



The Midweek Visitor

First United Methodist Church

Our mission is to lead persons to Christ and disciple believers

January 24, 2018

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

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Sin, forgiveness, and judgement are issues that have plagued Christian Unity since it started. Sin is sin and we all sin. We sin because we are sinners. Sinners sin, it is what sinners do, it is who we are. Your sins may be different from mine because your temptations are different from mine. The origin of the word sin means to "miss the mark." It is the picture of a person with a bow and arrow, ready, aim, fire, and the arrow flies toward the bullseye. The arrow misses the mark of the bullseye. That is what sin is, "To miss the mark". Now I tell you, if you miss the mark by an inch, a foot, or ten yards you have still missed the mark and that is known as sin. Sin is to miss the mark, it does not matter by how much. To miss it is to miss it.

We don't get points with God for near misses - a miss is a miss. Sin is sin. The scriptures point to another truth, we are all guilty of sin. Jesus dealt sternly with those who judged others and wanted them to get their just reward. Jesus calls us to deal honestly with ourselves and our sin. In John's gospel some of the self-righteous folks brought a woman to Jesus who they caught in the very act of Adultery. They tried to trap Jesus, and just when they thought they had trapped him, Jesus turns the table, calls them to self-evaluation and says, "The one of you without sin, may cast the first stone." By walking away, starting with the oldest and down to the youngest, they all confessed that they too were sinners. John 8:1-11.

It is odd to me today that we call sin by much softer names than what the Bible calls it. We water it down and even deny that sin exist and deny that we would ever do anything wrong or sin. We can see the fallacy of this in John 8. We hear it loud and clear in Romans 3:23 which reads, "*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*"

Furthermore 1 John 1:5-10 tells us the danger of denying sin and proclaiming that we have not sinned. It tells us that to do that we are deceiving ourselves and that we are lying, and that we call God a liar and his truth is not in us. Those are pretty strong words.

Here are some equally strong words that you can hang on to. It is the good news in all of this "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just and he will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness". The way to deal with sin in our life is not to deny it but to confess it.

How do we live that out with our brothers and sisters? I think Mark Lowery, a Christian Comedian and part of the Gaither Family Reunions, has a pretty good handle on this:

Love the sinner, hate the sin?

How about; Love the sinner, hate your own sin! I don't have time to hate your sin. There are too many of you! Hating my sin is a full-time job. How about you hate your sin, I'll hate my sin and let's just **love each other!!!!** Mark Lowery

See you Sunday,

Brother Randy

**Giving statements for 2017
are now at the Welcome
Center. Those not picked up
by January 29 will be mailed.**



A Note from Dana:

Several years ago, this correction appeared in a newspaper in Cambridge, MN. - In the Cambridge, Minn., Star: "Isanti County Commissioner Tom Pagel has **100**-percent support from his family, not **10** percent, as was stated in last week's article on Pagel's announcement to seek re-election."

This little mishap got me to thinking about the percentage of our lives that we offer to God. Are we giving God 100% or are we holding back on some areas? God wants ALL of you – all of your talent, your time and your ambition.

John Wesley put it this way "I want the whole Christ for my Savior, the whole Bible for my book, the whole Church for my fellowship, and the whole world for my mission field."
Me too, Brother John!

Grace and Peace,
Dana

The Sanctuary Choir will meet for rehearsal on Wednesday evening at 7:15 in the choir room.



The kids read through a

musical called, "I Can Only Imagine" today during Sunday School. They have decided they would like to put in the work and present this play for you! A date hasn't been set yet, but if your child would like to participate, we'll be working on the play during Sunday School. We would love to have your child be involved!

Key Question for this week: **Who can you talk with about God?** Talking about God is an important part of growing in faith. But not every child knows the best person to talk about their faith. We hope kids figure out the trusted people who can be a sounding board to listen to their faith stories.

In Matthew 16:13-20, Jesus asks His disciples about who people think He is. Then, Jesus turns the question in them. After everything they'd seen Jesus do and heard Jesus say, who did they think he was? This gave Peter the perfect moment for him to declare what he believed about Jesus - that Jesus truly is the Son of God.

Bottom Line: **Practice talking about God.** We can know God better by talking about Him with others. But this isn't just about talking about Jesus with people who don't know Him yet. There's also another important element of talking about God. As kids process their growing faith, they will have questions and doubts. We want kids to practice the faith skill, TALK, and learn how to talk through their questions about God with others who believe in Jesus.

Mrs. Jackie
jackiemconnelly@aol.com

All that we have belongs to God.
"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it" (Psalm 24:1).

JANUARY 24, 2018



I am still in need of several prayer partners for warmth in winter. If you would like to be a prayer partner please let me know. If you have already

agreed to be one thank you so much. I will get you the name of your partner this week.

We need your help. We have the following dates still open for youth dinner:

- February 25
- March 11
- April 8
- April 15
- April 22
- April 29
- May 20

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your teenager's journey.

In the grip of HIS grace,

Randa

You are Invited!



Blue Monarch has sent an invitation to a special occasion as they celebrate the Blue Monarch Graduation of three ladies on Sunday, January 28 at 3:00 p.m. at Blue Monarch. If you are interested, contact Info@Bluemonarch.org or (931)924-8900 for directions.

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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).

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The New Life Sunday School Class and Sallie O'Neal Anniversary Fellowship would like to share a project with you. Over the next 4 weeks we will be collecting items to shower Manchester Extended Health Care Facility. There will be a box at the Welcome Center for items. The last day to bring your items will be Sunday, February 18th. The following is a list of suggested items needed:

Adult diapers, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, men's disposable razors, baby wipes, wash cloths and towels.

Thank you for helping us with this project!



Wednesday Night Menus

Jan 24: Herb roasted chicken, macaroni & cheese, fried okra, roll, tossed salad/dressings & brownies

Jan 31: Beef tacos, shredded lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, black beans, fruit salad & strawberry cake



Memorials

Gifts were given to the General Budget in memory of Doris Rynd by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Roberts



It's time to start planning for the annual Community-wide Easter Cantata! This year's cantata is entitled: "Amazing Love, How Can It Be" written and arranged by Russell Mauldin. Rehearsals for the musical will be starting soon at Trinity Baptist Church, 1513 McArthur Drive here in Manchester. Tentative performance dates are Thursday, March 22 and Friday March 23. Both performances are at 7:00 p.m. See Dana for more details!

JANUARY 24, 2018



One of the Ministries you support through Faith Mission is Partners for Healing. A letter was received in response to the latest gift and is shared in part here:

“Thanks you for your continued support of Partners for Healing and for your quarterly gift. As you are well aware, this money allows us to continue our mission of providing primary medical care to the working uninsured of Coffee, Franklin, and Moore counties. The need of community support is always present, and you are part of that collaboration.

Thank you for being one of *our* partners for healing.

Sincerely,
Michelle Carmack
Executive Director

«First_Name», «Last_Name»
«Address_1»
«City», «State» «Zip»

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MIDWEEK VISITOR

I Will Support My Church With My Presence

Attendance:	Jan 21
Sunday School	88
8:25 Service	70
10:55 Service	NA

I Will Support My Church With My Gifts

	Jan 21
Sunday School	79.00
Missions	300.00
Good Samaritan	0.00
Coffee Time	20.00
Youth Fund	300.00
Required weekly	TBD
Budget Contribution	4,741.00
Year-to-date offering	28,845.27
Offering needed to date	TBD
(+/-) Difference	TBD

I Will Support My Church With My Service

Acolytes

Jan 21 8:25 Natalie Fibelkorn 10:55 Elizabeth Miller
Jan 28 Megan Fibelkorn Daniel Hawkins

Building Checkers

Week of Jan 28 Mark Yother

Coffee Time

Jan 21 & 28 JaNelle Burt

Altar Guild

January Marie Kimble & Karla Childs
February Lois Thormaehlen

Counters

Jan. Roy Hendrix & Lois Thormaehlen
Feb. Mike Giffin

Greeters

Jan 21 & 28 8:25 Nancy & Jimmy White
10:55 Brigitte & Joey Hendren
Feb 4 & 11 8:25 Tina & Butch Neiderhauser
10:55 Patricia & Mike Anderson

Kitchen Monitor

Jan. Mike Childs
Feb. Mary Rounds

Welcome Center

Jan 21 & 28 8:25 Sue Reid
10:45 Pam Riddle
Feb 4 8:25 Ed Holland
10:45 Ann & Ben Spaulding

Bakers/Visitors

Jan 28 Bea Ferrell
Feb 4 Karla Childs

Good Samaritan Workers

Jan 29 Doris Hendrix, Donna McCluskey, Marie Kimble and Mike & Karla Childs

**Thank you for your service to
Manchester FUMC**