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MOUNTAIN VIEW MESSENGER

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JANUARY 2018

a people of God, learning to love like Jesus

A NEW YEAR'S MEDITATION: OUR TIMES ARE IN HIS HANDS!

I spent some time on the day after Christmas reviewing those scripture passages assigned for reading on New Year's Day. The Old Testament reading for the first day of January is Ecclesiastes 3:1-13. That passage begins with those immortal words: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die..." Later in the day, with those words still haunting my memory, I learned that one of our congregants had passed away.

A few days later, when I gathered with the family for the funeral, I reminded them of those words from Ecclesiastes, and also the words of Psalm 31:14-16 where the Psalmist says: "I trust in you O Lord; I say, 'You are my God,' My times are in your hand...Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love." I reminded them that their loved one was always in the hand of God. All of his times, all of his season, all of his purposes were in God's loving hand. He was in God's hand while he lived. He was in God's hand when he died. He is in God's hand even now. And, as the Psalmist suggests, God's hands are full of steadfast love – always loving, wise, kind, and good for those who trust in him! As we begin a New Year, we currently have no way of knowing precisely what this year will hold. Will it be a year of planting or plucking, killing or healing, breaking or building, weeping or laughing, mourning or dancing, throwing out or gathering in, embracing or refraining, seeking or losing, keeping or casting out, tearing or mending, silence or speech, loving or hating, fighting or finding peace? (Eccl. 3:2-18) Truth be told, we'll probably experience some or all of these seasons during the coming year; though which of them and to what degree we'll face them will likely remain a mystery until they finally come.

No, we currently have no way of knowing precisely what this year will hold. But we know who will hold us in the coming year. "I trust in you O Lord; I say, 'You are my God,' My times are in your hand...Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love." Yes, our times are in the hands of God. And because we are in God's hands, we can face the coming year with confidence and hope! So, I wish you a Happy New Year, one and all! Amen!

UPCOMING SERVICES

January 7-Epiphany Sunday

Communion - Habitat for Humanity
Liturgist Lois Smith
Communion Servers Victor & Teresa Lebario
Children's Time Rusty Merrill

January 14 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Liturgist Mike Theimer
Children's Time Kathy Stimits

January 21 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Liturgist Marcia Myers
Children's Time Youth

January 28 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Liturgist Jerry Burnham
Children's Time Judith Meyer

Past sermons (audio) @ www.mt-viewumc.org

CHURCH EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

ADULT LEARNING AND SHARING OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY MORNINGS 8:30 - 10:00 AM

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN

ROUNDTABLE current study is Diana Butler Bass' latest book entitled *Grounded: Finding God in the World, A Spiritual Revolution*, (New York, Harper Collins, 2017). Diana Butler Bass, leading commentator on religion, politics, and culture, follows up her acclaimed book *Christianity After Religion* by arguing that what appears to be a decline actually signals a major transformation in how people understand and experience God. The distant God of conventional religion has given way to a more intimate sense of the sacred that is with us in the world. This shift, from a vertical understanding of God to a God found on the horizons of nature and human community, is at the heart of a spiritual revolution that surrounds us — and that is challenging not only religious institutions but political and social ones as well. The study begins December 10. All are invited to join the class in the Multipurpose Room, located di-

rectly behind the Fellowship Hall. Class begins at 8:30 am each Sunday.

The class schedule is available at www.52aspenway.com under the CCR dropdown menu.

LIVING BIBLE CLASS is resuming the study on Revelations Sunday, January 7.

VOICES IN PRAYER: Meets Sunday morning immediately following worship at the front of the sanctuary to pray for concerns that have been shared during worship.

WOMEN'S ENRICHMENT MINISTRY

Thursday mornings at 10:00 am at the church. Our new study that begins January 4 is titled "Jesus the One and Only" by Beth Moore. It will consist of 11 video sessions and 10 weeks of homework. If you would like any additional information contact Dianne Shafer at 687-4133.

COLLEGE AND MILITARY MAILING ADDRESSES

In February, Mountain View Marthas will package up and mail out the 2018 College and Military Care Packages. Before we can mail a package to your student or military member, we need you to provide the addresses. We do not send a package to an unconfirmed address. Please provide the addresses to Jeanette Myers 719-351-2769 or Ann Snipes 720-427-1828 the church office by February 16 .

JOB OPENING CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

Mountain View UMC is seeking a Director of Children's Ministry responsible for the development and leadership of educational and social programs for children from birth through grade 5. The Director of Children's Ministry must be active in the Mountain View congregation and should have experience in working with children in ministry or educational settings. A Bachelor's degree in a related field is preferred. The Director of Children's Ministry is a salaried position with an average of 8-10 hours per week. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Contact the church office at mtviewumc@qwestoffice.net to request a job description and application. Applications, accompanied by a one-page statement describing experience in children's ministry/education and motivation for seeking this position, must be received by close of business on January 23 to be considered.

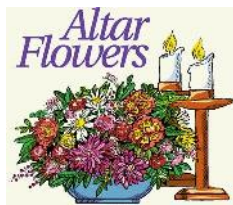
MOUNTAIN VIEW MARTHAS



BLESSING BAGS: Mountain View Martha's and the Mission Team will partner to make Blessing Bags for homeless persons. A collection box is in the narthex. We are asking members of the congregation to donate any of the following: Bottled water, band aids, bandanas, socks, personal hygiene products, cheese and cracker packets, gum, chap-stick, candy mints, wet wipes, plastic spoons or forks, pull tab cans of mac and cheese or stew, gallon zip lock bags, any other small disposable non-melting items, loose change. Mountain Marthas and the Mission Team will meet Wednesday, January 17 from 12:30 to 2:00 pm in the multipurpose room to assemble the bags. Call Jeanette Myers 719-351-2769 or Ann Snipes 720-427-1828 for further information.

COLLEGE/MILITARY CARE PACKAGES: Mountain View Marthas will collect items for the college/military care packages through December and January. Please consider donating items for boxes: small tissues, pens, pencils, combs, gum, nail files, snacks, and any small fun items. Monetary donations are always welcome to help cover the cost of mailing. There will be a box in the narthex for donations. Mountain View Marthas will meet Wednesday, February 21, 12:30 to 2:00 pm in the multipurpose room to fill the boxes. Contact Jeanette Myers 719-351-2769 or Ann Snipes 720-427-1828.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFASTS: Do you like breakfast? Would you like to fellowship with your friends from church? There are three groups that meet for breakfast on a regular basis. The Men's Emmaus Alumni Group meets at the Hungry Bear restaurant every Wednesday at 7:00 am. The Women's Emmaus Alumni Group meets every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:15 am at the Smokehouse. Graduates of the Emmaus Retreat Program, or those interested in learning more, are welcome to attend. An open Men's Fellowship breakfast also meets at Grandmother's Kitchen every Friday at 7:30 am.



HONOR SOMEONE

You have the opportunity to honor special people or special dates in your life by providing flowers for the altar during 2018. If the Flower Chart in the narthex has space that can be filled in for the date you choose, then sign your name and give the occasion for the celebration. Your name and occasion will be printed in the bulletin that Sunday.

You may furnish flowers from your garden or purchase them. Please have the flowers on the altar before worship on Sunday morning and feel free to take them home with you following worship.

ANNUAL PLANNING AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING JANUARY 20 – 9:30 AM TO 12:30 PM FELLOWSHIP HALL

If you have accepted a position on a ministry team or church committee for 2018, then please reserve Saturday, January 20, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm for annual leadership training. We'll gather for a brief devotion, we'll review our strategic plan, we'll discuss how the various ministry teams and committees interface to accomplish our purpose and how the church council oversees the work of all, and how you can access your funds to execute your programs. You'll also have time to discuss when your ministry team or committee will meet and what your team/committee's goals will be for the coming year. Please don't miss this important meeting!

COMMISSION ON A WAY FORWARD UPDATE

The United Methodist Commission on a Way Forward took a break from its work in discerning a way beyond our denominational impasse on homosexuality and human sexuality in order to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ – Immanuel – God With Us! Christmas reminds us that God is indeed with us – all of us – and wants all of us to live together in peace as we live together with Him! Although the Commission was on break for the holiday, the Council of Bishops did publish a booklet containing many of the foundational documents supporting the Commission in its work. The booklet, entitled *Finding a Way Forward*, is available at the following website:

http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_Properties/council-of-bishops/documents/COWF_Handbook_2017_REVISED3.pdf

In the coming months, our church will prepare, through study, discussion, and discernment, to receive the Commission's report to the denomination, which should be published in June or July of this year. Please pray that we may prepare our hearts to receive this report by using the same principles that have governed the members of the Way Forward Commission in their work together. Specifically, may we covenant to treat one another with respect, to assume the best in others, to represent one another in the best possible light, to speak the truth with love, and to practice and expect trustworthiness. May we also do our part to offer grace, to create an atmosphere of hospitality, and to moderate our anxiety through mutual encouragement, good humor, and genuine love for one another. Finally, may we covenant to listen actively to others, to seek first to understand rather than to be understood, to ask for clarity or help from others, and to be patient with one another as we study this matter. By doing these things, I believe we can grow together and not apart as we study this important issue.

SEEKING QUIET DISCIPLE NOMINATIONS DUE SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Quiet disciples are those church members that work behind the scenes, usually without any formal title or committee assignment. They serve without fanfare, they are dependable and faithful and always involved in church and/or community activities. A nominee should be an active lay person, a member of the United Methodist Church, and on the rolls of Mountain View UMC. They should display strong Christian commitment in all aspects of their life and be willing to have their ministry recognized. Nomination forms will be in the bulletin January 7 or may be picked up from the church office or requested via e-mail at mtviewumc@qwestoffice.net. Balloting will be held January 14 and 21 with the Quiet Disciple announced on January 28.

Punch Slush

Step 1: Bring to boil 4 cups water and 6 cups sugar. Set aside to cool.

Step 2: Combine:

1-46 oz can pineapple juice

1-46 oz can of orange juice

1-large can of frozen orange juice plus one can of water

1-large can of frozen lemonade plus one can of water

Step 3: Combine above juice mixture and cooled sugar mixture. I put it in small plastic bowls for easier serving. Freeze

Step 4: An hour or so before serving remove frozen punch from the freezer.

Step 5: Combine equal amounts of frozen slush with sprite, 7-up or ginger ale.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

January Bible Verse: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

My Farewell from Ottie

Thank-you all for a marvelous four years as chair/director of Children's Ministry. I was blessed tremendously. Could have never have done it without the volunteers for Vacation Bible School and Sunday School, more than twenty each. I would like to thank the Children's Ministry committee members that have been faithful through the years-Rusty Merrill, Kathy Stimits, June Essing and Marci Nickelsburg. To the children and families, I will miss you, but you'll see me around! My official last day is January 15.

Sunday, January 28: Game Day 12:00 pm

The youth are planning a church wide spaghetti dinner after church and the children will play games afterwards. Game Day was initiated last year and was well received. Adult volunteers will each have their game stations and the children and families along with their prayer partners are invited to play. More later.



WOMEN'S SECOND CUP OF COFFEE

January 9 & 23

Second and fourth Tuesdays from 9:00 - 10:00 am, all women are invited to meet at Pamela Gore's home. Babies and preschoolers welcome. A short devotional will be shared and time will be devoted to building relationships. Coordinator: Ottie Baumgardner 687-2646. Call for more information. **Please come!**

YOUTH MINISTRY MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MEET SUNDAY FROM 4:30 - 6:00 PM

YOUTH GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 7: 4:30-6:00 pm

Sunday, January 14: 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Sunday, January 21:
Children's Time during worship
4:30-6:00 Youth Group meets

Sunday, January 28:
11:45 am Spaghetti Dinner
Belize Fundraiser



OFFICE CLOSURE MONDAY JANUARY 15

The office will be closed Monday, January 15 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in recognition of the Rev. Dr. King's enormous contribution to the promotion of racial and ethnic equality in our nation, and his efforts in reminding us all that God calls us to establish and uphold the principles of the Beloved Community!

FINANCE FACT - NOVEMBER 2017

11/30/2017 Analysis of Undesignated Revenues and Expenses at MVUMC					
	Monthly		Annually		
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance
Tithes & Offerings (pledged)	23,841	19,000	242,216	229,045	13,171
Tithes & Offerings (unpledged)	5,868	4,785	67,043	64,171	2,872
Other Revenue	344	137	6,265	1,507	4,758
Total Revenue	30,053	23,922	315,524	294,723	20,801
Total Expenses	22,611	23,478	236,938	261,532	(24,594)
Revenue over Expenses	7,442	444	78,586	33,191	45,395
Mortgage Principal Reduction*	(4,377)	(4,389)	(50,642)	(48,120)	(2,522)
Net Cash Flow	3,065	(3,945)	27,944	(14,929)	42,873

*Includes payments from unrestricted funds only, i.e., monthly principal payments

Important Notes for November 2017:

- (1) Pledged revenues were significantly over budget for the month as was unpledged.
- (2) Expenses were under budget for the month.
- (3) Cash flow was positive for the month and the year to date.

Mortgage Principal Reduction

	Monthly	Annually
Undesignated funds (see above)	\$4,377.00	\$48,267.00
Restricted gifts, adjustments, etc**		\$2,375.00
Total	\$4,377.00	\$50,642.00

Cash Allocations

Total Fund Balances	1,521,565.88		
<u>General Fund Total</u>	<u>(1,458,764.07)</u>		
Cash in Operating Checking Covering Designated Funds	62,801.81		
Operating Bank Account (November, 2017)	102,411.50		
<u>Cash to cover designated funds</u>	<u>(62,801.81)</u>		
Unrestricted cash to pay bills	39,609.69		
	<u>Operating Checking</u>	<u>Cash for Bills</u>	<u>Cash Designated</u>
		39,609.69	27,500.00
			15,000.00
Restricted Fund Balances			20,301.81
Building Fund Balance	36,501.38		
Restricted Fund Balances	9,929.97		
Deposit in Transit	-		
From Operations Checking			0
Total of all Restricted Fund Fund Balances	<u>46,431.35</u>	<u>62,801.81</u>	

Our Mission: Making Disciples Who Love Like Jesus!

2017 COMMUNION OFFERINGS

Jan - Habitat for humanity ~ \$891
 Feb - One Nation Walking ~ \$920
 Mar- Teller County Senior Center ~ \$837
 Ugly Bucket ~ \$1726.36
 Apr - UMCOR ~ \$849.09
 May - Mission Trip ~ \$659.80
 Jun - Conference Offering ~ \$597

Jul - No More Malaria ~ \$720.39
 Aug - Local Fire Stations ~ \$1596.50
 Sep - Perry family ~ \$1138
 Oct - UMCOR/World Communion ~ \$2078
 Nov - Welcome Home Warrior ~ \$1206
 Dec - Alternative Gift Market ~ \$2062



Woodland Park/Teller County Community Cupboard and Divide Food Pantry



December items are for holiday meals. There is a box in each entryway for your donations.

The Little Chapel Food Pantry in Divide distribution dates are Mondays, January 8 & 22

Divide Food Pantry continues to need clean, used egg cartons and plastic bags. There is a container in each entryway for those items.

JANUARY COMMUNION OFFERING will benefit Habitat for Humanity of Teller County

Red Bird Mission participates in the following for support of their School: You collect the box tops from General



Mill's products and bring them to church and put in the in the big cardboard soup can located in the narthex, we will then send them to Red Bird Mission and they will redeem the box tops for items or cash for their School. Thank you for helping support Red Bird Mission.

EYE GLASSES—old eyeglasses are being collected in the narthex by the Missions Committee and will be donated so others may have the gift of better vision.



MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Saturday, January 27, we will do some sorting of donations at *One Nation Walking Together* in Colorado Springs that morning. Their address is 3150 N. Nevada. Volunteers can meet at the church at 8:30 am that morning and carpool down to their office or meet the other volunteers at the work site.

Community Outreach Opportunity Help Cut Firewood

If you like to exercise, enjoy fresh mountain air and at the same time, help someone heat their home, come join the group one Saturday a month to cut firewood. Help the Needy has an organized event, the 3rd Saturday of each month. Volunteers run a log splitter, help cut, stack or load firewood into vehicles.

Next Work Date: January 20 (third Saturday)
 Location: Beside Fire Station on County Line Road
 Time: 9:00 am - Noon

For further information, please contact the Leb-arios at 332-1640.

BATTERY BUCKET



There is a "battery bucket" in the narthex for recycling used batteries



2018 JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Bill Tiedt
- 3 - Austin Brown
- 3 - Ben Sampson
- 5 - Teresa Lebario
- 6 - Judy Laux - Critchlow

- 7 - Winona Webb
- 8 - Gary Richey
- 8 - Marv Essing
- 9 - Daniel Vogel
- 10 - Bonnie Acton
- 10 - Mary Jane Weaver
- 14 - Elliott Tucker
- 17 - Jack Marsh
- 18 - Gene Smith
- 19 - Victor Lebario
- 20 - Beth Tinsley
- 21 - Tom Acton
- 22 - Darlene Aspedon

- 24 - Elinor Edwards
- 25 - Steve Thatcher
- 26 - Stephanie Rucker
- 27 - Debbie Martin
- 28 - Debbie Resling
- 28 - Sue Burks

2018 JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 - Mack & Sue Burks
- 8 - Jeff & Janis Kuykendall
- 20 - Lois & Larry Dauelsberg
- 21 - Lyle & Liz Wilgers

HOLY HOSPITALITY HOSTS

- January - Guest Ministry Team
- February - Children's Ministry Team
- March - Nominating & Lay Leadership Committee
- April - Adult Ministry
- May - Guest Ministry
- June - Chancel Choir
- July - Trustees
- August - Mission Committee
- September - Mountain View Martha's
- October - Worship Committee
- November - Finance Committee
- December - Youth Ministry

**FEELING BLUE?
STEPHEN MINISTERS CAN HELP YOU!**

Do you ever find yourself feeling blue for extended periods of time? If so, please consider speaking with one of our Stephen Ministers. These men and women have been specifically trained and prayerfully commissioned to provide confidential care for anyone in need. Do yourself a favor, reach out and receive a Stephen Minister. You'll be glad you did! To learn more, contact Pastor Michael for a confidential evaluation today!

**MOUNTAIN VIEW
CHRISTIAN CAREGIVERS**



Let us know if:

- You want a home visit
- Are in the hospital or a rehab center
- Have lost a loved one
- Want a ride to an appointment

We are praying for you.

Contact Marcia Myers at 687-6021 or Pastor Michael at 687-3868. Emergencies (401) 824-9055.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSISTANCE

It's not uncommon for people to develop memory loss as they advance in age. Although not the only cause of memory loss, Alzheimer's remains the leading cause of memory impairment among the aging. The Colorado Springs Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association offers a helpful website with numerous resources for your use. You can find it at: <https://www.alz.org/co/>. You can also call for assistance at: 1-303-813-1669 or their 24/7 Helpline at: 1-800-272-3900. One helpful suggestion is to record the make, model, and license number of your vehicles in the event someone with memory impairment should get lost while driving. This will help local law enforcement find and assist your loved one.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone for your thoughts, prayers, cards and words of sympathy, kindness and encouragement following the death of my father. It was appreciated and helped as we walked through the difficult days. Karen Cooper