunch , 9:30 A.M. - Bring a dish to share and enjoy visiting with your church family.
Fine Arts Academy Christmas Recital - 2:00 P.M. and 3:00 P.M. |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
4 p.m. - Children's Service
6 p.m. - Carols & Candles |
| December 25 | Christmas Worship at 10:00 A.M. |
| December 31 | Faith and Fun on New Year's Eve , 5:30 - 8:30 P.M. - Bring a game and finger foods to share. |



Announcements



Advent Bible Study

Pastor Luis and Heather Ramirez will lead a 4-week study during Advent based on Mike Slaughter's Christmas Is Not Your Birthday: Experience the Joy of Living and Giving Like Jesus. Come and discover how to make this Christmas a less ostentatious and more authentic celebration of Jesus' birth. The class will meet at 4 P.M. on Sunday Nov. 27th; Dec. 4th, 11th and 18th at in Room 108. Please, sign-up in the front hallway. Childcare will be provided. An electronic version of the book is available for certain e-readers. Paperback copy is \$10. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Luis at 281-427-4754 x115.



New Year's Eve Family Celebration

Faith and Fun on New Year's Eve

It's a New Year's Eve party and watch night service all rolled into one - Dec. 31 from 5:30 to 8:30 in the Busch Center. Bring a game and finger foods to share. If you are just coming for worship, come from 5:30 to 6 to give thanks for the year past and launch the new year in worship. Afterward we'll eat and play games.



Seafarers' Ministry Port of Houston

Seafarer Boxes

Come Join us on Thursday, December 8 at 11:30 in the Busch Center for a potluck luncheon and Christmas party. We will be assembling the Christmas boxes for the Seafarer's center and helping to spread the Christmas Joy. Bring a dish or dessert to share and your favorite CD of Christmas music. Drinks will be provided.



Christmas Brunch

Our annual Family Christmas Brunch will be held on Sunday, December 18th from 9:30 to 10:30 (our Sunday School hour). Bring a dish to share and enjoy visiting with your church family.



Christmas Caroling – Dec. 11 from 3 to 5 p.m.

It's time to remember our Shut-ins and those for whom this may be a difficult time of year. We need every smiling face, young or old, even if you can't sing to join us as we travel house to house to spread Christmas love and joy. We will meet in the Busch Center at 3, divide into teams, make door-step visits and return to the church for refreshments by 5. We sing the first verse of familiar carols with Jingle Bells and We Wish You a Merry Christmas, also. We need drivers, singers and people just to smile. Don't miss it. Guaranteed to put the joy in your Christmas.

Music Notes

The Advent season is quickly approaching, and the Music and Worship Arts ministry area is working hard on music that will help us to prepare for Christ's birth. Advent begins on November 27, with the Hanging of the Greens services. The Chancel Choir will sing at 10:45 and Luis Ramirez will sing at 8:15.

The Chancel Choir and Cedar Bayou Grace Players will present their Christmas work, "I Hear The Prophet Callin'", on Sunday, December 4, at both services. This work integrates the prophesy of Isaiah and the Christmas story from Luke 2 with the dream of a small boy. Using this vehicle, we will find Jesus born in a setting that is familiar to this child instead of the traditional manger. The music is wonderful and there are several familiar carols that include the congregation. Celebration Singers will lead us in a service of scripture and carols on December 11. Heather Ramirez will sing at the 8:15 service.

On December 18, Suzannah Moorman will sing at both services. At 10:45, Bayou Brigade will sing as a combined choir. The Chancel Choir will be accompanied by Amy Waltz and Brannon Bravo playing the harp and oboe.

There will be two services on Christmas Eve. The 4:00pm service will be especially for children and their families. The Chancel Choir will lead us at the 6:00pm service of candles and carols.

There will be one worship service on Christmas Day, at 10:00am. Heather Ramirez, Paula Harrison, Luis Ramirez, and Paul Golding will sing accompanied by harp at that service.

The music of this Advent season includes every musical form from folk music to Handel. There is something to appeal to every musical taste and worship style. Our hope is that every person who attends worship will find something to help them in their own Advent preparations.

See you in the loft,
Paula



2nd Saturday Women's Bible Study

The 2nd Saturday Women's Bible Study will be held on Saturday, December 10 at 10:00 in the parlor. We will have a Christmas Tea and a study of the Christmas Story from the Old to the New Testament led by Sandra Duree. Child Care is available and you can sign up at the table across from the Guest Center. Grab your bible, invite your friends and come and enjoy being with your sisters in faith.



Announcements

Children Advent Activities

Christ Child
4 pm –5:30 pm

Children of all ages are invited to join us as we celebrate the advent season by making ornaments to adorn our church and homes. Children will have the opportunity to “shop” for gifts for their parents. We are asking children to bring a non-perishable food item or baby item to Christ Child to donate to those In need.



Penny Drive

**Collection Time is now
through December 11**

Save your change to make a difference in the life of a child this Christmas. We have many children here in Baytown who without our help will not be able to have Christmas presents under their tree. Please help donate so we can make an impact on these families. Donations can be brought to the church office.



Figurine Service

Registration for the Christmas figurines is under way. There will be a table set up by the front door in the main hallway for registration. The Figurine Ministry of CBGUMC brings forward a 40 year tradition. Members volunteer their time to make the figurines for the children of our church. The Nativity set consists of 12 figurines. This year's Figurine service will be Sunday, December 4 at 6 p.m. Make sure you register to ensure your child receives a figurine.



Youth Advent Activities



December 16

Come as we gather for a full night of Food, Fun, and Fellowship with our District. There will be lots of activities and fun. Meet at the church at 6 P.M. Join us for a fun filled night!



Youth Progressive Dinner

December 19
5:00 P.M.

Holiday



There will be no youth activities on Sunday December 25 and Sunday, January 1. Have a very safe and blessed Christmas!

Join us on December 18 the Progressive Christmas Dinner. For more information please contact Jeff Miles at jmiles@cedarbayougrace.org



Hoopla



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Order Christmas Poinsettias



Name _____

Phone _____

In Honor Of _____

In Memory Of _____

Poinsettias are \$10 each. **Please make sure to notate if the poinsettia you are ordering is in honor or in memory of your loved one.** To order please fill out this order form and return it to the church office, 2714 Ferry Rd. Baytown, TX 77520. Deadline to order is Wednesday, December 7. One poinsettia per form please.

Christmas On The Bayou

Saturday, December 17 6:00 P.M.

Pass the Word! It's time again for Christmas on the Bayou Boat Parade, Saturday December 17 at 6 p.m. We need boats, lighted for the season and ready to launch from Roseland Park at sunset. Please call the church office at 281-427-4754 or fill out the information below to register. Be ready to set sail by 5 p.m. We need parade goers to assemble in Cedar Bayou UMC's parking lot at 6 for food, fun and Baytown's best boat parade yet. It's a great opportunity to bring a friend. We need helpers also to register boats, prepare food or clean up.



Name _____

Phone Number _____

Type/Size Boat _____