



... first united methodist church ...
one in ministry to all

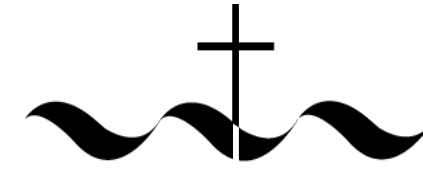
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First United Methodist Church of Stillwater

Growing in Love of God and Neighbor

JANUARY 2019



Pastor Dan's Thoughts

It has been wonderful to reflect back on our Advent and Christmas Eve Worship Services as we prepared for and celebrated the birth of Jesus. Throughout the season we had a blessing of musicians, singers, and families that filled our sanctuary as we lit the Advent Candle Wreath, and on Christmas Eve shared the story of the gift of Emmanuel, God with us.

I am always amazed at how eager people sometimes are to move on to the **NEXT THING**. With a New Year approaching the next thing(s) can seem so appropriate. That's why many of us make those resolutions that often seem to go unfulfilled.

It's important for us to remember that celebrating the birth of Jesus is really just the beginning of the story! Sunday, January 6th is Epiphany, the day we emphasize the visit of the Magi to behold the King, the Savior of the World. As we read the story from the Gospel of Matthew, we hear about when they arrived at the place the star had led them,

"They entered the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother. Falling to their knees, **they honored him**. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route."

I can't help but imagine that these Magi, like the shepherds who were emboldened to tell everyone about what they had witnessed. As we continue moving forward from the story we celebrated on Christmas Eve, I would hope that as recipients of God's wonderful gift of a Savior that we too would be bold in our sharing of the Good News of Jesus with all we encounter. As we begin this New Year I pray that we would seek those ways in which we continue to share **THE STORY** of JESUS and our story of what this gift means to our lives. It's not about us simply moving on to the next thing, rather it is about sharing the **best thing, the gift that never breaks!**

Happy New Year!
Pastor Dan

"...as recipients of God's wonderful gift of a Savior that we too would be bold in our sharing ..."

We're on the web!
www.fumcstillwater.org

Office Hours:
Monday through
Thursday 9:00 am to
3:00 pm.
Friday 9:00 am to 1:00
pm.



Article Requirements:
Please help the church save the environment and money, by keeping your articles to 100 words or less. The **January Newsletter deadline is Thursday, December 20th.**

Epiphany Sunday



Sunday, January 6th is Epiphany Sunday. During worship we will be retelling the story of the Magi who followed the star so that they might come and worship the Christ Child. During worship we will ponder what it means for us to take the message of a Savior out into the world.

Sunday Morning Adult Discipleship

Starting Sunday, January 6th the Sunday morning adult discipleship class will be resuming the study, **The Miracles of Jesus**. There are two more chapters in this particular study which will take us through the end of January. Everyone is invited to join us in the Wesley room at 9:30 am..

Baptism of the Lord

Reaffirmation of Baptism

During our worship on Sunday, January 13th we will be sharing the story of Jesus' Baptism. When Jesus was baptized in the River Jordan, and when he came up out of the water, "The Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a Dove and a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." As a part of our worship service you will have an opportunity to reaffirm your Baptism Covenant.



January

Jan. 2 Anita Carter, Mary Harcey; Jan. 4 Ellen Campbell, Brett Keller, Alan Schakel; Jan. 7 Jacki Butterfield, Jenny Heaton, Sabrina Myrah; Jan. 8 Joe Haines, Sarah Joyal; Jan. 10 Angie Robson; Jan. 11 Myrtle Potter; Jan. 12 Don Bishop, Joe Hibberd; Jan. 16 David Funck; Jan. 17 Jackson Wright; Jan. 21 Kathleen Ramsay; Jan. 24 Lorraine Weber; Jan. 26 Diane Petterson; Jan. 27 Allison Hibberd, Ernie Jones; Jan. 29 Helen Torelle; Jan. 30 Alan Salmela.

If you are on facebook, make sure you "like" us at **First United Methodist Church of Stillwater**. You receive information about what is happening and share this with your family and friends. We post photos of events, worship, gatherings, service work, etc. This is a great way to be connected to your church



YOUTH NEWS

From Sam

HI THERE YOUTH!

Happy New Year!! I hope that you all had a safe and blessed Christmas.

Here is what is coming up in January for events:

Jan. 2nd is confirmation titled the Faith of Jesus

Jan. 9th is Youth Group we will be having a night of resolutions. Come this Wednesday night with a new resolution that you are looking to work on for 2019, and something that you would like to leave in 2018 such as a bad habit or something.

Jan. 16th is confirmation titled the Early Church

Jan. 23rd is Youth Group . We are going to be focusing on teamwork making the dream work! We will be doing some fun challenges where you have to work together in order to win!

Jan. 30th is Youth Group . We will be planning a fun activity that is still to be determined.

Feel free to reach me if you have any questions about anything! Sam-651-353-3208



KID'S CLUB



Please join us Wednesday, January 16th from 6:15 to 7:15 pm.

Come for some crafts, games, and of course, snacks! We will have

snowman themed fun without getting cold ourselves!

SYMPATHY

Former member of FUMC Stillwater, **Violet Wagoner**, 88, of Bayport, passed away peacefully on November 19, 2018. Preceded in death by her husband, Neville "Cap" Wagoner. They lived in Oak Park Heights for a number of years.

Mary Bickner was born on March 19, 1931 and passed away on November 25, 2018. Her celebration of life was here at FUMC on December 1, 2018. Mary and her husband Bill moved to Stillwater in 1983.

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

What's new with Caring Ministries

Our team has a mission to support our congregation in times of trouble, turmoil, illness and grief. We have six members on our team and would welcome others that would like to be part of this ministry. Following please find a few of the activities that we support:

- Meal Ministry: This has been started for those having an illness, death, or another crisis. A group of people have offered their talents to provide meals. Contact Pastor Dan or Rick Dockstader for more information.
- Soup ministry: This is continuing for those that are ill, coming home from the hospital, etc. Several groups get together to make soups that are available for anyone in need. Contact Pastor Dan for details.
- Grief support ministry: Our team provides support in the forms of companionship and support resources. If you have a need or know of someone else needing support, please contact Pastor Dan or Linda Ash.

The Next Caring Ministries meeting is January 24th at 2:30 pm.



New Members Class / Informational Gathering

Pastor Dan will be hosting a gathering for anyone who is interested in learning more about the United Methodist Church, our Stillwater church or may have questions about church membership in general. We encourage anyone new to our congregation, those who may be considering transferring membership from another community or church, (including another United Methodist Church) or if you just have questions, join us on Sunday, January 27th at 2:00 pm. This gathering will last approximately 1 ½ - 2 hours. Please contact Pastor Dan if you are interested in being a part of this class.

Bridge Games!

Come join us on the first Friday of the month at 12:00 pm for a friendly game of bridge. Please call Marj Moksness at 651-275-5278 if interested. We play in the Fellowship Hall.



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Ada/Ruth will meet on Friday, January 4th at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

New Beginnings will meet on Monday, January 21st at 1:00 pm.

Winners Circle Ladies, the Winners' Circle Holiday Luncheon will be held at the **Lake Elmo Inn at 11:30 am on January 10th**. Please join us for a great time celebrating a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year. We would appreciate it if you could please, RSVP by Jan. 7th to either Vicki Anderson 651-208-1740 (vleeanders@gmail.com) or Ann Haraldson 651-439-1170 (annharaldson@gmail.com) Guests are welcome so please let us know if you will be joining us.

United Methodist Women - UMW

Please join us on **Thursday, Jan 24th, at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall**, for a program regarding "God's Gifts". Our program will also include a pledge service. Everyone is welcome; all circle members are urged to attend. Prior to the program, please give some thought to the gifts God has given you. New Beginnings will be providing refreshments. Questions: call Sue Hibberd, 651-439-4672.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The **UMM** will meet at the **Lowell Inn** on Saturday, January 12th at 8:00 am. Join us for a devotion, breakfast, and fellowship to start the weekend. All men of the congregation are invited to attend.

MUSIC



Make A Joyful Noise!

We were totally blessed by those who participated in, and by those who listened to, the music for the advent and Christmas services. Continue those blessings! Please join us in choir and Open Circle as we begin the New Year! You will be blessed by it!

SCRIP

The **Scrip Program** provides an opportunity to contribute a portion of your everyday expenses to First UMC. **Every card purchase provides much needed funding for First UMC programs.** You receive the full value of your card purchase and First UMC receives a percentage of the card value. First UMC Scrip doesn't cost, it pays! Scrip cards can be ordered in the Fellowship Hall following worship every Sunday.



JANUARY 2019

The church office will be closed on January 1st for New Years Day.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 New Years Day- Office Closed	2 10:00 am Chair Yoga 5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm Adult Ed Class 6:15 pm Rivertown Ringers 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	3	4 9:30 am Ada/Ruth Circle 12:00 pm Bridge Games	5 2:00 - 4:00 pm Ellen Campbell's 90th Birthday party
6 Epiphany Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship/Communion Sunday School Program 11:30 am Fellowship Time	7 10:00 am Chair Yoga	8 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Martha's Group 12:00 pm Centering Prayer	9 10:00 am Chair Yoga 10:30 am Prayer Shawl Group 5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 pm Adult Ed Class 6:15 pm Rivertown Ringers 7:30 pm Open Circle rehearsal	10 11:30 am Winners Circle at Lake Elmo Inn	11	12 8:00 am Men's breakfast Lowell Inn
13 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship/Open Circle 11:30 am Fellowship Time	14 10:00 am Chair Yoga	15 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Martha's Group 12:00 pm Centering Prayer 6:30 pm Trustees	16 10:00 am Chair Yoga 5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:15 pm Adult Ed Class 6:15 pm Kid's Club 6:15 pm Rivertown Ringers 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	17	18 10:00 am Quilters	19
20 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Time	21 10:00 am Chair Yoga 1:00 pm New Beginnings	22 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Martha's Group 12:00 pm Centering Prayer 6:00 pm Education Meeting 7:00 pm Ad Council Meeting	23 10:00 am Chair Yoga 10:30 am Prayer Shawl Group 5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 pm Adult Ed Class 6:15 pm Rivertown Ringers 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	24 10:00 am UMW's God's Gifts 2:30 pm Caring Ministries Meeting	25	26
27 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Time 2:00 pm New Member Class	28 10:00 am Chair Yoga	29 9:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Martha's Group 12:00 pm Centering Prayer	30 10:00 am Chair Yoga 5:30 pm Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:15 pm Adult Ed Class 6:15 pm Rivertown Ringers 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal	31		