Pastor Donnie Hudson

January 2021



## FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# The Messenger

## Mark Your Calendar

All in person activities depend on current COVID-19 protocols.

**Monday Thru Thursday** 8:30 to 2:30 Lynn McDonald Administrative Assistant

**January 1** 

**January 5** 

Happy New Year! **SBS** Closed Leadership Team at 6 pm

#### Inside this issue:

Meetings	1
Sunday Helpers	2
Note from Donnie	3
Step-By-Step	4
Youth	5
Joys & Concerns	6
Small Groups	7

## **Coming Soon**

February 2	Leadership Team
February 17	Ash Wednesday Service

#### The Messenger



## January 2021 Leadership

In person worship depends on current COVID-19 protocols.

Please be in prayer to volunteer for any of these special jobs in the coming year when we can once again meet in person.

Lead Usher Operate the Presentation Count the Offering Bus Driver

If you have any questions please contact the Church office First United Methodist Church Worship 9 am Sunday School 10 am

### Check Us Out Online!

Check out our homepage at <u>www.mtvunited.org</u> and leave us a message!

### Save Your Best Choice!

We sent in our 1,000 labels last month and should receive our check soon. So, it's time to start on a New Year. Buy Best Choice items when you can and save the label for us. Thanks to all who have helped this last year.

Stay safe.

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.

## Thank You

Thanks to all that took part in the Advent giving to the food pantry. It is greatly appreciated. Thank you again for our community's hungry.

Sue Chappell

## A Note From Pastor Donnie

Dear Church Family,

It's a new year! 2020 has passed.

Everyone give a shout!

2020 was a hard year for lots of people. Hopefully, 2021 will be better. However, the mere change of the calendar does not magically transform everything from bad to good. Everything that was bad on December 31, 2020 will still be here on January 1, 2021. I'm real sorry about that, but keep reading because I have some good news for you.

There is a rock that we can build our lives on in 2021. As Christians, we can look back on 2020 and see how Jesus brought us through. For me there were blessings with family, there were blessings of enjoying God's creation, there were blessings of celebrating special days. There were blessings of health and healing. So, even in the midst of some difficulties, God was giving out blessings. I hope that you have some blessings of 2020 to remember. Maybe, at least, you can say, "God brought me through this far and a new year is coming".

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, by the way, are celebration days of looking forward to what can be in the new year. It is a time for new beginnings; a time of hope that everything will be better. This is good, but without the Rock of Jesus many will be disappointed. It reminds me of the hope and disappointment of New Year's resolutions. People who keep track of such things say that 98% of all New Year's resolutions have failed by March. That's not a good record.

But we who are in Christ have a better record because our hope is in Jesus the Rock: The one who never changes. The one who is not moved by the storms of life. The one who conquered death itself. Because of Him, we are more than conquerors in Christ. Read Romans 8, especially verses 35-39.

So, build your life on the rock that is Jesus. No matter what storms come; if your life is on the rock you will be ok. Here are some building tools for you: Bible study - prayer - giving - forgiveness - and obedience (do what the Bible says). For 2021 Annette and I plan on being here to help you build your life on Christ, as we continue to do the same.

Happy New Year and Happy Building!

Pastor Donnie



January Dates to Remember Step By Step is Closed Friday, January 1

#### January 2021



A Prayer for the New Year

Kord, Whether we're leaving behind a year of joy and blessing or trials and difficulties, we pause to give thanks.
We thank You that You are always with us every single day of every single year.
Please remind us of Your presence in the year ahead, even when life is busy.
We are so thankful that we serve a God who makes things new and gives us the grace of fresh starts and new beginnings.
Be glorified in our lives this year.

heathercking.org

#### January 2021

The Messenger

## Please keep the following in your prayers:

#### **General Prayer Requests**

Ian McDonald Those battling COVID-19 and their families

#### **Cancer Treatment**

Chris Atkinson

#### Health and Healing

Jim Greene Jean McDonald Holly Wright (Ann Knott's Granddaughter)

#### <u>Military</u>

Nathan Harralson Lt. Anthony Richardson Landon Hull Lt. Jonathan Healey Jacob Lamkins Our people in the nursing homes:

Mt. Vernon Place Care 1425 S Landrum St Mt. Vernon

Shawna Woolsey

Lawrence County Manor 915 Carl Allen Dr Mt. Vernon Wilma Wood Lucille Newkirk

#### Oak Pointe of Monett 1011 Old Airport Rd Monett, MO 65708

Lonnie Baugh

COVID-19 restrictions may be relaxing for most of us, our nursing home residents are still on lockdown. So why not drop a card off to our Nursing facility members. If you would like an updated directory contact the Church office.



If anyone needs anything during this time of uncertainty you can call the Church office or contact Shelley (417-366-0296) or Geoff Mosely (417-366-0283).

#### The Messenger



#### January 2021

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.

## MVMW Mt. Vernon Methodist Women



## TO: ALL LADIES of the CHURCH

Since we missed our December gathering, we are going to start the New Year trying to get together. We have picked Wednesday, January 13, at noon, at the "EIGHT'S" restaurant, on the north east corner of the square. They have some good sandwiches and an array of ice creams. We are trying to stay local and help out our own businesses. Ann Knott will be our hostess and have a short devotion.

Come join us if you can. It will be <u>SO</u> nice to see each other in person. We hope to see everyone on <u>Wednesday</u>. <u>January 13, at Noon, at "EIGHT'S" restaurant.</u>

## Happy New Year to All

## The Church's new software

I see that some have logged into the new online Church Directory. Here are a few hints to make it easier. The invitation will expire after 2 weeks so let the office know if you missed the window and I will send you another.

- 1. Click the link and enter the password provided to access the directory.
- 2. Click on your name.
- 3. Click "Manage my family INFO" at the bottom of your page. This will take you to where you can enter and change your info.
  - A. The first time click "Haven't registered yet"
  - B. Enter the email listed for the family as your id
  - C. Select a password for your own portal.

You will be able to use the personal log in to change your information, pictures and track your giving. If you have any questions please contact the office.



