

CHURCH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE LINK

Volume MMXVIII, Issue 1 - January 27, 2018



I've long found it ironic that the month that's all about love - as February is - is also the shortest month in the year! Perhaps it is both ironic and fitting though. Sometimes we feel ourselves a little short on love don't we?

As a matter of fact, it's going to be extra strange this month because Ash Wednesday falls on February 14. It might sound a little bizarre to hear "I love you" and "you are dust and to dust you shall return" within a matter of hours. Just so you are aware, we will be offering 2 Ash Wednesday services on February 14. One will be held at noon, and the other at 6:00pm. I hope you'll join us for one of these services.

Ash Wednesday is the start of the Lenten journey of **40 weekdays** (Monday through Saturday) that takes the church to the eve of Easter. Sundays are not included in the count of 40 days, as they are "little Easter" celebrations. Lent is primarily about identifying with and accompanying those who are being driven by the Spirit to make the wilderness journey -- toward baptism, toward reconciliation, toward joining the church or toward vocation.

So take this time seriously. Use this time, and grow during this season.

Grace and Peace,
Lance

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Lesia Canty, Housekeeper

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Office Hours

Monday through Thursday

8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Friday

8:30 am to 2:30 pm

Music Ministry Notes From Gordon

Our Chancel Choir continues to effectively lead in worship each Sunday. I am thankful for these dedicated, committed musicians who bless our hearts with their beautiful worship music.

Our Young Musicians Choir (grades 1-6) continues to meet each Sunday as they prepare to sing during morning worship - Sunday, March 4. Each Sunday, we are moving, singing, and learning new music skills and songs. Parents, please continue to see that your child/children are present for all Sunday evening rehearsals. **Note:** Young Musicians will practice at 5:00 pm on Sunday, February 25th, before going to Windham Hall at 5:30 for supper before the MERGE conference.

Here is a quote worth sharing - *"Music is God's gift to man, the only art of heaven given to earth, the only art of earth we take to heaven."* - Walter Savage Landor (1775 - 1864)

Gordon

Youth and College News

February 2007, will always be very special to me. I went from believing in Christ as a Savior to placing my entire faith in Christ as Savior and Lord. While the distinction may seem small, in reality it is life-changing, eternity-changing. Christ as Savior relieves our fears and allows us to know He has won the final victory. Christ as Lord changes us completely. As Lord of our lives, Christ alters our perspective of the world that surrounds us. He guides our every action, and reaction. I pray that you will remember when Christ became Savior and Lord of your life. If you have not placed your hope in Christ, I pray that you will. Church Street UMC is a fellowship of believers that would love to walk alongside you as we grow closer to Christ, together.

February 4th, the Youth Super Bowl Party will be meeting at Cora and Randy Smith's house.

MERGE Conference is an exciting opportunity for our church on February 25! This conference is meant for children and parents to come together with the Church to be educated and grow community in Christ. There will be nursery provided for ages birth - 5 years old. A children's program will be provided for children grades 1st - 6th. Youth, 7th - 12th grades, will participate in a seminar about the Dangers of Alcohol. Meanwhile, parents will be involved in a seminar about the Dangers of Social Media. A free meal will be provided for all that register online (<https://merge2018.eventbrite.com>). Supper begins at 5:30 and the conference, nursery, and children's program runs from 6:00-7:30.

We hope to see you there!

In His love,

Rand



Sunday, February 25
5:30-7:30pm
Church Street United Methodist Church

Children's Ministry News

People give Valentines to show how much they love each other. God doesn't give Valentine cards to show his love for us. He gives us something much better. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." God loves us so much that instead of giving us a Valentine, he gave us Jesus so that we could have eternal life. And that's a lot better than a Valentine card, don't you think?

One way we can show the love of Christ this month is by participating in Safe Harbor Women's Medical Clinic's Fill a Bottle. This is an excellent way to serve women and children in our community that find themselves in need. There will be bottles available in Sunday School classes and in the back of the Sanctuary. These are to be filled with change, cash or checks payable to Safe Harbor Women's Medical Clinic. They will be collected through February 11th.

Confirmation will continue to meet throughout February during Sunday school in the Grist Library. Be sure to mark your calendars for the confirmation retreat March 2-4. Deadline to sign up is February 11.

Here are some upcoming dates:

Easter Egg Hunt at the Wendland's House: March 11

Confirmation Sunday: April 1

Vacation Bible School: May 30-June 1

Blessings,

Miss Kayla



Leika's Art Reception will be Thursday, February 1, 2018, at 5:00 pm, in the Education Wing.

Leika's and Leika's Lambs will be closed February 19th, for President's Day.

I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my.... PRAYER

SYMPATHY:

The Family of Al Perez (Liz Eiland's grandfather)

HOMEBOUND:

Barry Blanton
Mary Blanton
Jean Johnson
Alma Moore
Ann Pegues
Helen Rogers
Lucille Sellier
Eloise Trammel
James Charles Utsey
Nell Woodward

ONGOING:

Nan Barronton
Alice Gray Butler
Lee Calame III
Steve Campbell
Lesia Canty
Willie Mae Canty
Mary Elizabeth Chatman
Hermine Cohen
Roger Coleman
Shannon Miller Cook
Sharon Craig
Peggy Cross
Bob Culpepper
Pam Cunningham
Michelle Dorough
Ann Edwards
Sara Elam
Baxter Ellzey
Blake Flanagan
Russ Foster
Kay Friday
Bill Gardner
Dale Gates
Jeanne Green
Ed Greene
Virginia Guarino
Chrissy Harrison
Claudette Holley
Edith Hughes
Leonard Ingram

Lynda Johnson
Sue Sims Johnson
Danny Jordan
Faith Lendner
Charles & Martha Maurer
June McLaughlin
Dan Mielke
Anthony Mims
James Morgan
Jane Lyle-Morgan
Doris Moultrie
Emme Nichols
Rex Osburn
Kevin and Connie Parr
David Pearce
Henry Pitts
Anne Porter
Marsha Powe
George Register
Ed Sanderson
Myra Sanderson
John Sherrer
Frances Smith
Keith Stephan - Suzanne Stringer's son-in-law
Kent Taylor
Richard Trammel
Rex Waldrop
Jean Walker
Ted Waterman
Chloe (Teresa Waters' niece)
Samantha Wilson
Quintilla Wood
Aubrey Wright
Tim & Barbara Young
Marilyn Zeigler
John and Carol Young (Gwen & Buc Shaw's friends)

OUR MILITARY OUR NATION

In an effort to keep the prayer list up to date, all names will be kept on the list for 1 month. After that period, please feel free to contact the office or complete the prayer request form in the Office Foyer and place it in the box to add or re-add a name to the prayer list. All requests are prayed over during the Office Staff meeting on Tuesday.

**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
PRESENCE**

Faithful in attendance in December

Sunday School: 100
Worship Service: 172

**We hope to see each of you each week for
our regular Sunday Schedule with Breakfast
at 8:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., and
Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.**

**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
GIFTS**

Stewardship
December - Month End

Year to Date

Pledge Offering	85,008.63
Non-pledged Contributions	13,243.00
Loose Collection	811.00
Sunday School	43.00
Breakfast	293.00
Capital/Sanctuary Funds	50.00
Windham Hall	<u>0.00</u>
Total Receipts	99,448.63

Total Revenue received	
Jan. - Dec. 2017	555,343.00
Total Expenses	
Jan. - Dec. 2017	<u>549,352.00</u>
Excess of Income	
Over Expense	
Jan. - Dec. 2017	5,992.00

Memorials

June Calame

By: Claude and Caroline Anderson
Myrna A. Hollis
Kent and Sherry Taylor

Wayne and Paula Vardaman
Harriet Suttle
Eleanor Reynolds
Judy Moore
Ed and Andrea Livingston
Randy and Cora Smith

Honorary

Anna Claire Eiland

By: Buc and Gwen Shaw

February Communion Offering

The Communion Offering on Sunday, February 4th, will be given to The Bloom House.

**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
SERVICE**

Teams Serving in February

Greeters: Believers/Gathering

Ushers: Robert Beers, Captain, Matt Oaks, Jamie Thomas, Randall Beers, Buddy Perkins, Joe Moore, Jim Wheeler, George Register, and Jim Thomas

Worship Stewards: Martha Jackson and Mary Drue Wheeler

Collection Counters: Myrna Hollis and Julie Drinkard

Thank You!

The Staff would like to thank the volunteers who meet monthly to help assemble the Link for mailing: Julie Drinkard, Mary Frazier, Gail Hawkins, and Michele McNeill.

Thank You!

We are thankful to have had 11 children complete Acolyte training on January 21, 2018. They will begin serving in February. Please pray for them as they serve during the Worship Service. They are: Wallis Gilmore, Kylie Calame, Grant Arrington, Cam Patterson, Hope Patterson, William Ousley, Anna Kate Kennedy, Emma Jones, Rhett Thomas, Martha Ann Beers and Millan Beers.

February Meetings

Leika's Board

Thursday, February 1st, at 6:00 pm

Trustees

Tuesday, February 13th, at 5:00 pm

Finance

Thursday, February 22nd, at 5:00 pm

Church Council

Thursday, February 22nd, at 5:45 pm

**All meetings take place in the Grist Library.
Please contact the Church Office if you will not
be able to attend.**

Thank You!

The Facilities Staff would like to thank Brad Utsey for cleaning the altar kneeling pads.

**I will support Church Street United Methodist Church with my....
WITNESS**

Living Treasures

will meet Thursday, February 15, 2018,
at 12:00 noon in Windham Hall. Our
own, Kayla Smith will be our guest
speaker to tell us a little about herself
and her vision for the Children's
Ministry of CSUMC and Leika's Lambs.

The cost of the catered meal is \$6.00
and reservations are not required.

Circle Meetings

Monday, February 5th

Catherine Revel Circle

5:30 pm at Cora Smith's

Monday, February 12th

Roberta Sample Circle

6:00 pm in Windham Hall

**Emmaus will meet Tuesday,
February 6th, at 6:30 pm, in
Windham Hall.**

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Tuesday Bible Study led by Martha Jackson meets
at 12:00 noon in the Old Parsonage. The new study
is *God of Creation - A Study of Genesis 1-11* by Jen
Wilkin. Anyone is welcome! Bring a sack lunch.

Wednesday Bible Study led by Suzanne Stringer
meets at 10:00 am in the Grist Library. They are
studying the book of John. Anyone is welcome!
They meet for about an hour and follow up with lunch
at a local restaurant.

United Methodist Men will meet
Sunday, February 25th, at 8:00
am, in the Old Parsonage. All men
of the Church are invited to attend.

Communities of Transformation

has begun meeting each
Wednesday, at 5:30 pm,
in Windham Hall.

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Church Street United Methodist Church, Selma

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