



The Midweek Visitor

First United Methodist Church

Our mission is to lead persons to Christ and disciple believers

January 9, 2019

(931) 728-4624

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Serving the people of Manchester since 1813
Senior Pastor, Rev. Randall T. Brown



2019 is here. Ready or not, it is here for us to enjoy and it is here for us to spend however we choose. None of us know what 2019 will bring. We do, however, know that it will bring challenges and it will bring joys.

We as a church, as the people of God, as the Body of Christ, will face each day as an opportunity, we must be open to the challenges that God brings our way. We can face each day of this new year with the confidence that God is in charge. There is nothing that surprises him, nothing that catches him off guard, and nothing that will separate us from his great love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

I hope you will start each day with surrender to his will and direction for your life and that you will end each day in gratitude for his love, grace, and mercy.

If we do that, we will have a great, blessed, happy, and prosperous new year.

In Christ Alone,

Randy Brown



A NOTE FROM DANA...

Jonathan Edwards was an 18th century Puritan theologian, most widely known for his sermon "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God." But Edwards had volumes of notebooks in which he kept sermon notes and other ideas. In one of these notebooks, he sets out to list his new year's resolutions. He begins by saying "Being sensible that I am unable to do anything without God's help, I do humble entreat Him, by His grace, to enable me to keep these Resolutions, so far as they are agreeable to His will, for Christ's sake. [I will] remember to read over these Resolutions once a week." He then goes on to list 12

resolutions including this one: "Always to do that which I shall wish I had done when I see others do it. Let there be something of benevolence in all that I speak."

I don't have the space here to elaborate on all of Jonathan Edwards's resolution for whatever new year that was (they're found in a publication cleverly entitled "Works of Jonathan Edwards, Volume 1) but what impressed me most in this writing was Edward's own admission that he cannot keep any of them outside of the Grace of God.

I think it would behoove all of us to take this Puritan preacher's advice and entreat God by His grace to enable US to keep our resolutions "so far as they are agreeable to His, will for Christ's sake." How might we do just that in 2019?

Grace and Peace,

Dana



This month, we will be talking about self-control, or *choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to*. Today in Sunday School, we talked about things that keep us safe like fences, crosswalks, seatbelts, car seats, stop signs and fire extinguishers. We also talked about how rules (and more importantly following them) keeps us safe. These kids know that it's not always easy to follow the rules!

Bottom Line: Doing what you should

can keep you safe. When you choose to do what you should, instead of doing what you want, you keep yourself out of danger. We hope kids discover the value of relying on God for self-control even when it's difficult.

Reminder: We will resume our Wednesday night Kid's classes January 16. I hope everyone enjoyed their holiday!

Mrs. Jackie

Jacqueline Connelly
jackiemconnelly@aol.com



Hangout Youth met Sunday night for the first time since our Christmas party. We talked about the new beginning we have in Christ once we become a Christian. We read the letters we wrote to ourselves last year and wrote new letters that we will read in 2020.

We started a new fundraiser last night. If you see one of our youth, ask them about it!

If you would like to be a prayer partner for Warmth In Winter, please let me know. All I need is a letter to two saying that you are thinking about them.

As we enter the spring semester, we begin to think about the end of the school year. If you have a senior, please let me know so that I can begin plans for Senior Sunday.

Be Blessed!

Ami Shedd

MEMBER PRAYER CONCERNS

God's World & Our Nation

Terra Bingham; Allen Stone; Michael Starr; Cameron Wainright; Ashley Thames; Kelsie Ross; and all in the military service & their families.

McHann family	Jimmy Stephens	Faye & Ralph Jones
Susan Wood	Dave Owen & family	Matilda Locke
Bernice Thornton	Clay Riddle	Sharon Brown
Linda & Frank Langham	Jean Johanson	Connie Moore
Debbie Moffit	Jesse Overall	Bill Jones
Harold & Terry Brown	Bob & Nellie Leonard	Jason Conrad
Wayne & Sandy (Patty McHann's parents)	Bob Balkenende	
Margaret Reed	Earl & Mattie Lee Eaton & family	
Whitney Costelow, step-granddaughter of the Kimble's		
Mary & Don Rounds	KK Huddleston	

Please keep our Nursing Home Residents and Homebound Members on your prayer list even though they may not be listed above.

Please let the church office know when you would like your name removed from the prayer listing.

Copies of the complete Prayer Concerns list are available at the Welcome Center counter.

I Will Support My Church With My Presence

Attendance:	Dec. 24 & 30 & Jan. 6	
Sunday School	74	91
5:30 p.m. Service	140	
8:25 Service		66
10:55 Service	110	85

I Will Support My Church With My Gifts

	Dec. 24	Dec. 30	Jan. 6
Sunday School		59	87
Coffee Time		8	14
Good Sam.		250	50
Missions		230	300
Youth		10	10
Communion Rail			39
Memorials to Budget		100	250
Req'd Weekly	9347	9347	9347 (estimate)
Today's gifts	1263	7212	9635
YTD Offering	449340	456552	9635
YTD req'd	476697	486044	9347
(+/-) Difference	-27357	-29492	288

I Will Support My Church With My Service

Building Checker

Week of January 13 Ken Kimble
 Week of January 20 Jay Trussler

Coffee Time

January 13 & 20 Rich & Sue Wakeman
 January 27 & Feb. 3 Lois & Claus Thormaehlen

Altar Guild

January Marie Kimble & Karla Childs
 February Lois Thormaehlen

Counters

January Roy Hendrix & Lois Thormaehlen
 February Mike Giffin & Richard Dix

Greeters

January 13 8:25 Judy & Max Hester
 10:55 Dennis & Brenda Bryan
 January 20 & 27 8:25 Nancy & Jimmy White
 10:55 Brigitte & Joey Hendren

Kitchen Monitor

January Patricia Anderson
 February Mary Rounds

Sunday School Greeters

???

Bakers/Visitors

January 13 Kay Pratt (Baker)
 Frank Langham (Visitor)
 January 20 Melissa Cope (Baker)
 Roger & Kimla Weeks (Visitors)

Communion Preparation

January Frank & Linda Langham
 February Ami Shedd

Thank you for your service to Manchester FUMC!

JANUARY 9, 2019

MIDWEEK VISITOR

All women are invited to join the Mary & Martha class for a 6-week study, *Heaven, Hell, and Life after Death*, from the Kay Arthur 40 Minute Bible Studies. We'll examine what the Bible says about death and what comes next. We'll be challenged to examine our hearts and let the hope of eternal life give us peace. The study starts on January 13 at 10 o'clock. For more information, call Karla Childs at 723-4192.

Memorial's

A gift in memory of Ruth Jones made to the General Fund was given by Sherry Hazen.

A gift to the General Fund in memory of Robert Smith was given by Christopher Ryan Smith.

A gift to the General Fund in memory of Bob Smith, Ed Hendrix, and Glenn Norfleet was given by Barbara Williams.

Honorarium

A gift in honor of Beverly Smith was made to the General Fund by Christopher Ryan Smith.

***The phone system in the office is having technical difficulties. If you cannot reach the office by phone, please consider emailing us at manchesterfumc@gmail.com. Please let Suzanne know in the email you tried to call the office, which number you tried to call, and why you were calling. Thank you.

***As you know in the United Methodist tradition, pastor's are appointed to a church for a year at a time. The Bishop, the District Superintendent, in connection with the local Staff Parish Relations Committee will soon begin that process for the coming appointment year starting in July of 2019.

Related to that, our Staff Parish Relations Committee will be meeting soon to not only start this process but evaluate ALL staff, both full time and part time. They will evaluate both Clergy and Lay staff members.

If you have any input that you would like to give in this regard, please contact one of the following Staff Parish Relations committee members: Tracy Nester, Tom Connelly, Allison Stacy, Eric Frantz, Ed Holland, Roger Weeks, Pat Cassady, and Kay Pratt. Ex-Officio members include Mike Giffin and Jim Thorington.

Thank you.

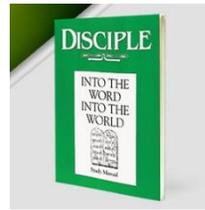


We are currently looking for someone to be over the Sunday School Greeter Ministry and the Building Checker Ministry. Prayerfully consider this and let Suzanne in the office know if you would like to lead one of these two Ministry's. Thank you.



It is with deepest sympathy to announce the passing of Mr. Earl Eaton. At the time of printing, funeral arrangements are not complete. Let us pray for Mrs. Mattie Lee Eaton and family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



DISCIPLE 2 BIBLE STUDY- Participants in the Disciple 2 Fast Track Bible Study are reminded that we have resumed our study for the new year. Our next class is Sunday, January 13 at 3:30 p.m. in room 219.

The **SANCTUARY CHOIR and the MEN'S CHORUS** have both resumed their weekly rehearsals following our Christmas break! For details about either of these groups please visit our website at www.manchesterfirst.org or talk to Dana about joining! The **SANCTUARY HANDBELL CHOIR** will resume practices later this month.

The **WESLEY WANDERERS** will meet this month on Thursday, January 24 at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come and enjoy a great program (to be announced) and great food and fellowship!

The **Casual Chess Club** will meet at 5:30 p.m. in room 218 every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month.

Just about ANYTHING you need to know about the mission and ministry of Manchester First UMC can be found at our website, www.manchesterfirst.org! Download the "Mid-Week Visitor," audio and video of sermons and children's sermons, link to other important web sites and even find help for those who need it. Check out our website today!

And don't forget about our **church APP** which is available for your smart phone on Google Play Store or Apple App Store! (Mobile MFUMC)



Items to be put in the newsletter are due to the office no later than Monday at 3 p.m.; items to be put in the bulletin are due to the office no later than Thursday at noon. Thank you!

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