

Monroe United Methodist Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are coming to the end of another year. We are experiencing the end of 2017 and looking towards the beginning of 2018. We look back at 2017 for others and for ourselves. I thought about this and realized that a year has a life span too. It has a birth, a middle and a death.

Today, I want to ask you what you did with your life this past year and what changes are you going to make for the year to come? We are a people who make New Year's resolutions for the coming year. So, what were your resolutions for 2017? How long did they last? What are your resolutions for 2018? How are we going to treat them?

Today I thought it might be a good idea to look at some resolutions we can make to God. Maybe we should recommit to Him spiritually. I guess a good place to start would be by example. The believers in the ancient churches formed a community. Acts 2:42-47 says *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."*

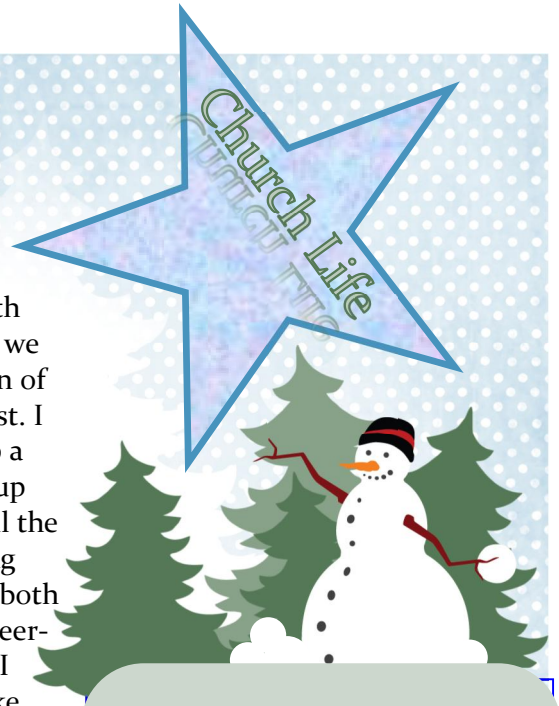
I pray in 2018 our church will con-

centrate on teaching and fellowship and sharing meals together at Community Table with great joy and generosity. I pray we will make prayer the foundation of who we are as the body of Christ. I pray that we will make worship a priority in our hearts and step up our attendance each Sunday, all the while praising God and enjoying His presence. I pray our giving both monetarily and through volunteerism will increase considerably. I pray our mission will be to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. because of the early church's attitude, the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

The old year is dead and gone. It's the beginning of a new year and is filled with new challenges We need to start the new year off right. We need to start spending time with God every day by reading His word and taking the time to spend with Him in prayer. We need to start a new life in Christ. It will fill us with love and hope.

How are you going to spend the new year? How are you going to live it? What commitments/resolutions are you going to make? How long will you keep them? Are you going to change your mistakes or continue to live the way you have been? Is this going to be the year you give yourself completely to God, the one who gave His life for you? Or will it be just another resolution that falls by the wayside? I pray this will be a new year of transformation for all of us!

Happy New Year,! Pastor Kim



January 2018

Issue 1

In This Issue:
Coming Up
A Look Back
Birthdays & Anniversaries
January Scripture
Readings

Please notify the church office or Pastor Kim if a family member is taken to the hospital, has passed away or for any other prayer concerns. Pastor Kim's email is hawkJoy52@yahoo.com, his cell is (402) 679-2655



The Monroe United Methodist Church Dance



In trying to understand the Trinity of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, various illustrations have been used. One is of water. Water occurs as a liquid, ice, and vapor; giving a pictorial of the three in one. One explanation that comes from the DVD, "Nail 32" uses Styrofoam cups with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit written on individual cups. Each has a job to do. Yet, they are the same. You can stack them together, lift the cup up, giving our all to God. Unlike humans who want to place people in order of influence, there is no hierarchy of one being superior in the Trinity. Another picture of Trinity uses circles. Each circle is the same size and intersect in the middle. Appropriately, we dance in the middle. It supports that we chose to make God the center of our lives. Rather than thinking that God gives us work to do, we know that God wants to have a relationship with us more than anything. What can we expect? Many blessings and abundant life that seems like playing with God. As individuals and as a church, we are constantly in motion. It is well to look at what we have accomplished as MUMC in 2017. It seems like the women of our church

have always been champions for mission. Helping with "Bibles For Mission" has been a worthy cause. We have members active in the PCM Food Pantry participating in management, stocking, and food distribution to help the needy in our community. Members have used their talents, making knitted caps for babies, dresses, clothing for boys, pads, etc. trying to meet needs around the world. Members have participated in building school kits. It helps to be united. Because we are a connectional church, we are involved in more projects than we might be aware of. About 20 years, ago there was a P.E.T. at the Fall Ingathering in Greenfield. Just as Pete Verhey came and spoke about this project in Leighton, Iowa, a speaker who was doing P.E.T. in Missouri spoke. As a united church we have been involved in this mobility project since 1994. "The right hand does not know what the left hand is doing." In this motion or dance as we close this year as "Christian soldiers", we will continue making disciples for the transforming of the world. Merry Christmas! Have a blessed New Year!
Stewardship and Discipleship Committee



Wednesday January 17, 5:00

The January UMW meeting is Call to Prayer and Self Denial. The meeting will be held Friday January 12 at 1:30. Patty Duinink will present the program. The hostesses are Marcy Romick and Donna Van Veen.

We would like to thank all of you for making this year's Turkey Supper a big success -- whether it was donating pies, giving a money donation, doing calling, or working before, or the day and night of the Supper. Remember it takes everyone and all of you were so willing to help us.

---The Turkey Supper Committee

Thank You!

Ad Council meets Wednesday night, January 10 at 7:00. If you have anything to add to the agenda please have it in to the office as soon as possible.



May—First
Responder
Appreciation Supper

A Look Back
2017
In Pictures




2017



2018

Church Wide:

- Annual Ice Cream Social in June
 - Annual Turkey Supper in November on Election Night
 - Installed new Pew Cushions in November with Undesignated Memorial Money and Contributions from Members
- 



Membership & Evangelism Committee:

- We actively work on our Membership Records
- We furnish Visitor Mugs for our town Welcome Wagon as well as our church
- Keep a current Prayer Chain list
- We have set up a current schedule for Visitation of our Nursing/ Retirement Homes and Shut-Ins

United Methodist Women (UMW):

- Annual Birthday Luncheon in February with Steve Knight presenting the program
- Toured the Food Pantry at the Monroe Presbyterian Church in March
- April we had the Mother/Daughter Tea
- In June we toured the Historical Village in Pella
- In September we had our Annual United Methodist Women/Men Pot luck with speakers on missions they had visited
- In October we had our Annual Fall Bazaar with record turnout
- In November we assembled Student/Military Boxes to be mailed out
- In December we had our District Friend, Carol Ann Davis, with us. This is the meeting we distribute money to various missions around our area.

What a blessing 2017 has been for me!

First I am thankful for the MUMC family for giving me the opportunity to serve you. I have enjoyed meeting everyone (and I am getting better at names!). I have also enjoyed making things 'my own', fine tuning some things and always exploring new ways. Your feedback has been so positive! I have worked on trying to keep a constant presence on social media, making sure to have at least one post a day on Facebook and let everyone know of upcoming events. This helps keep the MUMC in front of people. We are up to 203 followers! So invite your friends and family to follow us too! And the addition of a website has been great. We get hits (people look at it) every day! I look forward to making more improvements to it in the coming year. But remember, the Facebook page and website are YOURS, so any ideas, suggestions or additions are always welcome.

On the family side, we love the addition of our new-to-us camper and can't wait to use it this year. Patrick loves school and we are so blessed to have him in the Newton Christian School. My dad's time in the hospital was stressful, but he is 'all better' and doing just fine. The loss of Dave's dad was quite shocking for the whole family but we are blessed to know he is with Jesus in Heaven.

Whatever 2018 holds, may we all seek God's blessings, praise him for the grace he offers us and look to him for guidance and strength in the difficult time. God is Good! *Ragla*



JOIN US

The United Methodist Women (UMW) would like to extend an invitation to any women of the church to become a member of our UMW. We have lots of interesting programs and worthwhile projects to benefit our church.

- 3 RaeAnn Duinink
- 4 Kacie Schakel
- 5 Cathy Holdsworth
- 6 Jim Phillips
- 7 Claude & Melba Brummett
- 9 Glenda Wing
Marty Lewis
- 10 Stacy Hupfeld
Don Kuening
- 11 Carl Steenhoek
- 15 Jennifer Terpstra
Shelby Palm
- 16 Taryn Lemke
- 21 Breyten Beckjorden

- 24 Melissa Van Der Hart
- 25 Shirley Baker
Allision Marcum
- 28 Ashlyn Breckenridge
- 29 Alisa Romick
Roger & Bonnie Nolin
- 30 Jeanne Van Genderen



Thanks to everyone who helps our church, enabling us to have a wonderful worship experience! If you are unable to make a scheduled function please find a replacement or contact the office!

Scripture Readings

New Year's Day

Old Testament Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
New Testament Revelation 1:1-6a
Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

Week Of January 7

Old Testament Genesis 1:1-5
New Testament Acts 19:1-7
Gospel Mark 1:4-11

Week of January 14

Old Testament 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 11-20
New Testament 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Gospel John 1:43-51

Usher/Greeters

January 7 & 14

Robert Timmins,

Glen Duinink

January 21 & 28

Dave & Phyllis Miller

Hospitality

January 28

Donna Van Veen

Liturgist and Communion helpers to be announced.

Week of January 21

Old Testament Jonah 3:1-5, 10
New Testament 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Gospel Matthew 1:14-20

Week of January 28

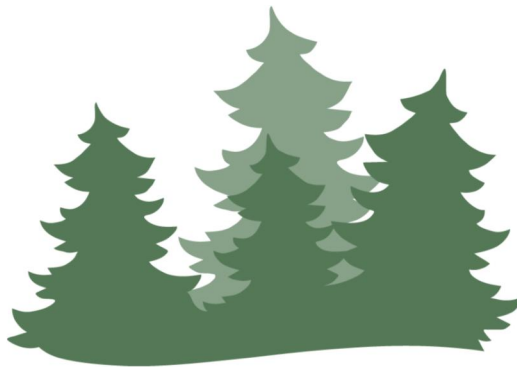
Old Testament Deuteronomy 18:15-20
New Testament 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Gospel Mark 1:21-28



January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9:00 MOMs	4	5	6
7 3:30 –7:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 4-H	8	9 9:00 Bible Study 6:30-7:30 CS Leader Mtg.	10 7:00 Ad Council	11	12 1:30 UMW General Mtg	13
14 3:30—7:30 Cub Scouts	15	16 9:00 Bible Study	17 5:00 Community Table	18	19	20
21 3:30—7:30 Cub Scouts	22	23 9:00 Bible Study	24	25	26	27
28 3:30—7:30 Cub Scouts	29 CS Pinewood Derby Baptist Church	30 9:00 Bible Study	31			

Service Times
Jubilee Service
8:15 a.m.
Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Worship Service
10:15 a.m.



We have hearing devices and large print Bibles and hymnals available. Contact an usher if you are in need

Monroe United Methodist Church

Pastor Kim Crummer

Pastor's Cell

(402) 679-2653

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Church Office Phone

(641) 259-2822



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