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ReporTeR

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MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Enclosed in this Newsletter is the registration for one of the last PM Training Weekends. (The actual last weekend PM Training will be March 23-25 “LRE III”)

The one coming up January 6-8 is “the Vital Congregation”. The PM Staff has just developed this “new training” which goes along with our Bishop’s and entire United Methodist Church’s call to be a “Vital Congregation”. Whenever an organization (i.e. business, government, or church) gives a “decree” from the top down there is always a bunch of “hoops to jump through” that are time consuming. The PM Staff has designed this weekend to help us through this and give us some real good teaching about what other churches are doing that really works. Revs. Jim Burt and Jim Hollis will be our teachers about the “5 Fruitful Practices of the Vital Congregation”.

It took a little negotiation on our part to make this weekend happen! Our District Superintendent Sharma Lewis is excited about it for us. I hope a large number of us will take advantage of this unique opportunity and training.

Faithfully,

Pastor Jim

P.S. The last “PM Training” will be on two week nights. It is not yet on our calendar! Make sure you are up to date on your PM Pledge.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

We all know that we encourage all our children, youth, and adults who eat to also stay for the programs and Bible Study afterwards. The meal is prepared by volunteers for the adult, youth, and children who participate in the Wednesday Night Ministry.

In order for everyone to have enough food we also ask that any and all “take-out plates” be done only after everyone has gone through the line.

Also, those of us adults who are able are asked for \$5.00 per plate donation to help cover the cost of the suppers for children, youth, and adults who cannot afford to pay. And certainly something less or more than \$5.00 is welcome.

Finally, those in the kitchen work hard, have a plan, and so the rest of us who are not helping need to stay out of the kitchen (unless we’re helping to carry the food out to the tables).

All churches who do regular mid-week suppers have similar rules and guidelines. We just need to remind ourselves of these from time to time.

God Bless!

DECEMBER AFTERGLOW

We finished off December with the Christmas Eve Service in which Preacher John Ozley shared at the 4:00 pm Service of Remembrance. Families gathered at the Altar for Holy Communion and received Prayers and Blessings from the Prayer Teams during the 5:00 – 7:00 pm Walk-in Communion.

Before that we had a wonderfully inspiring musical drama by our children and youth. There was Secret Santa, many dinners, Christmas parties, inspiring worship services, and a flood of generosity of God’s Grace.

With this December afterglow may we all be filled with God’s Grace and Generosity throughout the New Year!

We need to open the “Tool Box”!

If the PM Training weekends are described as a “Tool Box” for us to open and use as needed then several of these “tools” from “the Box” need to be polished and used: Connect Groups, LRE I and II, Worship Ministry, and Prayer Ministry .

Go back and review the PM Training Weekend Workbooks prayerfully. If you need another copy just ask the Pastor. We do not want the God inspired tools to rust from lack of use in the “Tool Box”!

SPECIAL WEDNESDAY NIGHT
“Teaching/Training Session” with Rev. Phil Schroder (Wednesday, January 18th at 6:45 pm.) Phil will be teaching us about how we can share with the larger community around us all the good things we are doing. Phil is on staff with Connectional Ministries at the United Methodist Center. We are asking our Trustees to move their meeting to the 4th Wednesday this month in order to hear Phil!

5th SUNDAY WORSHIP (January 29th)

Plans are in the works for some of our Certified Lay Speakers and the Connect Groups to plan and lead the 5th Sunday 11:00 am service. Plans also include a soup and sandwich “fellowship lunch” after the worship service.



January Greeter – Carole Doster

January Ushers

Lead – Larry Evans

Dodie Bowen

Brion Frix

Wally Murphy

Alternates – Sammy Henderson

Skyler Crawford

January Birthdays

- 2 Kinsee Wilbanks
Tiffany Willard
- 3 Larry Allums
- 4 Leslie Poteet
Stephanie Shott
- 6 Alex Capes
- 8 Amy Thompson
- 10 David Cussen
- 11 Elizabeth Johnson
- 12 Lee Aldridge
Maycee Allen
- 13 Kymberly Blankenship
- 16 Jacob Shott
- 17 Jennifer Thompson
- 21 Debra Myers
- 22 Linda Williams
- 24 Timmy Allen
- 25 Holly Hicks
Jim Moore
- 28 Trevor Jordan
Derck Whitsitt
- 30 Scott Joyner
- 31 Paul Davis
Valerie Cook
Brad Nelson



REMEMBER TO MAKE your monthly PM pledge.

Less is more

What if we took our lengthy lists of changes we want to make in the new year and narrowed them down — way down? Rather than making a half dozen or more commitments that we're unlikely to keep, how about zeroing in on a single word that captures the essence of what we want to achieve or become?

North Carolina pastor Mike Ashcraft encouraged church members to each find one word that described a characteristic or vision they wanted to achieve in the year ahead. The experiment turned into a movement, with ideas and testimonials available at myoneword.org.

What would your one-word resolution be?

Believe.
HOPE.
Encourage.
PERSEVERE.

Anniversaries

- 2 Larry & Gwen Evans – 23 yrs.
- 7 Doug & Carole Doster – 44 yrs.
- 25 Charles & Tiffany Cook III – 15 yrs.
- 27 Billy & June Banks – 54 yrs.