



Mount Vernon

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Messenger

Mark Your Calendar



Tuesday thru Friday
8:30 to 2:30
Lynn McDonald
Administrative Assistant

- February 11** **MVMW at 11 am**
at the TA Subway
- February 11** **Leadership Team at 6 pm**
- February 23** **Youth Fundraising Brunch**
- February 26** **Ash Wednesday Service**
at 6 pm

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Coming Soon

- March 3 Leadership Team at 6 pm
- March 10 MVMW at 11 am



February 2020

Leadership

Lead Usher:

Hope Morris

Audio/Visual Technology:

David & Lynn McDonald

Offering Counters:

Martha Bartelsmeyer
& Hope Morris

Bus Driver:

Volunteer Needed

Children's Sunday School

Volunteer Needed

Check Us Out Online!

Check out our homepage at
www.mtvunited.org and leave
us a message!

Save Your Best Choice!

Keep up the good work finding
Best Choice Labels Happy New
Year to all.

Judy Kitchen

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
children.

We often hear about the "ages". You know, the Iron Age, or the Golden Age, or even the "Space Age". But if we had to name the "age" we're living in just now, I think we would call it the "Age of Convenience", because we want everything to be easy. Right? We have drive through windows, ATMs, one hour photo, on-line banking, gift cards (so we don't have to pick out a present!), remote control, and on and on! If we don't have to get out of our car or our chair, if it doesn't require any real effort on our part....then count us in!!

This "Age" has even extended into our churches. Some churches have one service for this group and another for that group. We have 3 or 4 services on Sunday morning so that everyone can find a service that's convenient.....

"Football comes on at noon today pastor! You can't expect me to miss the first quarter!"

"Well, we like to attend the early services that way we can brunch with our friends that don't attend church"

"Sunday night services! You've got to be kidding! That's my time!!"

Consider with me, for a moment, that maybe it shouldn't be so easy. Maybe making an effort or a sacrifice to attend worship or to live a Christian life is not an inconvenience...maybe it's essential. You see when Jesus talked about living the way we should live he used terms like "the narrow gate", and when he preached about service he said "the harvest is great, but the workers are few". Maybe I'm missing something, but to me it doesn't sound like He's saying "Oh, just follow Me and everything's going to be a breeze!"

Maybe it shouldn't be so easy. Are we being roped into what society would have us do rather than what we should be doing? Are we modeling our Christian walk after the secular world? Are we making Christianity a religion of convenience? Please understand that I am not speaking against having multiple services or programs at your church. What I am saying is that perhaps each of us should look at our own motives, our own heart, our own worship. Are we there because it's convenient? Or because our hearts cry out to worship Him? Are we there because it's convenient, or because we have a heart for service? Are we there because of habit, or have we come to praise God?

I would encourage each of you to examine your hearts. Is your Christian walk a walk of convenience, or of service? Is your Christian walk a meandering stroll, or a walk of purpose? Food for thought today.

Lord help us to walk with purpose in Your will. We want to have a heart for true worship and praise. We want to live a life of sacrifice and service for You. Help us to avoid the pitfalls of the broad and easy way Father. We pray in Jesus name. Amen.

February's Dates to Remember:
Step By Step Valentine's Day Party
Friday, February 14th
At 9:30 am



Emmaus

Our local Emmaus Reunion group is meeting on first and third Thursdays at 5:30 pm at the Church. We encourage anyone who has attended or if you just wants some information to come and find out what Emmaus is all about.

The Mustard Seeds

Planting seeds in faith

Our Small Group meets in room 103 after Sunday morning worship. We are a multi-generational adult group, our format is casually studying, sharing, and fellowshiping together. We continue to work our way through John Ortberg's "If You Want to Walk On Water You Have To Get Out Of the Boat". Currently our conversation centers around the question; are you on a mission from God? And how will we



The Sonshine Group

The Sonshine Group meets Sundays at the Church at 5 pm for study and finishes up with a potluck dinner at 6 pm. All are invited to come and enjoy the Word and fellowship. The current study is Max Lucado's "Before Amen, The power of a simple prayer" Come and Join us!



**Youth
Sunday
Morning Study**
Starting after
Worship
The Book of Acts

The annual Youth Fundraising Brunch will have a Mardi Gras theme and be held on Sunday, February 23rd right after Worship. The money raised will go toward the Camp fund and anything above and beyond our camp fund goal will go toward the Michael Bolin scholarship. Contact Shelley Mosley for more information.



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

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

office@mtvunited.org

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

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.

February Spotlight

Men's Group

Please plan to attend a First United Methodist Men's Group breakfast meeting to launch our new, "**Righteously Inspired Brotherhood**" initiative:

WHO: Real men of action who are driven to serve Christ by serving others

WHAT: Christ centered service organization open to all men

WHEN: Saturday, February 1, 2020 / Time: 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Mount Vernon First United Methodist Church fellowship hall

WHY: Fellowship to share the blessings of a "Righteously Inspired Brotherhood" to help fulfill "the Great Commission"—and create disciples for Christ.

HOW: Our inaugural gathering will include breakfast—and provide opportunities for **Charter Members** to help form a new and dynamic organization

Please invite any additional brothers you feel may be interested in joining our team. Please Email or call me directly as needed: (417) 818-1565. Thanks in advance for your time and consideration.

Tom Tate

Food Outreach

Our food outreach team will have a planning meeting after Worship on **Sunday, February 16th**. If you would like to be involved with this ministry contact Shannon McKinzie, Janice Casey or Jean Duwe.

Card Ministry

Peggy Pyle, Jean Duwe & Robin Tate are leading the **T.O.U.C.H. Team (Timely Out-reach Uniting Christian Hearts)**

Jean Duwe will be in charge of sending birthday and anniversary cards, she will have the cards in the foyer for the congregation to sign. So please check the foyer either before the service or after the service to sign the cards and add a personal note. Please let the Church office know your birthday and anniversaries so we don't miss anyone.

Peggy Pyle & Robin Tate will send cards to any of our church family that may be ill, missed church or just needs an encouraging lift. If any of our members know of someone that needs a card sent to them, please let Peggy or Robin know and they will make sure that a card is sent to them.



We Need You

We now have a sign-up for Worship Volunteers for 2020!!! We need your help to make Worship time successful.

Please sign up to:

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



MVMW Mt. Vernon Methodist Women



TO: ALL LADIES of the CHURCH

We had 10 ladies at the January meeting at Panda House. We received a thank you letter from the Ludhiana Medical Center for our donation to their mission in India. We also donated \$300 more to the CAMP FUND to be held here in August. Sue Chappell shared a devotion, and we all enjoyed a good meal and good fellowship.

Our February meeting will be **Tuesday, February 11th, at 11 am, at the TA Subway**. Peggy Therman will be hostess, and Martha Bartelsmeyer will have our devotion. Join us as you can.

Cheesecake Fundraiser

The MVHS Band is taking a trip to Disney World to march in the Disney Parade. Our own Lilly Belanger needs **your** help to raise money to pay her cost! Order your cheesecake NOW! The cost is \$25 for a 9 inch fresh made to order cheesecake. Flavors include: Original, Turtle, Mint Chocolate, and Mocha Latte. Call Marion at 417-366-9893 to order.