



January-February Reminder

In John 17:1-20 Jesus prays for his followers following his last supper with the disciples and before his crucifixion. And then in John 17:20-23 Jesus prays for you and me.

²⁰ **“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.**

We are those who believe in Jesus through the message of those who have gone before us. Jesus’ prayer is that we all “may be one” just as Jesus and the Father are one. It is a prayer that we will be brought to “complete unity.” However, Jesus’ prayer is not *just for us*. It is so that the world will know that Jesus was sent from God the Father and that Jesus shows us the Father’s love for each of us and for all of creation.

As we begin a New Year together, I wonder how we will join Jesus and the Father in ministry to and with Muncie and the world so that others will believe? Our shared mission as United Methodist followers of Jesus the Christ is **“to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”** At Riverside we are **“Reaching out and connecting our community and world to the love and hope of Jesus Christ through, faith, sharing, and service.”**

In Matthew 22:36-38 we have one version of the greatest commandment:

³⁶ **“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”**

³⁷ **Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”**

As we seek to live out this greatest commandment as followers of Jesus Christ we, as individuals and as a community of faith:

- worship regularly
- help make new disciples
- engage in growing in our faith
- engage in mission
- share by giving in mission

Therefore, through prayer and discernment, all United Methodist Churches have been invited to set goals for 2012. Our Church Council has set the following spiritual-goals for 2012 as a gift for God.

- 1 **Disciples worship:** Average worship attendance 100
- 2 **Disciples make new disciples:** Number of people who join by profession of faith 2
- 3 **Disciples engage in growing as a disciple:** Number of small groups, Sunday school classes and Bible studies. 10
- 4 **Disciples engage in mission:** Number of people from the congregation engaged in local, national and international mission/outreach activities. 40
- 5 **Disciples give to mission:** The total amount given by local church to other organizations for support of benevolent and charitable ministries (this amount includes apportionments paid and support for all United Methodist and non-United Methodist organizations active in work such as advocacy, education, health, justice, mercy, outreach, and welfare anywhere in the world as normally reported on year-end reports) \$21,000

Please pray for God’s guidance through the Holy Spirit as to your part in working together in unity to reach these goals and beyond in 2012. May we be one with each other and with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in blessed unity.

Shalom in Christ,
John A. Young

Birthdays and Anniversaries

January...

3rd Laura Shadoin
12th Jim Reese
15th Kay Farling
Joe Ervin
16th Pauline Miller
30th Joe Speece
31st Jordan Murphy



February...

4th Mary Schumacher
6th Bill Watson
7th Darwin Keyton
8th Shirley Modesitt
9th Inga Hill
10th Pat Terhune
15th Joyce Kendall
18th Terry Jacobs
19th Bill Campbell
21st Betty Bailey



February 26th

Tom & Janet Schamp

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Give thanks with a grateful heart for...

Pat Brown and Nancy Campbell for organizing, those that donated, and those that prepared, served and cleaned up for the Memorial Service for Pastor John's parents, Enid and Loman Young.

Everyone that helped "Hang the Greens" on the 22nd of November. The church is just beautiful.

Eric and Shelby Murphy for painting the beautiful Christmas scenes on the doors and windows.

The Riverside and Gethsemane choirs, Tony and Amanda Collins, and the musicians who put in many, many hours of work to present a beautiful Christmas musical. Those in attendance certainly experienced God in a most spiritual way.

Melinda Shocklee for making the wonderful paper, candy filled, Gingerbread Men table favors and table decorations for the Kids Hope Christmas Party.

Everyone that volunteered to ring bells for the Salvation Army.

Everyone that faithfully provides bags of cleaning and paper supplies each month for the folks that attend Covenant Partners Community Day.

Linda Keyton for faithfully changing the street sign and keeping it up to date. We've all heard people state how they always look for our sign as they're driving by our church.

For all of our Small Group leaders and Sunday School class teachers. The time you spend preparing a lesson each week is appreciated.

To the Liturgists who volunteered in 2011 and to those who read and lit the Advent Candles.

Dear Friends,

Thank you to the Mission Committee for preparing a Sunday meal for us on October 17th. We also want to extend a big thank you for filling the cleaning supply bags for Community Day. You help so many people get supplies they would not be able to purchase or get with Food stamps.

God Bless You...Pastor Linda, and everyone at Covenant Partners Ministries.

Ministry Support

Trustees Corner

We extend our thanks to Susan Reno, Beverly Reese and Tom Schamp for serving as Trustees for the past three years. Their terms of service expired at the end of December. We welcome Ron Brown and Larry Campbell as they join the team. They both offer a wealth of knowledge and experience. Please add the Trustees to your prayer list as they continue to provide a safe and comfortable place for the people of God to worship.

Weather Related Church Closing Information

The Trustees wish to advise you that if the city declares a snow or other emergency and requests that travel be restricted to essential or emergency travel only, Sunday services will be cancelled. This would also pertain to any meetings scheduled during the week. We, however, encourage you to use good judgment when the streets and roads are hazardous to travel on when a State of Emergency has not been declared.

If a meeting is cancelled, please contact Tom Schamp (765) 749-4410. He will contact WLBC 104.1, WTHR and Fox59. An e-mail will be sent to those who have given their e-mail address to the church. If possible, an announcement will also be placed on the church's answering machine. If in doubt, please call the church 288-4257 or Pastor Young at 288-3826 or his cell at 278-8733. Committee Chairs may also consider establishing a telephone chain call procedure for their committee.

If a snow or other emergency prohibiting travel is not declared we will have church for those who can make it safely to Riverside. If you do not feel safe traveling to church, please stay home. If you have a responsibility at church for the Sunday in question, please stay home, but notify the church of your decision to do so. That will keep us from worrying about you being stuck in the snow and allow us to recruit a replacement among those who are able to travel.

You don't have to be in church to worship God. Jesus in John 4 tells the Samaritan woman that location doesn't matter. We are to "worship the Father in spirit and truth" (John 4:23). However, Luke tells us that "on the Sabbath day [Jesus] went into the synagogue, as was his custom" (Luke 4:16). And Hebrews 10:25 admonishes us "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

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COVENANT PARTNERS COMMUNITY DAY

Community Day continues in 2012 on the fourth Thursday of the month. Please bring your bags of supplies by Tuesday, January 24th for the next event on Thursday, January, 26th.

Items to included: unscented hand soap (1 bar or bottle), laundry detergent (small bottle or box), dish detergent (16 oz), Kleenex (1 box), and toilet paper (4 rolls).

Also, please see Susan Reno or Mary Schumacher if you would be willing to share part of your day on those Thursdays from 10-2 with the people at Covenant Partners. You will be blessed.

PRAYER WALKING

Will not be walking the months of January and February

We will resume on March 6th.

THERAPY DOG TRAINING

Will take place at Riverside in 2012, with testing dates in February, April, and November, and a training class taking place on Saturday mornings July 14-August 11th.

Please contact Deb Dolak [765-288-2514 or 2sibes@comcast.net] for more information about this wonderful course and ministry possibilities following training.

WINTER LAY ACADEMY

Learning and leading courses fulfill a two-fold purpose. They equip all of us to become better Christian leaders and they provide advanced courses for Lay Speaking Ministries.

If you are not currently a lay speaker you may be interested in pursuing that office once you have experienced the courses. The emphases in Lay Speaking Ministries are LEADING, CARING and COMMUNICATING. We all need good communication skills to lead others and share our faith stories, but **YOU ARE NOT EXPECTED TO PREACH** (unless that is your desire) after taking a lay speaking or learning and leading course.

January 29 thru March 4

Muncie Riverside UMC

1201 N Wheeling Avenue

2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Registration forms can be found on the table in the Narthex.

Passionate Worship and Radical Hospitality

Sunday Morning Fellowship

Special Thanks to the team of volunteers that provide coffee and snacks each Sunday morning in the Joseph W. Rankin Library. A sign up sheet is available in the Lobby for anyone that can help. See Amy Clevenger or Tom Schamp for instruction on the operation of the coffee brewer.

January and February Hosts and Minglers

DATE	OUTSIDE DOOR	INSIDE DOOR	LOBBY MINGLER	SANCTUARY MINGLER
Jan 1	Fred & Bob Wallace	Hester Mitchell	Karen Blank	Wilma Grile
Jan 8	Jack Stanton & Sandy Hunter	Kay Farling	Mary Schumacher	Cindy Miller
Jan 15	Jerry & Ann Golden	Jo Clevenger	Judy Turner	Nancy Campbell
Jan 22	Jack Richardson & Pat Ashcraft	Bev Reese	Susan Reno	Jo Ann Ware
Jan 29	Joe & Judy VanWinkle	Ann Beouy	Margaret Ann Deboy	Marge Salisbury
Feb 5	Mark & Amy Clevenger	Wilma Carney	Odessa DeHaven	Virginia Sharp
Feb 12	Dick & Ruth Garringer	Amy Clevenger	Betty Lacey	Linda Keyton
Feb 19	Larry & Nancy Campbell	Susan Reno	Cindy Miller	Lynn Wright
Feb 26	Bob & Earlene Harvey	Marlene Boyer	Nellie Campbell	Janet Schamp

Having Greeters each Sunday is an important ministry at Riverside. If you are unable to serve when scheduled please ask someone to fill in for you.



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United Methodist Free Mobile App... Mobile device users can easily access information about [The United Methodist Church](#) on the go with a new free United Methodist application. Developed by United Methodist Communications and Music City Networks, the app is now available for free download for iPad, iPhone and Android smartphone users. To download the free app, go to your device's app store. Search for 'United Methodist.' From there, you will see The Official Mobile App of The United Methodist Church. Tap the FREE icon to install.

ENDOWMENT TEAM SAYS... Thanks to the estate of Ferne Dawson and to God our Father for Ferne's generous gift to our endowment fund. The gift adds to our Endowment Fund which is near \$245,000. Included in our balance is about \$19,000 owed to the fund from the church. This is the church's debt on the Neely property. The Endowment Funds net cash and investments then are near \$226,000.

As we think of the New Year, and commence our plans, consider making Riverside a part of your final wishes. Your gift, to the endowment fund, will keep giving, as only the interest income is used for ministry each year. Of course, you can specify how any gift is to be used.

We pray for an abundance of blessings for all in 2012.

Walk-A-Mile...BUILDING HOPE WITH EACH STEP! Join the fun and help support the work of the Muncie Mission. Last year 2,200 walkers participated in the 8th annual Walk a Mile in my Shoes event and helped raise \$55,000. Some walked as individuals, others as team members in the non-competitive walk. Everyone is welcome.

The walk will be held Saturday, February 11th, starting at the Muncie Fieldhouse (corner of Wysor & Walnut). Check-In is at 8:00am with the Opening Ceremony beginning at 9:00am.

Your involvement in the walk is vital as we continue to help **build hope**...hope for a better tomorrow...one step at a time. The number of homeless individuals and those in desperate need are increasing daily. You can help build hope for a better tomorrow!



Anyone interesting in being a part of **Riverside's Creation Care Team** is invited to attend the **Muncie Creation Care Leadership Workshop** sponsored by Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light. January 21, 2012, from 9:15am-1pm, at The Islamic Center is 5141 W. Hessler, Muncie. Please contact Pastor John at 765.288.4257 or by email at john.young@inumc.org