



**SUSSEX UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
January 2019**

"Another year over, a new one just begun" said John Lennon. Bono and U-2 sang "Nothing changes on New Year's Day." (1983) Still, Eleanor Roosevelt said, "Life is what you make it." And Irving Berlin said, "Life is (only) 10 percent what you make it, and 90 percent how you take it." Winston Churchill wisely said, "Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it." But Marilyn Monroe said, "No matter what, you're going to mess up sometimes, it's a universal truth."

We put a lot of stock into making New Year's resolutions. Some of us follow through on them. Some of us get defeated by them. Some just give up and forget about them. And no matter how much effort we invest in self-improvement, a large portion of our lives is just handed to us without with little or no say-so on our parts. But then Christians don't have to be perfect, just forgiven. Psalm 103 tells us, "As far as the east is from the west, so far can God remove our transgressions from us." In the Bible's flat-earth model, the east is pretty far from the west. Psalm 130 tells us, "Hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plenteous redemption." Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy times seven." (Matt 18:21-22) Redemption is also supposed to be plenteous between Christians and their fellow men and women. We especially need to be forgiving of ourselves. But this is not forgiving and forgetting, this is about redemption.

When Charles Dederich said, "Today is the first day of the rest of your life," he meant that forgiving ourselves was good, but making something better of ourselves was better. He should know; he was the founder of Synanon, a self-help community for drug abusers and alcoholics. No matter what, no matter what we resolve or fail to resolve, we're going to mess up sometime in the next 365 days. We don't have to wait until next January 1st to make improvements. There is plenteous redemption with God. Any day can be the first day of a new improved life.

Pastor Jim

**Scriptures & Sermon Titles**

<b>January 6</b> <b>Communion</b>	Genesis 17:1-6	Ephesians 2:4-10	"Balancing God with Faith"
<b>January 13</b>	Deuteronomy 6:1-9	Ephesians 3:14-21	"Balancing God with Family"
<b>January 20</b>	Jeremiah 18:1-4	I Thessalonians 4:11-12	"Balancing God with Work"
<b>January 27</b>	Psalms 133	Romans 12:1-12	"Balancing God with Community"

# january



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> WW 4-6:30 pm NACLCL FH 9-10 am	<b>2</b> WW 8-10 am	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Volunteer at Food Pantry</b> 9:00 – Noon 
<b>6</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Sunday School</b> 9:00 am <b>Unhanging of the Greens</b> 10:15 am 	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> WW 4-6:30 pm NACLCL FH 9-10 am	<b>9</b> WW 8-10am <b>Crafts for a Cause</b> 6:30 pm	<b>10</b> <b>Community Banquet</b> 5:30 pm (set up) <b>Bean Bag Night</b> 7:00 pm 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Inside Church Cleaning</b> 9:00 - 11:00 am 
<b>13</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Sunday School</b> 9:00 am	<b>14</b> <b>SUMWomen</b> 6:30 pm  NACLCL in Fellowship Hall 6:00 - 8:00 pm	<b>15</b> WW 4-6:30 pm NACLCL FH 9-10 am <b>Finance</b> 6:00pm <b>Council</b> 6:30pm	<b>16</b> WW 8-10 am	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Sunday School</b> 9:00 am	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> WW 4-6:30 pm NACLCL FH 9-10 am	<b>23</b> WW 8-10 am <b>Crafts for a Cause</b> 6:30 pm	<b>24</b> <b>Community Banquet</b> 5:30 pm (no duties) <b>Bean Bag Night</b> 6:30 pm 	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Sunday School</b> 9:00 am	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> WW 4-6:30 pm NACLCL FH 9-10 am	<b>30</b> WW 8-10 am	<b>31</b>		

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27
<b>Acolytes</b>	Jake Povletich	Kaylie Bromberg	Rachel Sromalski	Matthew Maher
<b>Ushers</b>	Don Gifford Enola Gifford	Eric Grismer Robin Grismer	Chris Moore Annita Moore	
<b>Liturgists</b>	Martha Nelson		Jeff Jansen	Martha Nelson
<b>Fellowship</b>	Panera	Gabe & Nancy Kolesari in celebration of their anniversary	Eric & Robin Grismer	Jeff & Debbie Jansen
<b>Baskets</b>				

## Vigil and Silent Communion

**Monday, December 31 from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am Tuesday, January 1**

Our Lord encouraged his disciples to keep watch. A vigil is a period of purposeful sleeplessness, an occasion for devotional watching. Special vigils can be organized around a specific concern or issue in a local church. A New Year is always a concern, but, specifically, Sussex UMC is concerned about how our congregation can move forward with energy and confidence in the year ahead. And, so, I will be staging an all-night prayer vigil for the future of Sussex UMC from 6:00 pm on New Year's Eve until 6:00 am on New Year's Day. Any and all are invited to share this vigil with me for as little or as long as you feel willing or able. Classic vigil chorales by Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff will play in the background while Silent Communion will be available at the altar throughout the night. A special board will be available to post prayer requests that anyone would like to have lifted up during the vigil.



### Un-Hanging of the Greens

**Sunday, January 6 at 10:15 am**

Join us after worship as we take down all the Christmas decorations and put them away for another year.

### Bean Bag Night

Are you afraid someone might say you're full of beans? Do you not know the difference between beans and apple butter? Has no one ever told you why there are only 239 beans in a jar of Boston Baked Beans? Relax, don't worry, and fear not! The bean bags in bean-bag toss are actually filled with corn. No one will think less of you if you come toss the corn with us on **January 10th at 7:00 pm and 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**. Bring a snack to share; beverages will be provided. Get out of the house and enjoy the comforts of our indoor sports arena (formerly known as the Fellowship Hall). All are welcome. If you need a ride, let us know.



### INDOOR CHURCH CLEANING

**Saturday, January 12 from 9:00 - 11:00 am**

Join the Trustees for our quarterly cleaning of the inside of the church. Plan to bring any cleaning supplies or equipment that will make the job easier – mops, buckets, brooms, rags, paper towels, Windex, etc.



**January 10 (set up)  
January 24 (no duties)  
5:30 pm**

**St. James Church  
W220 N6588 Town Line Road  
Menomonee Falls WI**

**Community Banquet** is a free meal offered twice a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at St. James Church to serve a nutritious hot meal and time of fellowship to any who choose to attend. Volunteers from community churches take turns providing the meals, serving and cleaning up.

### Trustees' Update December 18, 2018

The replacement of the roof on Fellowship Hall is complete.

Total cost	\$ 29,657.00
To be paid by insurance	\$ 27,082.10
Donation from Women's Group	\$ 1,880.00 for gutters not covered by insurance.
Remaining balance	\$ 694.10

If you are moved to contribute to this please mark your contribution ROOF.

**Charge Conference Reports** Copies of all 2018 Charge Conference reports, including those not found in the original packet, are available on the table outside the church office.

## Thank You!

Thanks to our congregation's generous support and contribution to Crafts for a Cause, SUMC was able to deliver 22 preemie baby blankets to Children's Hospital in December.



**Sussex Outreach Services 262.246.9860**

[www.sussexareasos.org](http://www.sussexareasos.org)



**Items needed at the Pantry:** canned fruit (peaches), applesauce, jelly, jam, canned pork & beans, sloppy joe mix, canned gravy, syrup, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner

**SUMC's next volunteer day at the Pantry is Saturday, January 5 from 9:00 am to Noon.** To be sure the Food Pantry is well staffed, each church within the Cooperating Churches of Sussex (CCOS) is assigned one day a month to provide three people to assist their volunteers. SUMC provides our team on the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 am to noon. If you would like to volunteer please sign up on the clipboard at Church or contact Annita Moore.

## Opportunities for SUMC Nurture, Outreach and Witness (NOW)

**Crafts for a Cause** We are a fun and friendly group who meet at the church twice a month on Wednesday evening to make prayer shawls, lapghans, and prayer squares. Please join us! If you cannot join us, please consider taking one of the easy patterns in the folder on the shelf outside the office and making something at home. You can also help by donating yarn. **This month's meetings are Wednesdays January 9 and 23 at 6:30 pm in the Adult Room.**

**Prayer Shawls** are available for you to take at any time. The display is set up outside the church office.

**Prayer Squares** are small knit or crocheted squares (about 18"- 20" square) to offer to those parents whose babies do not survive the birthing process.

**Lap Robes** are for persons confined to wheelchairs that are often chilly and appreciate a hand crafted blanket to keep their legs and laps warm. Blankets may be knit or crocheted. Size should be from 25" x 36" to 30" x 40".



**Kingdom Workers** If you need help with a project around the house that you are unable to tackle yourself (cleaning gutters, washing windows, small painting projects), contact Pat Keller, Roberta, or Pastor Jim. Your needs will be assessed and a crew will be established to assist you whenever possible. If you are willing to assist when there is a need, let us know to add your name to the list.



**Naomi's Cupboard** This ministry of caring for those recovering from illness or surgery is still active. If you need help as you recover, please contact Verda, the church office or Pastor Jim and meals and other help needed will be arranged. If you are willing to provide meals, please let us know to add your name to the list.



## Noah's Ark Christian Learning Center (NACLC)

[www.noahs-ark-sussex.org](http://www.noahs-ark-sussex.org)

262.246.9650

**Noah's Ark Christian Learning Center is Nationally Accredited through the National Accreditation Commission Association for Early Learning Leaders.**

*The goal of Noah's Ark Christian Learning Center is to produce happy, intelligent, well-adjusted children. Here you will find a nurturing, educational environment for children of ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Classes include infant, toddler, preschool, 4-K, as well as before and after-school programs. We recognize that each child has unique talents, learning styles and personalities. Our highly-qualified teachers and staff are committed to working within each child's comfort zone to ensure optimal social, emotional and educational results. Classes are kept to a low student-teacher ratio.*



**ERAs Senior Network**  
262.549.3348 [www.ERAsWaukesha.org](http://www.ERAsWaukesha.org)

A faith-based, community-centered nonprofit organization serving Waukesha County, Wisconsin

***When volunteering with ERAs, you can decide how much or how little you would like to volunteer. When called for a specific task, you can say no if it does not fit into your schedule.***

### **Thank you to everyone who donated to our Holiday Giving Program!**

This year, our packages were hand-delivered to nearly 300 isolated seniors and adults with disabilities living on a fixed income in Waukesha County. Volunteers hand-delivering the packages remarked on how fun and meaningful the experience was for them and the seniors they visited. Many of our recipients invited our volunteers into their home to share in some conversation – which is so important for people experiencing isolation.

Packages included gift cards to Walgreens, Pick 'n Save, KwikTrip, Walmart, postage stamps, gripper socks, calendars, a deck of cards, a pill organizer, oral hygiene products, puzzle books, handmade ornaments, door hangers, bookmarks, and more, all donated by families, congregations, corporations and community groups.

On behalf of everyone at Eras Senior Network, thank you very much for making the holidays brighter for hundreds of Waukesha County community members!

### **Volunteer Opportunities:**



**Winter Snow Removal** We are looking for volunteers to adopt the driveway of a senior or adult with a disability for the winter season. Each time there is a snowfall, the volunteer will shovel their assigned driveway and walkway. Meals on Wheels cannot deliver meals if the recipient's walkway is not shoveled. This is a great opportunity for a group who can either serve together or take turns.

**Dining Site Meal Packers/Servers** Meal Packers work as a team to assemble trays of hot food, seal the trays with plastic wrap and place them in travel containers for drivers to pick up. Meal Servers dish up the meals for seniors dining in and serve them at their tables. Meal Servers will also clear tables and clean the dining room once lunch is finished.

**Thrift Shop** Help organize donations for various thrift shops that Eras partners with. Sort clothes, organize the shop and help clients pick out items for their families.

**LifeStriders** is a non-profit organization that provides life-enhancing, physical and psychological experiences and services to individuals with special needs. Through Equine-Assisted Therapy, children and adults can experience the beneficial physical and mental benefits achieved through the human-horse connection. LifeStriders is currently seeking volunteers to help in their riding classes as leaders and side walkers. Leaders will lead the horses during lessons, and side walkers will help facilitate the tasks given by the instructor and converse with the riders. They train all volunteers how to work with both riders and horses, so no experience is necessary. Interested in volunteering? Contact Amber Osterberger at [amber@lifestridders.org](mailto:amber@lifestridders.org) or 262.565.6124 ext. 0 for more information.



**Volunteer from Home** Call clients to talk with them or just make sure they are doing okay.



**Friendly Visiting** If you have an interest in people and like to socialize, the Friendly Visiting program will give you an outlet to meet new people and make a difference. There may be seniors living in your community who have no family or friends in the area. They would love to have a visitor weekly for an hour to visit and develop a new relationship.

**Sussex and Hartland Meal Drivers** Deliver meals to homebound seniors in Sussex and Hartland weekdays between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Mileage reimbursement provided. Must be at least 18 years of age, show proof of car insurance, and have a valid Wisconsin driver's license.

## ERAs Senior Network (continued)

**Urgent Ongoing Need for Volunteer Drivers** We are in need of more drivers to help transport seniors and adults with disabilities to their healthcare appointments and the grocery store. Worried about making a commitment every week? Only drive when you have the time! This opportunity is very flexible and can be scheduled week to week. Areas of need include Waukesha, Menomonee Falls, New Berlin, Oconomowoc, and Brookfield.



**ProHealth Care Community Education Classes** Each month ProHealth Care offers a wide variety of Community Education classes and events. Classes help you make informed health care decisions and develop healthy habits. All classes and events are free unless otherwise indicated. Registration is required for all events. For a complete list of classes go to ProHealth's website at [prohealthcare.org/Classes](http://prohealthcare.org/Classes).

**Senior Medicare Patrol Volunteers Needed in Waukesha County** Medicare loses billions of dollars each year due to fraud, errors, and abuse. In 2014 testimony before the Senate Special Committee on Aging, the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association placed these losses at approximately \$60 billion annually, though the exact figure is impossible to measure. The most commonly cited range for all health care fraud estimates is 3 to 10 percent of annual health care expenditures. 2012 Medicare expenditures were nearly \$600 billion and are expected to rise as the baby boomer population ages.

Eras is partnering with the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) to identify individuals who can become Senior Medicare Patrol Volunteers and help seniors in our community to avoid being victimized. Informational sessions for interested prospective volunteers will be offered in January and February, with individuals from GWAAR on hand to explain how the program helps to prevent, detect, and report health care frauds, errors, and abuse related to Medicare.

Interested in being on the list to learn about the information sessions? Contact Marisa at 262.522.2402 or [MarisaS@ErasWaukesha.org](mailto:MarisaS@ErasWaukesha.org)

Contact Anna for more details at 262.522.2402 or [AnnaR@ERAsWaukesha.org](mailto:AnnaR@ERAsWaukesha.org).

**Volunteers age 18 years and older are welcome to participate in all programs as volunteers of ERAs Senior Network. Volunteers age 55 years and older are encouraged to become RSVP members. Special youth volunteer opportunities are also available.**

### ~~~~~ Giving Funds to the Church Without Giving Cash

Amazon's sister website **Smile.Amazon.com** offers the same goods, prices and shipping with a big bonus. If you sign on to Smile.Amazon.com and choose Sussex United Methodist Church as your designated charity a percentage of your Amazon purchases will be directly donated to our church. Just be sure you choose the church in Sussex, WI as there is another Sussex UMC in another state!



**Scrip gift card** purchasing is a great way to benefit the church. There is a six page list of participating retailers that will sell you gift cards then donate a portion back to our church. You can get a copy of the Scrip vendors from the table outside the offices and choose your gift cards. Then give me a list along with a check made out to SUMC for the total and I can order the cards for you. Or, sign on to **Shopwithscrip.com** and set up an account for yourself. Make your account Presto Pay and order your cards online. **Our church enrollment number is FC24B7A136863.** You will need this number to designate your orders go to SUMC. Scrip will then take the correct amount of your purchase out of your account and deposit the profit right in our SUMC checking account. I will process your order and deliver your cards to you either way. Before I can process orders I do need a large enough quantity to cover shipping so the more people that order the more often I can order and the more profit we can make. We are going to designate the Scrip profits to specific needs within our church.

**Questions?** Please contact Debbie Jansen at 262.617.5748 or [dandjansen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dandjansen@sbcglobal.net).



**Sussex United Methodist Church**  
**Rev. Jim Altman, Pastor**  
**N63 W23523 Main Street, Sussex WI 53089**  
**Website: [www.sussexumc.org](http://www.sussexumc.org)**  
**Office Phone: 262.246.3748**  
**Office Email: [sussexmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:sussexmethodistchurch@gmail.com)**  
**Office Hours: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Mon. Tue. Thur.**  
**9:00 am - 12:00 pm Wed.**



Find Sussex United Methodist Church on Facebook to hear a hymn, read a summary of the sermon, and see what Scripture was read on Sunday.



**If you would like to have an article posted in our monthly newsletter, please submit it to the church office by the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month.**

**PRAYER FAMILIES**

The purpose of the prayer families is to share our concern and support at times other than during a crisis. Ways to do that are to include the person or family in your prayers during the week. You may wish to let them know that they are in your thoughts by sending a note, talking to them at church or a telephone call. The names are chosen at random, but sometimes seem by design, in that it has come at a particularly appropriate time for them.

- January 6** Art & Betty Elsesser  
Skip & Jane Burg
- January 13** Pat & Susan Keller  
Paul & Natalie Hubbard
- January 20** Chris & Jill Lane  
Arlene Mamerow
- January 27** Cricket Robinson  
Mike Jacobs

*January Birthdays*

- 4 Chris Barnard
- 7 Stephanie Keller
- 12 Skip Burg
- 13 Jennifer Johnson
- 16 Tom Brecklin
- 16 Vivian Christiansen
- 19 Megan Nielsen
- 25 Sarah Lane
- 28 Carl Barnard
- 30 Kathryn Povletich



*January Anniversaries*

- 13 Don & Enola Gifford
- 14 Gabe & Nancy Kolesari
- 30 Ned & Tracy England

**Are you an Online Banker?**

Do you pay any of your bills online through your bank? You can set up Sussex United Methodist Church as a payee and a check could come weekly, bi-weekly or monthly - at no additional cost to you. This is a great way to support the well-being of your church.





**SUSSEX UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
N63 W23523 MAIN STREET  
SUSSEX WI 53089**



**Sunday Morning Schedule**

**9:00 am Traditional Worship**

**9:00 am Sunday School (Sept - May)**

**Rev. Jim Altman, Pastor**

**[sussexmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:sussexmethodistchurch@gmail.com)**

**[www.sussexumc.org](http://www.sussexumc.org)**

**262.246.3748**