



# The Messenger

A Newsletter of St. John's United Methodist Church, Santa Fe, New Mexico

1200 Old Pecos Trail - Santa Fe, New Mexico

"Serving Christ Daily"

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## Scott's Sketches



### God's Inimitable Blessings

As we begin to say farewell to 2005, it is appropriate and wise to count our blessings, giving God our sincerest and humblest

thanks for continuing to be active in our lives.

In your old parsonage we are enjoying the expansiveness which has given us the opportunity to put up both our tree and a live cut tree to decorate. We really enjoy putting up Christmas decorations and lights -- can you tell?

Last week we got two offers to buy the parsonage. The committee has put in motion acquiring a contract to sell 1211 Old Pecos Trail while pursuing an offer on 4 Mariquita Court east of I-25 in the Campo Conejo Subdivision. Blessings! The timing is truly God's as we approach again the anniversary of the birth of Christ.

At Christ's birth the people were wanting Messiah to come and save them and God blessed them with a humble, vulnerable infant Prince of Peace. Jesus was humbly born that all people might come to experience those inimitable blessings that God through Christ provides to us daily.

A few days ago more blessings came as we held and enjoyed our annual Children's Christmas Pageant. What joy it

was to be blessed by our childrens' drama, reminding us that "Jesus Saves".

As Christmas Eve approaches, even more blessings are before us.

At 3 :00 p.m. our service will be for the young and young-at-heart: Stephanie Harmon's "Message on Flannel" and our mission offering to Heifer Project International will be for any and all.

At 5:00 p.m. our youth-led service with candlelight and favorite carols, with offerings to the One Life Revolution program (see Allen's Youth News column, page 2).

At 8:00 p.m. our service of scripture, message, carols, and candlelight with offerings to our remaining mission-based apportionments.

At 11:00 p.m. we will have a service of lessons, carols and holy communion with offerings to the same as at 8:00 p.m.

There will be guitars, bells, choirs, lots of caroling and that most important reading of the birth narrative from Matthew and Luke.

On Christmas Sunday morn we worship at 9:30 a.m. only -- no Sunday School -- with our choir, carols and communion.

On Sunday, January 1, we again worship with holy communion at one 9:30 a.m. service.

Since this is our last newsletter for 2005, I wish to say "God bless you", "Merry Christmas", and to give thanks for God's never-ending blessings in 2005. We are so fortunate to live as we do with so much readily at hand. God's inimitable blessings abound around us in this season of the year and throughout our everyday lives.

Thank you God for 2005; for family, friends, co-workers for Christ, our health, for faith, for your love and blessings. May we better serve you as your disciples and believers in 2006.

See you 'round the kingdom,

*Scott Penrod*

**Don't forget : the church office will be closed all day Monday December 26th, and all day Monday, January 2nd for the two holidays. There will be no activities in the church on those two days. The office will re-open on Tuesday.**

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