

First United Methodist Church  
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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 2019



Tuesday thru Friday

8:30 to 2:30

Lynn McDonald

Administrative Assistant

January 1

Mark Your Calendar

Office Closed  
SBS Closed

January 15

Leadership Team at 6 pm

January 20

MVMW Brunch  
right after Worship

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# Youth News

## Mark’s Message

What does it mean to be a “child of God”? When we are very small our parents have to do everything for us. But as we grow, we become more and more independent of their control and support. We are like seedlings that need a frame for support until we are able to stand on our own. As Christians we think of God as that support. He is always there for us and will support us as we grow in Him. But God's support for us isn't like that of our earthly mother and father. In the world we grow up and gradually leave the nurturing support of our parents, but Christ calls us to always come to Him as a little child. Fully reliant on His great mercy and His perfect will. I believe the key to this type of relationship with God is in our vision. How we view God. I was talking with a Christian brother yesterday and he told me of a time when he was in prayer with a friend and used the word Abba (Daddy) when addressing God. After they had finished praying his friend was scandalized! How could he call God "Daddy"! After all he was GOD! And therein lies one of the most wonderful aspects of grace. God loves us so much as His children that He wants intimate conversation and an intimate relationship with each of us. He is no distant king on a hill somewhere. He is Abba, he wants us to crawl into His lap and let Him place His arms around us and comfort us. Praise God! How wonderful, how marvelous that He loves us that much!

Could you use some comforting today? I know I could. Let us go to our knees and come to Him as a child, asking to be held in His loving embrace, to be comforted by His extraordinary peace, and restored by His limitless power and grace. Praise God!

Abba, we come to You this morning as a small child. Trusting, hopeful, waiting on Your words of comfort and wisdom. Hold us tightly Father, let us feel Your peace in our lives today. We love you Abba, we love You so much. Thank you for Your love for us and for Jesus Christ in who's name we pray. Amen.

### Youth Sunday Morning Study

Starting after Worship

Based on a series following  
the book of Acts

### Youth Wednesday Night Study

Soul Surfer  
starting at 6 pm

### NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me  
The brand new year ahead.  
Help me live the way I should  
As each new day I tread.  
Give me gentle wisdom  
That I might help a friend,  
Give me strength and courage  
So a shoulder I might lend.  
The year ahead is empty,  
Help me fill it with good things  
Each new day filled with joy  
And happiness it brings.  
Amen.

The Daily Bible Verses

## Sunday Evening Bible Study

We will continue our “Seamless” study on Sunday, January 6th with study at 5 pm and a potluck dinner at 6 pm.

If you haven’t been to this study, don’t worry. Come and join us anyway.

## Step By Step Ministry Update

Step By Step will be closed Monday, December 31, 2018 and Tuesday, January 1, 2019.

The Library lady will be here Thursday, January 17 at 10:00 for story time.



**2019  
HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

With a new year comes a new beginning. Our Church structure is going from multiple committees to just one! Our new “Leadership Team” will begin the business of the church in January. The first meeting is set for: Tuesday, January 15th at 6 pm. Please continue to keep our leadership in your prayers as we start this new chapter in the life of First United Methodist Church of Mt. Vernon.

Lifebridge is proud to be an official host church for the 2019 Night to shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God’s love, for people with special needs, ages 14 and older. The event will be hosted by an estimated 700 churches around the world simultaneously on Friday, February 8, 2019. For more information and training dates please see the flyer on the bulletin board or contact the church office. Please see the office for guest registrations.



## Thank You

Thank you for all the donations for Operation Christmas Child. Thank you to the Youth for helping to package the items. Your generosity helped to spread the joy of Christmas to 69 children.

Shannon McKinzie

## Way-to-Go

Do you need a way to go? If so, there may be an answer to your dilemma! Our transportation ministry assists in transporting church members to such places such as doctor appointments, the grocery store, or to other nearby places. There is no cost for this service.

However, a minimum of 48 hours notice is required. For more information, or to schedule a ride call Ann Knott at 417-466-8575.



Do you surf the web? Have a Facebook page? Like us on Facebook or you can get an update on what is going on at Church on our website:

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

If you would like to announce an event you can email the church office at:

[office@mtvunited.org](mailto:office@mtvunited.org)

or drop off your item in the “website/social media” mailbox outside the church office.

## Emmaus

Our local Emmaus Reunion group is meeting on Wednesdays at 11 am at the Church instead of Keen Bean. We encourage anyone who has attended or who just wants some information to come and find out what Emmaus is all about.



First United Methodist Church  
Worship 9 am  
Sunday School 10 am

Check Us Out Online!

Check out our homepage at [www.mtvunited.org](http://www.mtvunited.org) and leave us a message!

Save Your Best Choice!

Thank you to everyone who has turned in Best Choice labels this year. Keep up the good work. We are about halfway to the next 1,000. Let's see how quickly we can get the next 500 labels. Happy New Year to all.

Please make sure the number underneath the barcode starts with "70038", these numbers denote the Best Choice brand. You are appreciated and you are helping fund the education of our

January 2019  
Leadership

Lead Usher:  
Mike Pyle

Audio/Visual Technology:  
David & Lynn McDonald

Offering Counters:  
Martha Bartelsmeyer  
& Marilyn Meyer

Bus Driver:  
Volunteer Needed

Children's Church  
& Sunday School

- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| January 6:  | Judy Kitchen   |
| January 13: | Danielle Tabor |
| January 20: | Jean Duwe      |
| January 27: | Jean Duwe      |

Volunteer Opportunities

Check out the volunteer sign-up sheets for 2019 on the shelf at the coat rack in the foyer. There are plenty of opportunities to:

- count money
- usher
- operate the PowerPoint
- and drive the bus.

The Children's Sunday School Winter curriculum is in the office and it is VERY easy to use. If you have had the Safe Sanctuary training you may join us in teaching our amazing young children. It is a rewarding task and you will enjoy it.



UMW

Our December meeting was a lovely luncheon at Maggie Mae's in Miller. We received thank you notes from Emergency Services for Children and Festival of Sharing for our recent donations. Our last donation for this year went to buy a new coffee maker for the kitchen to replace the old one that has been giving us problems. A big thank you to all who donated cookies, fruit, and vegetables for the refreshments for SBS's Christmas program.

We voted to change our name from **UMW** to **MVMW** (Mt. Vernon Methodist Women). We are planning to keep our mission work in the local community. Our January meeting will be on **Sunday, January 20, 2019**, right after church. We are hosting a Brunch for the women of the church. Our program will be a report by Martha Bartelsmeyer and Sue Chappell on their trip to the Holy Land. We will also discuss the time and days for our meetings in order to accommodate as many women as possible. Furthermore, we will plan what projects we want to include for 2019. Plan to join us on Sunday, January 20th, to see how you can be a part of MVMW.