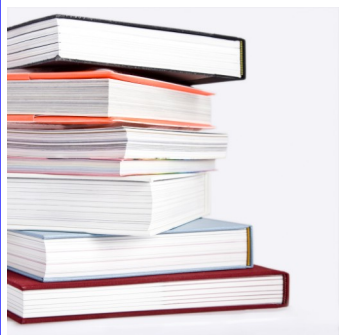


Greater Things - Supplement

Book Club

Would you like to know the book that Pages Book Club will be discussing in January 2010? Stop by the Media Center and check out the window display!



The staff wishes to thank craftsman Macon Srygley, neighbor of Charles and Liz Fuller, for his contribution to our holiday display. Our "hats" are off to him for his fine woodworking skills.

Parents Day Out

PDO Christmas party will be Wednesday, December 16th from 12:00-1:15. We will be closed for the holidays from Monday, December 21 until Monday, January 4. Children will return on Tuesday January 5th.

What is Advent? - By Ernette Calhoun

Advent is the beginning of the church year. This year it will begin on November 29, four Sundays prior to Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. It is the beginning of the Christian story; the preparation, the hope that the birth of our Savior brings.



Who doesn't need hope today? Yet the hope of Advent isn't like other kinds of hope. We can hope that the economy will gain strength, that terrorists won't injure us, and that the H1N1 virus won't attack us, but we can't be sure of any of these things. Advent hope is not wishful thinking. We know that the hope of Israel was fulfilled in the birth of the Messiah and our hope will be fulfilled when Christ returns to complete the task of restoring creation. We hold this hope with the confidence of faith.

We may be in the darkest time of our year with the Winter Solstice in the middle of the Advent season, but for the church this is the season of light. We will soon be lighting the first candle in our Advent Wreath and will continue each Sunday to light a candle to put out the darkness, with the Christ candle on Christmas Eve. These lights are witness to the Light of the World which will never be put out. Each week the sanctuary will be brighter. The darkness retreats as hope moves forward. The weeks of Advent with the emphasis on preparation, waiting and watching help us to know that God's Light does shine in the darkness. Christmas confirms the eternal Light of God in Christ Jesus. Isaiah 60:19 says *"but the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory."*

What is Hanukkah? - By Ernette Calhoun



While Christians are celebrating the Advent season, our Jewish neighbors will celebrate Hanukkah beginning of December 12 and lasting for eight days. The Apocrophal books of the Maccabees tell the story of Hanukkah. In 165 B.C. after a three-year struggle, the Jews in Judea defeated the Syrian tyrant Antiochus. They held festivities in the Temple in Jerusalem and rededicated it to God. After clearing the Temple of Syrian idols, they found only one small cruse of oil with which to light their holy lamps. But, miraculously, the cruse provided oil for eight days. Judas Maccabaeus, the Jewish leader, then proclaimed a festival to be observed by Jews.

During Hanukkah, gifts are exchanged and contributions are made to the poor. Each evening, one additional candle is lighted on the Hanukkahmenorah (candleabra). By the last evening, eight lighted candles stand together.

Sew Much Love Monday, December 7 6:00 PM in the New Room.

It is share a pattern night! Bring a copy of a favorite pattern that you would like to share with others. It can be for baby items or winter hats, scarves, or gloves/mittens. Some of us are starting to make items to send to Holly in Mongolia! We have a bagful of hearts that need to be stuffed and sewn closed.. These are used by post surgery patients. Anyone who would like to help may come. We have also had several recent donations of yarn and material and scraps. If you are working on a project, call Peggy to arrange to stop by her house to check out the supply. (Sorry, it is just too much to tote back and forth to the church!) If you have completed items or have something you are working on, bring it along and bring a friend! If not, come anyway. we will find something for you to do. Thanks to all who turned in items in November. You are making a difference in many lives! - Peggy Brooks: brookpeg@bellsouth.net - 936-6025