

Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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January 6, 2019
Vol. 46 No. 1



KEEP SEEKING HIM

Celebrating Epiphany

Epiphany, from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, means an appearance or manifestation. Christians celebrate this festival each year on January 6, the 12th day after Christmas. Epiphany ends on Ash Wednesday, when Lent begins.

Epiphany marks the coming of the Magi, or wise men, to worship the baby Jesus. Because the Magi were Gentiles, Epiphany symbolizes the first recognition of Christ by non-Jews. It's a reminder that Christ came as the light — and Savior — of the whole world.

The traditional color for Epiphany is green, indicating life, growth, hope and eternity. Symbols for the season include a light, candle or star; a crown or three crowns; three gifts; and a globe. In the modern church, Epiphany has become a time to focus on reaching out and “showing” Jesus as the Savior of all people. It's also a reminder to engage in Christian community and to heal divisions among God's children.

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

9:00 a.m. Come AZ U R Service

9:50 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

5:00 p.m. Planet 456

6:00 p.m. Snack Supper

6:30 p.m. Youth

MONDAY, JANUARY 7

9-12 noon Methodist Market

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

6:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study/Millie's

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

5:30 p.m. In the Hands of God/Prayer Meeting

6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

6:15 p.m. Youth Small Group

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

9-12 noon Methodist Market



6. Jennifer Summers

7. Larry Lafferty, Shelby Backstrom

9. Sara Beth Wyatt

10. Mabel George, Chap Phillips, Brad Phillips

11. Will Phillips

12. Kirk Coulton, Bobby Thompson

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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

10. Mr. & Mrs. David Arnold



Solid Ground Youth

This week in Sunday school, we will be studying from the book of Mark. The scripture comes from chapter 7 and the lesson is about jealous religious leaders who were trying to trick Jesus. Really? You can't trick Jesus. Nevertheless, they tried. The lesson that Jesus teaches is one for all of us. He doesn't want us to look good for others, He wants to change us from the inside out.

Sunday Night Youth

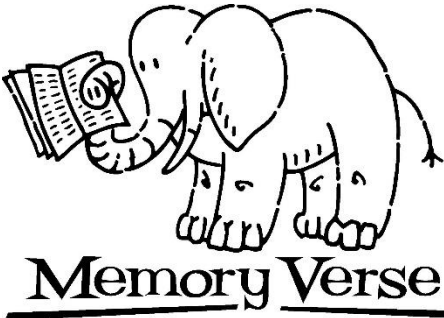
Solid Ground will be resuming this Sunday night in the youth basement. We will have supper in the Fellowship hall before moving to the youth room for Bible Study. We will begin a new 4-week series titled "*Perfectly Imperfect.*" Being patient is a very hard thing to do, especially in the world we live in today. God's timing is not always our timing, but we must learn to wait for Him.

Wednesday Night Small Group

Wednesday night small group will resume this Wednesday night, January 9th. We will begin a new series called *#struggles*. This series is about how we are bombarded by technology. We focus on social-media and compare our lives to the perfect posts of everyone else. Lesson one is titled "recovering contentment." We must learn to be content and happy with ourselves. No one is living a perfect life.

Disciple Now will be January 25-27. The theme this year is **Focus**. The cost is \$25 to attend. If you are planning on attending, please make sure to let Mrs. Tera know. Be on the look-out for sign-up.

Children's Page



"God heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds."

Psalm 147:3



During the month of December, we talked about the Christmas story. As we move into a new year, we will focus on the message of how Jesus was sent for everyone. He came to heal a broken world filled with broken people. This Sunday's lesson is about the Magi who were seeking a healer. They began a journey by following a star that led them to the Messiah.



Bible study will resume this Sunday night, January 6th. We will meet at 5:00 p.m. and follow up with supper in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. I can't wait to kick-off the New Year with you guys.

Confirmation:

All 6th graders will begin Confirmation classes in mid-January. I will be getting in touch with you and your parents regarding all of this very soon.

These are just a few pictures of the children as they gathered for their Day of Christmas Cheer.



Volunteers serving Sunday, January 6, 2019

Greeters	Frank & Dee Webb/Helen & Terrye Layne Tenhet
Worship Leader	Rich Knox
Scripture	Matthew 6:28-34
Sermon	“Seek Ye First”
Security	Michael George/Andy Bardwell

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

JANUARY

6. Epiphany of the Lord	Matthew 2:1-12
7. Discipline yourselves	1 Peter 4:7-11
8. I waited patiently	Psalms 40:1-3
9. God has sent the Spirit	Galatians 4:4-7
10. So God shall rejoice!	Isaiah 62:1-5
11. The fountain of life	Psalms 36:5-10