



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Jeffrey Meyer – Pastor

January, 2019

“NEW HEIGHTS”

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When I put myself in the shoes of the apostles, I sometimes wonder whether I could have handled it. Waking up each morning in a strange place, sometimes a tent, sometimes a rented room, having no idea what we were doing or where we were going next...nor when and where the next meal or place to stay was going to come from.

Just getting up and following Jesus wherever He went. Listening and learning where we were going and why. What Jesus wanted to do there with us and how. It would require great faith and a great deal of surrendering my own will to completely follow Jesus.

Yet, here in 2019, that is where we, as Christ United Methodist Church, stand. One mission and vision is accomplished, a new mission and vision is in the process of being formed. There have been edits, changes, repairs and updates to worship, ministries and the church building...but where we are going and how we are going to get there remains to be seen.

Which is why I would first call upon all of you to pray. Pray to God for guidance, vision and instruction. Where does God want us to go? Who does God want us to minister to? How?

As a Pastor, it is my job to open up areas of interaction between us and God and then help organize and facilitate all of you in your efforts to answer His call. Which is why I am relying on all of you to pray and be sensitive, as well as alert, for the Holy Spirit and any nudges of inspiration or guidance it would impart.

Let us come together as beloved sons and daughters of God, as well as Christ United Methodist Church, to discern God's call and to answer it fully by His grace through Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit in 2019. I look forward to discerning, walking and answering along with you all.

In Christ,

PJ

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

**We are called and empowered by Jesus
to love, to serve and to witness.**

-Mission statement of Christ United Methodist Church

Faith Club – January 9

Wednesday, January 9th, Faith Club is Back! Meet Pastor Jeff at 2 pm at the Flag Pole outside of RMS to walk over to Christ UMC (across the street) for a little faith, food and fun with improv games from Miss Jan! You don't have to be a member of this church or any church, just come be a part of a safe place to have fun and be yourself. See you at Faith Club at Christ UMC! 😊

Women's Bible Study – January 10

We begin a new 10-week Bible Study on Thursday, January 10, at 9:30 a.m. at the home of JoAnn Meyer, 1402 Schumann Dr. The study is called "The Patriarchs" by Beth Moore.

"The Patriarchs: Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." Discover God's pursuit of a relationship

with man, and marvel as His plan to bless all people unfolds. Full of twists and turns, ruin and redemption, revelation and mystery, this Bible study keeps participants captivated by the God who stars in it! Explore concepts, such as blessing, covenant and promise, and the bearing each has on a New Testament believer's life today. Group members will also study the Hebrew names of God introduced on the early pages of Scripture.

Throughout 10 weeks of exciting, engaging intrigue, participants will plunge into the heart of Genesis, to God's remarkable pursuit of relationship and to the unfolding of His earthly plan: that through one nation—and ultimately, one man—all people on earth will be blessed. Many of the most profound and enduring concepts in the whole counsel of God's Word are initiated in this marvelous book of beginnings.



It is here! It is time! Join us for our first annual **GLOW DANCE** on January 11th, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Christ United Methodist Church! This is a FREE event open to everyone! Please use this opportunity to invite your friends! We will have a DJ, lights, and lots of great songs to dance to! We will have glow necklaces and bracelets, as well as snacks and drinks. This is a favorite event for kids and a great opportunity to invite your friends, family and neighbors to check out CUMC! Flyers are available at the Blessed to be a Blessing table in the narthex for you to hand out. Feel free to take as many as you think you can give away! See you there!

Mission Sunday January 13

Mary's Room will be the recipient of your kind donations for Mission Sunday on January 13 (though we will accept donations all month). Mary's Room, a mission project located at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, provides diapers, clothing and child care equipment for struggling families with children 0-24 months. As we know, children of this age require changing, expensive equipment: like car seats, cribs or Pack N Plays (portable playpens) for their safety. Many families do not have washing machines or dryers for cloth diapers. Clothing sizes needed change

so quickly-what fit last week is suddenly too small! Parents in our community can become overwhelmed by these needs. Mary's Room is also a resource for information about parenting programs and help in the community. Please consider supporting Mary's Room this month with financial support, or with clean, gently used clothing or equipment donations when your family no longer needs things. (All Equipment is checked for safety prior to being given to families.)

We thank St. Paul's for supporting our mission projects in the past. They have given us peanut butter & jelly for Summer Sandwiches, as well as financial help. Let's return the favor!

Book Club - January 15

"*Unbroken: A WWII Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*" by Laura Hillenbrand.

Join us on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, when we will meet at 6:30 p.m. to discuss our next Book Club Choice, Unbroken.

In boyhood, Louis Zamperini ran wild in the streets, As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into track, developing his talent to the point where he competed in the Berlin Olympics. But then, WWII broke out and he became an airman in the Pacific. When his bomber crashed into the ocean in 1943, Louis survived adrift on a flimsy life raft, despite sharks, thirst, and starvation, only to be captured by the Japanese and thrown into a POW camp. Driven to the limits of human endurance, Louis would meet

desperation with resourcefulness, suffering with hope and brutality with resilience. We will follow his incredible journey to redemption through faith.

Copies are available at the public library through interlibrary loan or at Tribeca. If interested in attending, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

Jan Detrie

All-Leadership Meeting Scheduled

An All-Leadership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 22, at 6:00 p.m.!

All committee members, chairs and ministry directors are encouraged to attend this meeting. It will start with some opening statements from Pastor Jeff until approx. 6:20 p.m. when all committees (except for Finance for logistical reasons) will be assigned a space to go have their first meeting of 2019.

This first meeting is intended as a time to meet one another, especially those new to the committees. It is also an excellent opportunity to exchange contact information and schedule meetings for the rest of the year in order to maximize member attendance. At 7:00 p.m., all meetings will be adjourned so that Chairs and members of the Church Council can attend their January meeting in Room 202.

This is an excellent opportunity for the leadership of Christ United Methodist Church to gather in prayer, fellowship and orientation in order to prepare for the exciting year ahead. I pray everyone can make it and am asking

everyone to RSVP via email, FB Messenger or by calling the office to let the church know whether you can attend.

God bless you for you answering His call and hope to see all of our leadership and committee members on January 22, 2019!

For church cancellations due to weather, watch on TV Channel 12 WISN or wisn.com.

Froehlich-CUMC Scholarships

Application forms for the Lysle & Dora Froehlich-CUMC scholarship are now available for high school seniors, vocational and technical school and college students who are members of Christ UMC. Contact the church office for an application and return it to the church office by April 1.

Turkey Dinner Update

As many of you know, we had to throw away all 55 turkeys this year that was supposed to be served to the people at our Turkey Dinner due to mechanical difficulties. Thanks to Joe Wall and John Ullsvik, we were able to collect from our insurance company all but \$500 (the deductible) of the money that we lost on this. So, our final tally came to a profit of \$8,366.37 for serving 912 people between carry-outs and in the Fellowship Hall, the largest number of people we have ever served in one night. Thank you all again for your help of this huge annual event! 😊

Cookie Walk Results

The 2018 Cookie Walk was held Saturday, December 8th. A **Big Thank You** goes out to all who made this day a success: to those of you who baked cookies, made candy, put up tables, decorated the tables with filled boxes and plates, put up signs and cleaned up afterwards; to those of you who donated money; to those of you who showed your support by buying our cookies; and finally, but not least of all, to those who prayed for a successful day. As you can see, this is a huge undertaking and requires the help and support of the entire congregation.

This year's profit was \$2,082.74. That is about \$300 less than last year, but it will be a big help towards paying one of our church's apportionments. In addition, we made \$172 from the sale of our Mason Jar Cookie Mixes. All of this Jar money goes directly back into our community. Mission Circle chose to give this money to ROC (Recreation and Outreach Center for Youth). This is a safe, positive, free, and fun place for Watertown's teens to hang out. Pastor Mueller is the director.

We heard many positive comments from our shoppers and several people told us they look forward to it every year. We were sold out of cookies this year before 9:30 a.m. and had to turn away disappointed shoppers. We don't want that to happen again! Therefore, we hope to have even more cookie donations from you next year. Don't be shy about offering to help in any way next year and to join in the fun. All help is needed and greatly appreciated. So,

before you have totally put away the Christmas recipes—mark those “tried and true” holiday favorites that you'd like to share with us next year.

Thank you again and have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Beth Stuart,

Cookie Walk Chairperson

Christmas families 2018 Update

We were able to make Christmas a little brighter for 8 local families this year; and, in fact, they made OUR Christmas's brighter, too. There is nothing more satisfying than to enrich the lives of families with children who could use a helping hand by reaching beyond ourselves and our own families. We were given an opportunity to serve 27 children and 11 adults, and you really came through again. Thank you all for going above and beyond with thoughtful, quality gifts. I was privileged to deliver some of them, and the gratitude from the parents was heartening. I was asked to pass along their deep appreciation for caring for their needs and their children's happiness. Special thanks to an anonymous church family who donated money for grocery gift cards for all the families. We have indeed been blessed so we can be a blessing to others. (My “guesstimate” is that the value of the gifts was about \$3600!) Thank you so much!

Ann Nienow & your Mission Committee

2019 Offering Envelopes

If you haven't already done so, please stop by the church and pick up your offering envelopes.



Mitten Tree Success!

THANK YOU for your generous response to our request for mittens, hats, gloves, snow pants, and other cold-weather gear! Before Christmas, we were able to deliver the following to the school staff at the public elementary schools for distribution:

- 55 sets of gloves or mittens
- 75 hats
- 19 scarves
- 2 snow pants

Think of the fun they will have when they can play & be warm!

We will continue to collect items and take them to the school throughout the winter. Items can be placed in the shopping cart to be sorted and distributed. Thanks!

Baptism

Quinn Elise Nienow, daughter of Mike & Jodi Nienow, was baptized on December 23, 2018.



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January Prayer List

Please include Pastor Jeff and his family and three other families or individuals from the list below in your prayers each day.

Randy & Barbara Phelps
 Kurt & Laurie Peterman Family
 Jennice Penza Family
 Roger & Marilyn Peirick
 Tom & Verla Parmley
 Jeff Overlien
 Marion Otto
 Jon & Barb Olson
 Brian & Eleanor Norin Family
 Rich & Ann Nienow
 Mike & Jodi Nienow Family
 Mark & Shannon Nienow
 Crystal Nelson
 Mike & April Mutter Family
 Brian & Debbie Mueller Family
 Scott & Tisha Morgan
 JoAnn Moldenhauer
 Bob & Tonia Mindemann



January Birthdays

3 Marcia Rydstrom
 5 Robin Trebitowski
 Hailyn Spreitzer
 6 Kolten Peterman
 8 Bonnie Sukow
 Seth Bezanson
 9 Bron Wentzel
 11 Arnie Van Hoosen
 Natalie Kreuser
 12 Tom Kotur
 17 Shirley Bradow
 18 Barbara Backhaus
 19 Kay Meyer
 21 Dave Flegner
 22 Don Drost
 Jenny Walter
 30 Gina Skrobak

