



THE LAMPLIGHTER

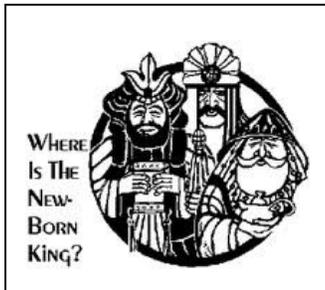


JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020

WOODRUFF GROVE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
The people of The United Methodist Church



Pastor's Corner

I am pleased to see our attendance has increased lately even though we're in the winter months of the year. I know events such as baptisms and accepting new members often bring in visitors, however I see others who use to attend in the past attending. I'm not sure if they've been invited by members to return to Woodruff Grove UMC, or they have come to the realization that they need the Lord back into their lives. As a pastor it is not my goal to grow the church. My focus is to provide the word of the Lord and the rest will take its course. As members, your focus should be to carry the light of the Lord and witness to others what HE has done for you. This will plant the seed that will entice people to want to be part of the church.

I've expressed it in many of my messages: Woodruff Grove is a very caring church. It is our duty to spread that message and include as many people around us as

possible. A few years ago I can remember meeting the Assistant DS for my first time. He asked me how many new members I've taken in since I've been at my church? I answered by saying that the question was irrelevant. I explained that the question should be: How many hearts has my congregation touched? We don't always measure progress by numbers, but by service and deeds to others. That's what pleases the Lord.

As we continue to witness and spread the word, our church will benefit in many ways. Should we grow in numbers on Sunday morning, this will be an added benefit for everyone. It is apparent that Christ is pleased with the work, service, deeds, and prayers from our church.

Blessings,

Pastor Jim

Our newsletters will be coming out quarterly this year.

The Congregation is blessed that Pastor Jim made a new Baptismal font for our church.

Worship Committee met on January 15th and the following are the **special music coordinators** for the year:

January	Karen Ottersen
February	Tom Atkins
March	Stephanie Blake
April	Karen Ottersen
May	Chuck McKinley
June	Carldean Merrifield
July	Birdeen Sweet
August	Judy Miller
September	Tom Atkins
October	Chuck McKinley
November	Karen Ottersen
December	Stephanie Blake

Karen Ottersen

Educational Committee met on January 13 and the following are scheduled events:

Sunday, April 19th Rummage Sale set-up
April 23rd, 24th & 25th Rummage Sale
Sunday, May 31st – recognition of Seniors
Sunday, August 16th – Heritage/Over 80's
Sunday, October 11th – Fall Walk
@ Rasler's home
Sunday, October 18th – rain date for fall walk
Sunday, November 29th – Christmas Set-up
Sunday, January 3rd, 2021 - Take down the greens

Marilynn & Jacque

Kids' Club

Classes will start Thursday, February 27th thru April 2nd. We will be studying Psalm 23.

Sheri Ringler

No **anniversaries** listed for February

Mission for February is:

Compassion Pregnancy Center in LaGrange Baby bottle fund raiser to purchase an ultrasound machine for the LaGrange office. There are 3 bottles left in the back of the sanctuary.

Linda Patterson

Youth Group

No winter meetings are scheduled.

Stephanie Blake

The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee thanks Eva Woodworth and Glen Patterson for their three years of service on this church committee. We are pleased to welcome two new members, Molly Grossman and Bill Thomas.

Your PPR met regularly during 2019, as the church went through a time of prayerful transition.

WGUM Church has begun the new year with renewed spirit, goals, and hope. Pastor Jim has taken leadership in plans and projects to enrich our church and our Christian lives.

The PPR Committee will meet on March 8th following worship service. Please feel free to share your ideas and concerns to be added to the meeting agenda. Judy Fetters

February Birthdays:

1st Sandy Ringler
2nd Charlie Whetzel
6th Eldon (Bob) Russell & Timothy Bolen
8th Diana Gray
12th Tom Atkins
16th Drew Grossman
19th Aspen Young
22nd Jenae Garretson
24th Carldean Merrifield

25th Jim Young & Lloyd Foltz

29th Beverly Gage

