



MONTHLY

February 2023

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCHUNITED METHODIST CHURCH



From the Pastor

²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵ Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-- and all the more as you see the Day approaching." - Hebrews

As conversations about the future of The United Methodist Church are increasing in frequency, I think we should hang onto this scripture. I also think that I should share with you why I am Methodist.

In December of 2006, I was required by the final exam in a seminary course on United Methodist history to answer the question "Why are you United Methodist?". The professor gave us the impression that "because my momma was" would not be a sufficient answer. He was right! Deciding what tradition of the Christ's Church we will commit to is an important decision. Family did play a role but as I matured in my faith, it was the beliefs of the Wesleyan tradition that truly attracted me.

I believe that the theology of the Rev. John Wesley is important and that the revival his preaching and teaching accompanied were used by God to remind the Church that faith is a matter of the heart as well as the mind. I am Methodist because I believe the doctrine of entire sanctification, that we can be perfectly freed from the power of Sin so that we habitually love God and others as easily as we breathe. I believe that Christ died for all, that atonement is not limited. I believe that grace is free to all people, and free from restraint. I believe that all people are able to respond to Christ through the grace that God gives us, and that we must respond. I believe that we can have assurance of our salvation and that God intends for us to be holy and happy—happiness requiring being set apart for God (which is what "holy" means). Wesley's doctrine of Prevenient Grace helped me to understand events and musings in my own life to be the nudging of God toward understanding that sin did not make me happy; and, that Christ died for me. Even me. I am grateful to know that salvation is pardon and power— both forgiveness for sins and freedom from Sin. I'm glad to know that God intends to do good things through me, and through us together. All this is the gift and work of the Blessed Trinity in the love of God the Father, on the merits of Christ's own obedience unto death, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

So, I am Methodist because I presently don't think I could be anything but. This does not explain why I am United Methodist. For that, "because my mama was" will have to do. This is the only branch of Methodism that I have known. Through her people in six different local churches, The United Methodist Church has loved me, helped me to hear the call of God on my life, prepared me, equipped me, examined me, appointed me, and supported me. For this, I am truly grateful. I am also grateful for your expressions of understanding of the feelings I trusted you with on Sunday, Jan. 22nd.

As the calls for disaffiliating or staying are growing louder and louder, hanging on to the words of the scripture above will do us good. We keep our hope in Christ. We keep encouraging one another in love and service to Christ and our neighbors. We keep meeting together, especially when we feel discouraged, remembering Christ and his goodness toward us; so that, when the time comes to decide if this local church will leave, we decide together in love.

Under Christ's mercy,

Pastor David

Our Prayer List Please remember the people below in your prayers. This list is in continuous rotation, if you do not see your loved one on this list please call the church office and update us on their health.

Benson Atkinson	Bill Flynt	Judy Masters
John Aust	Lindsay Furse	Nick Meistrell
Bill & Jane Bowers	Susan Hayne & Will Furse	Henry McFadden
Isabelle Brown	Ken Holladay	Randy Repak
Branson Bruce	Mike Horan	Tim Russ
Family of Janet Brunson	Dora Jennings	Renee Russell
Steve Brunson	Spencer Jordan	Adelle Steiner
Chuck Buddin	Keith & Dot Josey	Dot Stewart
Gail & Gary Burriss	Family of Dory Judy	Family of Sam Tyson
Paul Butler	Lamar Kennedy	Bill Vanscoy
Ann Cutter	Jackie Lamb	Wayne Vincent
Matthew David	John Lesemann	Tim Weaver
Claire Eadon	Linda Liscio	Bubba Wells
Alice Dupont	Kate Martin	Karen Wood
Family of Rhett Elliott		

Please remember to Pray for our members who are living away from home, in the **military**, or who have limited mobility:

Don & Nancy Andrews	Bettye Johnson
Joyce Bowers	Kay Kirkpatrick
Deedee Clark	Margaret Lee
Rosella Daniels	Wilson Lepp
June Davis	Neal Mahoney
Nita & Liz Denny	Joan Odom
Jared Dube`	Jean Schmelzle
William Gamble	Cliff Toner
Anne Haley	Cona & Sam Tyson
Woody Haynes	

Attendance	Worship Attendance	FB Live
Jan 1st	No Sunday School Worship 10:30 am — 91	Views 192
Jan. 8th	9:30 am Sunday School—67 Worship 10:30 am — 110	Views 241
Jan. 15th	9:30 am Sunday School— 53 Worship 10:30 am — 75	Views 219
Jan. 22	9:30 am Sunday School— 42 Worship 10:30 am — 83	Views 211

2023		Tithes & Offering
Needed Each Week	\$ 9,773.56	
	Received Weekly	
Jan. 1	\$ 6,367.00	
Jan. 8	\$ 4,730.00	
Jan. 15	\$ 4,772.95	
Jan. 22	\$ 9,938.68	
Total Received	\$ 25,808.63	
Needed Year to Date		\$ 39,094.24
Total Received YTD		\$ 25,808.63
Overage or (Deficit)		(\$ 13,285.61)



2023 Flower Calendar

All the yellow highlighted days are open for arrangements.

If you wish to have flowers on any of these Sunday's please call or email the church office.

January	1	8	15	22	29
February	5	12	19	26	
March	5	12	19	26	
April	2	9	16	23	30
May	7	14	21	28	
June	4	11	18	25	
July	2	9	16	23	30
August	6	13	20	27	
September	3	10	17	24	
October	1	8	15	22	29
November	5	12	19	26	
December	3	10	17	24	31

Memorial Gifts:

John Milton Odom
Given By:
Dawn & Louis Griffith

Fin Coffey
Given By:
Stan & Lu Nickell

Nell Black
Given By:
Stan & Lu Nickell

Dalton Page
Given By:
Stan & Lu Nickell

Ollen Rose
Given By:
Camille Daniel

Rhett Elliott
Given By:
Jim Black
Joan & Gene Barber

Jessie Purvis
Given By:
Joan & Gene Barber

Robert Gurwell
Given By:
Joan & Gene Barber

Honorarium Gifts:

Tommy & Jane Benton
Given By:
Sandra Brewer

Ann Cutter
Given By:
Sandra Brewer

Kelly Gottheiner
Given By:
Annette Browder

Linsy Wells
Given By:
Annette Browder

Save the Dates:

Feb. 22nd Ash Wednesday

Lenten Luncheons

Feb. 27th- Myrtle Strange

March 6th- Jane Craft

March 13th- Nelle Wells

March 20th - United Methodist Men

March 29th Witness
Wednesday-Kass Varn

Palm Sunday April 2nd
Holy week is April 3- 8
Easter is April 9th

Seniors

Valentine's Day Bingo Party



February 14th
10:30am in the fellowship Hall
Lunch (\$12) choice of chicken salad or ham & cheese sandwich, brownie, pasta & potato chips
Bring a gift in the \$5 range
Sign up on the table outside the office
By February 5th



\$15 dollars each
In Memory or Honor of loved ones
Turn Forms into church office
(Call, Drop off, Mail, Email, Offering plate)
Last day to order is Monday March 27th

In Memory of:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

In Honor of:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

Given By:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

Epworth Moment:

#ProgramSpotlight-Barnes Learning Center:

Epworth has always been passionate about education and helping our residents succeed academically. Did you know that we provide every resident on our campus with twice weekly one-hour academic support? Our Barnes Learning Center is staffed with five certified tutors and two instructional assistants that help residents to work on their schoolwork and also provide job training skills as the residents transition from high school to the next steps in their academic careers.

Sumter Community Concert Band: Save the date! Friday March 5th at 3:00 pm at Patriot Hall in Sumter. This is a free event!

February

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Feb. 1-Fuzzy & Laurie Furse
 Feb. 15-Robert & Sylvia Clark
 Feb. 22-Daniel & Renee Russell

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:30 UMYF	6 8-12 pm MUMC Day School 11 am Prayer Team 6-8 pm LMA Basketball 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	7 8-12 MUMC Day School 3:00 pm CIA 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	1 8-12 MUMC Day School	2 8-12 MUMC Day School 6:30 pm Missions Meeting 5:00 pm Pilot Club (UR) 6:00 pm Choir 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	3 8-12 MUMC Day School 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	4 9 am-12 LMA Gym
12 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Myrtle Strange Circle Meet in Fellowship Hall to pack Valentine Gift Bags 5:30 UMYF	13 8-12 MUMC Day School 10 am Nelle Wells Circle 11 am Prayer Team 6-8 pm LMA Basketball 6:30 pm United Methodist Men's Supper 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	14 Valentines Day 8-12 MUMC Day School 10:30 am Senior Bingo 3:00 pm CIA 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	15 8-12 MUMC Day School 6 pm Finance	16 8-12 MUMC Day School 6:00 pm Choir 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	17 8-12 MUMC Day School 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	18 9 am-12 LMA Gym
19 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 5:30 UMYF	20 Presidents Day! 8-12 NO MUMC Day School 11 am Prayer Team 6-8 pm LMA Basketball 6:30 pm Revelation Bible Study	21 8-12 MUMC Day School 3:00 pm CIA 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	22 Ash Wednesday 8-12 MUMC Day School 3:00 pm CIA Worship Service Info to come	23 8-12 MUMC Day School 6:00 pm Choir 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	24 8-12 MUMC Day School 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	25 9 am-12 LMA Gym
26 1st Sunday in Lent 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Myrtle Strang Circle Meet in Fellowship Hall 5:30 UMYF	27 8-12 MUMC Day School 12:00 pm Lenten Luncheon Myrtle Strange Circle 6-8 pm LMA Basketball 6:30 pm Revelation Bible	28 8-12 MUMC Day School 3:00 pm CIA 6-8 pm LMA Basketball 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry	29 8-12 MUMC Day School 6 pm Trustees	9 8-12 MUMC Day School 2:00 pm Jane Craft Circle 6:00 pm Choir 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	10 8-12 MUMC Day School 6-8 pm LMA Basketball	11 9 am-12 LMA Gym
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Feb. 17 Anasley Elmore
 Feb. 22 Hal Lowder
 Feb. 23 Stephanie Brewer
 Feb.26 Lamar Kennedy, Camlin McLellan
 Feb. 27 G.G. Cutter
 Feb. 28 Artie Felder, Thomas Stoia

Happy Birthday!

Feb. 3 Jake Buddin, Shayne Stephens
 Feb. 6 Jerry Robertson, Tommy Benton, Joe Coffey, Jackson Brunson, Don Lee
 Feb. 8 Laura Drose
 Feb. 12 Johnny Odom, Ann Betha Barwick
 Feb. 13 Ashton Welch, Alex Welch
 Feb. 14 Collin Powell
 Feb. 15 Daniel Russell, Mills Lee
 Feb. 16 Buddy Gamble, Mike Burns, Cora Lee Downer

The Back Page -February 2023

Please pray for our youth who will be attending Revolution January 27-29th in Columbia

Our Flamingo Youth Awards:

Love: Apple

Joy: Coconut

Peace: olive

Patience: Pineapple

Kindness: Orange

Goodness: Grape

Faithfulness: lemon

Self control: grapefruit

Humility: Cherry

Perseverance: pear

What fruit of the spirit can others see in you?

