



JOY TO THE WORLD

***O Word of God Incarnate,  
O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging,  
O Light of our dark sky!  
We praise Thee for the radlance  
that from the hallowed page,  
a lantern to our footsteps,  
shlnes on from age to age.***

***- William Walsham How (1867)***

***Dear Friends,***

***With Joy I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This year the Lord is stirring us to seek much more of him. He is stirring us for REVIVAL! As Jesus gave himself for us, let us give ourselves completely to receive more of Him.***

***When the Apostle John speaks of the Word of God at the beginning of his gospel, he is talking about Jesus! "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1). Jesus is the Word of God made into human flesh. That is the meaning of "Incarnation." The Scriptures says, "The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven." (Hebrews 1:3).***

***As God entering the world to become one of us, Jesus has taken upon himself our human nature that we might become partakers in God's nature. Isaiah prophesied, "On this mountain [the Lord] will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations" (Isaiah 25:7 nrv). Isaiah was referring to the passion of Christ on the mountain of Jerusalem. There, the Lord Jesus destroyed the shroud of death that was upon all peoples by taking sin and death on himself on the cross and conquering the grave in the Resurrection. He is the reason for our hope as believers, our confidence in God's grace, our joy of living in God's forgiveness, our assurance as God's children, our receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, our confidence in eternal life. For those who trust in him, Jesus turns despair to hope, darkness to light, mourning to joy, weeping to laughter, the spirit of heaviness for a garment of praise, woundedness to healing, death to life!***

***As Jesus is the Living Word of God, the Scripture is the Written Word of God, which the Holy Spirit inspired and helps us understand. "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). As we seek earnestly for more of the Lord Jesus this year, let us make His name and his Word more important than anything else in our lives. With the help of the Spirit, let us search the Holy Scriptures regularly. As a church, let us join in studying and applying the Bible daily together through this coming year, so that we might become better disciples of Jesus. As he said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32). How awesome to anticipate moving into more of the freedom of God through the Word of our Lord Jesus Christ!***

***May the Lord bless you richly as you seek him in the coming year!***

***Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! In Christ's love, Pastor Chris Fisher***

## The Pastor's Pen

By Rev. Dr. Christopher Fisher  
**Through the Bible in a  
Year: Studying Scripture  
Together**



Jesus' disciples learn his teachings and put them into practice. You cannot do that without studying the Scriptures. To help us become better disciples, let's make this our year to read through the Bible together as a Church. This is in keeping with our work on the discipleship plan. As pastor, I am recommending we all use the M'Cheyne Daily Bible Reading Plan. Then we are all studying Scriptures in the same order and the preaching can be informed by our common study at home.

The M'Cheyne Plan was created by Rev. Robert Murray M'Cheyne of Dundee, Scotland in 1842 for his congregation, St. Peter's Church. I have copied some of his instructions later in the newsletter for your edification, along with an insert of the daily readings. I think you'll appreciate his instructions. For instance, he recommends half the readings each day be done together with the family, and the other half be done privately by each member. This allows for some common family discussion and also for some personal private time with God.

As for which Bible to read: find a translation you can understand. If you are not sure, I recommend the NIV, ESV, or CEV (New International Version, English Standard Version, or Contemporary English Version). The NIV is written at a 7<sup>th</sup> grade reading level, the ESV at a 10<sup>th</sup> grade reading level, and the CEV at a 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading level. I enjoy all three. Other good translations are also out there. For more information on the M'Cheyne Plan, you can follow the links at the end of his explanatory notes.

I anticipate preaching on discipleship and current cultural challenges during Winter-Spring 2019. Since our culture shares a lot in common with the Greek culture of the early Church, I will be preaching out of 1 Corinthians up through Easter. I anticipate covering various current hot topics, from what is happening in our denomination, to understanding how Scripture relates to current worldly wisdom, to understanding and responding to aspects of the sexual revolution, to immigration, to the role and gifts of the Holy Spirit, to how to live with and witness to folks in a surrounding non-Christian culture. Some of the messages will be controversial, but with God's help I will try to keep them G - rated.

MAKING  
DISCIPLES  
How did Jesus do it?

\*\* Image from <http://www.smallgroupcentral.org.uk>

## The Schedule for Creating our Church's new Discipleship Plan

We are ready to create a new disciple-making process to govern the life of the church. The Fall Small Group Campaign has concluded, and the Administrative Board has approved a schedule for the next steps. The Discipleship Plan will be created during seven consecutive Wednesday nights in January and February 2019. There is room for a snow cancellation. Here is the schedule for these 7 evenings:

### 1) Stage 1: Three Wednesdays: Jan 9, 16, 23:

The entire congregation is invited on these three nights to participate in planning sessions designed to give input on the meaning of discipleship, our current ministry and visioning for the future.

#### Jan 9 Schedule:

- 5:45 – 6:30 Supper
  - Meal Catered by LoDuca's
  - Volunteers for clean-up and tearing down of tables each night needed
- 6:45 – 8:15 Program
  - The Evening's Theme: **Defining Christian Discipleship**

#### January 16

- 5:45 – 6:30 Supper
- 6:45 – 8:15 Program
  - Meal: Redner's chicken and sides
  - The Evening's Theme: **How should we make disciples at First UMC?**

#### January 23

- 5:45 – 6:30 Supper
  - Meal (fund raiser) provided by the Puerto Rico Missions team (spaghetti dinner)
- 6:45 – 8:15 Program
  - The Evening's Theme: **Evaluating our Ministry in light of our Mission. Discipleship for Specialized areas (children, youth, families, the non-churched, etc.).**

2) Stage 2: Four Wednesdays: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, 20:  
Administrative Board members will gather to process the findings of Stage 1 and create a concise Discipleship Plan with help from Small Group Campaign participants.

#### January 30

- 5:45 – 6:30 Supper
  - Potluck supper
- 6:45 – 8:15 Program
  - The Evening's Theme: **Creating a Draft Discipleship Plan**

#### February 6

- 5:45 – 6:30 Supper
  - Potluck supper
- 6:45 – 8:15 Program
  - The Evening's Theme: **Refining the Draft Discipleship Plan**

#### February 13

- 5:45 – 6:30 Supper
  - Potluck supper
- 6:45 – 8:15 Program
  - The Evening's Theme: **Specific Ministries II**

#### February 20

- 5:45 – 6:30 Supper
  - Meal (fund raiser) provided by the Puerto Rico Mission Team: a night of PR-Style Spanish food
- 6:45 – 8:15 Program
  - The Evening's Theme: **TBD**

#### 3) Stage 3: Late February:

The Lay Leadership Committee will collate the results of the work and prepare a draft plan for Administrative Board. The Draft Plan will be presented to the entire congregation for comment.

#### 4) Stage 4: March 4, 2019:

The Administrative Board will meet on March 4 in open session to invite direct comments and suggestions from the entire congregation on the Draft Plan

#### 5) Final Approval of The Plan.

Ad Board will amend and finalize the Discipleship Plan which will become the operational mission guide & policy of First UMC. The time table for this will be determined in March.

#### Planning Process Notes:

- Childcare will be offered on Wednesday nights.

- Prayer meeting will move to Sunday and Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm (two options each week).
- Most regularly scheduled administrative meetings will be suspended during January and February to devote our full energy to creating the Plan. Only Trustees must meet for annual elections.
- The entire congregation will be impacted by the plan, so our church leadership is soliciting input from the entire congregation at both the front and back ends of the process.
- PLEASE PRAY!!! PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!



### CALL TO PRAYER

This is an exciting time as the Lord is leading us towards revival. Please pray daily for the church-wide discipleship planning process. We are seeking to be of one heart and mind in the Lord to do our part in fulfilling the Great Commission.

United Methodist Denominational Leaders have also called all churches and all members to be in prayer and fasting for the Special General Conference meeting in St. Louis on February 23-26. Please join us in praying and fasting for God's will every Thursday after supper until Friday at 3:00 pm (generally skipping two meals) as you are able!

#### Prayer Team Schedule: January-February 2019

See the bulletin for details of who is praying each week



### Our Communion Offerings

January 6: *Pastor's Discretionary Fund*

February 3: *Pastor's Discretionary Fund*



### Worship & Preaching Schedule January – February 2019

*Sunday Worship: 8:00 & 10:45 AM*

*Saturday Worship: 6:00 PM*

*Events and Themes*

**Theme: "1 Corinthians:  
Discipleship in Modern Culture"**

*Dr. Fisher preaching unless otherwise noted*

**Jan 6: Epiphany Sunday**  
*With Holy Communion & Covenant Renewal Service*  
**Message: "Renewing the Covenant"**

**Jan 13: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

**Message: Introducing 1 Corinthians**

**Jan 20:** *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany*  
*Sanctity of Human Life Sunday*  
*Guest Missions Presentation by Real Options*  
*(Formerly CareNet Pregnancy Center)*  
**Message: "The Wisdom of the World vs. the Wisdom of God"**

**Jan 27:** *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany*  
**Message: Discipline in the Church**

**Feb 3:** *4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany*  
*Holy Communion Sunday*  
**Message: Healing in the wake of the Revolution**

**Feb 10:** *5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany*  
**Message: The Problem of Immorality**

**Feb 17:** *6<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany*  
**Message: Aliens, Strangers and Immigrants**

**Feb 24:** *7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany*  
**Message: TBA**



**The M'Cheyne Plan for  
Through the Bible in a Year**

Rev. Robert Murray M'Cheyne of St. Peter's Church in Dundee, Scotland created a Scripture-reading plan in 1842 to help his congregation read through the Bible in a year. His instructions are printed below.<sup>1</sup> For more information about the M'Cheyne Daily Bible Reading Plan, follow these links:

- A. <https://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf>
- B. <https://static.crossway.org/excerpt/reading-plan/3-esv-mcheyne-reading-plan.1.pdf>

**DAILY BREAD**

**BEING A CALENDAR FOR READING  
THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD IN A YEAR**

"Thy Word is very pure; therefore Thy servant loveth it."

MY DEAR FLOCK, -- The approach of another year stirs up within me new desires for your salvation, and for the growth of those of you who are saved. "God is my record how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ." What the coming year is to bring forth who can tell? There is plainly a weight lying on the spirits of all good men, and a looking for some strange work of judgment upon this land. There is a need now to ask that solemn question -- "If in the

land of peace wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?" Those believers will stand firmest who have no dependence upon self or upon creatures, but upon Jehovah our Righteousness. We must be driven more to our Bibles, and to the mercy-seat, if we are to stand in the evil day. Then we shall be able to say, like David -- "The proud have had me greatly in derision, yet have I not declined from Thy law." "Princes have persecuted me without a cause, but my heart standeth in awe of Thy word."

It has long been in my mind to prepare a scheme of Scripture reading, in which as many as were made willing by God might agree, so that the whole Bible might be read once by you in the year, and all might be feeding in the same portion of the green pasture at the same time.

I am quite aware that such a plan is accompanied with many

**DANGERS.**

(1.) Formality. -- We are such weak creatures that any regularly returning duty is apt to degenerate into a lifeless form. The tendency of reading the Word by a fixed rule may, in some minds, be to create this skeleton religion. This is to be the peculiar sin of the last days -- "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof." Guard against this. Let the calendar perish rather than this rust eat up your souls.

(2.) Self-righteousness. -- Some, when they have devoted their set time to reading of the Word, and accomplished their prescribed portion, may be tempted to look at themselves with self-complacency. Many, I am persuaded, are living without any Divine work on their soul -- unpardoned and unsanctified, and ready to perish -- who spend their appointed times in secret and family devotion. This is going to hell with a lie in their right hand.

(3.) Careless reading. -- Few tremble at the Word of God. Few, in reading it, hear the voice of Jehovah, which is full of majesty. Some, by having so large a portion, may be tempted to weary of it, as Israel did of the daily manna, saying -- "Our soul loatheth this light bread;" and to read it in a slight and careless manner. This would be fearfully provoking to God. Take heed lest that word be true of you -- "Ye said, also, Behold what a weariness is it! and ye have snuffed at it, saith the Lord of Hosts."

<sup>1</sup> Acknowledgements: This information was compiled by David Haslam (2000): <https://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf>.

(4.) A yoke too heavy to bear. Some may engage in reading with alacrity for a time, and afterwards feel it a burden, grievous to be borne. They may find conscience dragging them through the appointed task without any relish of the heavenly food. If this be the case with any, throw aside the fetter, and feed at liberty in the sweet garden of God. My desire is not to cast a snare upon you, but to be a helper of your joy.

If there be so many dangers, why propose such a scheme at all? To this I answer, that the best things are accompanied with danger, as the fairest flowers are often gathered in the clefts of some dangerous precipice. Let us weigh

#### **THE ADVANTAGES.**

(1.) The whole Bible will be read through in an orderly manner in the course of a year. – The Old Testament once, the New Testament and Psalms twice. I fear many of you never read the whole Bible; and yet it is all equally Divine, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect.” If we pass over some parts of Scripture, we shall be incomplete Christians.

(2.) Time will not be wasted in choosing what portions to read. Often believers are at a loss to determine towards which part of the mountains of spices they should bend their steps. Here the question will be solved at once in a very simple manner.

(3.) Parents will have a regular subject upon which to examine their children and servants. – It is much to be desired that family worship were made more instructive than it generally is. The mere reading of the chapter is often too like water spilt on the ground. Let it be read by every member of the family before-hand, and then the meaning and application drawn out by simple question and answer. The calendar will be helpful in this. Friends, also, when they meet, will have a subject for profitable conversation in the portions read that day. The meaning of difficult passages may be inquired from the more judicious and ripe Christians, and the fragrance of simpler Scriptures spread abroad.

(4.) The pastor will know in what part of the pasture the flock are feeding. – He will thus be enabled to speak more suitably to them on the Sabbath; and both pastor and elders will be able to drop a word of light and comfort in visiting from house to house, which will be more readily responded to.

(5.) The sweet bond of Christian love and unity will be strengthened. – We shall be often led to think of those dear brothers and sisters in the Lord, here and elsewhere, who agree to join with us in reading those portions. We shall oftener be led to agree on earth, touching something we shall ask of God. We shall pray over the same promises, mourn over the same confessions, praise God in the same songs, and be nourished by the same words of eternal life.

- *Rev. Robert Murray M'Cheyne. December 1842*



### **CHURCH PRAYER MINISTRY UPDATES**

*Wednesday Prayer Meeting MOVED during January and February:* We are moving the weekly prayer meeting to Sunday nights at 6:00 pm and adding another prayer meeting on Tuesday nights at 6:00 pm during January and February. The purpose of this move is to free the Wednesdays of these two months for the church-wide Discipleship planning process.

#### *Prayer Focus for November and December*

- 1) Please continue praying for our church-wide Discipleship Planning Process. Pray for the Wednesday night meetings. Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead us as we prepare for the future.
- 2) Pray for more of the Kingdom of God in our midst.
- 3) Pray for the lost, those who do not know God, those who are his enemies, those he came to save.
- 4) Pray for the United Methodist Church, and especially for the Special Session of General Conference meeting in St. Louis in late February
- 5) Pray for the Wesley Covenant Association.

*Weekly prayer team ministry continues.* Please sign up in pairs to pray for one hour a day during your week, for the Kingdom of God to come more fully in our church and our community and beyond. We will continue to promote the prayer team ministry on Sunday mornings, with the prayer clipboard circulated periodically.

*Do you have a testimony to share with the congregation?* Has the Lord done something special in your life recently? You might have a testimony to share and be a blessing to the congregation. It is exciting to hear what God is doing in our midst! Please let Dr. Fisher know if you want to share.

# Christian Education & Discipleship News

## CALENDAR of Events

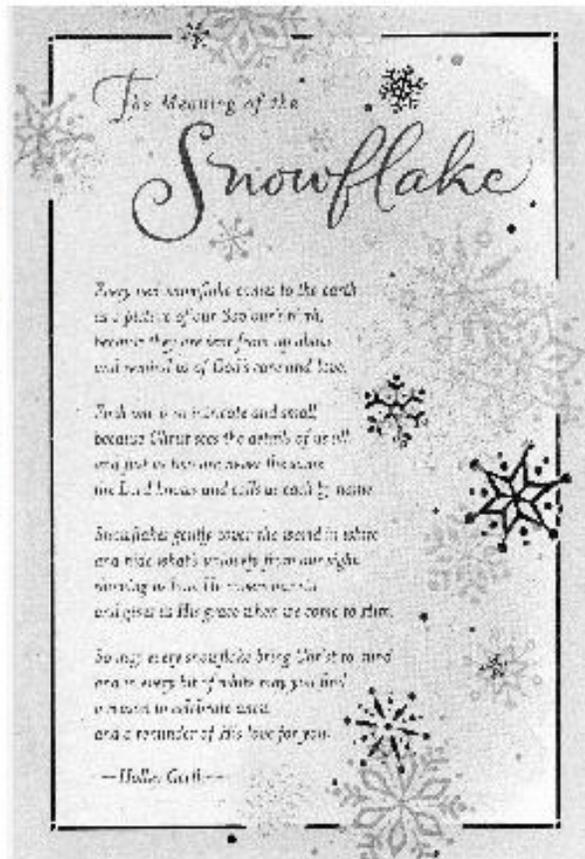
January 6th  
Sunday school &  
LifeGroups (small groups)  
begin at 9:20 for the winter  
quarter. LifeGroups  
Pastor Fisher will be  
teaching a class for  
Young Adults.

January 27  
Children's Message

February 24  
Children's Message



Lifegroups will  
start up on  
Sunday,  
January 6th.  
Groups will be  
meeting in the  
Cafe,  
Fellowship Hall,  
Room 3, Room  
4, the Library  
and the  
Comfort  
Room. These  
groups will  
continue  
discussing the  
remaining  
chapters of the  
Class Meeting



## Did you know?

One of the greatest predictors of whether or not your children will become life-long disciples of Jesus is whether or not they see their parents actively serving.

If you have been attending a church for more than two years and haven't become active in an area of ministry, the church cannot help you grow. Service helps you grow in your faith.

The best way to tell others about Jesus is to show them Jesus - Be His Hands & Feet in a hurting world!

Source: reThink Group

## Breathe - A 5-Session Study from Priscilla Shiver

*One of the greatest challenges among women in our culture is taking time to cease from all the activities and just breathe. We are in bondage to busyness. We constantly strive to complete the limitless to-do lists that hinder us from experiencing all that God has for us. By neglecting time for tranquility, serenity, and repose, we limit our Christlikeness and miss out on some of God's greatest gifts. In the Old Testament, Sabbath was given to the Israelites as a gift, and it is still a gift to us today. If you are weary, worn out, and exhausted, then the concept of Sabbath will change your life. If you are interested in making room for the Sabbath during the New Year, please contact April Berger. April will be leading this small group on Thursday mornings from 9-10:30 am beginning on January 10th. This study does require the purchase of a book for personal journaling, therefore anyone interested in participating should notify April no later than December 30th.*





JAN. – FEB. 2019

## 2018 in Review

Thank you to all who supported our projects and programs in 2018. You enabled us to make a difference in many lives. We met our pledge to Conference for \$760 for the support of women, children, and youth at our national and international mission sites around the world, sent \$721 for our Thank Offering. We were able to give Servants to All two carloads of clothing and hygiene items, The Vineyard \$100, the Puerto Rico Mission trip \$100 and the Building Fund in honor of Marlin Morgan, a \$50 donation. This was all possible because of your support and our ladies hard work. We also lead two sing-a-longs for the residents and provided gifts and treats at Providence Place in Pine Grove.

## 2019

We don't know what 2019 holds in store for us, but you can be sure that we will be following the will of our church and the Discipline. We do want to continue our mission work, because that is our purpose. Jean

“Don't ask God to guide your footsteps, if you're not willing to move your feet.” Anurag Prakash Ray

We will be moving our feet. Blessings to you all.

### **The Purpose of United Methodist Women**

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

## SEEING EYE PUPPY

Did you know that we have a family attending our services who raise Seeing Eye puppies? Kim Meyers, Kyle Rose and their family raise puppies for the visually impaired. They recently approached the Administrative Board about bringing their puppy to church as part of the puppy's training. Below is a list of frequently asked questions that people have had. If you have any other questions, please spend a little time talking with Kim & Kyle, they would welcome your queries.

### Seeing Eye Puppy<sup>®</sup> FAQ's

#### **What is The Seeing Eye and what do they do?**

The Seeing Eye is the oldest guide dog school in the United States and is located in Morristown, NJ. They have been providing independence and dignity to blind persons since 1929. In their 89 years they have matched more than 17,000 guide dogs with visually impaired blind persons.



#### **As a puppy raiser, what do you do to train the dogs?**

We housebreak the dogs, train them not to bark, not to bite, to stay off furniture, to ride on the floor in the car, and basic commands such as “sit”, “down”, “rest”, and to ignore distractions.

#### **What is the purpose of bringing the dog to worship services?**

Our main job is to socialize the puppies to get them prepared and train them to behave in real-world situations. Some blind people are religious and go to church services like we do so their Seeing Eye Dog should know how to behave in a worship service.

#### **Why can't you leave the dog at home on Sundays as other pet owners do with their dogs?**

It's not that we can't leave the puppy at home, but that the training and experience the puppies gain from attending worship every Sunday is beneficial towards their training and success as a guide dog in the future.

#### **What will the dog do during worship services?**

The dog will lay on the floor at our feet, if not sleeping, quietly resting until the end of the service.

#### **How will you keep the dog from being a distraction during worship?**

As previously stated, typically the dog will not be a distraction and will lay at our feet during worship. People should leave the dog alone during worship so as not to distract it from working. In the event that the dog is getting antsy and is becoming a distraction, we will remove the dog from the service until it has had a chance to calm down, similar to what one would do with a child that is becoming a distraction to the service.

#### **What if someone is afraid of dogs?**

The dogs are always on leash under the control of the puppy raiser. Persons who are afraid of dogs need not have any contact with the dog. Puppy raisers never insist that anyone approach or have contact with the dog. We have found that some persons who were afraid of dogs overcame their fears when they had the chance to see a well-behaved dog in church. Especially when they encountered the dog as a tiny pup.

### **What if someone is allergic to dogs?**

Most dog allergies require direct contact with a dog. That is easily avoided because the dog is always on leash under the control of the puppy.

### **Is the dog housebroken?**

Short answer: Yes. However, if the dog was not housebroken, we, as puppy raisers, are trained to know when and how often our dogs have to go outside and also to pick up on the “cues” they are giving us that tell us they need to go outside.

### **How will the sanctuary carpet be protected?**

If an accident would occur, which is rare, the puppy raiser always carries a “Clean-up kit” which contains paper towels, stain and scent removing spray, and clean-up bags which, when used immediately, will leave no traces of any accident the puppy might have.

### **Is there liability insurance in case the dog hurts someone or damages church property?**

Short answer: Yes. The Seeing Eye provides all puppies with veterinary care, heart worm, and flea and tick medication. All puppies are up to date on all required vaccinations. Puppy raisers are also provided with one-million-dollar liability insurance. In nine years of puppy raising, we have never experienced an incident of a dog biting a person or chewing any church furniture.

### **Will people be allowed to pet the dogs?**

Short answer: Yes. People will be allowed to pet the dog, with our permission, before or after worship services. As previously mentioned, people should not distract the dog during worship services as it is working.

### **How old are the dogs and at what age do you pass them onto the next level trainers?**

At the time of writing this (12/17/18) Maize is 4 months old. We receive all of our puppies at 7 weeks of age and keep them until they are around 12-16 months of age at which point they are returned to The Seeing Eye to be placed with a trainer and begin their formal harness training. If all goes well, the dogs should be out and guiding a blind person at the age of 2 year old.

### **Why would this be a blessing to the congregation?**

Jesus had just then cured many people of diseases, plagues, and evil spirits, and had given sight to many who were blind. And he answered the, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” Luke 7:21-23 NRSV

We are expected to socialize the pups by taking them everywhere we go Puppies are expected to be taken to any places that a blind person might go. That includes restaurants, schools, public transportation, doctor's offices, shopping malls, movie theaters, and, yes, churches. By attending worship services every Sunday, the puppy is learning how to behave during a worship service. If their blind person chooses to go to worship, their guide dog would go as well. Our church would be providing the necessary experience the puppy needs in order to succeed later in its guide dog life.

\*The Seeing Eye is trademark.

## CHURCH FAMILY UPDATE

The following members of our First Church Family are either recovering at home from recent hospital stays or are in local nursing homes. Please remember them in your thoughts and prayers, send a card or visit with them.

### Schuylkill Haven:

Lucille Romberger  
406 May Drive

Carol Shappell  
206 Jefferson St.

Helen & Stuart Sattizhan  
SH High Rise

### Pottsville:

Carl Geary  
1425 Sweet Arrow Lake Road

Marilyn Koch  
Manor Care, room 226

### Tremont:

John & Anna Mease  
113 Washington Street

### Orwigsburg:

Dr. Herb Rubright  
33 Grist Mill Rd.

Carol Wagner  
Seton Manor

Monette Treon  
Pinebrook Personal Care, Room 25

Brian Reading—Minister of Visitation  
570-385-3804  
570-294-0271

Vickie Brink—visitation team member  
570-739-2056

## TRUSTEES WISHLIST

The Trustees have updated their wish list. They would also like to thank all those who have contributed to some of the previous projects. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated by many.

Dishwasher for the kitchen

Additional handicapped parking near the front (main) entrance and office area

Vestibule for the Fellowship Hall entrance nearest the kitchen. One that would mirror the vestibule at the other end of Fellowship Hall.

Basket Ball Court lighting

Shubbery and landscaping for the front and side of the church.

A new Bible Basics class is starting in 2019. We will be using the books The Bible for the Biblically Inept and The Bible from Scratch. This is a good place to start in a small group/class session. We will all be learning about the information in the Bible together. The goal is to help you feel comfortable when moving on to a Bible study or class. Dates and times will be determined based on the availability of the participants. The sessions will be held in my home. Please contact me at 570-385-4818 or [mrsy27@verizon.net](mailto:mrsy27@verizon.net) for more information or to reserve a seat. I look forward to learning with you. Shirley Yenilaitus



### SAVE THE DATE

The Annual Father/Daughter Dance is scheduled for Sunday, February 17, 2019.

We made one change to the event and that is the dance will be starting at 6:00 pm.

There will be more details to follow in January. Keep watch on the weekly bulletins, FUMC website and/or Facebook page.

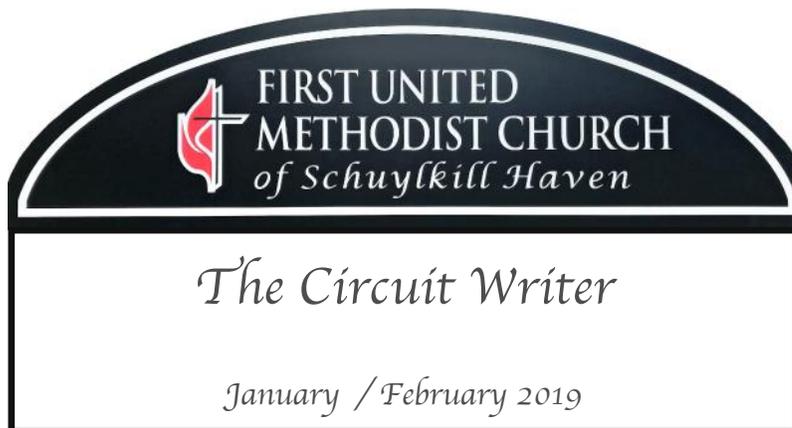
**FUMC's – Youth & Young Adult Main-Events Calendar Winter, Spring, and Summer of 2019\***

<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>APRIL</b>
<p>* During Winter Break, Read Book: <i>Your Life Speaks</i>                      * <b>Decide in prayer and with your parents if you want to join our Mission Trip (YWAM – West Virginia) from June 9-13</b>                      * During the months of January and February, every Wednesday evening, all are welcome to join in our church's discipleship Master Plan meetings                      13 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Games and Food Party; Introduction to our 2019 winter, spring and summer calendar; Pizza + BBQ wings;                      19 – Young Adult Fellowship Meeting (11:30-1:00pm)                      20 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Teaching: Sr. "Your Life Speaks – pt.1" (Rimi); Jr. "Your Life Speaks – pt.1" (Leader)                      22 – Meeting by Appointment (6-7:00pm)                      27 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Teaching: Sr. "Your Life Speaks – pt.2" (Rim); Jr. "Your Life Speaks – pt.2" (Leader)</p>	<p>02 – Meeting by Appointment (6-7:00pm)                      05-06 – <b>Youth Group Meeting Lock-In – Candy-Making Fundraiser</b> (Meet at 7:00pm on Friday; pickup at 12:00pm on Saturday)                      10 – Young Adult Fellowship Meeting (6-7:30pm)                      14 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Nerf Game Night (Anakin and Connor)                      18 – <b>Maundy Thursday Service</b> at FUMC                      21 – <b>No Meeting: Happy Easter</b>                      24 – Meeting by Appointment (6-7:00pm)                      28 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Teaching: Sr. The Authority of Royalty (Rimi); Jr. YouthBytes (Leader)</p>
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<p>[Rimi's vacation sometime in Feb. TBD]                      02 – <b>Saturday Special Youth Meeting (10-12pm)</b>                      Break the Clicks #1/Teaching (Special Snack)                      03 – <b>No Meeting: Super-Bowl Sunday</b>                      05 – Meeting by Appointment (6-7:00pm)                      08-10 – <b>Youth Group Retreat (7<sup>th</sup> + grade): Winter-Blast</b> (Meet in the church's parking lot 6:30pm, pray &amp; depart 6:40; return around 12:30pm on Sunday)                      17 – <b>Father-Daughter Dance</b> (6-8:00pm)                      23 – Young Adult Fellowship Meeting (11:30-1:00pm)                      24 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Teaching: Sr. Real (Valentine) Love (Rimi); Jr. God's Love (Leader)                      26 – Meeting by Appointment (6-7:00pm)</p>	<p>05 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Teaching: Sr. The Assignment of Royalty (Rimi – Prayer); Jr. YouthBytes (Leader)                      08 – Meeting by Appointment (6-7:00pm)                      12 – <b>No Meeting: Happy Mother's Day--Assignment: Do something special for your mother!</b>                      14 – Young Adult Fellowship Meeting (6-7:30pm)                      19 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Elections for the Youth Council 2019-2020                      15 – <b>Mission Trip Prep Meeting</b> (6-7:00pm); Open to all those who will attend Youth Mission Trip 2019                      26 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      End-of-the-Year Party – Attendance &amp; Evangelism Gifts                      29 – Meeting by Appointment (6-7:00pm)</p>
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>SUMMER'S MAIN EVENTS</b>
<p>03 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Teaching: Sr. The Training for Royalty (Rimi); Jr. YouthBytes (Leader)                      05 – Meeting by Appointment (6-7:00pm)                      10 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Special Night: Talent Show (Michele – Invite the church)                      * <b>LAST DAY TO SIGN-UP FOR YOUTH MISSION TRIP (YWAM – WEST VIRGINIA) FROM JUNE 9-13</b>                      13 – <b>Youth Parents, Council, and Helpers Meeting</b> (7-8:00pm) Finalize the proposals to further split the Youth                      17 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00 pm)                      Teaching: Sr. The Attributes of Royalty 1 (Rimi); Jr. YouthBytes (Leader)                      24 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00 pm)                      Board Game Night                      26 – Meeting by Appointment (6-7:00pm)                      31 – <b>Youth Group Meeting</b> (6-8:00pm)                      Teaching: Sr. The Attributes of Royalty 2 (Rimi); Jr. YouthBytes (Leader)</p>	<p><b>JUNE 9-13 – Youth Mission Trip 2019</b> (7<sup>th</sup> Grade and Up); <i>YWAM: West Virginia</i>                      [Rimi's vacation around June 20-July 4<sup>th</sup>]  <b>JUNE 16 – Youth Group Annual Worship Service:</b> Share Mission Trip 2019 Highlights  <b>JULY 13 – Summer Event: All Youth and Young Adults are welcome to eat lunch at Shady Maple</b> (meet at FUMC 10:00am; leave Shady Maple around 1:00pm)  <b>JULY 24 – Wednesday Catch-Up Dinner at Hoss's with the Youth Leadership Team</b> (6-7:30pm)  <b>AUGUST 3 – Summer Event: All Youth and Young Adults are welcome to spend a day at Knoebel's Amusement Park (10:00am-3/5:00pm)</b> (Pack and bring your own lunch and water)  <b>AUGUST 16-17 – Youth Council Meeting: A Night at a Hotel</b> (Meet at 7:00pm at the hotel (eat dinner at your home), and the rest of schedule TBD)                      [Summer Young Adult and One-on-Ones not listed here--TBD!!!]  <b>NOTE:</b> During the summer, feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or if you'd just like to chat and hang out (food will be on me)!</p>

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## First United Methodist Church

*"Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world"*

*Sunday Services at 8:00 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.*

*Sunday School at 9:20 A.M.*

*Saturday Evenings at 6:00 P.M.*

Our Vision: Welcoming, Empowering, Reaching Out  
Ministers: Everyone of us:  
Pastors and Staff:

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Dr. Christopher Fisher ..... | Senior Pastor                                      |
| JoAnn Daum .....             | Office Manager                                     |
| Marcy Hudock .....           | Sexton   |
| Adam Kraft .....             | Treasurer  |
| Nancy Kraft .....            | Parish Nurse                                       |
| Cynthia McClelland .....     | Organist/Music Director                            |
| Brian Reading.....           | Minister of Visitation                             |
| Julie Saunders .....         | Choir Director                                     |
| Pamela Setlock .....         | Church Secretary                                   |
| Adhurim Xhemajli .....       | Associate Pastor of Youth & Young Adult Ministries |