

for UNTO US A SON
IS **given**

Merry Christmas

Blessings to you in the name of our Lord, Christ Jesus, as we prepare ourselves, our church and our homes to celebrate the season of His birth once again!

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the

government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. - Isaiah 9:6

How do you prepare for this season? And, when? Is the hanging of lights and decorating the house a one-day event for you, or is it a season of building up to the big day? For the Waddell House, it's a little bit of both and it varies depending on the year and the number of things we have going on. I remember pastoring two churches in my first few years of ministry, and it was a busy time. Two different churches meant two different services and some years up to four services. Two different gatherings. Two different parties. There have been times when we would put a tree up after Thanksgiving but in other years the day before Christmas. Honestly, it is the latter most often.

The season seems to be taking a different shape for me these past few years, and I feel like there is something special in the air this Advent/Christmas season. It is less about the business of what many make this season become and more about preparing for the true meaning of what the season is supposed to be about. My daughter, Claire, is older so the tree matters less to her (which I am happy about because of the mess they make and for my OCD means less vacuuming). As a ministry family and being busy during these times with the church, we chose to see family at Thanksgiving which was also the gift giving time that most would do on Christmas day. It works better for us.

I pray as you start to prepare for this season, in whatever special way you do, and when you get into that spirit, that it invites a season of reflection on how powerful a thing God did for humankind, when he chose to come into the world as one of us. While we can never fully fathom the enormity of all that is Jesus' birth, we are blessed in understanding that it means there is hope in this world. That as mixed-up and messed-up this world may sometimes seem, Christ was born so that we may be reborn in his Spirit. That means that You are also a living representative of hope in this world, and you've already been given the greatest Christmas gift. May we look forward to this season of sharing that gift with the world!

Till The Nets are Full,
Pastor Brian

CHURCH COUNCIL



The next scheduled meeting is January 9, 2024 at 6PM.

FINANCIAL NEWS: October 2023

2023 Church Income Budget	\$	323,203.00
2023 Church Expenses Budget	\$	322,545.60
Received Income YTD - 2023	\$	268,429.73
Expenses YTD - 2023		284,209.19
Differences (+/-)	\$	16,109.46
Total Income received 10/2023	\$	22,683.98
Total Expenses spent 10/2023	\$	49,432.82
Differences (+/-)	\$	26,748.84

Non-Budgeted Gifts Received

Christian Care Center	\$	128.00
Disaster Help—Maui	\$	1,351.00
Feed My Sheep	\$	110.00
Pumpkin Patch	\$	1,404.00
Small Repair Projects	\$	200.00
Shoe Box Ministry	\$	470.00
Youth	\$	5,000.00
Total	\$	8,663.00

Memorials

Undesignated	\$	851.00
Children's Ministry	\$	40.00
Men's Bible Class	\$	20.00
Total	\$	911.00

November Gifts

11/5 — \$	5,407.00
11/12 — \$	4,900.85
11/19 — \$	6,030.98
11/26 — \$	4,145.85

Thank you

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE ANNUAL SHOEBOX MINISTRY. WE PACKED AND MAILED 95 SHOEBOXES THIS YEAR!

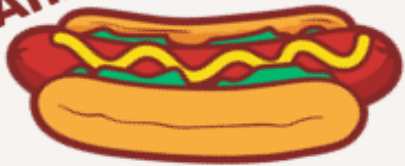


We will be closed for the holidays from 12/25 - 1/2. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Please fill out a bulletin insert and place in the collection plate or turn in to the office with \$15 for each requested poinsettia by December 21st. You may take them with you after the Christmas Eve Service.

21st Annual



HOTDOG SUPPER

December 2nd

4:30 - 6 PM

Please plan to
attend & contact
Cheryl with any
questions!



Christmas Eve Offering

THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS
EVE OFFERING WILL GO
TOWARDS MUCH NEEDED
HEATING & A/C UNITS FOR
OUR SANCTUARY.



What is the
purpose of
the church?

2023 Vision

Living into our purpose involves living according to the values and goals of the church as defined in Acts 2: 42-47 and striving to make a positive difference in our community and the world. It is important to be living out our purpose (To bring glory to God, to go and share the gospel with all, and to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world) in the life of the church, as it is the key to what we are called to do in the Great Commission. A church that lives a life of purpose puts their heart into their worship and into building relationships with friends and the community they serve.

The December Ministry Focus



Methodist Children's Home

Offering Hope Since 1890

Since 1890 the MCH has brought many Methodist individuals and congregations together to care for children, youth and families.

In a recent letter, MCH President Trey Oakley stated "I believe it is important and necessary to clarify the following: MCH is an independent 501c3 charitable nonprofit organization. MCH is governed by its own Board and by-laws, not any other entity. MCH welcomes individuals affiliated with GMC, UMC and other Christian faith organizations."

Please prayerfully consider how you can support this wonderful ministry!

R O O T E D

MYF Upcoming Schedule

December 3rd - 4:30 - 6 PM

December 10th - 4:30 - 6 PM

December 17th - MYF Christmas Party

We will not meet 12/24, 12/31 or 1/7.

Hot Hearts is January 19th - 20th,
more information to come!



YARN CHICKS

1ST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, 1 PM

This group is a fun time of fellowship. We will knit and crochet various items to donate to local charities.

Please bring your own supplies. Any questions, please contact Debbie Richardson at (409) 791-0333.



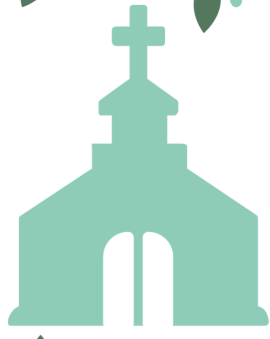
THREADS OF HOPE

Every Friday
10AM - 12 PM

Providing handmade and sewn items to local charities. Join us and use your sewing skills or learn new skills to help make a difference in our community!

Church service:
9:30 AM

Sunday School:
10:30 AM




*Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
December 24th
5 PM. Sanctuary*

SilSibee
Methodist Church

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SilSibee Methodist Church
670 N 5th St
SilSibee, TX 77656