

Evangelical United Church of Christ

33 South Ellis Street  
Cape Girardeau, Missouri

December 30, 2007

Epiphany Sunday

(\*Those who are able are invited to stand)

PRELUDE  
CHORAL INTROIT  
“*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*” —Choir

GREETING

LEADER: In many ways the Holy One has spoken of old, but now God has been made known in Christ, the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. Let us sing a new song to the God who loves us and who receives us as children and heirs with Christ.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS  
Cape Alternative School Center

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: People of God, sing and rejoice! God has come to us in Jesus the Christ, to reconcile and make new.

PEOPLE: *God has entered our existence of joy and sorrow, taking on human likeness in Jesus, born of Mary.*

LEADER: Therefore, we rejoice, praising God and singing:

ALL: *Glory be to God in the highest, on earth peace to those who will the good. Christ is born. Alleluia!*

\*HYMN OF ADORATION #291  
“*o Sing a Song of Bethlehem*”

\*SENTENCES —Pastor Dan

\*INVOCATION — Pastor Dan

LEADER: Let us pray. Our faces are sometimes lined with worry, O God; our days are full of stress and struggle. Yet we come today grateful that in the midst of this crowded and troubled world, your child was born, lived, and died, full of grace and truth. Surprise us with your presence; renew our sense of wonder; and give us peace and courage to live as your people in the world. May you be glorified in us, as in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. *Amen.*

Prayer List

December 30, 2007

In case of hospitalization or surgery please notify our church office. When being admitted to a hospital be sure to tell them that you are affiliated with this congregation. \* indicates a new request.

*Please note: after six months names will be removed from the prayer list, unless an update is made to the church office.*

Leo Amelunke; 09-07	Betty Metcalfe; 07-07	
Loyd Bollinger	Esther Nussbaum; 10-07	Ratliff Nursing Home
Tom Boston; 07-07	Helen Owens; 11-07	Polly Wilmsmeyer
S.G. Coy	Tonya Pobst; 09-07	
James Dickison; 10-07	Paul Propst; 08-07	Fountainbleau Lodge
<b>Michael “Benji” Doerhoff</b>	Kaylyn Sneathen; 08-07	Alta Proffer
[In Iraq]; 08-07	Susan Spinks; 11-07	
Ruby Doughty; 10-07	Wesley, Kailey &	Lutheran Home
Joan Hope; 10-07	Kimberley Spinks; 11-07	Dorothy Cole
Mary Huckstep	Harold Stahlman	Frank Maevers, Sr.
Frankie Hutson; 11-07	Andrea Truitt; 11-07	Leonard Moore
*Jaden, 2 yrs old-seizures;	LaDonna Wells; 09-07	Andora Peetz
12-07	Hospital	
Ernest & Ida Mae Jordan	*Tabitha Martin; 12-07	House Bound
Robert Juergens; 08-07		Ruby Doughty
Frank Maevers, Sr.; 07-07		Esther Nussbaum
Kenny Mehrle	Please Remember	Helen Owens
	Our Shut-Ins	

Financial Report	General Fund	Memorial General Fund	Memorial Fund	Misc.
12-2-07	\$2,512.86	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$137.00
12-9-07	\$7,561.66	\$10.00	---	\$59.00
12-16-07	\$1,029.71	\$10.00	\$60.00	\$7.00
12-23-07	\$1,562.58	---	---	\$140.00
12-30-07				
Worship	Attendance		Total	Offering
12-2-07	77		12-2-07	\$2,664.86
12-9-07	56		12-9-07	\$7,630.66
12-16-07	40		12-16-07	\$1,106.71
12-23-07	56		12-23-07	\$1,702.58
12-30-07			12-30-07	

Welcome first time guests! We're glad that you are here! We invite everyone to complete a Communication card (located on the Information Table) and place it in the offering plate. You are important to us and we want to know that you are here.

Evangelical United Church of Christ	(573) 335-5611
Email Address	eucc-cape@sbcglobal.net
Web Site	www.evangelicalucc-cape.org
Pastor	Pastor Daniel Johnson
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Ernest Jordan
Organist	Beverly Reece
Sound System	Terry & Mindy Best
Hospitality & Diaconate Visitor	Rhonda Bolton
Greeters	Susan, Kailey & Kimberley Spinks
Reader	Rhonda Bolton
Ushers: Youth & Deaconesses	



### Poinsettias

In Memory of  
Bill Brinkopf by Ramona Brinkopf

Bill Seabaugh, Allen Lee,  
Albert & Minnie Schloss  
by Kaye Lee Seabaugh

Lillian Maevers (Poinsettia Tree)  
By the Maevers Family

In Memory of their Parents  
Kenneth & Bettie Mehrle

In Honor of their Anniversary  
Calvin & Verla Sailer

### On the Calendar

Dec 31 New Years Eve  
 Jan 1 New Years Day  
 Jan 3 Choir Practice, 7:00 PM  
 Jan 6 Communion Sunday  
**“Taking Down the Greens” and  
 Epiphany Party and lunch**  
 Jan 8 Friendship Circle, 5:30 PM  
**“Rolling Dumplings”**  
 Jan 27 Annual Meeting & Dinner

### “Taking Down of the Greens” & Epiphany Party

Please plan to stay and after church on January 6th to help with the removal of our Christmas decorations. Lunch will include ham & beans and cornbread. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. The more the merrier and the easier it will be to complete

### CALL TO CONFESSION

LEADER: We live as if Christ had never been born. We abuse the privileges that are ours as children of God. Let us confess our sin before God.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

LEADER: God, you have come to us in Jesus, your true child, in whom you give us power to be your children. Yet, O God, we confess that we turn from your love, fearing the comfort and challenge of being your children. We are your own, yet we refuse you, clinging to the security of familiar ways rather than accepting the new life you offer. We tolerate hatred, violence, and injustice in the world you loved so well that you sent the child Jesus, begotten from your own being. We trust not in ourselves, but in your great compassion. Forgive us and renew a right spirit within us that we may live as your children and once again praise you; through the grace of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

LEADER: Hear the good news, children of God; in Jesus Christ, God forgives and frees you. Live by the Spirit.

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

LEADER: Let us celebrate this great grace by offering to one another a sign of **Christ's peace. The peace of Christ be with you.**  
*ALL: And also with you.*

### \*SONG OF PRAISE #295 “Tell Me the Story of Jesus”

### PSALM 148

LEADER: Praise God! Praise God from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

*PEOPLE: Praise God, all you angels of God;  
 praise God, all you host of heaven!*

LEADER: Praise God, you sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!

*PEOPLE: Praise God, you highest heavens, and you  
 waters above the heavens!*

LEADER: Let them praise the name of God, for God  
 commanded and they were created.

*PEOPLE: God established them forever and ever;  
 God fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.*

LEADER: Praise God from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,  
 fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

*PEOPLE: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!  
 Beasts of the forest and all cattle, crawling things and flying birds!*

LEADER: Rulers of the earth and all peoples, nobles and all leaders of the earth!

PEOPLE: *Young men and women alike, old and young together!*

LEADER: Let them praise the name of the Sovereign, whose name alone is exalted; whose glory is above earth and heaven.

PEOPLE: *God has raised up a horn for the people, and praise for all the faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to God.*

ALL: *Praise be to God! Amen.*

\*GLORIA #813

LEADER: Let us sing praise to God.

ALL: *We will continually praise God's holy name.*

ALL SING: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, Amen.*

COLLECT OF THE DAY —Pastor Dan

READING of SCRIPTURE

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 63:7-9 Page 1160

Epistle Lesson

Hebrews 2:10-18 Page 1864

\*Gospel Lesson—Please Stand

Matthew 2:13-23 Page 1498

SERMON

“Rachel Weeping For Her Children” —Pastor Dan Johnson

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(From the Presbyterian Catechism)

LEADER: What do you believe when you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as "God's only Son"?

PEOPLE: *That Jesus Christ is a unique person who was sent to do a unique work.*

LEADER: How do you understand the uniqueness of Jesus Christ?

PEOPLE: *No one else will ever be God incarnate. No one else will ever die for the sins of the world. Only Jesus Christ is such a person, only he could do such a work, and he in fact has done it.*

LEADER: What do you affirm when you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as "our Lord"?

PEOPLE: *That having been raised from the dead he reigns with compassion and justice over all things in heaven and on earth, especially over those who confess him by faith; and that by loving and serving*

*him above all else, I give glory and honor to God.*

LEADER: What do you affirm when you say he was "conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary"?

PEOPLE: *First, that being born of a woman, Jesus was truly a human being. Second, that our Lord's incarnation was a holy and mysterious event, brought about solely by free divine grace surpassing any human possibilities. Third, that from the very beginning of his life on earth, he was set apart by his unique origin for the sake of accomplishing our salvation. Amen.*

ANTHEM —Choir

“When the Angels Song is Silent”

GENERAL PRAYER —Pastor Dan

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORDS PRAYER

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO OFFERING

LEADER: Friends, our offering has a real role to play in easing the tears of the world. Through the compassionate ministries of our own church and denomination, wounds are healed and tears are dried. Come and share in God's work here and in the world through what we give!

\*PRAISE RESPONSE #815

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ALL: *Loving God, we give these gifts to a hurting world. May these gifts support your ministries, so that comfort is offered where cries of hunger go unheard, where tears of loneliness are shed, where pain and grief are felt. Amen.*

\*HYMN OF PARTING #286

“Once in Royal David's City”

\*BENEDICTION — Pastor Dan

**LEADER: Depart in peace, for you have seen God's salvation, a light for the nations.** May the love of God guide you, the word of Christ dwell in you richly, and the gift of the Spirit give you power, now and for ever. Amen.

CHORAL EXTROIT

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”

POSTLUDE