

Decker United Methodist Church
8304 Decker Lane, Austin

**Fourth Annual
Living Nativity & Petting Zoo
Friday, December 16 &
Saturday, December 17
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

Join us in remembrance that
“Jesus is the reason for the
season!”

Plan to experience the event with
us this year! Make it an annual
family event! Yes, we’re all in a
hurry at this time of year. But
this peaceful scene – a replica of
the stable and animals around the
Holy family – is worth taking the
time to drive out of your way, to
slow down from the busyness,
and to meditate on the real
meaning of Christmas.

The Christmas story according to
the Gospel of Luke will be read
periodically throughout the
evening, in the presence of the
Holy scene. Children and the
young-at-heart can enjoy the
friendly animals.

The Sanctuary will be open for
all to enjoy its historic splendor!
The Holiday spirit and music
will add to the experience.
Refreshments will be served in
the Fellowship Hall.

Make this a special holiday treat
worth the time and experience,
amid the hustle and bustle that
has come to surround this Holy
season!

Tell your family and friends, too!



The Decker Disciple

Christmas 2011 – Special Insert

Christmas Party: Decker United Methodist Women are hosting the church-wide Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 14th, arrive between 6:30-7:00. Bring finger-foods, a wrapped gift (value up to \$10) for the unique gift exchange, and socks for Oakcrest Manor Nursing Home.

Poinsettias: Again this year, 25 poinsettias will be available for adoption, in honor or in memory of someone important in your life. A contribution of \$10 is requested. The bulletin insert on Sunday, December 18, will list all the names. The adopted poinsettias may be taken home after the Christmas Eve service or the following Christmas Day Sunday. Contact Mary Lou Ellison if you are interested in adopting a poinsettia this year.

Living Nativity & Petting Zoo: Information about this event and photos from last year's Living Nativity are shown on the reverse side of this insert. "Holy Family" shifts will be Friday, December 16, and Saturday, December 17 – 1 hour per shift, 6-7 p.m. or 7-8 p.m. Ideally, each shift will have 5 members – Mary, Joseph, Angel, and two Shepherds. Costumes and baby "Jesus" will be provided. A sign-up sheet will be at the church, if you would like to volunteer for a shift. See Pastor Cameron Burton or Lay Leader Grace Kramer if you have questions.

Christmas Program: Pastor Cam and Music Director Don Duffy will have Decker UMC's annual Christmas program on Sunday, December 18, during morning worship beginning at 10:30 a.m. Please join us as we enjoy singing Christmas carols together.

Parsonage Open House: Immediately following worship service on Sunday, December 19, Pastor Cam will host an Open House at the parsonage. Please join us for fellowship and food as Pastor Cam opens his home to the Decker congregation.

Christmas Caroling: Don and the choir would like to invite everyone to join us this year for our annual Christmas caroling. We are going caroling following the worship service and the parsonage open house on Sunday, December 18. We have a few homes on the list to visit. If you know of someone that is homebound and someone who would like to hear some Christmas songs, please let Don or Mary Lou know. We'll need the address and/or directions to their homes. Please join us as we enjoy the fun of spreading the Christmas spirit through music.

Christmas Eve: A Christmas Eve candlelight service will be held in the sanctuary on Saturday, December 24, 6:30 p.m. Please join us for "Lesson and Carols" while we sing and celebrate the birth of Jesus. [Note: The regular worship service will be held on Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25.]