

# *A Tapp At The Dooth*

T A P P U N I T E D M E T H O D I S T C H U R C H



## F R O M T H E P A S T O R

### “Christmas Memories”

One of my most cherished Christmas memories is Christmas of 1987. This was the last Christmas that I had with both of my parents. Daddy was sick with cancer, and we felt like it would be our last Christmas together. In one aspect, it was a very solemn time. But on the other hand, it was a blessing. It was the year that I got two of my best Christmas presents ever; a firm handshake from Daddy, and a hug from Mother. There wasn't a lot of laughter or smiles that year, but we all were reminded of what Christmas is truly all about; Christ.

I am still blessed today by the wonderful memory I have of that Christmas. Even though Daddy didn't feel well, he still had his sense of humor. I didn't have a clue as to what he wanted for Christmas that year, and as you will see, I am not a very good shopper. I couldn't give him a miracle, so I gave him a box of bullets and a pair of jogging pants. We always hunted together; that's where the bullets come in, and he needed a comfortable pair of pants to wear around the house; thus the jogging pants. He looked at both of them really funny, looked up at me, and said "What do you think I want to do? Jump and shoot?" I couldn't help but laugh! Daddy could be so funny! It was all such a blessing.

Even though my parents have both gone to heaven, they continue to bless me each and every day because of the most wonderful gift that my parents ever gave me. On Sunday May 24th, 1964, when I was one year old, my parents took me before God, my family, and friends at St. Andrew UMC in Mt. Pleasant, and had me baptized. It wasn't a box of bullets, a pair of jogging pants, a car, or anything else that some might say would be a really awesome gift. It was the best gift that I could have been given; a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Every Christmas I have ever had has been a blessing, and I am really looking forward to celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with my Tapp UMC family this year! I am also looking forward to this year's challenge to all of us to put Christ back into Christmas! Let's put Christ back into Christmas by giving just as much to Christ on His birthday as we spend on Christmas!

Do not let this challenge stop you from enjoying Christmas! For those who love to hunt, buy those bullets! For those who need some relaxing clothes to wear around the house, I suggest jogging pants! And when that shopping list has been completed, spend just as much money on Jesus! You can do this by giving money so a kid can go to church camp! Or by giving money so the hungry can be fed! Or by giving money so that a wheelchair ramp can be built! Or by giving money to Christ's Holy Church! I promise that you will be blessed!

Here are a few blessings God has given to me, and I would like to pass them along to you! Hug those whom you love, give a firm handshake to those who don't hug, count your blessings, and put Christ back into Christmas! In doing so, you will make some Christmas memories that you will never forget! I am praying that we all begin some new Christmas traditions that put the focus of Christmas back on Christ! I am praying that all of us have a Merry Christmas! God bless!

In Christian love;  
Rev Tommy Earl Burton

## PRAYER LIST

Mylee Chiles	Nathan Hill	Abby Weeks	LaVerne Stubbs
Joy Allen	Jimmy Jones	Mary Higgins	Pat Pinkham
Vivian & Joy Long	Huley Russell	Ernie Abbot	Chloe Cox
JD Spears	Laney & David Konecny	Diane Hayden	Belyn Graves
Charles Bibile	Dusty Roan	Pat Wood	Melba Saatkamp
Linda & Troy Woodruff	Arnold Barfield Jr.	Conner Sides	Paul Burkhalter
Donald Duffer	Joel Looney	Patrick Papp	Mark Morgan
William Stone	Hazel Heinrichs	Jimmy Drennan	Mike Harmon
Bud Young	Dianna Melton	Tommy Deaton	Jessica Bergin
Jacob Mills	Andrea Liles	Arnold Barfield III	Cathron Hudspeth
Jett Osburn	Frank & Glennis Boutwell	Juanell Cagle	Jean Old
Kayla & John Agan	Pat Neely	Janis Rooks	Rev. Lani Rousseau
Merwin Turner	Dick Manning	Jim Barling	Etta Williams
Twila Knosby	Bobbie Coburn	The Family of Billie Barrett	Laurice Montgomery
Freda Hodgson			



There is still time to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone you love. These will be used to decorate the sanctuary and then you may take them home with you on Christmas Day. These poinsettias were purchased from the New Boston Band. The price is \$15.00 and we still have some left to be purchased. There are envelopes on the table in the entrance or you can call Kathy to reserve your poinsettia.

**Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”**

**Luke 2:13-14**

## CHILDREN'S NEWS



We have lots going on in the month of December! Our Mini Methodists will be meeting :  
 November 30th  
 December 7th  
 December 9th– dress rehearsal for Christmas Program 6:00-7:00 PM  
 December 11th– Christmas Program during morning worship service  
 December 14th– regular after school program and this will be our Christmas Party  
 December 21st–no M&M's  
 December 28th– no M&M's

Each Sunday, we have Sunday School for children age infant through 5th Grade. This begins at 9:15 AM. We are using a great curriculum and have lots of volunteers for teachers. Our teachers rotate and teach two Sundays every 8 weeks. This has provided a great program for our children and has given many adults the opportunity to participate in our Children's Program. Wednesday afternoon M&M's is a great success. We are having 45-50 children participate in this program. Great things are happening with our children!!!

[WWW.TAPPUMC.NET](http://WWW.TAPPUMC.NET)

*For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

*Isaiah 9:6*



### UPWARD BASKETBALL

It's that time of year again– Tapp UMC will hear balls bouncing, children laughing, and parents and cheerleaders cheering! December 3rd will be the last day for early registration which is \$75. After the 3rd, the cost will be \$85. Deadline for all registration is December 24th. Brochures are available at the church and at the schools. Tim Graham is so graciously taking on this task again this year, but will need lots of help from our community and church family. Please contact Tim @ 903-277-2345 or Kathy @ 903-628-2381 for information about volunteering . The Upward Experience will teach athletes to Rise Up and grow mentally, athletically, spiritually, and socially. They are encouraged to have fun, develop skills, play hard, and play in such a way that others take notice.



TAPP UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

**Tapp**

715 South McCoy Blvd.  
New Boston, Texas 75570

Phone: 903-628-2381  
Fax: 903-628-4421  
Web: [www.TappUMC.net](http://www.TappUMC.net)



## DECEMBER EVENTS AT TAPP

**December 4– Holy Communion**

**December 11– Children’s Program during worship service**

**December 18– Regular Service Times 9:15 AM Sunday School**

**10:30 AM Worship Service**

**6:00 PM Blue Christmas-Healing Service**

**December 24– Christmas Eve Service @ 3:00 PM**

**Christmas Eve Service @ 6:00 PM**

**December 25– No Sunday School– Fellowship from 9:15– 10:30 donuts, coffee,  
in the fellowship hall**

**10:30 AM– Worship Service & Holy Communion**